

Factsheet

Pensioner Concessions on Council Rates and Charges

Pensioner Concessions on Council Rates and Charges are assessed under section 575 of the *Local Government Act 1993*. Eligible pensioners who are legally responsible for payment of rates and charges may be provided concessions on their ordinary rates and domestic waste management services charge. The cost of providing these concessions is shared between the State Government (55%) and local councils (45%).

Concessional amounts

Eligible ratepayers are entitled to receive up to;

- \$250.00 NSW State Government concession on ordinary rates and charges for domestic waste management services;
- \$87.50 off their annual water rates and charges (where service is provided by council);
- \$87.50 off their annual sewerage rates and charges (where service is provided by council).

In 2021/2022, Blue Mountains City Council is also providing up to an additional \$40 concession on the Waste Services Charge for eligible pensioners.

Generally, the concessions are only available to eligible pensioners, however concessions may be granted to ratepayers suffering financial hardship in certain circumstances.

Eligibility

Holders of the cards listed below may be eligible for the concession:

- Holders of a Pensioner Concession Card (PCC).
- Holders of a gold card embossed with 'TPI' (Totally Permanently Incapacitated).
- Holders of a gold card embossed with 'EDA' (Extreme Disablement Adjustment).
- War widow or widower or wholly dependent partner entitled to the DVA income support supplement.
- Persons who have received a lump sum mentioned in section 234(1)(b) of the *Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004* of the Commonwealth or are receiving a weekly amount mentioned in that paragraph, and do not have income and assets that would prevent them from being granted a pensioner concession card (assuming they were eligible for such a card).

- Persons who receive a general rate of pension adjusted for extreme disablement under section 22(4) of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* of the Commonwealth, or a special rate of pension under section 24 of that Act.
- Persons who receive, or who at some point in their life have been eligible for, a Special Rate Disability Pension under the *Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004* of the Commonwealth.

Please note: If you are a war widow or widower or wholly dependent partner but do not have a Pensioner Concession Card, you should contact the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) to test your eligibility for a PCC. Eligibility is determined by an income and assets test. **Visit [Department of Veterans' Affairs website](#)** or call 1800 555 254.

If you have become eligible since the issue of your last rates notice, the concession will apply proportionately to the number of full quarters remaining in the rating year.

Please ensure that you provide a copy of your Pensioner Concession or Veterans' Affairs Pension card with your application, if lodging in person the customer service representative who assists you can copy your card to attach with your application.

Holders of cards other than those listed above are not eligible for the concession.

Contacts

For more information, contact your local council Centrelink or the Department of Veterans' Affairs.