



# Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) changes announced in the 2026 Federal Budget - Questions and Answers

Last updated: 15 June 2026

## AMEP contract regions

### **Does the department intend on maintaining the current split of contract regions in the new AMEP model?**

This detail will be provided in due course as part of the approach to market for the future AMEP procurements. Please refer to [AusTender](#) for information and any updates on the AMEP procurements.

## AMEP child care provisions

### **Will the provision of on-site creches no longer be included under the new model?**

Under the new AMEP Business Model, to be implemented from 1 January 2029, current AMEP childcare arrangements (free child care for eligible clients) will cease for all types of childcare, including creches.

### **Will there be a dedicated team to support clients with this process?**

Under the new AMEP Business Model, contracted AMEP service providers will be required to provide support to eligible clients to navigate the Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) system.

The Department of Home Affairs expects that support will encompass the provision of detailed information and targeted individualised support in relation to securing appropriate ECEC placements and accessing Government subsidies.

Further detail on provision of childcare support under the new AMEP business model will be provided in due course as part of the approach to market for the future AMEP procurements. Please refer to [AusTender](#) for information and any updates on the AMEP procurements.

### **I wonder whether incorporating Child Care Subsidy (CCS) into the existing childcare arrangements could potentially reduce costs for both families and the program.**

Under the new AMEP Business Model, contracted AMEP service providers will be required to provide support to eligible clients to navigate the Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) system, including access child care subsidies as appropriate.

Most AMEP clients already qualify for the Child Care Subsidy (CCS), and dependent on circumstances, the Additional Child Care Subsidy (ACCS), which reduces childcare costs.

## **What provisions will be made for parents who are reluctant to have their children attend external childcare services?**

Under the new AMEP Business Model, Clients will have the same choices for childcare as other Australian families.

High-quality, mainstream ECEC will support early learning needs of children of AMEP Clients. Early engagement in mainstream ECEC also supports stable, longer-term childcare arrangements, providing a smoother transition for Clients after AMEP.

Additional funding will be allocated to Community Hubs offering conversational English with child-minding support. This provides a culturally safe, flexible option for those ineligible for CCS or who want to learn with their children present in a more informal environment.

The combined approach – mainstream ECEC plus Community Hubs – ensures all clients have safe, appropriate and sustainable child care options while studying English.

## **Further consultation**

### **Will there be any further forums, information sessions, or opportunities for staff and stakeholders to ask questions, provide feedback, and better understand how these changes will be implemented?**

The department will not be consulting further on the new AMEP business model. The changes will give effect to Government decisions already considered through the 2026-27 Budget process.

Further detail of the department's requirements in relation to the provision of childcare support and other elements of the business model will be provided in due course as part of the approach to market for the future AMEP procurements. Please refer to [AusTender](#) for information and any updates on the AMEP procurements.