



Budget 2023-24

This information is accurate as of 9 May 2023.

Increase to Working Age and Student Payments

This measure will increase the base rate of working age and student payments, including JobSeeker Payment*, Youth Allowance, Parenting Payment (Partnered), Austudy, ABSTUDY, Disability Support Pension (under 21 without a dependent child), Special Benefit and Farm Household Allowance by \$40 per fortnight, in recognition of the challenges income support recipients face.

Around 1.1 million people will benefit from the increased financial support.

The government is also extending eligibility for the existing higher rate of JobSeeker Payment to single recipients aged 55 to 59, who get the payment for 9 or more continuous months. Currently the qualifying age for this higher rate is 60.

*does **not** include JobSeeker Payment single principal carers of a dependent child exempted from mutual obligation requirements for the following reasons:

- foster caring
- non-parent relative caring (court order)
- home schooling
- distance education, or
- large family.

This measure is led by the Department of Social Services.

This measure is subject to legislation passing.

Who this measure affects

This measure affects people getting any of:

- JobSeeker Payment*
- Youth Allowance
- Parenting Payment (Partnered)
- Austudy
- ABSTUDY
- Disability Support Pension (under 21 without a dependent child)
- Special Benefit and;
- Farm Household Allowance.

*does **not** include JobSeeker Payment single principal carers of a dependent child exempted from mutual obligation requirements for the following reasons:

- foster caring
- non-parent relative caring (court order)
- home schooling

- distance education, or
- large family.

When this starts and finishes

This measure will start on 20 September 2023. Relevant payment rates will also be indexed on 20 September 2023.