

Family Tax Benefit Part A



Family Tax Benefit Part A—English

Helps families with the cost of raising children. Family Tax Benefit Part A is paid per child and is worked out on your family's combined annual income and the ages and number of dependent children in your family.

If you choose to get your payment fortnightly, you will need to estimate your family's income for the financial year ahead. You can also choose to receive your Family Tax Benefit Part A annually as a lump sum or some of your payment fortnightly and get the rest after the end of the financial year. **These options reduce your risk of being overpaid.**

Who can get it?

You must:

- provide care for 35 per cent or more of the time to a dependent child aged under 21 years, or a dependent full-time student aged 21 to 24 years (includes foster carers and grandparents);
- meet Australian residence requirements for family assistance purposes; **and**
- meet the income test.

If you share the care of your child, between 35 and 65 per cent of the time, you may get a share of the Family Tax Benefit Part A.

If you have regular care of your child, between 14 and less than 35 per cent of the time, you may still be eligible for the rent assistance component of FTB Part A and other government benefits such as a Health Care Card and the lower threshold of the Medicare Safety Net.

How much can I get?

All rates are current at 01/07/2008.

The maximum rates* of Family Tax Benefit Part A are as follows:

For each child	Per fortnight	Per year (including supplement)
Under 13 yrs	\$151.34	\$4,631.85
13-15 years	\$196.84	\$5,818.10
16-17 years	\$48.30	\$1,945.45
18-24 years	\$64.96	\$2,379.80

* Maximum rate is paid up to a family income of \$42,559. Payment will reduce by 20 cents for each dollar above \$42,559 until it reaches the base rate.

The base rates* of Family Tax Benefit Part A are as follows:

For each child	Per fortnight	Per year (including supplement)
Under 18 yrs	\$48.30	\$1,945.45
18-24 years	\$64.96	\$2,379.80

* Part-payment at the base rate is available up to a family income of \$94,316

We speak your language ☎ 13 1202

www.familyassist.gov.au



Australian Government
Family Assistance Office

What are the Income Tests?

- **For maximum rate:** Family income can be \$42,559 a year before payment is affected.
- **For part rate:** If your income is more than \$42,559 a year, payments will reduce by 20 cents for each dollar above \$42,559 until the base rate is reached. It is paid at this level until family income reaches \$94,316 a year.
- **Base rate:** If your income is more than \$94,316 payments will then reduce by 30 cents for every dollar over that amount until the payment reaches nil. Your income can increase by \$3,796 for each additional child in your care after the first child.

You should ask the Family Assistance Office what the income limit is for the age and number of children in your family.

If you receive child support your Family Tax Benefit Part A may be subject to the maintenance income test.

What is the Family Tax Benefit Part A Supplement?

This is an increase in the annual rate of Family Tax Benefit Part A of \$686.20 per child to be paid as a lump sum after the end of the financial year when you and your partner lodge your tax returns. Contact the Family Assistance Office if you and your partner do not need to lodge tax returns. The Family Tax Benefit Part A Supplement is used to offset outstanding overpayments where families have been overpaid.

Can we leave Australia and still be paid Family Tax Benefit Part A?

You may be paid Family Tax Benefit Part A if you or the child is absent from Australia for less than 13 weeks. If the absence is more than 13 weeks, but less than 3 years, you may only be paid the base rate of Family Tax Benefit Part A. You must notify the Family Assistance Office of any temporary absences before you or the child leave Australia to continue to be paid for this period.

For more information:

- Call the Family Assistance Office on **13 1202** between 8.00 a.m. and 5.00 p.m. (EST) Monday to Friday for information in languages other than English.
- Visit the website at www.familyassist.gov.au
- Visit your nearest Family Assistance Office located in Medicare Australia offices, Centrelink Customer Service Centres and Australian Taxation Office shopfronts.