

# Having a baby or adopting a child?

Information about payments for families and how to claim.

## Get started

If you're a new Centrelink customer, you'll need a Customer Reference Number (CRN) before you can start your claim.

You can establish your identity and get a CRN online, using myGov. To find out how, go to **[servicesaustralia.gov.au/identity](https://servicesaustralia.gov.au/identity)**

If you already have your CRN and have confirmed your identity, you're good to go!

## Save time, claim online

You can start the claim process as early as 3 months before the expected date of your child's birth or adoption.

To make an early claim, just follow these simple steps:

- 1** Access your myGov account – Sign into your myGov account. If you don't have one, create one at **[my.gov.au](https://my.gov.au)** and use your CRN to link your Centrelink online account.
- 2** Start your claim – From the homepage of your Centrelink online account, select **Make a claim**. Select **Get started** from the Families menu. Select **Apply for Family Assistance Payments (including Paid Parental Leave)**.
- 3** Complete and submit your claim – Answer the questions about your situation. You'll then need to review and confirm the details in your claim.
- 4** Provide proof of birth or adoption. You can do this using your Centrelink online account through myGov by selecting **Add newborn child** or through the Express Plus Centrelink mobile app by selecting **Add child**.
- 5** We'll assess your claim – We'll get in touch with you to let you know the outcome.



Australian Government



Services  
Australia

# Payments

These are the main payments that families may be eligible for if you have a baby, adopt a child or a child younger than one comes into care.

## Parental Leave Pay

Parental Leave Pay can help you if you're taking time off work to care for a newborn or recently adopted child. If you aren't the parent, or the parent's partner, you can only get Parental Leave Pay in exceptional circumstances.

Parental Leave Pay is paid at the rate of the national minimum wage and if a child is born or adopted from 1 July 2025, will include a superannuation contribution. If eligible your family could get up to either:

- 110 days (22 weeks) for children born or adopted on or after 1 July 2024.
- 120 days (24 weeks) for children born or adopted on or after 1 July 2025.

## Family Tax Benefit

A 2 part payment to help with the cost of raising children. Family Tax Benefit Part A is paid per child and the amount you get is based on your family's circumstances. Family Tax Benefit Part B provides extra assistance to single parents, grandparent carers, other non-parent carers, and some coupled families with one main income earner.

## Newborn Upfront Payment and Newborn Supplement

A lump sum payment and an increase to your Family Tax Benefit Part A for up to 13 weeks. You may get it if you have a baby, adopt a child or a child younger than one comes into care. You must also not be getting Parental Leave Pay for the same child.

## More information

If you're having a baby, see our handy checklists at [servicesaustralia.gov.au/havingababy](https://servicesaustralia.gov.au/havingababy)

If you're adopting a child, go to [servicesaustralia.gov.au/adopting](https://servicesaustralia.gov.au/adopting)

