

**Summary of Changes - Pensions**

20 Sept 2005 to 31 Dec 2005

**Adult Pension Basic Rates**

	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
■ Single			
base	\$ 459.00	\$ 471.40	\$ 12.40 pf
supplement	\$ 17.30	\$ 17.50	\$ 0.20 pf
Total	\$ 476.30	\$ 488.90	\$ 12.60 pf
■ Couple			
base	\$ 383.30	\$ 393.60	\$ 10.30 pf
supplement	\$ 14.40	\$ 14.60	\$ 0.20 pf
Total	\$ 397.70	\$ 408.20	\$ 10.50 pf

**Youth Disability Support Pension Basic Rates**

	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
■ Member of a couple			
under 18	\$ 397.70	\$ 408.20	\$ 10.50 pf
18 - 20 years	\$ 397.70	\$ 408.20	\$ 10.50 pf

**Pension Disqualifying Income Limits**

Family Situation	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
■ Single	\$ 1,329.25	\$ 1,360.75	\$ 31.50 pf
■ Single + 1 child	\$ 1,353.85	\$ 1,385.35	\$ 31.50 pf
■ Couple (combined)	\$ 2,223.00	\$ 2,275.50	\$ 52.50 pf
■ For each Additional Child add	\$ 24.60	\$ 24.60	- pf
■ Illness Separated couple (combined)	\$ 2,630.50	\$ 2,693.50	\$ 63.00 pf

**Pension Disqualifying Asset Limits**

Family Situation	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
■ Single, homeowner	\$ 317,750	\$ 322,000	\$ 4,250
■ Single, non-homeowner	\$ 431,250	\$ 435,500	\$ 4,250
■ Partnered, homeowner (combined)	\$ 490,500	\$ 497,500	\$ 7,000
■ Partnered, non-homeowner (combined)	\$ 604,000	\$ 611,000	\$ 7,000
■ One partner eligible, homeowner	\$ 490,500	\$ 497,500	\$ 7,000
■ One partner eligible, non-homeowner	\$ 604,000	\$ 611,000	\$ 7,000
■ Illness separated couple, homeowner	\$ 544,500	\$ 553,000	\$ 8,500
■ Illness separated couple, non-homeowner	\$ 658,000	\$ 666,500	\$ 8,500

**Pension Bonus Scheme**

	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
■ Single - maximum bonus after:			
1 year	\$ 1,164.10	\$ 1,194.90	\$ 30.80
2 years	\$ 4,656.30	\$ 4,779.50	\$ 123.20
3 years	\$ 10,476.70	\$ 10,753.80	\$ 277.10
4 years	\$ 18,625.20	\$ 19,117.90	\$ 492.70
5 years	\$ 29,101.90	\$ 29,871.80	\$ 769.90
■ Partnered (each) - maximum bonus after:			
1 year	\$ 972.00	\$ 997.60	\$ 25.60
2 years	\$ 3,887.90	\$ 3,990.60	\$ 102.70
3 years	\$ 8,747.80	\$ 8,978.80	\$ 231.00
4 years	\$ 15,551.70	\$ 15,962.30	\$ 410.60
5 years	\$ 24,299.50	\$ 24,941.00	\$ 641.50

**Income Threshold for Employment Entry Payment (per fortnight)**

	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
■ For EEP entitlement person's income from employment must exceed	\$ 655.29	\$ 662.71	\$ 7.42 pf

**Summary of Changes - Allowances**

20 Sept 2005 to 31 Dec 2005

**Allowance Rates (NSA, WA, PA, SA, MAA, SpB)**

	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
■ Single, 21 or over, no children	\$ 399.30	\$ 404.50	\$ 5.20 pf
■ Single, 21 or over, with children	\$ 432.00	\$ 437.60	\$ 5.60 pf
■ Single, 60 or over, after 9 months (PhA)	\$ 437.80	\$ 443.40	\$ 5.60 pf
■ Partnered (each)	\$ 360.30	\$ 365.00	\$ 4.70 pf

**Income Test for NSA, WA, PA, SA, MAA & SpB**

Family Situation	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
■ Single, 21 or over, no children	\$ 655.29	\$ 662.71	\$ 7.42 pf
■ Single, 21 or over, with children	\$ 702.00	\$ 710.00	\$ 8.00 pf
■ Single, 60 or over, after 9 months (PhA)	\$ 710.29	\$ 718.29	\$ 8.00 pf
■ Partnered (each)	\$ 599.57	\$ 606.29	\$ 6.72 pf

**CDEP Participation Supplement (CPS) Income Test**

■ CPS is payable if income is below:	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
Single	\$ 795.00	\$ 804.00	\$ 9.00 pf
Couple	\$ 731.00	\$ 740.00	\$ 9.00 pf
■ Total income of both partners must be under	\$ 1,462.00	\$ 1,480.00	\$ 18.00 pf

**Summary of Changes - Families**

20 Sept 2005 to 31 Dec 2005

**Parenting Payment Basic Rates**

	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
■ Sole Parents	\$ 476.30	\$ 488.90	\$ 12.60 pf
■ Partnered Parents	\$ 360.30	\$ 365.00	\$ 4.70 pf

**Income Test for Parenting Payment**

	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
■ Partner's Free Area	\$ 600.00	\$ 607.00	\$ 7.00 pf
■ For part payment of additional rate all of the following conditions must be met:			
customer's income must be less than	\$ 629.00	\$ 635.71	\$ 6.71 pf
partner's income must be less than	\$ 1,114.72	\$ 1,128.43	\$ 13.71 pf
combined income must be less than	\$ 1,229.00	\$ 1,242.71	\$ 13.71 pf

**Maternity Payment Basic Rate**

	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
■ One off lump sum payment	\$ 3,079.00	\$ 3,119.00	\$ 40.00

**Maternity Immunisation Allowance Basic Rate**

	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
■ One off lump sum payment	\$ 216.20	\$ 219.00	\$ 2.80

## Summary of Changes - Rent Assistance (Social Security Act)

20 Sept 2005 to 31 Dec 2005

<u>Maximum Payment per Fortnight</u>	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2005		Increase
■ Single, no children	\$	98.00	\$	99.20	\$ 1.20
■ Single, no children, sharer	\$	65.33	\$	66.13	\$ 0.80
■ Couple, no children	\$	92.40	\$	93.60	\$ 1.20
■ Partnered, illness separated, no children	\$	98.00	\$	99.20	\$ 1.20
■ Partnered, temporarily separated, no children	\$	92.40	\$	93.60	\$ 1.20

<u>Rent threshold</u>	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2005		Increase
■ Single, no children	\$	87.00	\$	88.20	\$ 1.20
■ Single, no children, sharer	\$	87.00	\$	88.20	\$ 1.20
■ Couple, no children	\$	141.80	\$	143.60	\$ 1.80
■ Partnered, illness separated, no children	\$	87.00	\$	88.20	\$ 1.20
■ Partnered, temporarily separated, no children	\$	87.00	\$	88.20	\$ 1.20

<u>Minimum Rent to get Maximum Payment</u>	Previous Amount		20 Sept 2005		Increase
■ Single, no children	\$	217.67	\$	220.47	\$ 2.80
■ Single, no children, sharer	\$	174.11	\$	176.38	\$ 2.26
■ Couple, no children	\$	265.00	\$	268.40	\$ 3.40
■ Partnered, illness separated, no children	\$	217.67	\$	220.47	\$ 2.80
■ Partnered, temporarily separated, no children	\$	210.20	\$	213.00	\$ 2.80

## Summary of Changes - Rent Assistance (Family Assistance Act)

20 Sept 2005 to 31 Dec 2005

<u>Maximum Payment per Fortnight</u>	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
■ Single, 1 or 2 children	\$ 115.08	\$ 116.62	\$ 1.54
■ Single, 3 or more children	\$ 130.06	\$ 131.74	\$ 1.68
■ Couple, 1 or 2 children	\$ 115.08	\$ 116.62	\$ 1.54
■ Couple, 3 or more children	\$ 130.06	\$ 131.74	\$ 1.68

<u>Rent threshold</u>	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
■ Single, 1 or 2 children	\$ 114.66	\$ 116.20	\$ 1.54
■ Single, 3 or more children	\$ 114.66	\$ 116.20	\$ 1.54
■ Couple, 1 or 2 children	\$ 169.68	\$ 171.92	\$ 2.24
■ Couple, 3 or more children	\$ 169.68	\$ 171.92	\$ 2.24

<u>Minimum Rent to get Maximum Payment</u>	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
■ Single, 1 or 2 children	\$ 268.10	\$ 271.69	\$ 3.59
■ Single, 3 or more children	\$ 288.07	\$ 291.85	\$ 3.78
■ Couple, 1 or 2 children	\$ 323.12	\$ 327.41	\$ 4.29
■ Couple, 3 or more children	\$ 343.09	\$ 347.57	\$ 4.48

### Default Minimums for Shared Care Situations

<u>Maximum Payment per Fortnight</u>	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
■ Single	\$ 98.42	\$ 99.68	\$ 1.26
■ Partnered	\$ 92.40	\$ 93.66	\$ 1.26
■ Partnered, Partner in Gaol, Illness Separated			
■ Couple, Respite Care Couple	\$ 98.42	\$ 99.68	\$ 1.26
■ Partnered, Temporary Separated	\$ 92.40	\$ 93.66	\$ 1.26

<u>Rent threshold</u>	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
■ Single	\$ 87.08	\$ 88.20	\$ 1.12
■ Partnered	\$ 142.10	\$ 143.92	\$ 1.82
■ Partnered, Partner in Gaol, Illness Separated			
■ Couple, Respite Care Couple	\$ 87.08	\$ 88.20	\$ 1.12
■ Partnered, Temporary Separated	\$ 87.08	\$ 88.20	\$ 1.12

<u>Minimum Rent to get Maximum Payment</u>	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
■ Single	\$ 218.31	\$ 221.11	\$ 2.80
■ Partnered	\$ 265.30	\$ 268.80	\$ 3.50
■ Partnered, Partner in Gaol, Illness Separated			
■ Couple, Respite Care Couple	\$ 218.31	\$ 221.11	\$ 2.80
■ Partnered, Temporary Separated	\$ 210.28	\$ 213.08	\$ 2.80

**Summary of Changes - for Payments under the Family Assistance Act - Per**

<u>Maximum Payment per Annum</u>	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
■ Single, 1 or 2 children	\$ 3,000.30	\$ 3,040.45	\$ 40.15
■ Single, 3 or more children	\$ 3,390.85	\$ 3,434.65	\$ 43.80
■ Couple, 1 or 2 children	\$ 3,000.30	\$ 3,040.45	\$ 40.15
■ Couple, 3 or more children	\$ 3,390.85	\$ 3,434.65	\$ 43.80

<u>Rent threshold</u>	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
■ Single, 1 or 2 children	\$ 2,989.35	\$ 3,029.50	\$ 40.15
■ Single, 3 or more children	\$ 2,989.35	\$ 3,029.50	\$ 40.15
■ Couple, 1 or 2 children	\$ 4,423.80	\$ 4,482.20	\$ 58.40
■ Couple, 3 or more children	\$ 4,423.80	\$ 4,482.20	\$ 58.40

<u>Minimum Rent to get Maximum Payment</u>	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
■ Single, 1 or 2 children	\$ 6,989.75	\$ 7,083.43	\$ 93.68
■ Single, 3 or more children	\$ 7,510.48	\$ 7,609.03	\$ 98.55
■ Couple, 1 or 2 children	\$ 8,424.20	\$ 8,536.13	\$ 111.93
■ Couple, 3 or more children	\$ 8,944.93	\$ 9,061.73	\$ 116.80

**Default Minimums for Shared Care Situations**

<u>Maximum Payment per Annum</u>	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
■ Single	\$ 2,565.95	\$ 2,598.80	\$ 32.85
■ Partnered	\$ 2,409.00	\$ 2,441.85	\$ 32.85
■ Partnered, Partner in Gaol, Illness Separated	\$ 2,565.95	\$ 2,598.80	\$ 32.85
■ Partnered, Temporary Separated	\$ 2,409.00	\$ 2,441.85	\$ 32.85

<u>Rent threshold</u>	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
■ Single	\$ 2,270.30	\$ 2,299.50	\$ 29.20
■ Partnered	\$ 3,704.75	\$ 3,752.20	\$ 47.45
■ Partnered, Partner in Gaol, Illness Separated	\$ 2,270.30	\$ 2,299.50	\$ 29.20
■ Partnered, Temporary Separated	\$ 2,270.30	\$ 2,299.50	\$ 29.20

<u>Minimum Rent to get Maximum Payment</u>	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
■ Single	\$ 5,691.57	\$ 5,764.57	\$ 73.00
■ Partnered	\$ 6,916.75	\$ 7,008.00	\$ 91.25
■ Partnered, Partner in Gaol, Illness Separated	\$ 5,691.57	\$ 5,764.57	\$ 73.00
■ Partnered, Temporary Separated	\$ 5,482.30	\$ 5,555.30	\$ 73.00

## Summary of Changes - Concessions

20 Sept 2005 to 31 Dec 2005

Health Care Cards (HCC)

	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
■ Average weekly income for eight weeks previous to			
Single	\$ 347.00	\$ 351.00	\$ 4.00 pw
Couple (combined)	\$ 578.00	\$ 585.00	\$ 7.00 pw
Single, or couple combined, one child	\$ 612.00	\$ 619.00	\$ 7.00 pw
For each additional child	\$ 34.00	\$ 34.00	\$ - pw

Telephone Allowance

	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
■ Annual Amount (single or couple combined)	\$ 79.20	\$ 81.60	\$ 2.40 pa
■ Quarterly Payment (single or couple combined)	\$ 19.80	\$ 20.40	\$ 0.60 pq

Utilities Allowance

Payable to Australians of Age Pension Age in receipt of Income Support Payments

	Previous Amount	20 Sept 2005	Increase
■ Annual Amount (single or couple combined)	\$ 100.00	\$ 101.20	\$ 1.20
■ Six Monthly Payment (single or couple combined)	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.60	\$ 0.60