

# COVID-19

## Centrelink payments

During the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, Centrelink are providing a number of payments and options for people who are affected. We have put together a summary for you, including answers to Frequently Asked Questions.

### Coronavirus Supplement

The Government announced it will provide a temporary Coronavirus Supplement of **\$550 a fortnight** to new and existing income support recipients from 27 April 2020 for six months.

People will receive their usual payment plus \$550 a fortnight for the six-month period.

The Supplement will be provided to people receiving the following payments

- JobSeeker Payment
- Sickness Allowance
- Youth Allowance for Jobseekers
- Parenting Payment Partnered
- Parenting Payment Single
- Partner Allowance
- Sickness Allowance
- Farm Household Allowance

### Support Payment

People will receive a **\$750 one off payment** if they are living in Australia and get an eligible payment between 12 March and 13 April 2020.

You will automatically get the money in your account from 31 March with most getting it by 17 April.

Eligible payments include

- Age Pension
- Disability Support Pension
- Carer Payment
- Carer Allowance
- Parenting Payment
- Wife Pension
- Widow B Pension
- ABSTUDY (Living Allowance)
- Austudy
- Bereavement Allowance
- Newstart Allowance
- Youth Allowance
- Partner Allowance
- Special Benefit
- Widow Allowance
- Farm Household Allowance
- Family Tax Benefit A
- Family Tax Benefit B
- Double Orphan Pension

You'll also get the payment in you have one of the following concession cards:

- Pensioner Concession Card
- Commonwealth Seniors Health Card
- Veteran Gold Card.

You'll also get the payment if you get one of the following Department of Veteran's Affairs payments:

- Veteran Service Pension
- Veteran Income Support Supplement
- Veteran Compensation payments, including lump sum payments
- War Widow(er) Pension.

# Centrelink **payments**

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## Register your intention to claim

If you are affected by the coronavirus pandemic, you can register your intention to claim a Centrelink payment. You don't need to complete a full claim now. Register your intention to claim at a time and place that works for you. Centrelink will backdate your payment

You can do this through the [myGov website](#). Once you have registered, Centrelink will contact you to let you know what the next steps are.

## If you need a payment from Centrelink

You may be eligible to get help from Centrelink if you or your family are affected by the coronavirus pandemic.

You will need to meet the eligibility rules and income test. You may get a payment in any of the following circumstances:

- You are not able to work or don't have work
- You are in isolation or hospitalised
- You are caring for children.

You may get one of the following payments

- Youth Allowance
- JobSeeker Payment
- Parenting Payment

## Updating your employment status online

If your circumstances change you must let Centrelink know immediately. They have made it easier to do this online through

- [Centrelink](#) online account through [myGov](#)
- The [Express Plus Centrelink](#) mobile app.

## Frequently asked questions

We understand this is a challenging time for a number of our residents and tenants. We have put together some frequently asked questions relating to the Centrelink changes and your rent with Foundation Housing. If you have further questions about your rent or your tenancy during this time, contact your Housing or Lodging Coordinator

### **Q. Will my rent still be reviewed during the coronavirus pandemic?**

**A.** Foundation Housing will not carry out any scheduled rent reviews during the coronavirus pandemic.

### **Q. Can I request a rent review if I have been affected by the coronavirus pandemic?**

**A.** Yes. If you are finding yourself in hardship during this time, you can request a rent review. You can do this by calling or emailing your Housing or Lodging Coordinator about your change in circumstances and your concerns.

### **Q. Will the supplement payment or the support payment that I receive affect my rent calculation?**

**A.** No, both the \$550 a fortnight payment and the one-off payment of \$750 will not affect how we calculate your rent. However, if you receive the \$550 a fortnight payment you will no longer be eligible to receive the Foundation Housing rent subsidy vouchers during this period.

### **Q. Where can I find the latest information from Foundation Housing?**

**A.** We are keeping our website up to date with the most current information about how we are managing our business and assisting our customers during this time. Visit [foundationhousing.org.au/aboutus/COVID-19-Information](https://foundationhousing.org.au/aboutus/COVID-19-Information) or follow us on [Facebook](#).

**THIS IS INFORMATION IS CORRECT  
AS OF 31 MARCH 2020**