



## NT Concession Scheme

Territorians' quality of life is important. That's why the Northern Territory Government has reviewed and is reforming the NT Pensioner and Carer Concession Scheme, to ensure it is more fair, efficient and easily accessible.

The NT Government has listened to more than 10,000 Territorians, and this has resulted in the creation of two new schemes: the **Northern Territory Concession Scheme** and the **Seniors Recognition Scheme**.

It will also see the Northern Territory Government invest an additional \$4.9M into the schemes in 2017/2018, and a further \$7M in 2018/2019, which will benefit all Territorians from now, and into the future.

The two schemes will come into effect on **1 July 2018**. Until that date, the current scheme will remain active, and there will be no changes.

The **NT Concession Scheme** is about supporting eligible pensioners, seniors and carers with the cost of living in the NT. It is a means-tested scheme based on eligibility criteria, and is not an age-based scheme. Please see below for more information, including your key points of contact.

### Who is eligible for the NT Concession Scheme?

- People on long-term means-tested commonwealth pensions and payments including:
  - Age Pension
  - Disability Support Pension
  - Carer payment
  - Parenting payment (single)
  - Some Department of Veteran Affairs payments\*

\*Benefits include the Repatriation Health Card TPI/War Widow/Widower (Gold Card), Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Card (Orange Card), Department of Veterans Affairs Pensioner Concession Card (Blue Card), Department of Veterans Affairs Commonwealth Seniors Health Card.

- If you currently hold a Commonwealth Low Income Health Care Card, Carer Allowance or Commonwealth Seniors Health Card, and were not a member of the NT Pensioner and Carer Concession Scheme as at 8 November, you will not be eligible for the **NT Concession Scheme**.

### What concessions are available if I qualify for the NT Concession Scheme?

- The **NT Concession Scheme** will operate in the same way as the current scheme, and will include the same eight concessions; with the introduction of capped amounts for electricity and water concessions.
- These eight concessions include electricity, water, sewerage, property rates, garbage, motor vehicle registration, driver's licences and spectacles.
- The capped amounts are based on average Darwin usage rates of \$1,200 for electricity and \$800 for water.

## Can I be eligible for both schemes?

- Yes, Territorians 65 and over may be eligible for both the **Northern Territory Concession Scheme** and the **Seniors Recognition Scheme**.

## If I am a member of the current scheme, will I automatically become a member of the NT Concession Scheme?

- Yes. If you were a current eligible member of the NT Pensioner and Carer Concession Scheme as at 8 November, you will be grandfathered into the **NT Concession Scheme**.

## How will we receive our concessions under the new schemes?

- The new schemes will continue to be administered by Territory Families.
- There are a variety of ways in which concessions will be able to be accessed. We will provide more information on this in the coming months.

## Where can I get more information on the NT Concession Scheme and the Seniors Recognition Scheme?

- You can visit the [ntconcessions.nt.gov.au](http://ntconcessions.nt.gov.au) website.
- Contact the Territory Families Concessions Unit on **1800 777 704** or at [pensionconcessionunit@nt.gov.au](mailto:pensionconcessionunit@nt.gov.au).
- Visit a Territory Families shopfront and speak with one of the staff members direct.

## Locations of Territory Families shopfronts:

Region	Address
Casuarina	Territory Families, Cascom Plaza Building 2B1, Scaturchio Street, Casuarina
Palmerston	Palmerston Community Care Centre, Corner Temple Terrace and Roystonea Avenue, Palmerston
Katherine	Territory Families, 5 First Street, Katherine
Alice Springs	Territory Families, 60 Hartley St, Mwerre, Alice Springs
Nhulunbuy	Territory Families, 1st Floor, Arnhem House, Endeavour Square, Nhulunbuy
Tennant Creek	Territory Families, 172 Paterson Street, Tennant Creek