

RENT CHOICE YOUTH SOUTHERN CROSS HOUSING FACT SHEET



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Rent Choice Youth is a program that helps young people aged 16 to 24 years to:

- Find a place to live (in a private rental unit, flat or house).
- Get approved for a lease.
- Pay the rent for up to 3 years.
- Stay in a current rental property if it's affordable and help is needed to pay the rent.

The program also provides eligible applicants with access to a personal support worker that assists young people to achieve their training and employment goals.

WHO CAN GET RENT CHOICE YOUTH?

You can apply for Rent Choice Youth if you:

- Are aged 16 to 24 years.
- Don't have your own place to live (you might be sleeping on a couch at a friend's place, in a shelter or boarding house or at risk of homelessness).
- Are an Australian Citizen or Australian permanent resident.
- Are motivated to work or complete study or Training to help get a job.
- Are willing to engage with a support provider, who will help you to achieve your training, education and employment goals.
- Are on a low income or studying.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

For the first 12 months of your rental agreement, you will pay 25% of your weekly income plus 100% of any Commonwealth Rent Assistance that you may be entitled to from Centrelink. Once you have paid your part of the rent directly to the landlord or real estate agent, Southern Cross Housing will pay a subsidy directly to your landlord or real estate agent for the remaining balance of your rent. The amount you will have to pay in rent will go up gradually after 12 months, but we'll chat to you about that closer to the time.

When you commence under the program, your support provider will help you reach your work and study goals.

HOW TO APPLY?

To apply for support through the Rent Choice Youth Program, please contact the Southern Cross Housing Access and Demand Team on 1300 757 885.

