**How compensation affects your payment**

If you or your partner get a Centrelink payment, you need to tell us about any compensation you get for an injury, illness or disease.

You must tell us about compensation payments within 7 days of getting your first payout. If your compensation amount changes, you’ll need to let us know within 14 days.

We calculate your Centrelink payments based on your income. If you or your partner get compensation, either weekly or paid as a lump sum, we count this as income.

Depending on your situation, you may not be eligible to get a Centrelink payment.

If you don’t tell us you’re getting compensation payments at the same time as a Centrelink payment, you’ll have to pay us back. Your compensation payer may arrange to pay us back from your lump sum or regular compensation payments. If they don’t, you’ll need to make arrangements to pay us back yourself.

There’s a compensation estimator on our website which can give you an estimate of the amount we can recover from lump sum payments.

For more information go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/centrelinkcompensationrecovery or phone us on 1800 777 653.