

# Remote area benefit information

## What is the Remote Area Benefit

The **Remote Area Benefit** allows eligible employees living and working in remote areas to access additional tax-free income.

You may claim up to 50% of eligible remote housing and travel expenses you have paid annually, in addition to your base salary packaging benefits, for a combined total of up to \$31,800 tax-free deductions annually.

These tax-free deductions are then available to save or spend how you choose following your reimbursement from CBB.

## Eligibility Checklist

To claim remote area benefits, ensure the following:

1. You live and work in a remote area benefit eligible location.
2. Your organisation allows their employees to claim the Remote Area Benefit.
3. You are not already claiming the Remote Area benefit with another employer at the same time.
4. Remote expenses paid before your current employment start date, will not be eligible.

## Which Remote Area Expenses can I claim?

**Property Purchase:** If you purchased your home after the commencement of your employment with your current remote organisation, you may claim the full purchase price of the property. A settlement statement will be required as supporting documentation.

**Mortgage interest:** Please provide 12 months of mortgage interest statements confirming the total monthly interest charged on your owner-occupied home loan.

**Rental agreement:** Please provide an up-to-date rental agreement confirming your name, residential address, rental amount from your real estate or private landlord.

**Household fuels (Gas, Elec, Wood):** Please provide up to 12 months of the following utility bills showing all charges paid at your remote owner-occupied home.

**Remote Travel:** You may claim holiday expenses incurred when travelling from your remote location, including both flight costs and car travel distances.

To be eligible for this benefit, your remote holiday must have consisted of a minimum of three working leave days (from departure to return).

## Expenses that cannot be claimed

Any remote expense incurred before your employment start date with your current remote organisation.

Water bills, council rates, home internet or phone bills are not included.

Non fixed site accommodation (Example – Mobile caravans, boats)

International flight costs will be excluded from your travel claim. However, the domestic travel undertaken within Australia from your holiday destination will be benchmarked and included as part of your assessment.



## Getting started

- ✓ You must be an active salary packaging customer with CBB.
- ✓ Confirm both your residential and work location are identified as remote by the ATO ([check here](#)).
- ✓ Complete the [Remote Area Benefit Claim form](#).
- ✓ Attach a [Travel Declaration Form](#) for each remote area holiday you wish to claim.
- ✓ Attach your supporting proof of debt documentation for each remote expense type you wish to claim.
- ✓ Submit your remote claim forms and evidence to [remote@cbb.com.au](mailto:remote@cbb.com.au)

## How do I receive my tax-free payment from CBB

Once your remote claim has been received and approved, the Remote Team will assess your entitlements to ensure you receive the maximum tax-free benefit across the remaining pay cycles of each FBT year or until your employment contract ends.

Your remote tax-free benefit will be deducted from your gross wage from your employer and then reimbursed tax-free to your everyday bank account to save or spend however you choose.

**Please note:** As an active remote customer with CBB, we do not transfer your funds directly to your home loan, personal loan or credit card account.

## Useful links

**CBB Website** - <https://www.cbb.com.au/> - Online support, FAQ and information guide

**ATO Remote Area List** – Please use this link to confirm that both your remote residential and work locations are eligible. Your location must appear on “**Remote Area List 1**” to qualify for this benefit.

**Remote Area Benefit Claim Form** – Required for each remote assessment.

**Remote Area Travel Declaration Form** – Required for each remote assessment that includes travel.

Thank you for considering the **Remote Area Benefit** with **CBB The Salary Packaging People**.

We're looking forward to supporting you in making the most of your remote living experience.

This benefit is a valuable opportunity to reduce your taxable income while helping to cover the cost of essential remote housing and travel expenses whilst you are working within an eligible remote area.

If you have further questions or need additional assistance, please contact us on 1300 763 505 or email the **CBB Remote Team** at [remote@cbb.com.au](mailto:remote@cbb.com.au).

**Disclaimer:** These benefits are subject to your organisation's Salary Packaging Policy

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