



**Cumberland
Council**



Free childcare for 2 year olds

You may be eligible for a FREE childcare place, if you meet one of the following criteria:

Be in receipt of:

- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance
- An income-related employment and support allowance
- The Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit and/or Working Tax Credit, provided the annual gross income is no more than £16,190 as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC)

If you meet the following criteria, please provide supporting evidence:

- Universal credit - with an annual net earnings threshold of £15,400 (based on calculating earnings on a monthly basis)
- If the child is looked after by the Local Authority
- If the child has a current statement of special educational needs (SEN) or an education, health and care plan
- If the child is in receipt of Disability Living Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- If the child has left care through special guardianship or through an adoption or residence order
- If you are excluded from claiming public funds as a consequence of your immigration status, or your lack of immigration status; and are in receipt of support under section 17 of the Children Act 1989
- You are a Zambrano Carer
- You have the right to remain in the UK under Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) and are subject to no recourse to public funds
- You are supported under s4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- You are a family with no recourse to public funds

When is my child eligible for a free place?

If your child's second birthday falls between:	Your child will become eligible for a free place from:
1 January and 31 March	The start of the Summer term (April)
1 April and 31 August	The start of the Autumn term (September)
1 September and 31 December	The start of the Spring term (January)

The entitlement

Eligible children are entitled up to 570 hours annually which equates to 3 hours per day - term time (although this can be stretched over more weeks if agreed with the family and childcare provider).

When can I apply?

You can apply online at [Free Childcare for 2 Year Olds](#) or you may be able to ask your childcare provider to apply on your behalf.

For more information or to apply on line go to: [Free Childcare for 2 Year Olds](#) or telephone: 03457 125 737

Find out more at fid.cumberland.gov.uk