



Australian Government

jobactive
relocation assistance
to take up a job

Relocation Assistance to Take Up a Job

The Relocation Assistance to Take Up a Job programme is an Australian Government programme that helps job seekers with the costs of moving for a job.

Eligible participants will 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 dependent children.

Who is eligible for relocation assistance?

To be eligible for assistance, a job seeker must:

- be registered as fully eligible with a jobactive provider or be participating in Disability Employment Services
- have mutual obligation requirements
- have been receiving an eligible income support payment (Newstart Allowance, Youth Allowance (other) or Parenting Payment) for the last 12 months
- apply for assistance before moving and starting work.

What can the assistance be used for?

The assistance is flexible and can include:

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

Participants can be reimbursed for their relocation expenses or employment services providers can pay a supplier directly.

Providers may also make upfront payments for participants with significant financial hardship.

Where can job seekers move?

The new location must be:

- within Australia
- at least 90 minutes away from where the job seeker currently lives, based on normally acceptable travel routes.

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

What jobs can participants do?

Participants can move to take up any suitable work or apprenticeship, but the position must be ongoing.

What are a participant's responsibilities?

Penalties apply if a participant leaves 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 not be eligible to receive Centrelink income support payments for up to 12 weeks. This penalty may also be applied if the participant accepts relocation assistance but does not commence employment or does not relocate.

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

Want more information?

- Go to www.employment.gov.au/relocation
- If you are registered with a jobactive or Disability Employment Services 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*