



Tēnā koe

On 29 July 2021, you emailed the Office of Hon Carmel Sepuloni requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information regarding the Out of School Care and Recreation (OSCAR) Subsidy:

1. *How many school age children (5-14) is the subsidy being paid for?*
2. *What is the total spend on Fee Subsidies for children in OSCAR?*
3. *How many children is the subsidy being paid for at each rate?*

On 12 August 2021, your request was transferred to the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry).

The Out of School Care and Recreation (OSCAR) subsidy is a payment which helps families with the costs of before and after school care for their children. More information about the OSCAR subsidy can be found online here: [www.workandincome.govt.nz/products/a-z-benefits/oscar-subsidy.html](http://www.workandincome.govt.nz/products/a-z-benefits/oscar-subsidy.html).

Please find **Appendix One** attached, which includes the following tables to answer your questions:

- **Table One:** The total number of OSCAR subsidies granted for children aged 5 to 14, and weekly amount paid as at the end of July 2021
- **Table Two:** The total number of OSCAR subsidies granted, and the total weekly amount paid as at the end of July 2021
- **Table Three:** The number of OSCAR subsidies paid by weekly rate as at the end of July 2021.

The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:

- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter and any attached documents available to the wider public. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter on the Ministry of Social Development's website. Your personal details will be deleted and the

Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact [OIA\\_Requests@msd.govt.nz](mailto:OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz).

If you are not satisfied with this response regarding the OSCAR subsidy, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

*Bridget Saunders*

Bridget Saunders  
**Manager, Issue Resolution  
Service Delivery**

**Appendix One:**

**Table One: The total number of OSCAR subsidies granted for children aged 5 to 14, and weekly amount paid as at the end of July 2021**

<b>Child age (years)</b>	<b>Number of subsidies</b>	<b>Total weekly rate (dollar amount)</b>
5 to 14	6,357	\$422,999.45

**Table Two: The total number of OSCAR subsidies granted, and the total weekly amount paid as at the end of July 2021**

<b>Total number of subsidies</b>	<b>Total weekly rate (dollar amount)</b>
6,366	\$423,735.14

**Table Three: The number of OSCAR subsidies paid by weekly rate as at the end of July 2021.**

<b>Approved weekly rate (dollar amount)</b>	<b>Total number of subsidies</b>
up to \$5	3
\$5.01 to \$10	24
\$10.01 to \$15	105
\$15.01 to \$20	219
\$20.01 to \$25	177
\$25.01 to \$30	351
\$30.01 to \$35	327
\$35.01 to \$40	219
\$40.01 to \$45	312
\$45.01 to \$50	198
\$50.01 to \$55	303
\$55.01 to \$60	345
\$60.01 to \$65	558
\$65.01 to \$70	195
\$70.01 to \$75	153
\$75.01 to \$80	261
\$80.01 to \$85	504
\$85.01 to \$90	843
\$90.01 to \$95	99
\$95.01 to \$100	177
greater than \$100	996
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,366</b>

**Notes for all tables:**

- The values on Table 2 and 3 contain both child school age (5 to 14) and out of child school age
- If a child attends more than one OSCAR provider, they will be counted more than once
- The total weekly amount paid is based on the weekly rate per subsidy as at end of July 2021
- To protect confidentiality the Ministry uses processes to make it difficult to identify an individual person or entity from published data.
- These data tables have had random rounding to base three applied to all cell counts in the table.
- The published counts will never differ by more than two counts.