

# Public Housing Rent Policy

## Tables of assessable and non-assessable incomes

Part of the [Public Housing Rent Policy](#).

### Assessable income

Assessable incomes are incomes that the department includes when calculating public housing rent. An income is considered assessable if it's received with some regularity or frequency and is not a once-off payment for specific purposes or events. All income is considered assessable unless it is determined as non-assessable.

The types of income the department assesses includes:

- most pensions, benefits and some allowances paid by Centrelink and the Department of Veterans' Affairs
- Family Tax Benefit
- wages, salaries and work allowances such as overtime, bonuses, shift allowances and penalty rates
- other income such as regular superannuation, compensation, interest from savings, maintenance payments and lump sum payments.

### Non-assessable income

Non-assessable income is income that the department does not include when calculating public housing rent.

Incomes that are non-assessable are:

- earned income (for example wages, casual earnings, self-employment income, bonuses and commission) received by household members aged 24 years or less who are not the tenant or the tenant's spouse
- a one-off payment, such as payments for natural disasters or bereavement
- a reimbursement or partial payment to offset other costs, such as mobility allowance, pension supplement, allowances for telephone, utilities and GST and some government compensation payments
- discretionary income paid as an earn-and-learn incentive, such as education entry payment.

# Incomes paid by Centrelink and Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA)

Income	Rule
Abstudy	Assessable
Abstudy Pensioner Education Supplement	Non-assessable
Adequate Means of Support Pension	Non-assessable
Age Pension	Assessable
Approved Program of Work Supplement	Non-assessable
Assistance for Isolated Children Scheme payments	Non-assessable
Austudy	Assessable
Bereavement payments and allowances	Non-assessable
Business income This is not an income paid by Centrelink. It is income the tenant or household member receives and has been reported by Centrelink.	Assessable
Carer's Adjustment Payment This is a component of the Carer payment	Non-assessable
Carer Allowance	Non-assessable
Carer Payment	Assessable
Carer Supplement	Non-assessable
Centrelink Advance The lump sum advance is non-assessable as the person receives the same income but in advance. Rent is calculated as though the person receives their full Centrelink payment each week.	Non-assessable
Centrelink Working Credits	Non-assessable
Child Care Benefit paid to a Family Day Care Provider Paid to a tenant or household member who is a registered Family Day Care Provider	Assessable

<p>Child Disability Assistance Payment</p> <p>An annual payment if a person is paid Carer Allowance when looking after a child with disability or medical condition.</p>	Non-assessable
Child maintenance and child support payments	Assessable
Clothing Allowance	Non-assessable
Crisis Payments	Non-assessable
Dad and Partner Pay	Assessable
Decoration Allowance	Non-assessable
<p>Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) income reported through Centrelink</p> <p>Tenants and household members receiving DVA payments must evidence from DVA of their income.</p>	Non-assessable
Deprived income	Non-assessable
Disability Compensation Pension	Non-assessable
Double Orphan Pension	Assessable
Disability Support Pension	Assessable
<p>Earnings</p> <p>This is not an income paid by Centrelink. It is income the tenant or household member receives and has been reported by Centrelink.</p>	Assessable
Education Entry Payment	Non-assessable
Emergency Payments	Non-assessable
<p>Emergency Recovery Payments</p> <p>Paid following a natural disaster.</p>	Non-assessable
Employment Entry Payment	Non-assessable
<p>Essential Medical Equipment Payment</p> <p>Payment to assist households with heating/cooling which is paid as part of the Household Assistance Package.</p>	Non-assessable
Energy Supplement	Assessable

Energy Supplement – Family Tax Benefit Part A	Assessable
Energy Supplement – Family Tax Benefit Part B	Assessable
Ex-gratia payment paid by Centrelink	Non-assessable
<p>F-111 Deseal/Reseal Program ex-gratia lump sum payment (Australian Defence Forces)</p> <p>Paid to participants of the F-111 Deseal/Reseal Program.</p>	Non-assessable
Family Tax Benefit Part A	Assessable
Family Tax Benefit Part A Supplement	Non-assessable
Family Tax Benefit Part B	Assessable
Family Tax Benefit Part B Supplement	Assessable
Fares Allowance	Non-assessable
<p>Foreign Pension</p> <p>This is not an income paid by Centrelink. It is income the tenant or household member receives and has been reported by Centrelink.</p>	Assessable
<p>Financial investment income from shares, investments and/or savings accounts</p> <p>This includes income generated from bank and credit union accounts for shares, investments and/or savings accounts and business accounts such as self-employment, partnerships, trusts, companies or other legal entities.</p>	Assessable
<p>Funeral Allowances</p> <p>One-off payment.</p>	Non-assessable
Guardian Allowance	Non-assessable
<p>Grandparents Child Care Benefit</p> <p>Paid as a component of Family Assistance to grandparents looking after children.</p>	Non-assessable
<p>Green Corps Supplement</p> <p>Approved Program of Work supplement or Work for the Dole supplement.</p>	Non-assessable
GST	Non-assessable
Income Support Supplement	Assessable

JobSeeker	Assessable
JobSeeker Transitional Supplement	Non-assessable
Language, Literacy and Numeracy Supplement	Non-assessable
Loss of Earnings Allowance	Non-assessable
Living Away from Home Allowance	Assessable
Low Income Supplement	Non-assessable
Lump Sum Advance	Non-assessable
Meal Allowance	Non-assessable
Mobility Allowance	Non-assessable
Motor Vehicle Allowance	Non-assessable
Multiple Birth Allowance	Non-assessable
Newborn Supplement	Non-assessable
Newborn Upfront Payment	Non-assessable
NewStart (Mature Age)	Assessable
Other Government Payment	Assessable
Overseas Add-On payment of a Child paid with Centrelink Pensions	Assessable
Paid Parental Leave Paid Parental Leave is assessable if the person takes the full leave continuously or they defer some of the leave to be taken at a later time.	Assessable
Parenting Payment	Assessable
Partner Allowance	Assessable
Pension Bonus Scheme Payment	Non-assessable
Pension Loans Scheme	Non-assessable
Pharmaceutical Allowance	Non-assessable

Pension Supplement	Non-assessable
Prisoner of War Recognition Supplement	Non-assessable
Real Estate Income The gross amount of real estate income is used to calculate rent.	Assessable
Relocation Allowance	Non-assessable
Relocation Scholarship	Non-assessable
Remote Area Allowance	Non-assessable
Remote Jobs and Communities Program Supplement Approved Program of Work Supplement	Non-assessable
Rent Assistance Assessed for all household members except for the tenant or spouse of a tenant as they are not entitled to this payment.	Assessable
Recreation Transport Allowance	Non-assessable
Rural Area Incentive Scheme Locality Allowance	Assessable
Self-employed assistance Formerly known as the New Enterprise Incentive Scheme	Assessable
Service Pension	Assessable
Sickness Allowance	Assessable
Single Income Family Supplement	Non-assessable
Special Benefit Assessed for all household members receiving this income, regardless of their age.	Assessable
Stillborn Baby Payment	Non-assessable
Supplements paid with JobSeeker, Parenting Payment Single and some other allowances and benefits	Non-assessable
Telephone Allowance	Non-assessable
Temporary Incapacity Allowance	Non-assessable

Tertiary Access Payment	Non-assessable
Transition to Independent Living Allowance	Non-assessable
Transitional Supplement	Non-assessable
Trusts and company income This is not an income paid by Centrelink. It is income that a tenant or household member receives and has been reported by Centrelink.	Assessable
Utilities Allowance	Non-assessable
Vehicle Assistance Scheme	Non-assessable
Veterans' Children Education Scheme	Non-assessable
War Widow/ers Pension	Assessable
Widow Allowance	Assessable
Widows Pension	Assessable
Wife Pension	Assessable
Work for the Dole Supplement	Assessable
Youth Allowance	Assessable
Youth Disability Supplement	Non-assessable

## Other incomes from wages, other payments and superannuation

Income	Rule
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People Stolen Wages One-off reparation payment for stolen wages during the period 1939 to 1972, due to the handing of accounts and wages obtained under the 'Protection Acts' during this time.	Non-assessable
Allowances paid with working income	Assessable
Armed Forces Reservists Pay	Assessable

Attendance Allowance paid as part of a Supported Employment Program	Non-assessable
Auxiliary Firefighters pay	Assessable
Board paid by any household member	Assessable
Bonus paid with wages	Assessable
Business income This is not an income paid by Centrelink. It is income the tenant or household member receives and has been reported by Centrelink.	Assessable
Carer income See Carer income for more information.	Assessable
Casual earnings A tax allowance is applied to the gross amount of wages.	Assessable
Child maintenance and child support payments	Assessable
Community Development Employment Program wages	Assessable
Community Development Employment Supplement	Non-assessable
Compensation – regular payments	Assessable
Compensation – lump sum Lump sum compensation payments are considered as an asset. A Disability Support Pension is attributed to calculating rent.	Non-assessable
Commission	Assessable
Deemed investment income See Deemed Investment Income for more information.	Assessable
Defense Forces Retirement Benefit / Comsuper	Assessable
Escaping Violence Payment	Non-assessable
Ex-gratia payment to Ex-Prisoners of War (POW) and Civilian Internees of Japan during WW2 and Ex-POWs of North Korea (Korean War) or Ex-POWs of Europe during WW2 May also be paid to widows of servicemen. Any interest or income earned from investing this payment is assessable.	Non-assessable



Family Day Care Allowance  This is the working income of a person who provides a family day care arrangement, usually from home. The tax allowance is applied to this income.	Assessable
First Aid Allowance	Assessable
Foreign income	Assessable
Foreign Pension	Assessable
Foster Care / Fortnightly Care Allowance	Non-assessable
International/overseas students – income received by students or from students  See International students for more information.	Assessable
This includes income generated from shares, investments and/or savings and bank accounts for businesses such as self-employment, partnerships, trusts, companies or other legal entities.	Assessable
Fringe Benefits	Assessable
GST collected by self-employed people or subcontractors	Assessable
Higher duties	Assessable
Higher Growth Fund managed by the Queensland Public Trustee	Assessable
Holiday pay	Assessable
Incentive Allowance paid with earnings	Assessable
Income Streams and Annuities	Assessable
Indigenous Wages and Savings (1890s to 1980s) Reparations Scheme paid by the Queensland Government in 2003-2005	Non-assessable
In-kind payments	Assessable
Financial interest	Assessable
Jury Service payment	Non-assessable
Leave loading pay	Assessable
Living Away from Home Allowance paid with wages	Assessable

Locality Allowance paid to public servants	Assessable
Long Service Leave	Assessable
Lump sum payments Examples - compensation, winnings, money from inheritances, gifts or deceased estates.	Assessable
National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) support funding lump sum/instalment	Non-assessable
National Redress Scheme payments for Institutional Sexual Abuse Lump sum payment. Any interest or other income earned when the Redress payment is invested is assessable.	Non-assessable
Other income reported through the Income Confirmation Service This is not an income paid by Centrelink. It is income the tenant or household member receives and has been reported by Centrelink.	Assessable
Overtime	Assessable
Paid Parental Leave	Assessable
Palm Island Anti-Discrimination Compensation	Non-assessable
Penalty Allowance	Assessable
Real estate income The gross amount of real estate income received is used. This includes any income received from sharing economy services such as AirBNB and Stayz.	Assessable
Redress Scheme ex-gratia payments to former residents of Queensland's Children's Institutions.	Non-assessable
Regular payments to volunteers	Assessable
Royalty payments from Indigenous held land in Trusts	Assessable
Royalties paid directly to Indigenous Community and held in non-discretionary Trusts for use by the Community. Royalties paid to a self-employed member of an Indigenous Community or payments to a person from the royalty payments are assessable.	Non-assessable
Salary sacrificed amounts	Assessable
Scholarships - living or study expenses	Non-assessable

Self-employed income	Assessable
Spousal maintenance	Assessable
Study and Research Assistance Scheme	Non-assessable
Superannuation	Assessable
Targeted Support Allowance	Assessable
Termination Pay	Assessable
Territories Stolen Generations Redress Scheme  Any interest or other income earned when the Redress payment is invested is assessable.	Non-assessable
Wages and salary	Assessable
Workcover Payments/Income Protection Payments	Assessable
Working income of young people aged 24 years old and less, except where the person is a tenant or their spouse	Non-assessable