



Australian Government



Services
Australia

Disaster Recovery Allowance

Disaster Recovery Allowance (DRA) is financial support if you've lost income as a direct result of a declared disaster.

You can get it for a maximum of 13 weeks, starting from the date you began losing income as a direct result of the disaster.

Who can get it

To get DRA you must meet all of the following. You:

- lost some or all of your income as a direct result of the declared disaster
- earn less than the average Australian weekly income after this income loss
- work or live in a declared area
- were 16 years or older at the time of the disaster
- are an Australian resident or meet other residence rules.

You don't need to have lost all your income to be eligible for this payment. You can get DRA for a maximum period of 13 weeks, for each week your income is below the average weekly income.

We use Australian Bureau of Statistics figures to tell us what the average Australian weekly income is.

You can't get DRA and some other payments at the same time.

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

There are other rules you must meet if you're aged between 16 and 21 years.

To check declared areas and for more information, 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

How much you can get

If you're eligible, you'll get the maximum equivalent rate of JobSeeker Payment or Youth Allowance, depending on your personal circumstances.

We'll reduce your payment to zero if your income is the same or more than the average weekly income.

Evidence you need to provide

We will ask you to give us evidence of your loss of income.

Evidence can include any of the following:

- pay slips from your employer
- a letter from your employer.

If you're a farmer, have a small business or you're involved in a trust or partnership where you get wages, evidence can also include any of the following:

- profit and loss statements
- income tax returns
- other documents that show cash flow, such as a bank statement for your business
- trust or partnership tax returns that show you have been paid a wage or salary.

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

How to manage your payment

If you get DRA you'll need to report changes in your circumstances. This includes if you earn more than or the same as the average Australian weekly income while you get DRA.

Contact us on 180 22 66 to report changes.

For more information

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

