

what is the BICULTURAL SUPPORT POOL?

Formerly known as the Casual Ethnic Workers Pool (CEWP), the Bicultural Support Pool* is a special group of Bicultural Support Workers that assist children's services to work successfully with an Indigenous child or a child from a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) background.

These workers are available to

- ❖ assist in the initial settling-in period of children from CALD, refugee or Indigenous backgrounds for a limited period;
- ❖ provide initial language assistance to children, parents and staff, in order to help families and the service communicate;
- ❖ introduce the child's culture to the service by assisting children, staff and parents to develop and present multicultural games, songs, food, and culturally appropriate activities;
- ❖ assist staff to understand diverse cultural practices and child-rearing practices in Australian society;
- ❖ promote children's self esteem about their cultural heritage;
- ❖ encourage maintenance of, and support the development of, the child's home language.

How much does it cost?

The service is free of charge for eligible children's services.

*On 1 April 2006, the Bicultural Pool replaced the Casual Ethnic Workers Pool (CEWP).

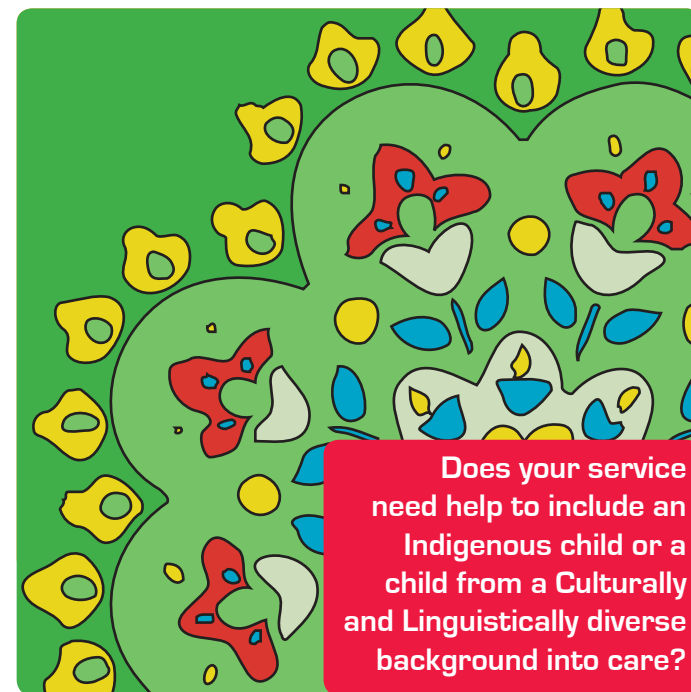
BICULTURAL SUPPORT POOL

The Bicultural Support Pool is run by Ethnic Child Care Family and Community Services Co-op Ltd (ECCF&CSC) for Children's Services Central.

Children's Services Central is a program of the Alliance of Children's Service, the Professional Support Co-ordinator in NSW. The Professional Support Co-ordinator is an initiative of the Inclusion and Professional Support Program funded by the Australian Government.

For a bicultural support worker, contact your regional Inclusion Support Agency or Children's Services Central on

1800 157 818



Does your service need help to include an Indigenous child or a child from a Culturally and Linguistically diverse background into care?

You may be able to get help from a Bicultural Support Worker through the

BICULTURAL SUPPORT POOL

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**Ethnic Child Care, Family and Community
Services Co-operative Limited**

Who can use the service?

Bicultural Support Workers are available free of charge to Australian Government Approved Child Care Services:

- ❖ private and community-based long day care centres;
- ❖ outside school hours care, including vacation care services;
- ❖ family day care services;
- ❖ occasional care centres;
- ❖ in-home care services;
- ❖ flexible/multifunctional services;
- ❖ non-mainstream outside school hours care services;
- ❖ non-formula funded occasional care services;
- ❖ multifunctional Aboriginal Children's Services (MACS);
- ❖ mobile child care services.

How do you access the Pool?

You need to be referred by either Children's Services Central (call **1800 157 818**) or by your regional Inclusion Support Agency.

How long can you have a Worker?

A Bicultural Support Worker is only available to services for a time-limited period. Generally, this will be for 4 hours per week, for up to 10 weeks. During this period, the Worker will generally work directly with your service, but may also work with the Inclusion Support Agency in your region, to assist them to help your service.

Will you get support as needed?

We will always try to provide you with a Bicultural Support Worker when you need assistance to include an Indigenous child or a child from a CALD background.

We need to ensure we have an available Worker, who speaks the child's language or who has the cultural background you require, in your region. We must also ensure we do not exceed the amount of hours the funding agency (Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs) has allocated for children's services in New South Wales.

Will the Bicultural Support Worker have resources?

Bicultural Support Workers have access to the Mobile Resource Library which transports multicultural and Indigenous resources and bilingual books, to the children's services they are working with.

The library helps equip Bicultural Support Workers with the multicultural resources they need to implement appropriate activities while they are working with your service.

The resources from the Mobile Resource Library are only available to Bicultural Support Workers, not directly to children's services. Children, parents and services benefit from the resources the Bicultural Support Worker brings to the service they are working with.

Children's services can independently borrow multicultural and Indigenous resources directly from the Children's Services Central General Resource Library: freecall **1800 157 818**.

Would you like to be a Bicultural Support Worker?

Ethnic Child Care Family and Community Services Co-operative recruits workers to be part of the Bicultural Support Pool on an ongoing basis.

We are interested in hearing from you if you;

- ❖ Have a good command of the English language;
- ❖ Speak a language other than English or;
- ❖ Have an Indigenous background;
- ❖ Have experience or qualifications in childcare;
- ❖ Enjoy working with children from diverse cultures.

For more information on working as a Bicultural Support Worker, please phone (02) 9569 1288.

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Need a bicultural support worker? Contact your regional Inclusion Support Agency or Children's Services Central on 1800 157 818