

Means Test 2023 Changes

For applications determined on or after 1 May 2023

Income Test

Who satisfies the income test?

Applicants who receive a maximum Centrelink income support payment will automatically satisfy the income test.

For all other applicants:

Net assessable income (gross income minus deductions)	Is the income test satisfied?
\$450 per week or less	Yes
Greater than \$450 per week	Only in exceptional circumstances

Allowable deductions from applicant's gross weekly income

Allowable deduction	Maximum weekly amount
Income tax (including Medicare levy)	Amount paid
Housing costs	\$500 Greater Sydney ¹ residents \$400 all others
Financially Associated Person allowance	\$225
Dependant allowance	\$135 per dependant
Child support	\$135 per child
Childcare	\$325 per household

¹ Greater Sydney stretches to Wollongong in the south and up to Newcastle in the north

Further information is available at: Means Test (nsw.gov.au)





Assets Test

What assets are included?

All assets are included in gross assessable assets, including, but not limited to:

- land
- Cash savings
- shares
- other investments.

Excluded Assets

Excluded asset	Maximum value
Household furniture, tools of trade, clothing and effects	Reasonable value
Motor vehicle	No cap – one MV per adult in a household
Home equity	\$815,000
Reparation, recognition, and redress payments	Amount received
Farm or business equity	\$287,750
Newborn supplement and payment	Amount received
NDIS payments	Amount received
Allowable assets	\$4,660 single applicant \$5,990 applicant with FAP and/or dependants





When is an applicant eligible?

Local Court Duty

Applicant's net assessable assets	Do they satisfy the assets test?
\$1500 or less	Yes
Over \$1500	Only in exceptional circumstances

All other matters

Applicant's net assessable assets	Do they satisfy the assets test?
\$100 or less	Yes
Over \$100	The applicant must pay an assets contribution

