

How to claim a benefit on compassionate grounds

Who is responsible for assessing your request?

The Department of Human Services (DHS) is responsible for assessing your request. You must therefore apply directly to the DHS. Their contact details are below.

What happens if the DHS approves early release of my benefit?

If the DHS subsequently approves early release of part or the whole of your benefit, you will be directed by them to contact us again. You will need to send us:

1. The original or a Certified Copy of the letter of approval for early release of your benefit that you receive from DHS; and
2. A completed copy of this *Application for Benefit – Compassionate Grounds*.

Where can I find more details?

To get more details about the early release of superannuation and to download an application form please visit the DHS website at www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/services/Centrelink/early-release-of-superannuation/early-superannuation-release-on-specified-compassionate-grounds or phone the DHS on **1300 131 060** for a copy.

What use can I make of the benefit?

You may apply to the DHS for early release of superannuation to pay for:

- medical treatment and/or transport expenses for yourself or a dependant
- medically related modifications to your home and motor vehicle
- palliative care expenses for yourself or a dependant
- the funeral expenses of a dependant, or
- prevent your home from being sold by the lender with whom you have the home's mortgage.

Who can I contact if I have questions about completing my application?

If you have any questions about completing this *Application for Benefit* please call us on **1300 361 798**.

