

Housing Support Assistance Amendment 2020

This instrument is made under section 101(1) of the Social Security Act 2018 by the Minister for Social Development.

Contents

1	Title	1
2	Commencement	1
3	Programme amended	1
4	Clause 4 amended (Interpretation)	1
5	Clause 31 amended (Transition to alternative housing grant: ineligibility)	2
6	Clause 44D amended (Rent arrears assistance: ineligibility)	2
7	Clause 44I amended (Rent arrears assistance amounts and limits)	2
8	Clauses 44D(2) and 44I(2) revoked	2
9	New clause 66 inserted (Transitional provision for revocation of clauses 44D(2) and 44I(2))	2

Instrument

1 Title

This instrument is the Housing Support Assistance Amendment 2020.

2 Commencement

- (1) This instrument comes into force on 6 July 2020.
- (2) Clauses 8 and 9 come into force on 1 January 2021.

3 Programme amended

This instrument amends the Housing Support Assistance Programme¹ (as established and approved on 26 June 2014) (“principal programme”).

4 Clause 4 amended (Interpretation)

- (1) In clause 4(1), definition of “agency”, replace “HRTMA” with “PCHMA”.
- (2) In clause 4(1), delete the definition of “HRTMA”.
- (3) In clause 4(1), definition of “Ministerial Direction on Eligibility for Social Housing”, replace “HRTMA” with “PCHMA”.
- (4) In clause 4(1), definition of “social housing and social housing provider”, replace “HRTMA” with “PCHMA”.
- (5) In clause 4(1), insert in the appropriate alphabetical order:

PCHMA means the Public and Community Housing Management Act 1992

¹ New Zealand Gazette, 3 July 2014, page 1975.

5 Clause 31 amended (Transition to alternative housing grant: ineligibility)

In clause 31(a), replace “HRTMA” with “PCHMA”.

6 Clause 44D amended (Rent arrears assistance: ineligibility)

In clause 44D, after subclause (1), insert:

(2) Despite clause 44D(1)(b), where an application is received by MSD between 6 July 2020 and the close of 31 December 2020, the applicant may be eligible for rent arrears assistance regardless of whether they are eligible for other financial assistance payable to them under the Act to assist them with rent arrears, such as advance payment of instalments of benefit under section 347 of the Act or payment under the Recoverable Assistance Programme.

7 Clause 44I amended (Rent arrears assistance amounts and limits)

In clause 44I, after subclause (1), insert:

(2) Despite clause 44I(1)(b), where an application is received by MSD between 6 July 2020 and the close of 31 December 2020, the amount of a grant of rent arrears assistance under clause 6(1) must not exceed the lesser of the following amounts:

- (a) the amount of rent arrears the applicant is required to pay by the landlord; or
- (b) \$4000.

8 Clauses 44D(2) and 44I(2) revoked

(1) Revoke clause 44D(2) on 1 January 2021.

(2) Revoke clause 44I(2) on 1 January 2021.

9 New clause 66 inserted (Transitional provision for revocation of clauses 44D(2) and 44I(2))

After clause 65, insert:

Clause 66. Transitional provision for revocation of clauses 44D(2) and 44I(2)

Despite the revocation of clauses 44D(2) and 44I(2) on 1 January 2021, MSD may grant and pay rent arrears assistance under clause 6 as if those clauses had not been revoked to an applicant whose application for that assistance had been received by MSD between 6 July 2020 and the close of 31

December 2020, whether or not payment of that assistance would be made on or after 1 January 2021.

Minister for Social Development

At Wellington this day of 20

Explanatory Note

This note is not part of the instrument, but is intended to indicate its general effect.

This instrument, which comes into force on 6 July 2020, amends Subpart 7 (Rent arrears assistance) of the principal programme to increase the maximum grant of rent arrears assistance from \$2000 to \$4000. It also removes the requirement that applicants are only eligible for rent arrears assistance if they are not eligible for other financial assistance for rent arrears which is payable to them under the Social Security Act 2018. These amendments will be revoked on 1 January 2021. This instrument also replaces references to the Housing Restructuring and Tenancy Matters Act 1992 with references to the Public and Community Housing Management Act 1992.