



Information for carers

We offer payments to people who care for someone.

Carer Payment

To get this payment you must give constant care to someone with:

- disability
- a medical condition
- an adult who is frail aged.

You and the person you provide care for must be under the income and assets test limits.

You must:

- give constant care to someone who needs care for at least 6 months, or has a terminal illness
- care for them in their home
- not spend more than 100 hours in a 4 week period away from care to do paid work, including self-employment.

Carer Allowance

To get this allowance you must give daily care and attention to someone with disability or a medical condition or an adult who is frail aged.

You must:

- give daily care to someone who needs care for at least 12 months, or has a terminal illness
- care for them in either their home or your home
- be under the Carer Allowance income test.

Carer Supplement

This is an annual payment of up to \$600 for those who get an eligible payment to provide care for a person with disability or a medical condition. It is paid automatically in July each year.

Child Disability Assistance Payment

This is an annual payment of up to \$1,000 for those who get Carer Allowance when looking after a child with disability or a medical condition. It is paid automatically in July each year.

Carer Adjustment Payment

To get this one-off payment, you must give full-time care to a child younger than 7 years of age who has been diagnosed with a severe disability or severe medical condition following a catastrophic event.

You must:

- claim within 2 years from the date of diagnosis
- care for the child for at least 2 months after the catastrophic event

- have a very strong need for financial help
- get Carer Allowance for the child
- make sure you and your partner cannot get an income support payment.

Claiming carer payments

On the day of claiming, both you and the person you care for must be Australian residents living in Australia.

You must also be physically in Australia the day you claim.

If you have a Centrelink online account, you can sign into myGov and claim Carer Payment, Carer Allowance or both online.

You can also call the Disability, sickness and carers line on **132 717** or visit your nearest service centre.

Change of circumstances

You need to tell us within 14 days about any personal, income or care changes. If you do not tell us about these changes, we may pay you too much. If this happens, you will have to pay the money back.

This can include, but is not limited to:

- the amount of care they need changes
- you stop providing care or start sharing the care with someone else
- you or the person you care for go overseas
- any changes to your relationship
- any changes to your income and assets.

You must also tell us if the person you provide care for:

- is in someone else's care
- goes into respite care, hospital or moves to a nursing home
- stops being a dependent child
- goes to live outside Australia
- dies.

Carer Gateway

Carer Gateway is an Australian Government program providing free services and support for carers. Their services include peer support groups, support packages and counselling. Go to carergateway.gov.au or call them on **1800 422 737** for more information.

For more information

- Go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/carers for more information in English.
- Go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/yourlanguage where you can read, listen to or watch videos in your language.
- Call **131 202** to speak with us in your language about Centrelink payments and services.

- Call **132 011** for Medicare and **131 272** for Child Support. Let us know if you need an interpreter, and we will arrange one for free.
- Visit a service centre.

Note: calls from your landline to '13' numbers from anywhere in Australia are charged at a fixed rate. That rate may vary from the price of a local call and may also vary between telephone service providers. Calls to '18' numbers from your landline are usually free. Calls from public and mobile phones may be timed and charged at a higher rate.

Disclaimer

The information contained in this publication is intended only as a guide to payments and services. It's your responsibility to decide if you wish to apply for a payment and to make an application with regard to your particular circumstances.