



Australian Government

# Cashless Debit Card

## Bundaberg and Hervey Bay region

### Queensland

**The cashless debit card looks and operates like any normal bankcard, however it restricts the purchase of alcohol, gambling products and gift cards and cannot be used to withdraw cash.**

#### **What area will the cashless debit card cover?**

The Bundaberg and Hervey Bay region includes the townships of Bargara, Elliot Heads, Woodgate, Branyan, Booyal, Burrum Heads, Torbanlea, Toogoom, Howard, Childers, Burnett Heads, River Heads and Point Vernon in Queensland.

#### **When will it begin?**

The introduction of the cashless debit card in the Bundaberg and Hervey Bay region is subject to the Social Services Legislation Amendment (Cashless Debit Card) Bill 2017. Pending the passage of the Bill, the card will be introduced in 2018.

#### **Who will receive the cashless debit card?**

About 6,700 people, aged 35 years and under who receive Newstart Allowance, Youth Allowance (Job seeker), Parenting Payment (Single) or Parenting Payment (Partnered) will receive the card.

Recipients of other payments can volunteer to be part of the program.

#### **What if a cashless debit card participant moves out of the region?**

The card will stay with the participant even if they move out of the Bundaberg and Hervey Bay region.

#### **Why the Bundaberg and Hervey Bay region?**

The Bundaberg and Hervey Bay region was selected for the Cashless Debit Card program following calls for the card from key stakeholders in the region.

The Department of Social Services held over 110 consultations between May and September 2017 with a broad range of stakeholders, who were seeking support to address key social problems of high youth unemployment and intergenerational welfare dependence.

#### **What happens when participants placed onto the card turn 36 years old?**

Participants are only required to be on the cashless debit card for as long as they fit the age and payment criteria.

Participants will be taken off the program after they exceed the age limit or they come off their payment, unless they wish to continue on a voluntary basis.

If a person is turning 36 years old within 12 months of the date of the commencement, they will not be placed on the card, however they may still volunteer as a participant.

#### **What support services will be available for people on the cashless debit card?**

The Australian Government will make an additional investment of \$1 million over two years for support services to assist participants with budgeting and financial literacy.

There will be an intense effort in the Bundaberg and Hervey Bay region to help move people onto the card.



Where can I find out more? Go to [www.dss.gov.au/cashlessdebitcard](http://www.dss.gov.au/cashlessdebitcard)

Or contact the Department of Social Services on 1800 252 604 or at [cashlessdebitcard@dss.gov.au](mailto:cashlessdebitcard@dss.gov.au)



## GET THE FACTS

### The cashless debit card is just like a normal bank card – use the card to:

- pay rent or mortgage
- pay bills
- pay for medical appointments
- pay electricity bills
- pay car registration
- buy groceries
- check balance and transaction history for free

#### Did you know?

- Medicare rebates can still go into your usual bank account


### The cashless debit card cannot be used to buy alcohol, gambling products, gift cards or to withdraw cash.

#### People on the cashless debit card receive:

- 20 per cent of their welfare payment into their usual bank account
- 80 per cent of their welfare payment onto their cashless debit card
- 100 per cent of lump sum payments from Centrelink (e.g. Family Tax Benefit) are placed onto the cashless debit card

#### Did you know?

- Centrepay and Rent Deduction Scheme stay the same

 **Money in your account**

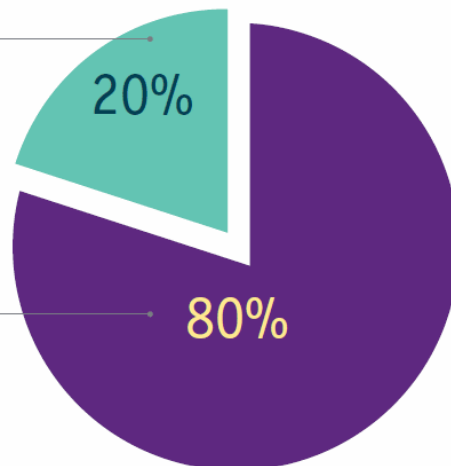
Use it when you need cash:

- ✓ School excursions
- ✓ Tuck shop
- ✓ Garage sale

 **Money on the card**

Use it to:

✓ Shop	✗ No grog
✓ Pay bills	✗ No gambling
✓ Buy clothes	✗ No cash



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