

# Remote Area Benefit

Additional benefits for employees working in eligible remote areas of Australia



## What is Remote Area Benefit?

Remote Area Benefit is a tax concession from the Australian Federal Government which allows eligible employees to claim up to 50% of certain expenses associated with living and working in a remote location, as well as some travel costs. This benefit is on top of the standard salary packaging benefit.

## Remote Area Benefits available

### Remote Area Housing Benefits

These benefits include rent or mortgage interest payments and household fuels (gas, wood, electricity and oil). They only apply if your accommodation is in a remote area for the entire tenancy period.

### Remote Area Travel Benefits

These benefits relate to travel expenses to and from the remote area in which you work and live, whilst travelling for personal reasons for a minimum of three working days. Included is travel to the place where you lived before moving to your remote work location, or travel to the capital city of the state/territory in which your remote workplace is located.

## Eligibility for Remote Area Benefit

To be eligible for Remote Area Benefit you must:

- live in and work for an organisation in a location defined by the ATO as a remote area;
- be renting or paying interest on a mortgage on the property in which you live in the remote area.

## Definition of a remote area

A remote area is defined by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) as being over 40kms from a town with a population of more than 14,000 people, or over 100kms from a town with a population of more than 130,000 people. To check if your town is considered remote, please visit the ATO website. Please refer to the remote locations listed under 'List 1' only.

## How do I get started?

To get started, **please click here and select an appointment** at a time that is convenient to you. When one of our Remote Area Benefit Consultants will call you to discuss how you can benefit from salary packaging and Remote Area Benefit.

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\*This benefit is subject to your organisation's salary packaging policy. Information correct at time of publishing (November 2021).