

**CHILD CARE POLICY**  
**Part of Social Justice Policy**  
**ACTU Congress September 1995**

6.1 In February 1993 the Government committed itself to meeting total projected demand for work related child care by 2001. This will mean the creation of 104,500 places at a recurrent cost of \$102.6 million pa and an overall capital cost of \$95.42 million. By 1996/97 there will be 299,500 child care places provided in all service types since 1983.

6.2 As at December 1994 Child Care Assistance benefited 236,000 families using both subsidised and commercial child care centres as well as Family Day Care Services and Outside School Hours Services. As part of this initiative:

(i) As at 1 April 1995 the Child Care Assistance ceilings have been increased to a maximum level of \$112.50 per week or \$2.25 per hour;

(ii) The current expenditure on the Child Care Assistance program is approximately \$625 million pa; and

(iii) Families with one child and a joint family income of up to \$61,412 pa are eligible for Child Care Assistance, and with two children in care a joint income of \$74,412 pa.

6.3 Child care fees continue to be monitored by the Prices Surveillance Authority.

6.4 The National Child Care Accreditation Council, (NCAC) continues to oversee the establishment of a system of accreditation for long day care services. All long day care services were required to register with the NCAC by 30 June 1995.

6.5 The introduction of Fringe Benefits Tax exemptions for employer supported Family Day Care Services and sales tax exemptions for many child care services.

6.6 The establishment of the Work and Child Care Advisory Services in three States - Victoria, NSW and Queensland - and the development of a child care resources booklet (Choosing Child Care) for union employees and union members.

6.7 The development of new classifications and rates of pay in all States and Territories from the Child Care Workers Test Case.