

English

Important information for Queensland seniors



Also available in: Arabic, Bosnian, Dutch, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Korean, Mandarin/Chinese, Polish, Samoan, Serbian, Tagalog, Thai, Vietnamese.

Seniors Card

Seniors Card gives you access to:

- Queensland Government concessions
- discounts at businesses Australia-wide and
- a directory of the businesses in your area offering discounts.

Residents of Queensland can apply for a Seniors Card if they work less than 35 hours per week in paid employment and are:

- 65 years of age or older, or
- 60 to 64 years of age and hold a concession card from Centrelink or the Commonwealth Department of Veterans' Affairs.

Seniors Business Discount Card

Residents of Queensland aged 60 years or older can apply for a Seniors Business Discount Card regardless of how many hours per week of paid employment they work.

The Seniors Business Discount Card gives you access to:

- discounts at businesses Australia-wide and
- a directory of the businesses in your area offering discounts.

There are no Queensland Government concessions available with the Seniors Business Discount Card.

Seniors Cards and Seniors Business Discount Cards are free. They do not need replacing unless they are stolen, lost or damaged.

Seniors Card is a voluntary program for seniors in Queensland. You can apply for a Seniors Card or Seniors Business Discount Card by:

- telephoning **13 13 04** or **1800 175 500** between 8am and 6pm, Monday to Friday
- visiting **www.communities.qld.gov.au**
- filling out the application form attached to this brochure.

The Seniors Card application form needs to be completed in English. If you need assistance to complete the form in English, telephone the Translating and Interpreting Service on **13 14 50** and ask to contact Seniors Card on **13 13 04**.

Useful resources



Seniors Enquiry Line provides information on social activities, concessions, legal issues, independent living, grandparenting, health, finance and retirement.

Contact the Seniors Enquiry Line by:

- telephoning **1300 135 500** or
- visiting **www.seniorenquiryline.com.au**



Planning for retirement?

The Office for Seniors has produced *A guide to retiring: planning your lifestyle* to help you plan your retirement. The booklet is available by:

- telephoning **3224 2625** or **1300 132 654** or
- visiting **www.communities.qld.gov.au**



Are you interested in using computers and the internet?

Information about learning to use computers and the internet is available from the Seniors Enquiry Line by:

- telephoning **1300 135 500** or
- visiting **www.seniorenquiryline.com.au**



Do you know an older person who is being mistreated by someone close to them?

The Elder Abuse Prevention Unit operates a statewide telephone information, support and referral service for anyone experiencing abuse or witnessing the abuse of an older person.

Information brochures are available in 15 languages and information sessions are available for community groups.

Training is also available for tertiary students and service providers within the community.

For confidential information, support and referrals:

- telephone **1300 651 192** or
- visit **www.eapu.com.au**



Are you a grandparent raising grandchildren?

The Time for Grandparents program is designed to provide the children of grandparent families with fun and interesting activities and to give grandparents the opportunity to have some well-earned time out. Combined grandparent and grandchildren camps are also available.

For bookings and enquiries please contact Seniors Enquiries Line by:

- telephoning **1300 135 500** or
- visiting **www.grandparentsqld.com.au**

The number of Queenslanders aged 65 years and over is projected to more than double in the next 15 years, and the number of people in this age group from non-English speaking backgrounds is growing faster than the general population.

The Queensland Department of Communities encourages independence and diversity for older Queenslanders and works with the community, industry and government to promote the interests and issues of older people.

Areas of priority for the department include seniors' concessions and discounts, elder abuse prevention, social participation, planning for retirement, legal issues, grandparenting and multicultural and Indigenous issues.

This brochure explains some of the department's programs and services for seniors.

Queensland Seniors Council

The Queensland Seniors Council is an important forum for the exchange of information and ideas between older people and the Queensland Government. The council provides advice on the issues and concerns of older Queenslanders and this advice is used to assist the government to develop policies, programs and services that improve the lives of the state's older people.

To contact the Queensland Seniors Council telephone 3404 3313 or write to the Secretariat, Queensland Seniors Council, GPO Box 806, Brisbane Q 4001. For more information visit www.communities.qld.gov.au

Promoting positive images of older people

The Department of Communities, through its Office for Seniors, organises and participates in a range of events that promote and acknowledge the contributions and achievements of older people in the community.

Seniors Week is an annual statewide event to celebrate the contribution of older people to our society and to promote healthy ageing.

The Department of Communities provides grants to local government and community groups for Seniors Week activities. For information on how your community can apply for funding:

- telephone Seniors Enquiry Line **1300 135 500** or
- visit www.communities.qld.gov.au

The **Premier's Awards for Queensland Seniors** is an annual initiative that recognises older Queenslanders for their outstanding voluntary contributions to their local community. For more information:

- telephone Seniors Enquiry Line **1300 135 500** or
- visit www.communities.qld.gov.au

Concessions

The Queensland Government offers concessions to holders of a Pensioner Concession Card, Repatriation Health Card — For All Conditions (Gold Card), Health Care Card or Queensland Seniors Card. Pensioner Concession Cards, Gold Cards and Health Care Cards are issued with a Commonwealth Government payment.

If you have any of the cards mentioned you might be eligible for rebates on:

- the Community Ambulance Cover levy
- council rates
- bus, train and ferry travel
- electricity costs
- car registration fees and more.

To find out about your eligibility for Commonwealth Government payments in a language other than English, telephone the Centrelink Multilingual Service on 13 12 02. They can also help with questions related to the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

You can also find out about your eligibility for Commonwealth Government services from Centrelink Retirement Services (telephone 13 23 00 or visit www.centrelink.gov.au) or the Department for Veterans' Affairs (telephone 13 32 54 or visit www.dva.gov.au).

To obtain a copy of the booklet *Concessions made easy* containing further information about State Government concessions, telephone the Smart Services Queensland Unit on **13 13 04** or visit www.communities.qld.gov.au

Section 6: Your signature

- I agree that the information I have provided is true and correct.
- I understand that my personal details are protected by the Department of Communities' Privacy Plan.
- I understand that the Department of Communities may confirm my details with concession providers, Centrelink, the Department of Veterans' Affairs or other government agencies to verify or confirm my eligibility for a concession.
- I will advise the Department of Communities of any changes in my circumstances that may affect my eligibility for a Seniors Card or Seniors Business Discount Card.
- I understand that I can revoke this consent or cancel my card at any time by writing to the Department of Communities.

Please sign here:

Date:

Once completed, detach the form, moisten the edges where marked and fold along the fold marks to form a reply paid envelope (no stamp required).

The form can also be returned by:

- faxing to **1300 300 768** or
- delivering to a Queensland Government Agent Program office.

Privacy statement

Your personal details will only be used for the purposes you have agreed to by signing this form: that is, obtaining a Seniors Card or Seniors Business Discount Card (and special mailings if requested in Section 2).

For further information about the Department of Communities Privacy Plan visit www.communities.qld.gov.au or call 13 13 04 to request a copy.

No stamp required
if posted in Australia



Card Services
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