

## Senate Inquiry on Newstart and related payments

# How to Make Your Own Submission

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Every Senate Inquiry has 'terms of reference', which are the topics the committee wants to hear about. You can read the terms of reference for this inquiry [here](#).<sup>1</sup>

However, you do not need to write about all of these terms. You might just want to cover what it is/was like for you being on Newstart, Youth Allowance, or a similar payment.

### Sharing your story is important.

Every time people share their stories, it becomes clearer that people cannot get by on \$40 a day, which is the current rate of Newstart for a single person. And it gets easier for others to find the confidence to share their stories.

First, you can write as much or as little as you like in a submission to a senate inquiry. But we know it can be hard to know where to begin.

Remember that this inquiry is likely to get a lot of submissions and the committee must read them all, so there is nothing wrong with making your submission short and to the point. It is up to you what and how much you share.

You can state in your introduction whether you would like to speak to the inquiry.

Submissions are published on the senate inquiry website and are available for the public to read, unless you request that your submission not be made public. In brief, you have three options:

1. Make your submission public, with your name published alongside it
2. Make your submission public, but with no identifying information published (anonymous)
3. Make your submission confidential, so only the committee will be able to read it and it is not published on the senate inquiry website or in the senate inquiry report.

**The Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS) has developed [a guide about confidentiality and Senate inquires](#)<sup>2</sup>, which we encourage you to read:**

If you do introduce yourself in your submission, it is up to you how much information you give about yourself, including whether you include your full name, age, and where you live.

### How to send in your submission

You have three ways of sending your submission:

- 1) **Online:** [https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/OnlineSubmission](https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/OnlineSubmission)

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<sup>1</sup>

[https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Senate/Community\\_Affairs/Newstartrelatedpayments/Terms\\_of\\_Reference](https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Community_Affairs/Newstartrelatedpayments/Terms_of_Reference)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.acoss.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/170317-Privacy-when-participating-in-a-senate-inquiry-1.pdf>



INTEGRITY  
COMPASSION  
INFLUENCE

- 2) **Email:** [community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au)
- 3) **Mail:** Committee Secretary, Community Affairs Committee Department of the Senate, PO Box 6100, Parliament House Canberra, ACT, 2600, Australia

### Any questions?

TasCOSS

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For more information about the national Raise the Rate campaign: [raisetherate.org.au/resources](http://raisetherate.org.au/resources)