

Australian Government
Department of Finance
Ministerial and Parliamentary Services

Member of Parliament Staff Fact sheets – Electorate Employees

Enhanced entitlements for Electorate employees

Under the proposed MOPS EA, entitlements for electorate employees will be increased through:

- ✓ A one-off payment if a "yes" vote is successful
- ✓ A pay rise of 11.2% to base salaries and allowances
- ✓ A new "Nominated Traveller Allowance" (guaranteed a minimum of 12 ESA points)
- ✓ An additional 16 ESA points for each office.
- ✓ An increase of an individual's 'cap' of ESA (from 16 to 18 points) for certain employees in rural and remote offices
- Automatic processing of Excess (Canberra) Travel Leave so you no longer need to apply
- Increased leave entitlements (including 3 extra days of personal leave per year and 18 weeks of parental leave)
- ✓ Increased studies assistance by 50%
- ✓ Enhanced travel entitlements and a new same-day travel allowance
- Enhanced career transitioned payments

Eligibility for a 'one-off' sign on bonus

If a "yes" vote is successful – all employees employed during the voting period will be eligible to receive a one-off payment.

- At the request of bargaining representatives, this will be calculated at .92% of base salary and averaged out for all employees to receive a flat-rate.
- A flat-rate one off-payment will likely be more beneficial for electorate staff, as well as part time and casual employees in comparison with a 0.92% one-off payment.
- All eligible MOP(S) Act employees (including casual employees) will receive the same payment. This payment is taxable and will be treated as ordinary time earnings for superannuation purposes.
- A one-off payment **cannot be offered again** under policy in the event the EA does not receive a majority vote.
- This payment will be calculated at the end of the voting period.
- MaPS will inform employees of the amount of the flat-rate payment once it is known.

Pay rise

- Salary rates, Electorate Staff Allowance (ESA), and other allowances will increase by 11.2% over the 3 years of the EA.
- Electorate employees employed at pay points EOA-6, EOA-5 and EOA-4 prior to the commencement of the EA will be translated to the new pay points of EOA-3, EOA-2 and EOA-1 respectively.

EOC	EOB	EOA	Current salary rates	Salary effective from 5 August 2024 4%	Salary effective from 5 August 2025 3.8%	Salary effective from 5 August 2026 3.4%	
4			\$91,990	\$95,670	\$99,305	\$102,681	
3			\$87,583	\$91,086	\$94,548	\$97,762	
2	5		\$83,179	\$86,506	\$89,793	\$92,846	
1	4		\$81,666	\$84,933	\$88,160	\$91,158	
	3		\$77,014	\$80,095	\$83,138	\$85,965	
	2	6 (EOA-3 under new EA)	\$73,098	\$76,022	\$78,911	\$81,594	
	1	5 (EOA-2 under new EA)	\$71,245	\$74,095	\$76,910	\$79,525	
		4 (EOA-1 under new EA)	\$69,046	\$71,808	\$74,537	\$77,071	
		3*	\$65,177				
		2*	\$61,954	The lowest 3 p	The lowest 3 pay points of the EOA classification will		
		1*	\$58,846	be removed at the commencement of EA			

New ESA rates

Proposed new ESA rates, inclusive of the 11.2% increase over the life of the MOPS EA:

Level	As at 5 August 2023	Rate effective from 5 August 2024	Rate effective from 5 August 2025	Rate effective from 5 August 2026
ESA 1	\$2,151	\$2,237	\$2,322	\$2,401
ESA 2	\$4,300	\$4,472	\$4,642	\$4,800
ESA 3	\$6,453	\$6,711	\$6,966	\$7,203
ESA 4	\$8,605	\$8,949	\$9,289	\$9,605
ESA 5	\$10,755	\$11,185	\$11,610	\$12,005
ESA 6	\$12,907	\$13,423	\$13,933	\$14,407
ESA 7	\$15,058	\$15,660	\$16,255	\$16,808
ESA 8	\$17,208	\$17,896	\$18,576	\$19,208
ESA 9	\$19,358	\$20,132	\$20,897	\$21,608
ESA 10	\$21,508	\$22,368	\$23,218	\$24,008
ESA 11	\$23,660	\$24,606	\$25,541	\$26,410
ESA 12	\$25,812	\$26,844	\$27,865	\$28,812
ESA 13	\$27,963	\$29,082	\$30,187	\$31,213
ESA 14	\$30,115	\$31,320	\$32,510	\$33,615
ESA 15	\$32,266	\$33,557	\$34,832	\$36,016
ESA 16	\$34,416	\$35,793	\$37,153	\$38,416
ESA 17*		\$38,030	\$39,475	\$40,817
ESA 18*		\$40,267	\$41,797	\$43,218

* Only available to certain individuals employed by a parliamentarian with a large or extra-large electorate in accordance with clause 40.2.

Other allowances

Allowances		As at 5 August 2023	Rate effective from 5 August 2024	Rate effective from 5 August 2025	Rate effective from 5 August 2026
Corporate Responsibility Allowance	Per annum	\$590.79	\$614.52	\$637.74	\$659.39
Corporate Responsibility Allowance	Per fortnight	\$22.65	\$23.56	\$24.45	\$25.28
	Per annum	-	\$1,435	\$1,489.50	\$1,540.15
NEW Community Language Allowance	Per fortnight	-	\$55.02	\$57.11	\$59.05

Nominated Traveller Allowance:

- Nominated travellers will receive a Nominated Traveller Allowance (NTA) of 12 points of ESA and can also receive ESA points up to their individual 'cap' (unless they elect not to).
- This allowance counts as salary for superannuation and termination payments.
- The commencement of the EA is an ESA allocation trigger meaning a parliamentarian may allocate the level of ESA for each employee when the EA commences.
- A parliamentarian cannot reduce NTA and cannot allocate these points to any other employee unless they become the new Nominated Traveller.
- At the commencement of the EA, Nominated Travellers will automatically receive their NTA. Unless their parliamentarian reallocates ESA, they will also automatically receive any difference between the amount of ESA points they were receiving before the new EA, and their 12 points of NTA.

E.g. if a Nominated Traveller was in receipt of 14 points of ESA before the EA, they will automatically receive NTA (12 points) + 2 points of ESA = 14 points of ESA,

• A nominated traveller may choose to receive time off in lieu of an allowance (NTA and ESA).

Additional points of ESA

- There are **more points of ESA that are able** to be allocated within offices, and some electorate employees can receive a higher 'cap'.
- An additional 16 ESA points of ESA has been added for each office and 12 points of ESA are allocated to the nominated traveller as the Nominated Traveller Allowance.
- This means there are now:
 - 58 points available to parliamentarians with a standard electorate (1 Commonwealth-funded electorate office) with:
 - 12 points guaranteed for the NTA
 - 46 points to be allocated to staff within the office up to their 'cap'
 - **62 points** available to parliamentarians with **large electorate** (2 Commonwealth-funded electorate offices) with:
 - 12 points guaranteed for the NTA
 - 50 points to be allocated across offices to staff up to their 'caps'
 - **66 points** available to parliamentarians with an **extra-large electorate** (3 Commonwealth-funded electorate offices) with:
 - 12 points guaranteed for the NTA
 - 54 points to be allocated across offices to staff up to their 'caps'
- At the commencement of the EA, all employees will maintain their current rate of ESA.
- The commencement of the EA is an ESA allocation trigger meaning a parliamentarian may allocate the level of ESA for each employee when the EA commences, or can allocate unused ESA at any time.

Higher individual 'caps'

Some employees can receive up to 18 points of ESA (which equates to \$40,267), depending on the type of electorate in which they are employed:

Standard electorates

One Commonwealth-funded electorate office

• All employees may receive **up to 16 points** of ESA

Large electorates

Two Commonwealth-funded electorate offices

- One employee may receive **up to 18 points** of ESA
- All other employees may receive up to **16 points** of ESA

Extra-large electorates

Three Commonwealth-funded electorate offices

- Two employees may receive **up to 18 points** of ESA
- All other employees may receive up to **16 points** of ESA

Enhanced leave entitlements

Ongoing and non-ongoing employees will have **more paid leave** entitlements including:

Personal/carer's leave	• 3 extra days per year (total of18 days) for full-time ongoing and non-ongoing employees (pro-rata for part-time)
Parental leave	 18 weeks for a primary caregiver 8 weeks (increasing to 18 weeks by February 2027) for a secondary caregiver
Adoption and long-term carer's leave	 Up to 18 weeks parental leave for a primary caregiver Up to 8 weeks parental leave (increasing to 18 weeks by February 2027) for a secondary caregiver
Still birth Leave	 18 weeks parental leave for a primary caregiver 2 weeks for a secondary caregiver Access to up to 3 days compassionate leave Access to up to 3 days bereavement leave
Pregnancy loss leave	1 week paid leaveAccess to up to 3 days compassionate leave
Premature birth leave	• If a live birth from before 37 weeks gestation, premature birth leave can be taken from the date of birth up to what would have been 37 weeks gestation.
Compassionate leave	Access to 1 extra day of compassionate leave (3 days total)
NAIDOC leave	 Up to 1 day per calendar year Access to up to 3 days compassionate leave Access up to 3 days bereavement leave
First Nations Ceremonial Leave	Up to 6 days of paid leave over 2 calendar years
Cultural leave	Up to 3 days of paid leave per calendar leave

New allowances

Community Language Allowance

- A Community Language Allowance of \$55.02 per fortnight will be paid to ongoing and non-ongoing employees who meet certain competency requirements and are required to use their ability to communicate in braille, Auslan, or a language other than English in the course of their work.
- The rate of this allowance will increase in line with other allowances over life of the agreement

Same-day travel allowance

- A same-day travel payment will be introduced to ensure employees are not out-of-pocket for travel expenses incurred when there is no overnight stay and to better support family-friendly travel arrangements.
- Benefits all employees who travel as directed without having an overnight stay.
- Payment will be in the form of an allowance to cover incidental expenses and meals.
- A rate and criteria is yet to be determined.

Enhanced travel entitlements

- Annual leave credits for Excess (Canberra) Travel Leave with be automatically processed
- Electorate employees will receive a higher rate of travel allowance when staying overnight in Canberra equivalent to the rate for senior personal employees.

Increased financial support for training

- Reimbursement available for studies assistance has increased by 50% to \$15,000
- Career Transition Payments, to support eligible employees access career transition counselling, training or financial advice has increased to \$1,000.