



# Commonwealth Prac Payment

**Are you studying a Bachelor's or Master's degree in teaching, nursing, midwifery or social work? You may be eligible to apply for the Australian Government's Commonwealth Prac Payment (CPP).**

**The Commonwealth Prac Payment will support you with the costs associated with a mandatory placement as part of your course.**

From 1 July 2025, eligible students will receive a payment while undertaking mandatory placements. In 2026, the payment will be \$338.60 per week (pre-tax).

## Eligibility criteria:

You will need to be:

- a domestic student enrolled in a Commonwealth supported place (CSP)
- enrolled in a Bachelor's or Master's degree in a course of study that leads to entry-to-practice in teaching, nursing, midwifery or social work at an eligible higher education provider or a Vocational Education and Training (VET) Diploma of Nursing
- completing a mandatory placement required for professional accreditation that either:

averages 30 or more hours per week

OR

is known as a continuity of care placement, as part of a course of study in midwifery, which prevents the student from being able to maintain paid work due to the need to ensure their availability during the placement.

**AND**

## You will also need to either:

be on an Australian Government income support payment (for example ABSTUDY, Austudy, Youth Allowance, Disability Support Pension or DVA income support payment)

OR

meet a 'Need to Work Test' and an 'Income Test' where you provide evidence of working on average, more than 15 hours per week over a 4-week period during your normal study (outside placement), with an individual income threshold of \$1,536.37 per week (before tax), including income from State, Territory or Commonwealth scholarships during the same period.

You may also be able to access the CPP if there are exceptional circumstances.



## Reporting requirements

If you get the CPP you must report it to the Australian Taxation Office as income as part of your annual tax return. If you get an income support payment from Services Australia or the Department of Veterans' Affairs, you will also need to let them know you're going to get the CPP.

### Find out more about your financial reporting obligations by visiting:

[Services Australia \(SA\)](http://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/commpracpayment) ([www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/commpracpayment](http://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/commpracpayment))

[Australian Taxation Office \(ATO\)](https://www.ato.gov.au/individuals-and-families/income-deductions-offsets-and-records/income-you-must-declare/government-payments-and-allowances) (<https://www.ato.gov.au/individuals-and-families/income-deductions-offsets-and-records/income-you-must-declare/government-payments-and-allowances>)

[Department of Veterans' Affairs \(DVA\)](https://www.dva.gov.au/get-support/financial-support/income-support/what-changes-your-payments/what-you-need-tell-us-about) (<https://www.dva.gov.au/get-support/financial-support/income-support/what-changes-your-payments/what-you-need-tell-us-about>)

## How do I apply?

### Applications opened as of 1 July 2025

If you are studying a Bachelor's or Master's degree in a course of study that leads to entry-to-practice in teaching, nursing, midwifery or social work, you can apply for the CPP through your relevant higher education provider.

If you are studying a Diploma of Nursing with a TAFE or Registered Training Organisation, you can apply through the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations on the [Your Career website](https://www.yourcareer.gov.au/commonwealth-prac-payment-vet). (<https://www.yourcareer.gov.au/commonwealth-prac-payment-vet>)

### How the CPP works

- ✓ **Step 1**  
Talk to your higher education provider about CPP and check if you meet the eligibility criteria
- ✓ **Step 2**  
Complete an application form via your higher education provider
- ✓ **Step 3**  
If your application is successful and you receive an income support payment from Services Australia or Department of Veterans' Affairs, let them know you'll be receiving the CPP
- ✓ **Step 4**  
Receive your payment and undertake your prac
- ✓ **Step 5**  
Include your CPP payments on your tax return

## More information

To find out more, scan the QR code.

### Higher education students



### VET students

