



# Acute Support Package Eligibility



**Veterans and veteran family members may be eligible for the Acute Support Package if they meet certain eligibility criteria, and it is appropriate to grant a package of supports to help them and their family adjust to new and challenging life circumstances.**

Eligible person	Veteran and current serving member (veteran) <sup>2</sup>	Former partner of a veteran <sup>2</sup>	Related person of a veteran (as defined in the legislation) <sup>3</sup>	Bereaved partner <sup>4</sup>	Bereaved parent of a deceased veteran or the deceased veteran's partner
<b>Eligibility criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The veteran is under 65 years of age; and</li><li>• the veteran is receiving, or eligible to receive a relevant payment<sup>1</sup>; and</li><li>• the veteran or a related person of the veteran is experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, crisis as a result of new and challenging life circumstances.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The former partner is under 65 years of age; and</li><li>• the related veteran is receiving, or eligible to receive a relevant payment<sup>1</sup>; and</li><li>• either or both of the following apply:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• they ceased being the veteran's partner within the previous 12 months <i>and/or</i></li><li>• a child of the veteran who is under 18 years of age lives with the former partner; and</li></ul></li><li>• the former partner is experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, crisis as a result of new and challenging life circumstances.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The related veteran is under 65 years of age; and</li><li>• the related veteran is receiving, or eligible to receive a relevant payment<sup>1</sup>; and</li><li>• the related person is experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, crisis as a result of new and challenging life circumstances; and</li><li>• the crisis, or the risk of experiencing, crisis, is:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• impacting or involving the veteran; or</li><li>• connected to the veteran's wellbeing.</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The bereaved partner is under 65 years of age; and</li><li>• the veteran's death was related to service, including suicide, and the veteran's death was less than two years ago.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The bereaved parent is parenting a child under 18 years of age who is the child of a deceased veteran (the child's grandparent); and</li><li>• the veteran's death was related to service, including suicide, and the veteran's death was less than two years ago; and</li><li>• the grandparent or the child are experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, crisis:</li></ul>
<b>Timeframe and funding limits for supports</b>	<p>Services may be funded to a maximum of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• \$7,500 in the first 12-month period; and</li><li>• \$5,000 in the second 12-month period.</li></ul> <p>Support may be paused and restarted for a total of 24 months over a 48-month period. Immediately after the 24 months, the family may access up to four courses of counselling every 12 months for a continuous 36-month period.</p>			<p>Services may be funded to a maximum of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• \$27,835 in the first 12-month period; and</li><li>• \$27,835 in the second 12-month period.</li></ul> <p>Support is for a continuous 24-month period.</p>	
<b>Support for children of veterans</b>	<p>Children can receive support through the funding amounts outlined above. In addition, children can receive further funding amounts for services up to a maximum of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• \$10,000 every 12 months for a child not yet attending primary school; or</li><li>• \$5,000 every 12 months for a child attending primary school but not yet attending high school until the child commences high school.</li></ul>				
<b>How to apply</b>	<p>To apply for the Acute Support Package or to discuss your circumstances with us you can call 1800 VETERAN (1800 838 372) from 8 am to 5 pm, Monday to Friday, and say 'Acute Support Package' when prompted.</p> <p>More information on the Acute Support Package including how the program works and the types of supports that may be funded, can be viewed on the DVA website at: <a href="http://www.dva.gov.au/asp">www.dva.gov.au/asp</a></p>				

## Notes

<sup>1</sup> A relevant payment includes: Incapacity Payments under the DRCA or MRCA, SRDP under the MRCA, a Special or Intermediate rate of Disability Compensation Payment, or Veteran Payment under the VEA.

<sup>2</sup> A former partner of a deceased veteran (i.e. someone who was not in a relationship with the veteran at the time of their death) is not eligible for the Acute Support Package.

<sup>3</sup> A related person of a veteran, including a current partner, does not have to reside in the same household as the veteran to be eligible for the Acute Support Package. The DVA website includes a list of people who are defined under the legislation as a related person of a veteran at: [www.dva.gov.au/asp](http://www.dva.gov.au/asp)

<sup>4</sup> A bereaved partner includes a Wholly Dependent Partner under the MRCA or a Spouse under the DRCA or a War Widow(er) under the VEA.

## Where to get help and support

The Acute Support Package is not a primary response service in emergency situations. If you or someone else is in immediate danger, call triple zero (000).

If you or someone else needs counselling support today Open Arms – Veterans & Families Counselling is a free and confidential 24-hour service for current and ex-serving ADF members and their families.

Call 1800 011 046 or go to the Open Arms website to get support or find out more.