

Ministry of Women and Child Development

The PM CARES for Children Scheme-Brief

The PM CARES for Children Scheme was launched by The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 29th May 2021 for the Children. It aims to support children who have lost both the Parents or legal Guardian or Adoptive Parents or Surviving Parent to COVID-19 pandemic during the period starting from 11th March 2020. The objective of the Scheme is to ensure comprehensive care and protection of Children in a sustained manner, and enable their well being through health insurance, empower them through education and equip them for self-sufficient existence with financial support on reaching 23 years of age.

Entitlements:

1. Financial Support:

- A pro-rata amount has been credited in the account of each identified child such that the corpus for each child becomes Rs. 10 lakhs at the time of attaining 18 years of age.
- Children will receive monthly stipend once they attain 18 years of age, by investing the corpus of Rs 10 lakhs. Children above 18 years will receive stipend till they attain 23years of age*.
- They will receive an amount of Rs. 10 lakh on attaining 23 years of age.
- Ex-gratia of Rs. 50,000 per deceased parent through SDRF – MHA directions.

2. Support for Boarding and Lodging:

- Efforts were made by the District Magistrate with the assistance of Child Welfare Committee (CWC) to explore the possibility of rehabilitating the child within her/his extended family, relatives, kith or kin.
- Financial support as prescribed for non-institutional care under the central or State scheme has been provided to the children, as per the eligibility under the relevant scheme.
- In cases where the Foster family is not available/not willing /not found fit by CWC, or the child (aged 4 -10 years or above) is not willing to live with them, the child has been placed in age appropriate and gender appropriate Child care institution
- Children more than 10 years old, not received by extended families or relatives or foster families or not willing to live with them or living in child care institutions has been enrolled in appropriate residential schools.
- All efforts have been made to keep siblings together.
- Under Child Protection Services (CPS) scheme, Children staying with relatives receiving Rs. 2000 per month – revised to Rs. 4000/month w.e.f. 1st April 2022
- For children staying in Child Care Institutions (CCIs), the amount has been given to CCIs
- Under Mission Vatsalya (Child Protection Services-CPS) scheme, Children staying with relatives receiving Rs. 2000 per child per month – revised to Rs. 4000 per child per month w.e.f. 1st April 2022
- For children staying in Child Care Institutions (CCIs), the amount has been given to CCIs

3. Assistance for School Education

a. For children below 10 years of age

- i) Admission in the nearest KV or Private school as a day scholar- fees as per the RTE norms has been given from the PM CARES.
- ii) PM-CARES will also pay for expenditure on uniform, text books and notebooks

b. For children between 11-18 years of age

- i) Admission in any Central Government residential school e..g. KGBV, Sainik School, NavodayaVidyalaya etc. are being facilitated.
- ii) Admission in the nearest K V or a Pvt. school as a day scholar, if living with extended family- the fees as per the RTE norms has been given from the PM CARES
- iii) PM CARES will also pay for expenditure on uniform, text books and notebooks.

c. Scholarship of Rs 20,000 to school going children of class 1-12

4. Assistance for Higher Education:

- i) Children are being assisted in obtaining education loan for Professional. Courses / Higher Education in India.
- ii) Interest on the educational loan will be paid by the PM CARES.
- iii) Children are receiving Swanath Scholarship of Rs. 50,000 PA for technical education
- iv) Children are receiving KARMA Scholarship for skill training.
- v) 2 supernumerary seats in technical and higher education institutions.

5. Health Insurance:

- i) All children will be enrolled under Ayushman Bharat Scheme (PM-JAY) with a health insurance cover of Rs. 5 lakhs.
- ii) The premium amount for these children till the age of 23 years will be paid by PM CARES.
- iii) Health cards have been delivered at all districts.

Nodal Agencies: Ministry of Women and Child Development is the nodal Ministry for execution of the scheme at the central level. Department of the State/UT government dealing with the Juvenile Justice set up in the State is the nodal agency at State level. The District Magistrates are the nodal authority at District level for execution of the scheme.