

# Rental rebate

A rental rebate is a subsidy given to eligible public housing tenants. The Department calculates rebated rent on a percentage of the household income. The rental rebate is the difference between the rent charged to you and the full rent of the property.

## Am I eligible for a rental rebate?

The Department will assess whether you are eligible for public housing. If you are eligible for public housing in urban centres you are eligible for a rental rebate.

Public housing tenants located in remote communities, Alice Springs town camps and Tennant Creek community living areas are not eligible for a rental rebate. A fixed amount of rent is applied in remote communities, Alice Springs town camps and Tennant Creek community living areas. You can contact your local Housing office to find out more about your rent.

## How do I get a rental rebate?

You must complete the Rental Rebate and Continued Eligibility Application. This form allows you to apply for a rental rebate.

You will also need to provide supporting documents with your completed application. This applies to all household members who are aged 18 years and over.

Supporting documents can include:

- proof of all sources of income such as an Income Statement from Centrelink or payslips
- proof of all assessable assets such as official statements or summary from a reputable institution of an asset's value.

## What if I don't provide supporting documents?

The Department cannot assess your application if there is missing information.

This will mean you cannot prove you are eligible for a rental rebate or public housing. If you are not eligible, the Department will charge you full rent and may ask you to leave public housing.

## How is rebated rent calculated?

The Department uses your household's assessable income to calculate your rent payable. The Department applies a percentage to this income to calculate your rebated rent.

On 1 October 2018, the Department changed the percentage rates to calculate rebated rent. These changes are:

- 25% of assessable income applies to households that entered a tenancy on or after 1 October 2018

- For all other households, the percentage of assessable income will change over five years to 23%.

The changes also included the income types used to calculate a rental rebate. The Department's Income and Assets policy provides a full list of these income types.

You can contact your local Housing office to find out more about your rent.

## How long does my rental rebate last?

Your rental rebate will apply when you begin your tenancy. The Department will review your rental rebate depending on your circumstances and income. This includes changes to your income or the people living in your household.

Your rental rebate can last either six or 12 months. A shorter period may apply if your income varies from week to week. This is to ensure your household is not disadvantaged.

The Department will let you know your rental rebate is due for a review three weeks before it expires. You will need to provide up to date supporting documents of your income and any household changes.

## What if there are changes before my rental rebate expires?

You must inform the Department within 28 days if:

- anyone moves in or out of your household; or
- anyone's income increases or decreases
- a household member's pension type changes.

## I report my employment to Centrelink. Do I need to tell the Department too?

The Department cannot get your employment details from Centrelink. This includes the amount you report direct to Centrelink.

You need to inform the Department of any employment and income changes. Any changes to your income may affect your rental rebate.

## Where can I get more information?

To find out more, visit the website [nt.gov.au](http://nt.gov.au) or contact your local Housing office:

Greater Darwin	(08) 8999 8814
Yarrowonga	(08) 8999 4767
Katherine	(08) 8973 8513
Tennant Creek	(08) 8962 4497
Nhulunbuy	(08) 8987 0533
Arafura Region	(08) 8995 5122
Alice Springs	(08) 8951 5344