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Rent Supplement

This is another means tested payment. Simply speaking, if your only income is a social welfare payment then Rent Supplement will be paid in full subject to the Rent Supplement maximum levels for your household size, less the €30 minimum contribution that everyone makes.

Once your income goes over the Supplementary Welfare Allowance (SWA) for your household then there is some impact on the Rent Supplement.

Income that is taken into account includes:

- Income from employment
- Social welfare payments
- HSE payments
- Family Income Supplement
- Cash income ie. Maintenance

Income that is not taken into account includes:

- Supplementary welfare allowance for your household (€186 for an adult/€29.80 for each child)
- Child Benefit
- Half-rate Carer's Allowance
- Maintenance Grants paid by the VEC or local authority

Household Income Disregard of €75 is also not counted; this €75 may come from employment, Family Income Supplement, a CE Scheme, FAS course and maintenance payments in excess of €95.23

Note: if your only income is maintenance then it will be assessed in full for the purposes of Rent Supplement, upto €95.23. Maintenance from €95.23 to €170.23 is disregarded and then 25% of maintenance over this amount is also not included.

For example:

A parent with two children, the SWA is €186 + €29.80 + €29.80= €245.60 is your household basic income.

If you do a part-time FAS course, earning €113 a week then if you are on One Parent Family Payment there is no change to your payment as it is under the €146.50 threshold, however it is over the €75 for the Rent Supplement Household Income disregard. So, you keep the first €75 and then keep 25% of the remaining €38, which is €9.50. The €28.50 then goes towards your Rent Supplement in addition to the €30 that you already pay.

