

Economic Security Strategy Financial Assistance Payments

The Economic Security Strategy is offering immediate support for many Australians in response to the global financial crisis.

From 8 to 19 December 2008, pensioners, families, seniors, people with disability, carers and veterans will be provided with financial assistance through the lump sum Economic Security Strategy payment. This payment builds on existing support measures, recognising that many people require immediate assistance to help them meet their needs.

More information

For more information about the Economic Security Strategy and the lump sum payments visit www.australia.gov.au/ESSpayments or call:

- ▶ Centrelink Retirement Services **13 2300**
- ▶ Centrelink Disability, Sickness and Carers **13 2717**
- ▶ Family Assistance Office **13 6150**
- ▶ Department of Veterans' Affairs **13 3254**



Australian Government

Economic Security Strategy Financial Assistance Payments

For Australian pensioners, families, seniors,
people with disability, carers and veterans



Are you eligible for a lump sum payment?

C0538.0811

Financial assistance for pensioners, seniors, people with disability, carers and veterans

Who is eligible?

People who, on 14 October 2008, received one of the following payments:

- ▶ Age Pension
- ▶ Disability Support Pension
- ▶ Carer Payment
- ▶ Wife or Widow B Pension
- ▶ Partner, Widow or Bereavement Allowance
- ▶ Veterans' Affairs Service Pension
- ▶ Veterans' Affairs Income Support Supplement.

People who, on 14 October 2008:

- ▶ held a Commonwealth Seniors Health Card
- ▶ held a Veterans' Affairs Gold Card and were also eligible for Seniors Concession Allowance
- ▶ were of Age Pension age and received Parenting Payment, Special Benefit, Austudy or ABSTUDY Living Allowance.

People who were entitled to Carer Allowance on 14 October 2008 will also be eligible for a lump sum payment for each eligible person in their care.

Financial assistance for families

Who is eligible?

Families who, on 14 October 2008:

- ▶ were entitled to Family Tax Benefit Part A (FTB Part A) or
- ▶ had a dependent child/children attracting Youth Allowance, ABSTUDY Living Allowance, or an education allowance under the Veterans' Children Education Scheme or the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act Education and Training Scheme and who did not attract FTB Part A.

How much is the payment?

If you received an eligible pension, or held an eligible concession card, you will receive \$1,400 if you are single or \$1,050 for each eligible member of a couple.

If you receive Carer Allowance, you will receive \$1,000 for each eligible person in your care.

Families will receive \$1,000 for each eligible child in their care.

When and how will the payment be made?

You do not need to do anything to receive your lump sum payment.

In most cases, the payment will be made automatically to your bank account and a letter sent to you confirming the payment, during the fortnight 8 to 19 December 2008.

These arrangements also apply to families who receive their Family Tax Benefit Part A (FTB Part A) as fortnightly payments or who have chosen to defer their FTB Part A payment until the end of the year under a More Choice for Families option.

For families who receive their FTB Part A at the end of the financial year, the lump sum payment will be made at the same time as their FTB Part A payment.

If you share the care of your child or children and have at least 35 per cent care, you may be entitled to a portion of the lump sum payment. The payment will be shared according to your Family Tax Benefit or Veterans' Children Education Scheme percentage for each child.