



Australian Government



Remote Area Allowance Payment Rates

1 July–19 September 2008

Remote Area Allowance

Remote Area Allowance (RAA)

Basic conditions of eligibility

- Tax-free allowance for pensioners/allowees/beneficiaries.
- Income Zone Tax Offset (formerly Zone Rebate) will be reduced by the amount of the allowance paid.

Residential requirements

- Resident of Ordinary Tax Zone A, or Special Zone A (with certain exceptions), or Special Zone B.
- Can be for the first eight weeks of a temporary absence from Australia.

Basic rates

- Single: \$18.20 per fortnight.
- Couple: \$15.60 per fortnight each.
- Plus \$7.30 per fortnight for each dependant.

Rent Assistance

- Not payable.

Income test

- No income test.

Assets test

- No assets test.

Calling Centrelink

Employment Services	13 2850
Youth Allowance	13 2490
Austudy	13 2490
ABSTUDY	13 2317
Australian Apprentices	13 3633
Pensioner Education Supplement (PES)	13 2490
Assistance for Isolated Children (AIC) Scheme	13 2318
Retirement	13 2300
Disability, Sickness and Carers	13 2717
Family Assistance Office	13 6150
To speak to Centrelink in languages other than English	13 1202
For information about claiming a payment from a country other than Australia and about claiming an Australian payment while outside Australia	13 1673
Calling from outside Australia (you can reverse charge)	+61 3 6222 3455

Australian Government Services Fraud Tip-off Line 13 1524 or through the internet at www.centrelink.gov.au

Customer Relations Freecall™ 1800 050 004
Suggestions, complaints and compliments

TTY Enquiries Freecall™ 1800 810 586
Only for people who are deaf or who have a hearing or speech impairment. A TTY phone is required to use this service.

TTY Customer Relations Freecall™ 1800 000 567
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Information on payment rates is also available on the Centrelink website at www.centrelink.gov.au

Calls from your home phone to Centrelink "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 "1800" numbers from your home phone are free. Calls from public and mobile phones may be timed and charged at a higher rate.

Centrelink self service

A growing number of Centrelink services are available through online and phone self service. Using self service you can:

- update family income estimate
- claim student Youth Allowance or Austudy
- report employment income
- update address and banking details.

Online self service

Once you have registered you can logon at www.centrelink.gov.au to access online services.

Refer to Service Available Times on our website for when online services are available.

Phone self service

Centrelink has two self service lines. For general self service, phone 13 6240, Monday to Friday from 5.30 am to 12 midnight (except for national and state-based public holidays), on Saturday from 5.00 am to 6.00 pm and on Sunday from 8.00 am to 8.00 pm.

For the reporting line, phone 13 3276, Monday to Friday from 6.00 am to 10.00 pm (except for national and state-based public holidays). Remember to call before 6.00 pm (8.00 pm for Parenting Payment) on the day you are due to report.

Disclaimer

The information contained in this publication is intended only as a guide to payments available.

What are your responsibilities?

- It is your responsibility to decide if you wish to apply for a payment and to make the application, having regard to your particular circumstances.
- The information is accurate as at 1 July 2008, but may of course change. If you use this publication after that date, please check with Centrelink that the details are up to date.

From what date are benefits payable?

Most government payments are paid from, or after, the date on which the application is made. So the sooner you lodge the application the quicker you may be paid.

What is the position if you deal with a third party?

You may deal with a third party who is not a member of Centrelink's staff. If you do so, please remember that Centrelink has not authorised any third parties to provide information or advice to you about payments.