

What is Rent Assistance

Rent Assistance is a payment made by Centrelink towards your rent.

To be eligible for rent assistance you must receive:

- A pension
- Receive more than the base rate of Family Tax Benefit if you have dependant children
- Receive an allowance or benefit if you don't have dependant children, and you
 1. are over 25, or
 2. are partnered, or
 3. are under 25 (under 21 if you receive Disability Support Pension) and living permanently or indefinitely apart from parents or guardians.

Please Note: *You cannot get Rent Assistance if you get Austudy Payment.*

How much will I receive

How much rent assistance you receive is calculated according to your family size and how much rent you pay. ***If you rent public housing you are not eligible for assistance.***

Rent Assistance is also available for the following situations:

- Service and maintenance fees in a retirement village.
- Lodging with another person in their home or a rooming house.
- Fees paid to use a site for a caravan or other accommodation that you occupy as your principal home.
- Fees paid to moor a vessel you occupy as your principal home.

How to claim Rent Assistance

Eligibility is assessed when a claim is made for a pension, allowance or benefit.

Centrelink require proof of the amount of rent paid. If you do not have a formal lease or tenancy agreement you will need to get a Rent Certificate completed. Centrelink will provide the certificate and the person to whom you pay your rent will need to complete it.

When your claim has been assessed Centrelink will send a letter confirming eligibility and when the payments will start and how much.

More detailed information can be obtained from the Centrelink website – www.centrelink.gov.au .

Centrelink
Rent Assistance

Information Brochure

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