







# Parenting Payment

Parenting Payment is income support for parents or guardians to help with the cost of raising children.

Parenting Payment is a separate payment from Family Tax Benefit and Parental Leave Pay. There are also other payments for families you may be able to get.

## Eligibility for Parenting Payment

Parenting Payment is paid to the principal carer of a child.

Only one parent or guardian can get the payment.

You may get Parenting Payment as a parent, grandparent, or foster carer, if any of these conditions apply:

- you are single and care for at least one child aged less than 14 years of age.
- you have a partner and care for at least one child aged less than 6 years of age.

To get this payment, you also need to meet these rules:

- the income and assets of both you and your partner (if you have one) are below certain amounts
- you meet the residence requirements
- you meet mutual obligation requirements if needed.

## Payment rates for Parenting Payment

The amount of Parenting Payment you get depends on your family situation. The rates are updated on 20 March and 20 September each year. For the latest rates go to [servicessaustralia.gov.au/parentingpayment](https://servicessaustralia.gov.au/parentingpayment)

## Income and assets tests for Parenting Payment

The amount of Parenting Payment you get depends on the income and assets of both you and your partner (if you have one).

An asset is any property or possession you own either in part or in full. It includes assets you hold, outside Australia and money and debts owed to you. The income and assets tests are updated on 20 March, 1 July and 20 September each year.

For the latest rates go to [servicessaustralia.gov.au/parentingpayment](https://servicessaustralia.gov.au/parentingpayment)

## How to claim

You can't submit a claim for Parenting Payment before the birth of a child. We generally assess your Parenting Payment from the date you submit your claim and documents.

We can backdate your payments if you submit your claim and documents within either 4 weeks of:

- your child's birth
- the date the child came into your care.

You can apply for this payment online. For more information go to [servicessaustralia.gov.au/parentingpayment](https://servicessaustralia.gov.au/parentingpayment)

## For more information

- go to [servicesaustralia.gov.au/parentingpayment](https://servicesaustralia.gov.au/parentingpayment) for more information in English
- go to [servicesaustralia.gov.au/ftb](https://servicesaustralia.gov.au/ftb) for more information about Family Tax Benefit in English and other languages
- go to [servicesaustralia.gov.au/yourlanguage](https://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 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.