

Food grants

You're entitled to a food grant whenever you need food and can't pay for it.

This is the same for everyone, whether

- you are on a benefit, or
- you are studying, or
- you are not on a benefit and are in low-income work.



Contact us

<https://www.aaap.org.nz>

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Advocacy opening hours: Tuesday - Friday, 10 - 3



Auckland Action Against Poverty is a direct action, advocacy and education group mobilising against the neoliberal agenda on jobs, welfare and poverty.

Since 2010 we have been organising against the government's agenda on unemployment, welfare and poverty.

We believe that everyone has the right to:

- a decent job
- free access to quality education and training that leads to decent work
- enough money to live on with dignity, whether on a benefit or in work
- be respected for the unpaid work we do, in home and community.

Every day, people leave Work & Income feeling humiliated and harassed because the current welfare system is complex and unfair. Successive governments have cut benefits but failed to create decent jobs. The narrow focus on pushing people into paid work, any job at any cost to their welfare, has created a culture which punishes people for being unemployed.

We don't accept that this is the way things have to be.

There is no such thing in the law as 'running out of food grants'

You have a food grant allowance which renews every six months, but you can apply to a Work & Income service centre manager to go over this amount.

The six-month food grant allowance is:

- \$200 for a single person with no dependent children
- \$300 for a couple with no dependent children
- \$450 for a couple or a sole parent with one or two dependent children
- \$550 for a couple or a sole parent with three or more dependent children.

Work & Income have discretion to go over those amounts if there are "exceptional circumstances".

This means there is **no real limit** on the food grants you can access if you have an immediate need or unforeseen circumstances that mean you need one.

