



Disability Support Pension

Eligibility

You may be able to get **DSP** if you meet both non-medical and medical rules.

You will meet the non-medical rules if all the following apply and you:

- are between 16 years of age and **age pension** age
- meet the residence requirements
- meet the income and assets tests for your situation.

You will meet the medical rules if you have one of the following manifest conditions:

- you are permanently blind
- you need nursing home level care
- you have a terminal illness with average life expectancy of less than 2 years
- you have an intellectual disability with an IQ of less than 70
- you have category 4 HIV/AIDS
- you get a **Department of Veterans' Affairs special rate disability pension (totally and permanently incapacitated)**.

Alternatively, you may also meet the medical rules if all of the following apply:

- your condition is likely to persist for more than 2 years
- your condition is diagnosed, reasonably treated and stabilised
- you meet the impairment rating requirement of 20 points or more under the **Impairment Tables**
- you meet **Program of Support (POS)** rules, if these apply to you
- your condition will stop you working at least 15 hours a week in the next 2 years.

Claiming DSP

Before you claim

You can use our **DSP pre-claim guide** available on our website. It will not tell you if you can get the payment, but it will help you decide whether to claim. If you think it is the right payment for you, make sure you have medical evidence to support your claim. You may also need to complete a **POS** before you claim.

A **POS** will help you with:

- preparing for and applying for jobs
- work experience and/or training
- injury management.

When you claim

You must give us medical evidence. We will use this evidence to assess your eligibility for **DSP**. You may need to attend assessments. When you are ready to submit a claim, the quickest way to claim is online. If you already have a **Centrelink Customer Reference Number (CRN)**, you can claim online with **Centrelink** through your **myGov** account.

If you do not have a **CRN**, go to **my.gov.au** to get one. You do not need to visit a service centre. If you have a correspondence nominee, they can claim for you online. If you do not have a correspondence nominee, and you want one, you must set this up. For more information about nominee arrangements, go to **servicesaustralia.gov.au/nominees**

When we assess your claim

Job Capacity Assessment

As part of your claim process, you will need to attend a **Job Capacity Assessment (JCA)**. A **JCA** will assess the impact of your medical conditions and disabilities on your ability to work and whether you would benefit from employment assistance. There is no cost for this assessment.

Disability Medical Assessment

Following your **JCA**, we may refer you to a **Disability Medical Assessment (DMA)**. A **DMA** helps us to decide your medical eligibility for **DSP**. A Government-contracted doctor will conduct your **DMA**. This doctor will not be your usual doctor, though they may contact your doctor if they need more information. All Government-contracted doctors are qualified and trained to do these assessments. There is no cost for this assessment.

Outcome of your **DSP** claim

We will let you know if your claim is successful. If you are eligible for **DSP**, we will tell you when your payment will start and how much you will get paid. Not everyone with disability or a medical condition can get **DSP**. If you cannot get it you may be able to get other payments.

For more information

- Go to **servicesaustralia.gov.au/dsp** for more information in English
- Go to **servicesaustralia.gov.au/yourlanguage** where you can read, listen to or watch videos with information in your language
- Call **131 202** to speak with us in your own language about **Centrelink** payments and services
- Call **132 011** for **Medicare** and **131 272** for **Child Support**. Let us know if you need an interpreter, and we will arrange one for free
- Visit a service centre.

Note: calls from your home phone to '13' numbers from anywhere in Australia are charged at a fixed rate. That rate may vary from the price of a local call and may also vary between telephone service providers. Calls to '1800' numbers from your home phone are free. Calls from public and mobile phones may be timed and charged at a higher rate.

Disclaimer

The information contained in this publication is intended only as a guide to payments and services. It's your responsibility to decide if you wish to apply for a payment and to make an application with regard to your particular circumstances.