

# What is the Accommodation Recognition Payment?



- The <u>Accommodation Recognition Payment (ARP)</u> is a government-legislated scheme, administered by the Department of Social Protection. It is a tax-free monthly financial contribution of €600, available to those providing accommodation to temporary protection beneficiaries for at least six months. The ARP is paid per property, not for each person hosted.
- The payment is not intended to cover additional costs incurred by hosts nor to substitute
  rent, however, <u>official government guidelines</u> advises that beneficiaries may agree to
  contribute towards the cost of utilities.



- The ARP is available to you if you are hosting in your own home or providing
  accommodation in a vacant property. It is also available to you if you have made the hosting
  arrangement privately or through the Irish Red Cross Consortium of Partners or the Local
  Authority's Offer a Home scheme.
- It is important to note that availing of the ARP scheme does <u>not</u> constitute a rental arrangement, and hosting does <u>not</u> create a landlord/ tenant agreement. <u>The ARP is not payable if there is a rental agreement with the person being hosted. However, the payment is not affected if they contribute towards costs such as utilities and food.</u>

# Do I qualify for the ARP?

You may apply for this payment if:

- you are aged 18 or over
- you have a Personal Public Service Number (PPSN).
- you are providing (or have provided). accommodation to at least one person who has arrived in Ireland under the EU Temporary Protection Directive.
- the accommodation meets the <u>required standards</u>. You are required to confirm this as part of your application.
- your property is in the Republic of Ireland.
- there is at least 1 person being hosted on the last day of the calendar month for which payment is due.
- you are the owner of or a tenant in the accommodation being provided to the temporary protection beneficiaries, and you have the consent of any other owners or tenants.
- there is no rental agreement between you and the temporary protection beneficiaries you are hosting.





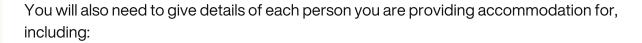
## How do I apply for the payment?

The ARP is a government legislated payment, administered by the Department of Social Protection. The quickest way to apply for the payment is through the <u>MyWelfare</u> website.

### What is motor insurance?

In order to apply, you will need to provide:

- your name
- your Personal Public Service (PPS) Number
- your address
- details of the host accommodation including the Eircode
- your bank details for payment



- their name
- their PPS Number
- the date they began living in the accommodation
- the date they left, if they are no longer living in the accommodation

## Why do I receive the payment?

The ARP is paid on the <u>second Tuesday of each month</u>, <u>retrospectively for the previous month</u>. Payments can be made to an Irish, UK, SEPA, N26 or Revolut bank account.

## Has the ARP payment been extended?

The scheme has been extended until March 2026.

#### Where can I find more information on the ARP?

For more information, Gov.ie has two information pages that you can read <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>.

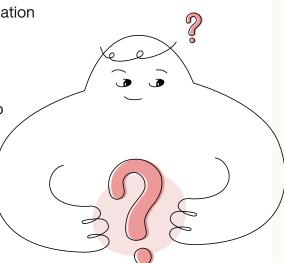
Citizen's Information has more information available here.

## Who can I contact with a question?

The ARP is being <u>administered</u> by the Department of Social Protection on behalf of the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.

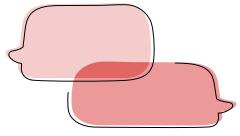
If you have a query on your own ARP claim the department can be contacted by phone at 0818 70 80 90 from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday (excluding Bank Holidays) or by email at <u>ARP@welfare.ie</u>







# Frequently asked questions (FAQs)



## 1. Can I avail of the ARP for more than one property?

- As we understand, yes. <u>The administration of the ARP by Department of Social Protection is payable per Eircode</u>. Therefore, if you have pledged more than one property, you are eligible for more than one payment. This is also applicable to cases where you have pledged both a spare bedroom in your home and a vacant property.
- It is important to note that the rate of ARP does not vary based on the number of BOTPs you are accommodating, it is simply paid per Eircode. Therefore, if you have pledged two spare bedrooms in your home, you will only be eligible for one ARP payment.
- The most up-to-date information on the ARP can be found <a href="mailto:here">here</a> and specific queries can be directed to Department of Social Protection by email to arp@welfare.ie or by phone, 0818 70 80 90.

## 2. Can I ask my guest for a 'top-up' payment in addition to receiving the ARP?

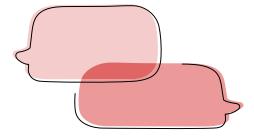
- We do not recommend that hosts accept or request any payments from guests beyond the ARP
  payment and contributions towards costs such as utilities as this could lead to tax and legal
  implications. Otherwise, any financial contributions of this nature could risk being interpreted as
  'rent' by the Residential Tenancies Board warranting a landlord-tenant arrangement and
  associated rights and entitlements.
- Furthermore, the legislation states that ARP is not payable if there is a rental agreement with the
  person being hosted and defines a rental agreement as 'an agreement under which one party
  grants to the other party a right to occupy all or part of a dwelling, subject to the payment of money
  by that other party to the first-mentioned party'. However, government officials have confirmed
  that ARP will not be affected if guests 'contribute towards costs such as utilities and food'.

## 3. Does the absence policy apply to my guest(s)?

- The IPAS <u>absence policy</u> does not apply to guests in <u>hosted accommodation</u>. However, for you to be eligible for the ARP scheme, your guest must be residing in the hosted accommodation on the <u>last day of the respective month.</u>
- It is worth noting that your guest's social welfare payments may be impacted if they go abroad for more than two weeks. They must always notify the local Intreo Centre or Social Welfare Branch Office before they leave to check their entitlements.



# **FAQs** continued



## 4. My guest has moved on, how can I cancel the payment?

To cancel your payment, please <u>contact</u> the Department of Social Protection. You can contact them by phone, email or post to let them know that you want to close your ARP claim:

- phone number: 0818 70 80 90
- email address: ARP@welfare.ie
- Postal address:

Accommodation Recognition Payment Scheme

Address:

ARP Scheme, Department of Social Protection, Cork Road, Waterford, X91EH04 Email:

ARP@welfare.ie

## 5. Do my guest(s) have tenancy rights?

• The Accommodation Recognition Payment (ARP) is not a rental agreement. Therefore, this payment does not grant your guests <u>automatic tenancy rights</u> under Irish law.

## 6. Do I have to wait 6 months before applying for the ARP?

You can apply for the ARP once your guest has moved in. You do not have to wait 6 months.

