



Low Income Health Care Card

MEGT is your local Apprenticeship Network Provider. We're here to provide you with information, advice and support throughout your apprenticeship or traineeship.

Did you know?

As an apprentice or trainee, you may qualify for a Low Income Health Care Card.

Benefits of a Low Income Health Care Card

A Low Income Health Care Card entitles you to cheaper prescription medicines under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS).

You may also be eligible for other concessions from the Australian Government or your local council. These could include bulk billing for medical appointments, concessions on energy and electricity bills, and lower public transport costs. You may also be eligible for discounted training or higher education courses. Contact your State or Territory Government for more information.

Eligibility

To be eligible for a Low Income Health Care Card you must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- You must be living in Australia **AND**
- Have Australian citizenship **OR**
- Hold a permanent visa **OR**
- Hold a Special Category visa **OR**
- Hold a Partner (Provisional) visa subclass 309 or 820 or a Temporary Protection visa

AND Your total income must be below the limit which applies to you in the following table:

Status	Weekly income	Income over 8-week period
Single, no children	\$556.00	\$4,448.00
Couple combined, no children	\$960.00	\$7,680.00
Single, one dependent child	\$960.00	\$7,680.00
Couple combined, 1 child	\$994.00	\$7,952.00
For each extra child, add	\$34.00	\$272.00

This amount is your gross income (before tax) for the 8 weeks immediately before the date you lodge your application. You must be able to provide proof of this income for the whole 8 week timeframe.

How to apply

Online	By mail
Apply online at www.humanservices.gov.au/lic . To apply online you will need a myGov account. Go to www.my.gov.au to create a myGov account and link it to your Centrelink online account. You can then access the online application form through myGov (select <i>Online Claims</i>).	Access and print an application form from www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/forms/ss050 . Complete and return the form with the supporting documents listed below within 14 days.

Along with your application, you will need to provide the following documents:

- Payslips for the last 8 weeks as proof of income or a letter from your employer/s to cover this period
- Documents showing balances of your bank, building society and credit union accounts
- Proof of your Australian residence status if you were not born in Australia
- Documents showing details of any money you have on loan to another person or organisation

(These documents can be attached to the application form for online and mail applications)

AND Proof of identity must be provided at a Centrelink office (see: Confirming Your Identity Form SS231 at www.humanservices.gov.au/forms)

Please note: other information may be required depending on your circumstances. Please see claim form for details.

Find out more

For more information visit a Centrelink service centre or contact them on the details below:

Low income phone line: **13 24 90**

www.humanservices.gov.au/healthcarecard

Need additional support?

Our mentors provide a personal, confidential service to make sure you have the best chance at remaining in employment and completing your training.

If you need assistance with this or any other issue impacting your Australian Apprenticeship, contact us on **1300 561 162** or apprenticementoring@megt.com.au