



Australian Government

Department of Veterans' Affairs

Factsheet CEP03 - Essential Medical Equipment Payment

Purpose

The EMEP provides financial assistance to members of the veteran and defence community to help meet the additional costs of running essential medical equipment, medically required heating or cooling, or both.

Who is eligible for EMEP?

To be eligible for the EMEP through DVA the person with medical needs, or their carer must:

- be covered by a Commonwealth Government concession card issued by DVA; or a DVA Gold or White Card;
- use certain essential medical equipment or have certain conditions that medically require the use of heating or cooling in their home or be the carer for such a person; and
- be responsible for contributing to payment for the energy account.

For the purposes of the EMEP, a carer is a person who provides care and attention on a regular and ongoing basis. The carer and user must live together in the same residence. A parent or other person responsible for a dependent child would be classified as a carer, including a foster carer of such a child. The carer of a non-dependent adult may also qualify for this payment.

What type of medical equipment will attract the EMEP?

The eligible items of essential medical equipment, when powered by electricity, natural gas, liquid petroleum gas, diesel, heating oil, petrol or kerosene, are:

- Home dialysis machine
- Home ventilator
- Home respirator
- Home parenteral or enteral feeding device
- Oxygen concentrator
- Heart pump
- Suction pump
- Infant apnoea monitor (when prescribed by a medical practitioner following apnoeic events)
- Nebuliser - when used daily
- Continuous Positive Airways Pressure (CPAP) Device
- Phototherapy equipment
- Airbed vibrator
- Electric wheelchair
- Insulin Pump

Medical conditions that attract a payment for heating and cooling

If you have one or more of the specified medical conditions outlined below, and as a result you medically require heating and/or cooling in the home to regulate body temperature, you may be eligible for the EMEP. Your doctor must confirm in writing that you or the person you provide care to has one of the medical conditions listed.

- Spinal cord injury at or above the T7 level
- Stroke
- Brain injury
- A neurodegenerative disorder
- The muscular dystrophies
- Full thickness burns covering more than 20 percent of the body surface area
- Rare disorders of sweating including congenital absence or mal-development of sweat glands
- Chronic erythrodermas.

How much is the EMEP?

During the 2014-2015 financial year, the EMEP was \$147. This payment is indexed annually on 1 July each year.

How can I claim the EMEP?

To apply for EMEP, please fill out the applicable form and return it to DVA:

- [D1342 Essential Medical Equipment Payment - User's Claim](#), if you are the user of essential medical equipment
- [D1340 Essential Medical Equipment \(EMEP\) Carer's Claim](#), if you are a carer of a person using essential medical equipment
- [D1341 Essential Medical Equipment Medical Confirmation](#), if your essential medical equipment was not provided by DVA

Where and how will payments be made?

Once your EMEP claim has been assessed you will receive an advice letter regarding the outcome and if successful, when you can expect payment. The EMEP will be paid into the account nominated on your EMEP application form. This payment only needs to be claimed once. Payments will be made each year thereafter on the anniversary of the claim.

What is considered a valid residence to claim the EMEP?

To receive the EMEP, you will need to reside in Australia on the date that you apply for the payment and on the anniversary of this date in subsequent years. The EMEP is not available if you are in residential care, hospital or other medical facility, residential rehabilitation centre, jail, or a detention centre.

Can I claim more than one EMEP per year?

Yes. Claims may be made for up to a maximum of two residences, for each piece of essential medical equipment for the person with the medical condition, in a single financial year, provided you continue to own or contribute towards the energy account in the second residence.

Can I claim EMEP if the equipment was not supplied by DVA?

Yes. If the equipment is on the list of essential medical equipment, you are able to claim the EMEP. You will need to get a Medical Practitioner to complete the [D1341 Essential Medical Equipment Medical Confirmation](#) form. The Medical Confirmation form, once completed, should be returned to DVA along with your claim form.

I am a carer for a person with medical needs who uses eligible equipment or medically required heating and/or cooling. Can I claim the EMEP?

Yes, you can make a claim for EMEP. You will need to complete the [D1340 Essential Medical Equipment \(EMEP\) Carer's Claim](#) form. The person with medical needs whom you are caring for will need to also sign the form.

I am not the energy account holder. Can I still claim the EMEP?

If you, or your partner, or the person with medical needs or their partner contribute to payment of the energy account you may still be eligible. The Department may require you to provide proof at a later date that you contribute to payment of the energy account.

More Information

DVA General Enquiries

Metro Phone: 133 254 *

Regional Phone: 1800 555 254 *

[Email](mailto:GeneralEnquiries@dva.gov.au): GeneralEnquiries@dva.gov.au

[DVA Website](http://www.dva.gov.au): www.dva.gov.au

[Factsheet Website](http://www.dva.gov.au/factsheets): www.dva.gov.au/factsheets

* Calls from mobile phones and pay phones may incur additional charges.

Related Factsheets

- [CEP01 Clean Energy Supplement](#)

Related Forms

- [D1340 Essential Medical Equipment \(EMEP\) Carer's Claim Form](#)
- [D1341 Essential Medical Equipment Medical Confirmation Form](#)
- [D1342 Essential Medical Equipment Payment - User's Claim Form](#)
- [D1343 Essential Medical Equipment Payment \(EMEP\) Information Brochure](#)

Disclaimer

The information contained in this Factsheet is general in nature and does not take into account individual circumstances. You should not make important decisions, such as those that affect your financial or lifestyle position on the basis of information contained in this Factsheet. Where you are required to lodge a written claim for a benefit, you must take full responsibility for your decisions prior to the written claim being determined. You should seek confirmation in writing of any oral advice you receive from DVA.

Last updated 6 December 2016