

How to apply for 30 hours childcare

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

Before you apply

- Before applying for the 30 hours funded childcare, you will need a Government Gateway account number. This is simple to set up and available at www.gateway.gov.uk . You will need to keep a copy of your Government Gateway user identification number.

How to apply

The following link will take you directly to the online application

<https://childcare-support.tax.service.gov.uk/par/app/applynow>

When applying, ensure you have:

- Your Government Gateway user ID
- Your national Insurance number
- Access to a mobile phone or a landline for verification throughout the application.
- One of the following: Passport; tax credits information; P60 or a recent payslip

You can then start the application process and follow the on screen prompts. The application will take approximately 30 – 40 minutes.

How will I know if I am eligible for 30 hours free childcare?

At the end of the application, you will be directed online to your personal childcare account (created during the application). On this page you will find a sub-heading titled 'messages'. In this section you should receive a message stating whether or not you are eligible for the 30 hours free childcare. If you are eligible, you will receive an eligibility code.

What do I do next?

If you are eligible, you will need to bring your eligibility code into the school office, you will also need to provide your National Insurance number and your child's date of birth. The school will then validate the code with the local authority and if places are available, the school will offer your child a place in the setting from a set start date. Eligibility must be re assessed every 3 months. **You must check eligibility the term before your child turns three to receive 30 hours childcare from the start of the following term.**