

Dollars and Sense for Public Housing Tenants

Information for Tenants

What is Dollars and Sense?

Dollars and Sense is an innovative training program that develops the tenancy and life skills of people. It is the only comprehensive, competency-based training program of its kind in Australia, working in partnership with the real estate sector, community organisations and the Department of Housing and Public Works.

The course covers four key modules that develop the skills needed for tenants to rent successfully.

The four modules are:

- Define, plan and maintain effective communication
- Understand tenants' rights and responsibilities and access appropriate resources
- Develop, implement and monitor effective cleaning techniques
- Implement and monitor household budgets.

The Dollars and Sense course was developed by inCommunity Inc., a community organisation that has been supporting young people and people experiencing homelessness since 1982.

Why should I do the Dollars and Sense course?

Dollars and Sense has been designed to support public housing tenants become better tenants, improve their relationships with the community and the department, and helps people who voluntarily transition to the private rental market.

The course has been designed to help you:

- develop important life and tenancy skills
- better manage your finances
- be more confident raising tenancy matters
- improve your communication with neighbours
- learn about practical and efficient cleaning techniques to help maintain your property.

Upon completion of the course you will receive a graduation certificate which may be recognised in the real estate sector.

New real estate agencies are always joining as Dollars and Sense partners which means if you ever decide to rent privately and apply through one of these agencies, you can improve your chances of a successful application.

How is the course delivered?

The course is delivered in a classroom setting over one full day, consisting of six hours face-to-face training. Each training group consists of approximately 10 students.

A skilled trainer delivers the modules, including testing. The trainer is there to help you and ensure you understand the content.

There will also be an opportunity for you to hear from a department representative and provide feedback on tenancy matters and suggest improvements to the way the department manages your tenancy.

All resources and course material will be provided to you on the day of training, including catering for the day. The course is free with no ongoing commitment required.

Where and when will the course be held?

Training sessions will be held from September 2018 to March 2019 (dependent on location). You will be informed of the training venue either at the time of registration or with sufficient notice before training commences.

How do I register for the course?

You can register by filling in and returning the attached application form or by registering online at www.tenancyskills.com.au/PublicHousing. Please note that places are limited.

If you have any questions or need help to register for the course, please contact your department tenancy manager.



Queensland
Government