



NSW Department of
Community Services

Introduction of Children's Services licence fees from January 2010

The NSW Government has announced that it will introduce licence fees for children's services that are licensed under the NSW Children's Services Regulation 2004. All licensed children's services will be required to pay licence fees from 2010.

The licence fee will recover part of the cost of the licensing and compliance activities that are delivered by the NSW Department of Community Services.

As part of the Government's announcement of the introduction of fees a commitment was made that the Department would consult with the Children's Services Regulation Review Industry Reference Group on how the licence fees will be implemented. This consultation has begun and will continue in order to ensure that the application of the fee is both simple and equitable.

When the announcement was made it was indicated that an annual fee would range from \$700 for a small service (with a capacity of less than 30 children) to \$900 for a medium service and \$1,100 for large services (with more than 60 children).

The actual schedule of fees, and more information about when and how the fees will be payable will be made public around August or September 2009.

Children's services providers who want to budget ahead should consider setting aside an amount in the range specified above, which will be payable within the 2010 calendar year.

The Department's Regulation Review is looking at other changes to children's services licensing and it is expected that there will be savings in administration and red tape that will help offset the cost of the licence fees, without reducing the quality of care provided to children and families.