



Making it easier for working pensioners to resume Age Pension

Budget 2022-23

The Australian Government is providing support for older job seekers to remain engaged in the labour market.

Making it easier for working pensioners to resume Age Pension

The Government is committed to making it easier for older Australians who want to work, or work more, to contribute to our national prosperity.

Older Australians have a wealth of knowledge, experience and skills, which we must tap into, given labour force shortages.

At MYEFO 2021-22, the Australian Government announced it was removing barriers age pensioners face if they wish to work, by making sure those who choose to re-enter the workforce, or increase their work hours, can easily access payments again if needed.

Subject to passage of legislation, Age Pension and equivalent Department of Veterans' Affairs pension recipients with employment income who exceed the

income limit will have their payment suspended for up to two years, rather than cancelled after 12 weeks as is currently the case.

They will also be able to keep their Pensioner Concession Card, and associated benefits, for up to two years.

What was announced in Budget 2022-23?

Budget 2022-23 extends the benefits of the original measure to the age pensioner's partner, as long as that partner is also receiving a pension (including Age Pension, Disability Support Pension, Carer Payment or equivalent Department of Veterans' Affairs payments).

Key facts

- If at any time during the two-year period, the age pensioner's income is at a level that enables them to return to the Age Pension, they will benefit from an abridged reapplication process.
- Age Pension recipients will only need to notify Services Australia and provide an update of their income and assets

information to start receiving their pension again.

- Disability Support Pension recipients whose payment is already suspended for up to two years if their employment income exceeds their income limit will also benefit, with the amount of time they can keep their Pensioner Concession Card when suspended increasing from 52 weeks to two years.
- The combined MYEFO and Budget measures are expected to save \$5.5 million over four years to 2024-25, as it is assumed some age pensioners will work more and therefore reduce the amount of pension outlays.

More information

For more information about this measure and other Department of Social Services' Budget measures, go to www.dss.gov.au/budget.

For information about Budget 2022-23, go to www.budget.gov.au.