

# Allowances for people aged 60 to 64

The Allowance is a non-taxable monthly benefit paid to the spouse or common-law partner of someone who is receiving the Old Age Security pension and who qualifies for the Guaranteed Income Supplement. The Allowance for Survivor is a non-taxable monthly benefit paid to a surviving spouse or common-law partner who has a low income. Either benefit may be paid until you turn 65 years of age. It would then be replaced with an Old Age Security pension and possibly the Guaranteed Income Supplement.

## Eligibility

### To be eligible for the Allowance or Allowance for the Survivor you must:

- be between the ages of 60 and 64 (including the month of your 65th birthday);
- be a Canadian citizen or legal resident of Canada;
- live in Canada and have lived in Canada for at least 10 years since the age of 18;

**Also,**

### If you are applying for the Allowance, you must:

- be married to or living in a common-law relationship with someone who is receiving the Old Age Security pension and who qualifies for the Guaranteed Income Supplement;

- not be separated from your spouse or common-law partner; and
- have an annual combined income below the eligible threshold. For information on the threshold, go to [Canada.ca](http://Canada.ca) and search for “**OAS payment amounts**”.

### If you are applying for the Allowance for the Survivor, you must:

- not have remarried or started living in a common-law relationship with a new partner;
- not have been living apart from your common-law partner at the time of death;
- not have been divorced from your spouse at the time of death; and
- have an annual income below the eligible threshold. For information on the threshold, go to [Canada.ca](http://Canada.ca) and search for “**OAS payment amounts**”.

## How to apply

Complete, sign and mail both of the following forms to Service Canada:

- **Application for the Allowance or Allowance for the Survivor (ISP3008); and**
- **Statement of Income for the Renewal of the Guaranteed Income Supplement, the Allowance or the Allowance for the Survivor (ISP3026)**

You should apply 6 to 11 months before your 60th birthday. If a medical condition prevents you from applying at least 6 months before your 60th birthday, call Service Canada. If you apply after you become eligible, you may be able to receive a retroactive payment. The maximum retroactive payment is 11 months from the date Service Canada receives your application.

Once you apply, your eligibility will be re-assessed every year as long as you file your Income Tax and Benefit Return with the Canada Revenue Agency before the annual deadline. If your taxes are not filed on time, you must complete, sign and mail to Service Canada the **Statement of Income for the Renewal of the Guaranteed Income Supplement, the Allowance or the Allowance for the Survivor (ISP3026)**, to continue receiving the Allowance.

## Required documents

### Note

Service Canada staff can certify pension-related documents for free. If you cannot visit a Service Canada office, the document **How to Certify Photocopies for the Canada Pension Plan and Old Age Security (ISP1730)** contains a list of professions whose members can certify documents.

**If you were born in Canada**, you do not need to provide proof of your date of birth. However, Service Canada has the right to request proof at any time.

**If you were not born in Canada**, you must provide certified copies of your citizenship or immigration documents.

**If you cannot provide proof of legal status and residence**, Service Canada could obtain on your behalf initial proof of entry into Canada and proof of legal status documents directly from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada. To do this, you must complete, sign and mail the **Consent to Exchange Information with Citizenship and Immigration Canada (ISP3210)** to Service Canada. The information can be used only to prove residence for OAS purposes.

**If you have not lived continuously in Canada since the age of 18**, you must submit proof of all the dates you arrived in or left Canada for periods of over six months. You can do this by providing certified copies of passports, visas, airline, ship and bus tickets, or other documents that prove your residence history in Canada.

Also,

**If you are applying for the Allowance, you will need to provide the following documents.**

- **If you are married**, a certified copy of your marriage certificate. If you are not able to, call Service Canada.
- **If you are in a common-law relationship**, complete, sign and mail the **Statutory Declaration of Common-law Union (ISP3004)** to Service Canada. You must also provide certified copies of documents to prove you have been living together for at least 12 months. Examples include income tax and benefit returns, joint bank account statements and shared utility bills.

**If you are applying for the Allowance for the Survivor, you will need to provide the following documents.**

- **Proof of death of your spouse or common-law partner**, if not already submitted to Service Canada; and
- **If you were married**, a certified copy of your marriage certificate. If you are not able to, call Service Canada.
- **If you were in a common-law relationship**, complete, sign and mail the **Statutory Declaration of Common-law Union (ISP3104)** to Service Canada. You must also provide certified copies of documents to prove you had been living together for at least 12 months. Examples include income tax and benefit returns, joint bank account statements and shared utility bills.

## For more information

**Click** [Canada.ca/OAS](https://Canada.ca/OAS)

**Call** 1-800-277-9914 (please have your Social Insurance Number available)

**Visit** a [Service Canada office](#)

Forms are available on [Canada.ca](https://Canada.ca).  
Search by form name or document number (e.g. ISP3008).

This document is available on demand in multiple formats by contacting 1 800 O-Canada (1-800-622-6232), teletypewriter (TTY), 1-800-926-9105.

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