

Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Additional Estimates 2006-2007, 13th and 16th February, 2007

Question: HS37

Agency: Centrelink

Outcome 1, Output 1.1

Topic: Carer Bonus Payments

Hansard Page/Written Question on Notice: Written Question on Notice

SENATOR MOORE asked on 16/02/2007:

Carer's Payment / Allowance – eligibility for \$600 'top-up' at the end of the financial year:

1. How do people qualify?
2. How long do they have to be in receipt of a Centrelink payment?
3. Would a person in receipt of payment from July through to April receive a top-up payment? Even a pro-rata payment?
4. Would someone in receipt of a Centrelink payment from April to May receive a top-up payment? Would this be a full payment or pro-rata?

ANSWER:

Carer Payment and/or Carer Allowance do not have a 'top-up' at the end of the financial year. A 'bonus' payment has been made in 2004, 2005 and 2006. This payment is not pro-rata.

1. Recipients of the bonus payments must have been receiving Carer Payment and/or Carer Allowance on the relevant budget night.
2. Recipients of the bonus payments must have been receiving Carer Payment and/or Carer Allowance on the relevant budget night.
3. No.
4. If they were in receipt of Carer Payment and/or Carer Allowance on the relevant budget night, they would receive the full bonus payment.

To prepare this answer it has taken approximately 3 hours and 16 minutes at an estimated cost of \$188.