

Social security, families and aged care

Further economic support payments for income support recipients

Proposed effective date: From November 2020 (first payment) and early 2021 (second payment)

The government will provide two economic support payments of \$250 each to recipients of the following social security payments or concession cards:

- Age Pension
- Disability Support Pension
- Carer Payment
- Carer Allowance (not in receipt of a primary income support payment)
- Commonwealth Seniors Health Card
- Pensioner Concession Card (not in receipt of a primary income support payment)
- Family Tax Benefit, including Double Orphan Pension
- eligible Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) payment recipients and concession card holders.

The payments are exempt from tax and will not count as income for any income support payment.

Temporarily relaxing the Paid Parental Leave work test

Proposed effective date: 22 March 2020

This concessional work test arrangement will support new parents whose employment was interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Under the current rules, to meet the Paid Parental Leave work test a parent must have worked in 10 of the last 13 months preceding the birth or adoption of a child.

The government is proposing to relax the work test for births and adoptions that occur between 22 March 2020 and 31 March 2021 to allow parents to qualify for the payment if they have worked in 10 of the last 20 months preceding the birth or adoption of a child.

What you need to know

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