



# Benefits for dependents

**icare Dust Diseases Care** provides compensation payments to eligible families.

If you are a dependent spouse, you will continue to receive support for life, or until you remarry or enter into a de facto relationship.

Eligible dependents include:

- Spouses
- Children aged up to 16 years
- Full time students aged up to 21 years
- Other family members such as grandparents, parents or siblings may be considered dependents in certain circumstances.

## Calculating your benefits

Your compensation benefit can come in two forms, a lump sum payment and compensation payments paid fortnightly. Additional amounts may also be payable for dependent children and full time students between the ages of 16 and 21 years.

Your compensation payments are automatically adjusted twice a year on 1 April and 1 October. We will contact you whenever an adjustment is made to your payment.

You will receive a full payment of compensation if:

- You are an eligible dependent and you were wholly dependent on your late family member immediately before their death.
- Your family member passed away due to a dust disease
- Your family member's exposure to the dust that caused their disease occurred while wholly employed in NSW.
- Your family member was aged 65 years or younger at the time of their death
- You have full time children aged up to 16 years or full time students aged up to 21 years in your care who were financially dependent on your late family member.

The full benefit is proportionately reduced if:

- You were only partially dependent on your late family member
- Your late family member did not pass away due to their dust disease
- Your late family member was not living with a disability level of 100% related to their dust disease
- Your late family member was aged 66 years or older at the time of their death.
- Your late family member was not wholly exposed as a NSW worker to the dust that caused their disease.

## Taxation of compensation benefits

Fortnightly compensation payments from us are defined as income by the Australian Taxation Office and you must declare these payments in your income tax return. We will send you a Payment Summary at the end of each financial year showing the amount of payments made to you and any tax deducted.

## Will my Centrelink or Veterans Affairs pension be affected?

Your Dust Diseases Care compensation payment will be taken into account by other agencies. You may find that your pension payments are reduced when you receive compensation payments from us.

You should discuss the possible impact on your pension with the relevant agency. Centrelink can be contacted on (02) 9280 2001 and Veterans Affairs can be contacted on 133 254.

## When you should contact us

You should contact us when any of the following events occur:

- You change your residential or postal address
- You change the bank account into which we pay your compensation
- You decide to remarry or enter into a defacto relationship
- A full time student aged between 16 and 21 years, for who you receive an allowance, completes their education.

## Your privacy

Your privacy is important to us and your personal information is protected by law. We cannot use or disclose your personal information unless you've agreed to its use or disclosure, or it is otherwise allowed under the *New South Wales Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998*.

You can learn more about the personal and health information **icare** and Dust Diseases Care holds and how we manage it by referring to our Privacy Management Plan on the **icare** website or contacting us at **privacy@icare.nsw.gov.au**.

## Would you like more information?

We are here to help you understand your compensation payments. If you have any questions, or would like more information please contact us so we can help you.

**Call** (02) 8223 6600 or toll free on 1800 550 027  
**Email** [DDAenquiries@icare.nsw.gov.au](mailto:DDAenquiries@icare.nsw.gov.au)  
**Post** GPO Box 5323, Sydney NSW 2001

You can learn more about Dust Diseases Care and our services by visiting our website **www.icare.nsw.gov.au**