

# **Rent Choice**

Factsheet for clients

### Need help finding a safe and affordable place to rent?

Rent Choice is a private rental subsidy that helps you pay part of the rent for up to three years. It also helps you set up and maintain your tenancy and connects you with training and employment opportunities.

You may be eligible for Rent Choice if you are homeless, or at risk of homelessness, and:

- have experienced a major financial setback such as illness or job loss; or
- don't have a stable and secure place to live because of domestic or family violence; or
- are a young person up to the age of 24; or
- are a veteran who has served in the Australian Defence Force; or
- are a current DCJ social housing tenant transitioning into the private rental market.

#### How does it work?

For the first 12 months, you pay 25% of your weekly income plus 100% of any Commonwealth Rent Assistance you may be entitled to get. Once you have paid your part of the rent, we pay the rest directly to the landlord or real estate agent. The amount you pay will go up gradually after 12 months, but we will discuss this with you closer to the time.

How you pay your rent can include wages, government allowances, benefits and child support payments. Your income can increase and you can still continue to receive Rent Choice.



#### July 2019



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## Am I eligible?

To be eligible for Rent Choice you must:

- be an Australian citizen or permanent resident
- be a NSW resident
- meet income eligibility limits
- not own any assets or property which could resolve your housing need
- be able to sustain a tenancy in the private rental market.

Further eligibility criteria apply.

### How do I find out more?

Find out more about Rent Choice online at www.facs.nsw.gov.au/rentchoice

You can also call the Housing Contact Centre on **1800 422 322** or visit your local DCJ Housing office or participating community housing provider to learn more.

## **Changes to Rent Choice**

We're always trying to improve the way we work. How we deliver Rent Choice may change after July 2020. Check our website for updated information closer to this time.