



Relocation from Auckland

- **Interested in moving out of Auckland?**
- **Wanting to re-unite with family?**
- **Moving to a job opportunity?**
- **Looking for a fresh start?**

The Relocation from Auckland initiative is available to people who are eligible and suitable, to help them relocate out of Auckland to other areas of New Zealand.

The initiative is voluntary, and provides an option to people and families who may not have previously considered leaving Auckland, by removing the financial cost of moving.

Who is eligible?

The Relocation from Auckland initiative is for anyone living in Auckland, who is either:

- a social housing tenant, or
- on the social housing register, or
- assessed as eligible for the social housing register

You'll need to meet an income and asset test and not have any restrictions that prevent you leaving Auckland ie probation or court conditions.

If you're on a benefit, you must be able to meet your benefit obligations and the new location.

The accommodation you're moving to needs to be long-term, and you'll need to provide proof of this long-term accommodation ie a signed tenancy agreement.

If you are moving out of a social housing property in Auckland, the entire household must move out so that the property is vacated.

What is it?

The Relocation from Auckland initiative consists of two payments:

Moving Grant – up to \$5,000 for the cost of moving. The payment is to help you move to your new place. It'll cover the actual costs of moving such as petrol, vehicle or trailer hire and moving company costs. You'll need to provide quotes, which must be reasonable for the area that you are moving to, which we will pay directly to the company. You won't need to pay this back.

If you're moving to private accommodation, we'll pay for the Bond, Rent in Advance, and Letting Fees. This won't need to be paid back.

We may also consider other financial products to support the move, which may need to be repaid.

Establishment Grant – Once you have moved, to help you set yourself up in the new community, we'll pay into your bank account either:

- \$2,000 if you move to social housing, or
- \$3,000 if you move to private accommodation

The Establishment Grant is for things like school uniforms for kids, travel tickets to get to work, power company bond, or that first fill of the

pantry. If the payment is not used for its intended purpose, it may need to be repaid.

Where can I move to?

Firstly, you need to be confident that moving out of Auckland is right for you and your family. We'll ask you a series of questions around this to check whether you have considered what relocating means and make sure that it is a long-term, sustainable move.

When considering a new location, it must be able to provide the relevant support and services that your family needs. For example, can you transfer jobs, or meet job search obligations if you are on a benefit in your preferred new community? Are there schools for your children? Can you register with a doctor or access specialist medical needs?

There are no restrictions on where you can move to, however we may decline a relocation based on the housing demand in the new location, or if the new property will be overcrowded.

If you are an existing social housing tenant and wanting to move to a new area, talk to your tenancy manager as you may be able eligible for a transfer.

I'm interested – what do I need to do?

1. Talk to us - We will ask you a couple of questions to determine your potential eligibility.
2. If you're eligible, you'll need to see a case manager so that we can determine your suitability. You'll need to tell us where you want to relocate to, what support you have in the new location and what type of accommodation you'll be looking for.
3. Whether you are looking for private accommodation or social housing, once you've found a property outside of Auckland, you'll need to sign a tenancy agreement, get quotes for moving companies and any other moving costs.
4. Once you have all of this information, book an appointment with us so we can arrange payments for you to move.
5. After you have relocated, you'll need a final appointment with us in your new location. This is so your Establishment Grant can be paid, we can update your information and

check for any assistance you might qualify for.

What happens if I move and don't like it?

Moving is a big decision. When deciding whether to move you out of Auckland you need to be aware that this is a long-term move.

If you or your partner decide to relocate, and within 12 months relocate back to Auckland, part of the money you received might need to be paid back.

I've got more questions – who can I ask?

Further information is also available online at:

www.workandincome.govt.nz

www.housing.msdc.govt.nz

If you're a social housing tenant, you can talk to your Tenancy Manager, as you may be eligible for a transfer.

Okay, I'm keen. How do I apply?

If you are interested in moving out of Auckland, contact us so we can discuss this in more detail with you. You can contact us on:

Work & Income 0800 559 009

Studylink 0800 88 99 00

Senior Services 0800 552 002

MSD Housing 0800 673 468