

New Zealand Disaster Recovery Payment

New Zealand Disaster Recovery Payment (NZ DRP) is a lump sum payment to help if you were directly affected by a declared disaster.

Who can get it

To get this payment, you must meet all of the following:

- you're a non-protected Special Category visa (subclass 444) holder
- you've paid tax in Australia for at least one year in the past 3 financial years, or will do so before the end of the 12 month period following the date the disaster was declared
- you're adversely affected in a declared area.

To check declared areas, go to
servicesaustralia.gov.au/disastersupport

Adversely affected means that you or an eligible child you care for must have been directly affected by the declared disaster. This includes one or more of the following:

- major damage to your principal place of residence
- major damage to a major asset or assets that you own at your principal place of residence
- serious injury
- an immediate family member who is an Australian citizen or resident has died or is missing.

To claim NZ DRP, at the time of the disaster you must be 16 or older. You can include any eligible child you care for at the time of the disaster in your claim. You can only get NZ DRP once for a declared disaster.

If you're a member of a couple, you can both claim this payment. You and your partner must make separate claims.

You can claim if you're the immediate family member of an Australian citizen or resident who died or is missing as a direct result of the disaster. You can't claim on behalf of a person who has died, or their estate.

How much you can get

If you're eligible, you'll get:

- \$1,000 per adult
- \$400 for each child younger than 16.

For this payment, we use the following definitions.

Eligible child you care for

You're the carer of an eligible child if, on the first day, you or they were affected by the declared disaster, all of the following apply:

- the child is under 16
- you get Family Tax Benefit for that child
- you have at least 66% care of the child.

If this doesn't apply, you must be the principal carer of the child you're claiming for. This means that both of the following apply:

- you have a legal responsibility for the day-to-day care, welfare and development of the child
- the child is under 16 and dependent on you on the first day you were affected by the declared disaster.

When you share the care of a child with your partner, only one of you can get NZ DRP for the child.

Principal place of residence

Your principal place of residence is the main place where you have a right or licence to live. It doesn't include holiday homes, investment properties, temporary stays with family or friends, detention facilities or prison.

If you have more than one principal place of residence, you'll be asked to give details of each residence.

Major damage

Your principal place of residence has experienced major damage if, for example:

- it's been destroyed or must be demolished
- it's been declared structurally unsound
- the disaster has exposed the interior to the elements
- sewage has gotten inside it.

Examples of major damage to the interior of your principal place of residence are:

- flooring or furniture needs refinishing or replacing
- electrical items such as a refrigerator or washing machine have been damaged and need replacing
- metal has begun to rust, pit and corrode and needs replacing.

Major damage to major asset or assets

A major asset or assets you own must be located at your principal place of residence.

Your major assets have experienced major damage if:

- they have become unusable or need to be replaced
- a water tank is damaged and needs repairing or cleaning, or the water needs to be replaced.

The asset or assets must have a combined market value of \$20,000 or more. This may include buildings, vehicles, caravans, water tanks or large-scale machinery.

Serious injury

A serious injury is when a person is hurt in the disaster and admitted to hospital or would have been admitted to hospital under normal circumstances.

Evidence you need to provide

We will ask you to give evidence that you've participated in the tax system in Australia for at least one year in the past 3 financial years, or will do before the end of the 12 month period following the date the disaster was declared. Participation in the tax system means you have exceeded the tax free threshold after any deductions or offsets are applied.

Evidence can include notices of assessment, income tax returns, pay slips or a letter from your employer.

If you don't have evidence, you can still submit your claim and call us on **180 22 66** to discuss your options.

For more information about this payment, go to **servicesaustralia.gov.au/disastersupport**

How to claim

The fastest way to claim is online through myGov.



For more information, go to **servicesaustralia.gov.au/disastersupport**

Help for you

A disaster can have a physical and emotional impact on you and your family.



For additional help, go to **servicesaustralia.gov.au/disasterhelp**

For more information

Scan the QR code or go to **servicesaustralia.gov.au/disaster**

