

Summary of Changes - Pensions

20 March 2006

Adult Pension Basic Rates

	Previous Amount	20-Mar-2006	Increase	
■ Single				
base	\$ 471.40	\$ 481.90	\$ 10.50	pf
supplement	\$ 17.50	\$ 17.80	\$ 0.30	pf
Total	\$ 488.90	\$ 499.70	\$ 10.80	pf
■ Couple				
base	\$ 393.60	\$ 402.40	\$ 8.80	pf
supplement	\$ 14.60	\$ 14.80	\$ 0.20	pf
Total	\$ 408.20	\$ 417.20	\$ 9.00	pf

Youth Disability Support Pension Basic Rates

	Previous Amount	20-Mar-2006	Increase	
■ Member of a couple				
under 18	\$ 408.20	\$ 417.20	\$ 9.00	pf
18 - 20 years	\$ 408.20	\$ 417.20	\$ 9.00	pf

Pension Disqualifying Income Limits

Family Situation	Previous Amount	20-Mar-2006	Increase	
■ Single	\$ 1,360.75	\$ 1,387.75	\$ 27.00	pf
■ Single + 1 child	\$ 1,385.35	\$ 1,412.35	\$ 27.00	pf
■ Couple (combined)	\$ 2,275.50	\$ 2,320.50	\$ 45.00	pf
■ For each Additional Child add	\$ 24.60	\$ 24.60	\$ -	pf
■ Illness Separated couple (combined)	\$ 2,693.50	\$ 2,747.50	\$ 54.00	pf

Pension Disqualifying Asset Limits

Family Situation	Previous Amount	20 Mar 2006	Increase
■ Single, homeowner	\$ 322,000	\$ 325,500	\$ 3,500
■ Single, non-homeowner	\$ 435,500	\$ 439,000	\$ 3,500
■ Partnered, homeowner (combined)	\$ 497,500	\$ 503,500	\$ 6,000
■ Partnered, non-homeowner (combined)	\$ 611,000	\$ 617,000	\$ 6,000
■ One partner eligible, homeowner	\$ 497,500	\$ 503,500	\$ 6,000
■ One partner eligible, non-homeowner	\$ 611,000	\$ 617,000	\$ 6,000
■ Illness separated couple, homeowner	\$ 553,000	\$ 560,000	\$ 7,000
■ Illness separated couple, non-homeowner	\$ 666,500	\$ 673,500	\$ 7,000

Summary of Changes - Allowances

20 March 2006

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

	Previous Amount	20 Mar 2006	Increase
■ Single, 21 or over, no children	\$ 404.50	\$ 410.60	\$ 6.10 pf
■ Single, 21 or over, with children	\$ 437.60	\$ 444.20	\$ 6.60 pf
■ Single, 60 or over, after 9 months (PhA)	\$ 443.40	\$ 450.00	\$ 6.60 pf
■ Partnered (each)	\$ 365.00	\$ 370.50	\$ 5.50 pf

Income Test Cutoffs for NSA, WA, PA, SA & MAA

Family Situation	Previous Amount	20 Mar 2006	Increase
■ Single, 21 or over, no children	\$ 662.72	\$ 671.43	\$ 8.71 pf
■ Single, 21 or over, with children	\$ 710.00	\$ 719.43	\$ 9.43 pf
■ Single, 60 or over, after 9 months (PhA)	\$ 718.29	\$ 727.72	\$ 9.43 pf
■ Partnered (each)	\$ 606.29	\$ 614.15	\$ 7.86 pf

CDEP Participation Supplement (CPS) Income Test

CPS is payable if income is below:	Previous Amount	20 Mar 2006	Increase
Single	\$ 804.00	\$ 815.00	\$ 11.00 pf
Couple	\$ 740.00	\$ 749.00	\$ 9.00 pf
■ Total income of both partners must under	\$ 1,480.00	\$ 1,498.00	\$ 18.00 pf

Income Threshold for Employment Entry Payment (per fortnight)

For EEP entitlement person's income from employment must exceed	Previous Amount	20 Mar 2006	Increase
	\$ 662.71	\$ 671.43	\$ 8.71 pf

Summary of Changes - Families

20 March 2006

Parenting Payment Basic Rates

	Previous Amount	20 Mar 2006	Increase
■ Sole Parents	\$ 488.90	\$ 499.70	\$ 10.80 pf
■ Partnered Parents	\$ 365.00	\$ 370.50	\$ 5.50 pf

Income Test for Parenting Payment

	Previous Amount	20 Mar 2006	Increase
■ Partner's Free Area	\$ 607.00	\$ 615.00	\$ 8.00 pf
■ For part payment of additional rate all of the following conditions must be met:			
customer's income must be less than	\$ 635.72	\$ 643.58	\$ 7.86 pf
partner's income must be less than	\$ 1,128.43	\$ 1,144.29	\$ 15.86 pf
combined income must be less than	\$ 1,242.72	\$ 1,258.58	\$ 15.86 pf
■ If partner is on pension, couples combined income must be less than	\$ 1,271.44	\$ 1,287.16	\$ 15.72 pf

Maternity Payment Basic Rate

	Previous Amount	20 Mar 2006	Increase
■ One off lump sum payment	\$ 3,119.00	\$ 3,166.00	\$ 47.00

Maternity Immunisation Allowance Basic Rate

	Previous Amount	20 Mar 2006	Increase
■ One off lump sum payment	\$ 219.00	\$ 222.30	\$ 3.30

Summary of Changes - Rent Assistance (Social Security Act)

20 March 2006

<u>Maximum Payment per Fortnight</u>	Previous Amount	20 Mar 2006	Increase
■ Single, no children	\$ 99.20	\$ 100.60	\$ 1.40
■ Single, no children, sharer	\$ 66.13	\$ 67.07	\$ 0.93
■ Couple, no children	\$ 93.60	\$ 95.00	\$ 1.40
■ Partnered, illness separated, no children	\$ 99.20	\$ 100.60	\$ 1.40
■ Partnered, temporarily separated, no children	\$ 93.60	\$ 95.00	\$ 1.40

<u>Rent threshold</u>	Previous Amount	20 Mar 2006	Increase
■ Single, no children	\$ 88.20	\$ 89.60	\$ 1.40
■ Single, no children, sharer	\$ 88.20	\$ 89.60	\$ 1.40
■ Couple, no children	\$ 143.60	\$ 145.80	\$ 2.20
■ Partnered, illness separated, no children	\$ 88.20	\$ 89.60	\$ 1.40
■ Partnered, temporarily separated, no children	\$ 88.20	\$ 89.60	\$ 1.40

<u>Minimum Rent to get Maximum Payment</u>	Previous Amount	20 Mar 2006	Increase
■ Single, no children	\$ 220.47	\$ 223.73	\$ 3.27
■ Single, no children, sharer	\$ 176.38	\$ 179.02	\$ 2.64
■ Couple, no children	\$ 268.40	\$ 272.47	\$ 4.07
■ Partnered, illness separated, no children	\$ 220.47	\$ 223.73	\$ 3.27
■ Partnered, temporarily separated, no children	\$ 213.00	\$ 216.27	\$ 3.27

Summary of Changes - Rent Assistance (Family Assistance Act)

20 March 2006

<u>Maximum Payment per Fortnight</u>	Previous Amount	20 Mar 2006	Increase
■ Single, 1 or 2 children	\$ 116.62	\$ 118.30	\$ 1.68
■ Single, 3 or more children	\$ 131.74	\$ 133.70	\$ 1.96
■ Couple, 1 or 2 children	\$ 116.62	\$ 118.30	\$ 1.68
■ Couple, 3 or more children	\$ 131.74	\$ 133.70	\$ 1.96

<u>Rent threshold</u>	Previous Amount	20 Mar 2006	Increase
■ Single, 1 or 2 children	\$ 116.20	\$ 117.88	\$ 1.68
■ Single, 3 or more children	\$ 116.20	\$ 117.88	\$ 1.68
■ Couple, 1 or 2 children	\$ 171.92	\$ 174.44	\$ 2.52
■ Couple, 3 or more children	\$ 171.92	\$ 174.44	\$ 2.52

<u>Minimum Rent to get Maximum Payment</u>	Previous Amount	20 Mar 2006	Increase
■ Single, 1 or 2 children	\$ 271.69	\$ 275.61	\$ 3.92
■ Single, 3 or more children	\$ 291.85	\$ 296.15	\$ 4.29
■ Couple, 1 or 2 children	\$ 327.41	\$ 332.17	\$ 4.76
■ Couple, 3 or more children	\$ 347.57	\$ 352.71	\$ 5.13

Summary of Changes - Concessions**20 March 2006****Health Care Cards (HCC)**

	Previous Amount	20 Mar 2006	Increase
■ Average weekly income for eight weeks previous to			
Single	\$ 351.00	\$ 356.00	\$ 5.00 pw
Couple (combined)	\$ 585.00	\$ 593.00	\$ 8.00 pw
Single, or couple combined, one child	\$ 619.00	\$ 627.00	\$ 8.00 pw
For each additional child	\$ 34.00	\$ 34.00	\$ - pw

Utilities Allowance

	Previous Amount	20 Mar 2006	Increase
Payable to Australians of Age Pension Age in receipt of Income Support Payments			
■ Annual Amount (single or couple combined)	\$ 101.20	\$ 102.80	\$ 1.60
■ Six Monthly Payment (single or couple combined)	\$ 50.60	\$ 51.40	\$ 0.80