



Australian Government

Department of Human Services

Rent Assistance

A regular extra payment if you pay rent and get certain payments from us.

info

You may have received a letter from us asking you to confirm or update your rent details. Read more about the review of your details.

1. Eligibility & payment rates

Rent Assistance

You need to meet eligibility requirements to get Rent Assistance, and how much you'll get.

Who can get Rent Assistance

You can get Rent Assistance if you get certain payments from us and pay rent.

Who can get it

You can get Rent Assistance if you pay rent and you're:

- getting certain payments from us, or
- getting more than the base rate of Family Tax Benefit

You must also pay:

- rent
- fees in a retirement village
- lodging
- board and lodging, or
- site or mooring fees if your main home is a caravan, relocatable home or a boat

You must pay more than a certain amount of rent each fortnight. How much Rent Assistance you can get depends on how much rent you pay.

If you're living in a retirement village

We assess you for Rent Assistance in a different way. We use the amount you paid to enter the retirement village to work out if you can get Rent Assistance.

If you're under 25

The rules to get Rent Assistance depend on:

- your payment type, and
- if you live with a parent

Please call us on your main payment number for more information.

Who can't get it

You won't get Rent Assistance if:

- you're leasing from a state or territory housing authority
- you own or are buying the home you live in, except relocatable homes
- you're travelling away from the home you own for less than 12 months
- the Australian Government pays a subsidy to the approved residential aged care facility where you live
- your partner gets Rent Assistance with Family Tax Benefit, or
- you get an allowance and your partner gets Rent Assistance with their pension

2. Claiming Rent Assistance

You don't need to submit a claim for Rent Assistance. We'll check if you're eligible when you claim another payment or move to a new address.

We may ask you for documents to confirm your accommodation circumstances.

Provide your rental details

If you change where you live, we'll check if you can get Rent Assistance.

If you need to complete a Rent Certificate, we'll send it to you.

Use your Centrelink online account through myGov or the Express Plus Centrelink mobile app to:

- confirm changes to where you live – you can also call us on your regular payment number or visit a service centre
- provide proof that you pay rent – we may ask you to complete and submit a Rent Certificate

Submit your documents

We might ask you for a Rent Certificate or formal tenancy agreement. If we do, submit them:

- online
- by post, or
- at a service centre

Wait for the results

We'll tell you if you can get Rent Assistance with the results of the other payment you claimed. Or, we'll tell you if you start getting Rent Assistance after you move.

You will get your Rent Assistance with your other payment.

You have the right to appeal any decision we make. Read more about reviews and appeals.



This information is a general guide to our payments and services from **www.humanservices.gov.au**. It is based on user selections from the 'customise and print' option. It may not include all of the information on this topic.

This information was printed on 7 November 2018 from **<https://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/rent-assistance>**

It is subject to the website disclaimer at **<https://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/site-notices>**

Provide your rental details

If you are not a tenant, you will need to provide details of the property you are renting.

If you are a tenant, you will need to provide details of the property you are renting.

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