



Relocation Assistance to Take Up a Job

What is relocation assistance?

The Relocation Assistance to Take Up a Job programme helps eligible participants with the cost of moving to take up an ongoing job.

Participants must move to take up ongoing work, including an apprenticeship. The job must be for 30 hours or more a week (15 or more hours a week for a participant with an assessed Partial Capacity to Work) and ongoing for more than six months.

Eligible participants can receive payments of up to:

- \$3000 if relocating to a capital city
- \$6000 if relocating to a regional area
- an extra \$3000 if relocating with a dependent (eligibility requirements apply).

Who is eligible for relocation assistance?

Participants should apply for assistance before they move and start a job or risk not being approved for assistance.

A participant must be registered with an employment services provider, have been in receipt of an eligible income support payment and have mutual obligation requirements at the time of obtaining the job.

Participants in the Structural Adjustment Programmes, including the Stronger Transitions package have immediate access to assistance, as long as they are registered with a jobactive provider as a Fully Eligible Participant.

What can the assistance be used for?

The assistance is flexible and can include:

- rent (up to two months)
- rental bond and utility connection costs
- removalist and travel costs
- some employment related expenses.

Employment services providers can pay a supplier directly or the participant can be reimbursed for pre-approved relocation expenses.

Providers may also make upfront payments or provide a pre-paid debit card to assist participants who are experiencing significant financial hardship.

Where can job seekers move?

The new location must:

- be within Australia
- be at least 90 minutes away from where the participant currently lives, based on your normal mode of transport
- not be within the same capital city.

If the move is between capital cities, the new location must have a lower unemployment rate than where the participant currently lives.

How do job seekers apply for relocation assistance?

To check detailed eligibility requirements and apply for assistance, a participant must talk to their local jobactive, Disability Employment Services or ParentsNext provider.

What are a participant's responsibilities?

Penalties apply for some participants if they leave their job without a valid reason within the first six months, or if their employer ceases the employment due to the participant's misconduct.

If this occurs, the participant may lose DHS-Centrelink income support payments for four to six weeks. This penalty may also be applied if the participant accepts relocation assistance but does not commence employment or does not relocate.

However, penalties do not apply if the participant loses their job through no fault of their own, such as through redundancy or business closure.

Want more information?

- Go to www.jobs.gov.au/relocation
- If you are registered with a jobactive, Disability Employment Services or ParentsNext provider, ask them about eligibility information and what assistance you can receive or call the National Customer Service Line on 1800 805 260*

Do you need help with this fact sheet?

If you need an interpreter, please call the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 131 450* and ask for the Employment Services Information Line on 13 62 68* or the National Customer Service Line on 1800 805 260*.

If you are deaf, or have a hearing or speech impairment you can use the National Relay Service. For more information, visit www.relayservice.gov.au.

** Note that call charges apply for calls to '13' and '1800' numbers from mobile phones*