

# Disability Support Pension talking points - Information for people getting DSP

Disability Support Pension is an income support payment.

It provides financial help if a person has a physical, intellectual or psychiatric condition that's likely to persist for more than 2 years and stops them from working.

Services Australia provides DSP to eligible people.

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## DSP participation requirements

A person getting DSP may have participation requirements if they are younger than 35 and:

- can work at least 8 hours per week
- don't have a dependent child younger than 6.

These requirements include attending interviews and agreeing to a participation plan.

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A person getting DSP may get a temporary exemption from their participation requirements in some circumstances.

They can choose to participate voluntarily if they don't have participation requirements.

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## A person may be able to work and still get DSP

A person can have paid work for up to 29 hours a week and still get DSP if they meet the [income test](#). The amount of DSP they get will depend on the amount of money they earn.

Services Australia can pause a person's DSP for up to 2 years if either:

- they work 30 or more hours per week
- their income reduces their payment to nil for 6 consecutive fortnights.

Services Australia won't pause a person's DSP for working 30 or more hours per week if they:

- get DSP because they are permanently blind
- work for an Australian Disability Enterprise
- work under the Supported Wages System

- get ongoing support from a Disability Employment Service.

They must tell Services Australia about their income change within 14 days. If their income is too high and their DSP stops, they may still get their Pensioner Concession Card for up to 2 years.

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If a person's DSP has been paused, they can ask Services Australia to restore their DSP payment within 2 years if any of these apply:

- their hours reduce below 30 per week
- their income reduces below the cut off limit for DSP
- they stop working.

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## **Reporting income**

Services Australia needs to know about any income a person getting DSP or their partner gets each fortnight.

If they did not get any income, they need to tell us it was zero.

They need to report by 5pm on their reporting date. They cannot report before their reporting date. People have different reporting dates, but the person's and their partner's reporting date will be the same.

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## **How to report income**

A person getting DSP can report income via the Express Plus Centrelink mobile app, online, phone or at a Service Centre.

Reports via the Express Plus Centrelink mobile app can be made in **Arabic, Vietnamese, Chinese (Simplified), or Persian (Farsi)**.

To report via phone they can:

- call **131 202** to speak to someone in their language
- call **133 276 (13 EARN)** to report. Let Services Australia know if they need an interpreter and it'll be arranged for free.

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## **Change of circumstances**

A person getting DSP must tell Services Australia about changes to any of these:

- income and assets

- relationship
- accommodation
- overseas travel

For more information, go to [Change of circumstances while receiving Disability Support Pension - Disability Support Pension - Services Australia](#) or read the [Avoid a debt](#) factsheet (35 languages).

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## Contact Services Australia

There are many ways that people can do business with Services Australia.

Website: [www.servicesaustralia.gov.au](http://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au)

Phone:

- **Centrelink** – 131 202
- **Childcare** – 132 011
- **Child support** – 131 272.

Let us know if you need an interpreter, and we will arrange one for free.

You can also visit a Service Centre or write to Services Australia.

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## Information in your language

Services Australia has information in more than 70 languages to help people understand their payments and services. People can read, listen to or watch information in their language.

Click on this language button (bottom right corner of our website), or go to:

[servicesaustralia.gov.au/yourlanguage](http://servicesaustralia.gov.au/yourlanguage)

## More information

Go to [servicesaustralia.gov.au/dsp](http://servicesaustralia.gov.au/dsp) or call the Disability, sickness and carers line on 132 717, Monday to Friday, 8 am to 5 pm.

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This information is accurate as at September 2023