



safe, secure and affordable housing

Eligibility Criteria for Public Housing

To be eligible for public housing you must be able to meet the following criteria. Eligibility is assessed at the time of application and again prior to allocation of public housing.

Income and assets tests

The table over the page shows the current income and assets eligibility limits.

Household income

Household income is determined as the gross income of all household members aged 18 years and over. Income includes gross household income from all sources excluding:

- assistance for Isolated Children Scheme
- Bursary and Scholarship Allowances for children
- Carer Allowance and Bonus
- Child Care Benefit
- Child maintenance payments paid by the applicant
- Crisis Payment
- Maternity Allowance
- Defence Force Reserve Payments
- Disability component of Overseas War Pension
- Disability component of Veterans Affairs Pension
- Double Orphan Pension
- Education Entry Payment
- Employment Entry Payment
- Family Tax Benefit B
- Foster Child Payment
- GST compensation on benefits and pensions
- income of household members under the age of 18 years (not including applicant, spouse or singles requesting shared accommodation)
- irregular overtime

- large Family Supplement
- Legacy Benefit
- Maternity Immunisation Allowance
- Mobility Allowance
- Multiple Birth Allowance
- Older Australian Bonus
- Pensioner Education Supplement
- Pharmaceutical Allowance
- Rent Assistance
- Salary Sacrifice
- Telephone Allowance
- 50 per cent of the Student Financial Supplement Scheme Loan

Note: Income derived from the investment of the Prisoner of War Payment is included for the purpose of determining eligibility.

Assets

Applicants and household members, as previously defined, will need to provide documentary evidence of assessable assets.

Assessable assets include:

- cash holdings
- savings
- shares in estates
- stock market bonds and investments
- Superannuation funds which can be accessed
- the value of any interest or equity in land or property
- mobile homes
- recreation vehicles e.g. caravan, boats etc.

Assets not included in assessing eligibility are:

- personal belongings
- household furniture
- personal car
- assets that can't be accessed; e.g. superannuation, roll over funds which provide the applicant's primary source of income
- \$25,000 lump sum payment for Service Personnel (or their surviving spouse) who were held prisoner of war during WWII, or the Korean War or the European War.

Applicants need to provide documentary proof that assets cannot be accessed.

Property ownership

Applicants must not own or partly own a residential property anywhere in Australia. Exemptions can be made for applicants whose property is subject to settlement following a marital breakdown, providing that the property is not available to them and no income is received from the property.

Residency

- Australian Citizenship
- Permanent Residency status
- Special Category Visa (applicable to New Zealanders)
- Temporary Protection Visa

Applicants must reside in the Northern Territory while waiting to be allocated public housing. Exemptions are made for holidays, medical treatment etc, applicants need to keep Housing Services informed.

Debt

Applications may be accepted from applicants who have a debt to the Department of Local Government and Housing, if the applicant is making regular payments to repay the debt. Allocation of housing will not occur until the debt has been paid in full, however in cases of exceptional need or family violence, exemptions may be granted.

Age

Under the *Residential Tenancies Act*, people aged 16 and over can be legally bound by the terms and conditions of a Residential Lease Agreement.

Applications will be accepted to house people 16 years and over. Applications from people under 16 will only be accepted in exceptional circumstances.

Για βοήθεια στη γλώσσα σας τηλεφωνήστε στις Υπηρεσίες Στέγασης (Housing Services) στο 1300 301 167.

"Để được sự giúp đỡ về ngôn ngữ, xin gọi Dịch vụ Gia Cư (Housing Services) qua số 1300 301 167"

للمساعدة اللغوية يرجى الاتصال بخدمات الإسكان على الرقم 1300 301 167

Untuk bantuan bahasa hubungilah Dinas Perumahan (Housing Services) di nomor telp 1300 301 167

សម្រាប់ជំនួយភាសា សូមទូរស័ព្ទទៅសេវាលំនៅឋានតាមរយៈលេខ៖ 1300 301 167

အင်္ဂလိပ်စကားနားလည်ဖို့အကူအညီအတွက် အိမ်ယာဝန်ဆောင်မှုများသို့ ၁၃၀၀ ၃၀၁ ၁၆၇ ကို ခေါ်ပါ။

若需語言協助 請撥 1300 301 167 與房屋服務聯絡

Para a assistência da língua ligue para os Serviços de Habitação no 1300 301 167.

Wegen Hilfe in deutscher Sprache wenden Sie sich bitte an den Wohnungsdienst, Telefonnummer 1300 301 167.

For language assistance please call Housing Services on 1300 301 167.

Maximum household income and asset limits		
Household size	Assessed gross income limit per week	Asset limit
1	\$650	\$45,600
2	\$843	\$65,200
3	\$984	\$103,300
4	\$1,126	\$103,300
5	\$1,323	\$103,300
6	\$1,409	\$103,300

Housing Services contacts

Casuarina - Ethos House, 270 Trower Rd	p: 08 8922 5526
Darwin - Construction House, Cnr Mitchell and Briggs Sts	p: 08 8999 8814
Palmerston - Highway House, Cnr Broadland St and Palmerston Cct	p: 08 8999 4767
Alice Springs - Cnr Leichhardt and Gregory Tce	p: 08 8951 5344
Tennant Creek - Government Building, Peko Rd	p: 08 8962 4497
Katherine - NT Government Centre, First St	p: 08 8973 8536
Nhulunbuy - Shop 2 Arnhem House, Endeavour Square	p: 08 8987 0533
Client Relations Officer	p: 1300 301 167 or 08 8999 8853