

Widows' Pension

1941 –

Details

The Widows' Pension was a Commonwealth allowance introduced to enable widows with dependent children to stay at home and look after them, rather than having to go out to work to keep the family from destitution. From October 1942 until 1976, the Widows' Pension was exempt from income tax. Unmarried mothers, de facto wives and wives who had left their husbands were not eligible for the Widows' Pension.

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More info

Related Entries

Related Events

- [Inquiry into Commonwealth Contribution to Former Forced Adoption Policies and Practices, Commonwealth of Australia \(2011 - 2012\)](#)
The Commonwealth Contribution to Forced Adoption Policies and Practices inquiry considered whether the allowances paid to single parents had an impact on adoption.

Related Glossary Terms

- [Supporting Mother's Benefit \(1973 - current\)](#)

Resources

- Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, [Answer to Questions on Notice provided by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations. Received 9 December 2011.](#), Submissions received by the Committee, 2012

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