# Explaining your settlement payment

## You are getting a settlement payment as you are an eligible member of the ‘Robodebt’ (Social Security Debt Collection) Class Action (VID1252/2019).

The Commonwealth and the applicants (represented by Gordon Legal) agreed to settle the class action. The Federal Court approved the way your settlement payment was calculated.

## How is my settlement payment worked out?

The amount you receive depends on:

* When you repaid money towards eligible debts
* How much you repaid
* When you were refunded, and
* How many eligible group members registered for a settlement payment.

People who paid back more, and were without this money for longer, will get larger payments.

### Step 1: Working out the settlement distribution

The Federal Court approved the agreed settlement sum of $112 million.

First, the costs for Gordon Legal of $10.3 million were deducted from this amount. These costs were approved by the Court.

This left $101.7 million to be distributed among eligible group members and is known as the ‘distribution sum’. Eligible group members get settlement payments from this amount.

### Step 2: Calculating your interest

The second step is calculating the ‘simple interest’ on the money that was repaid.

For every day that you were without the money repaid to your debt, an interest amount is calculated. The interest rates used for this were set by the Federal Court.

The daily interest amounts are then added together to give the total interest amount for each debt.

### Step 3: Working out your added amount

After calculating the interest for all eligible group members, there was still money left from the distribution sum. Every eligible group member gets a portion of this. This is called your ‘added settlement amount’.

Your added settlement amount is based on the interest amount you are getting (see Step 2). The more interest you get, the bigger your added settlement amount.

### Step 4: Adding it up

The final step to calculate your total settlement payment is to add your interest amount (step 2) and the ‘added settlement amount’ (step 3) together to give a settlement payment.

If you have multiple eligible debts, the settlement payment for each debt is added up. The total settlement payment you receive has been rounded up to the nearest cent.

## Settlement payment amounts for eligible group members

The settlement amount each person is paid will be different. Your settlement payment is calculated in a similar way to interest. The more you paid back and the longer you went without this money, the larger your share of the settlement. Around half of settlement payments will be between $50 and $300.

You can see the breakdown of how amounts have been distributed by payment ranges below.

## Breakdown by payment ranges

| Payment range | Percentage of group members |
| --- | --- |
| Under $1 | 1.1% |
| $1 – $10 | 4.6% |
| $10.01 – $50 | 20.7% |
| $50.01 – $100 | 17.9% |
| $100.01 – $300 | 30.8% |
| $300.01 – $500 | 10.6% |
| $500.01 – $1000 | 9.1% |
| Over $1000 | 5.2% |
| Under $1 | 1.1% |
| $1 – $10 | 4.6% |

## Where can I get more information?

### See details of how your settlement was calculated

Go to my.gov.au sign in, select your Centrelink online account then ‘Class action settlement statement’ in the Income Compliance menu.

### Want a copy of the Class action settlement statement?

Call us on 1800 171 846.

Tell us if you need an interpreter and we will arrange one for free.

This includes interpreters for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages.

### For more details about the Class action and settlement payments

Go to **servicesaustralia.gov.au/classaction**

Or call **1800 171 846**.

### Get advice on the settlement distribution scheme

Go to Gordon Legal at **robodebtclassaction.com.au**

Or call **1300 001 356**.

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