



# Early Childhood Development Programs Update

## What is an Early Childhood Development Program?

Early Childhood Development Programs (ECDPs) provide early intervention to children who require intensive, multidisciplinary programs to develop skills and behaviours to maximise their participation in schooling.

ECDPs play a different but complementary role to National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Early Childhood Early Intervention (ECEI) supports, and to kindergartens.

## Who can attend an ECDP?

ECDPs are for eligible children with significant disability or suspected disability in the categories of autism spectrum disorder, hearing impairment, intellectual disability, physical impairment, speech language impairment or vision impairment.

## Funding for ECDPs

### 2019-20 State Budget

The Queensland Government has announced a commitment of \$63.6 million over four years and \$18.7 million per annum ongoing to continue ECDPs for Queensland children with disability from birth to five years old.

The continuation of ECDPs confirms the Queensland Government's commitment to give all Queensland children the best possible start to their education.

This means that all 102 ECDPs currently operating in Queensland will remain open for registrations.

### Great Start Grants

Further funding support for ECDPs is also available for Queensland state schools who have had children registered in their ECDP in the past four years via a Great Start Grant.

The grant will help ECDP staff work with parents, NDIS ECEI providers, kindy services and local schools to build collaboration and good practice. This will ensure young children with disability can make the best possible transition to school.

## More information

For general information about ECDPs, including a list of locations and information about how to access them, visit: [www.education.qld.gov.au/students/students-with-disability/succeeding-with-disability/early-childhood-programs](http://www.education.qld.gov.au/students/students-with-disability/succeeding-with-disability/early-childhood-programs).

