

# Escaping Violence Payment Trial Fact Sheet

## Information for applicants (updated March 2022)

### About the Escaping Violence Payment

The Escaping Violence Payment (EVP) offers financial assistance and confidential support to help you move forward and establish a home that's free from violence.

The EVP can help you re-establish safety after leaving an intimate partner relationship where you experienced violence. The EVP can also assist you where the perpetrator may have left or been removed from your home, creating financial stress, or to leave if you have a safe plan and need financial assistance and other supports to do so.

The EVP provides individualised packages of up to \$5,000 tailored to give you choice and based on what you need. An EVP package consists of \$1500 in cash (or cash equivalent, based on your needs and preferences) and other goods, services and support. This might include removalists, rental assistance, bond or basics for a new home, as well as counselling support.

The EVP is available if you meet these eligibility requirements:

- You are an Australian citizen or permanent resident aged over 18, living in Australia.
- Your living arrangements have changed within the last 12 weeks due to violence by your partner (you have left, or your partner has left your home), or you have a safe plan in place to leave soon (including from a refuge or temporary accommodation).
- You are experiencing financial stress which is impacting on your ability to maintain financial commitments and independence through these changed living circumstances.
- You have not accessed EVP in the last 12 months.

The EVP is available to all eligible individuals, regardless of gender.

### How do I access the Escaping Violence Payment?

If you already have a case worker, speak with them about the EVP as they can help you with your eligibility and application.

If you are not connected to a case worker or support service, you can contact the EVP team who can assist you with the application process. The eligibility information and contact form can be found here <https://www.unitingvictas.org.au/escaping-violence-payment/>

### How quickly can I access it?

Your eligibility will be determined as quickly as possible. **Please be aware that this is not a crisis service**, if you need immediate assistance, call 000 or 1800 RESPECT.

