



SA Portable Long Service Leave
Community Services

Webinar: Completing your Quarterly Return

What employers need to do

14 April 2026 - Eva Milekovic – Community Engagement Officer



Welcome



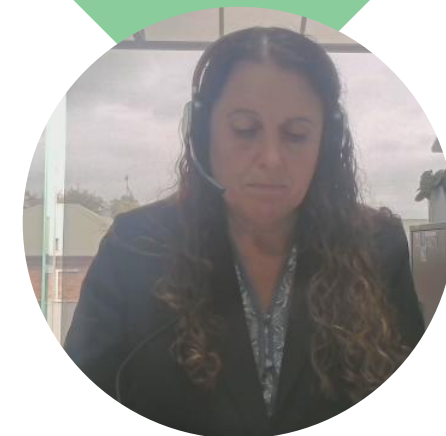
Purpose of today

Key Dates

Quarterly returns

Additional information

Questions





**SA Portable Long Service Leave
Community Services**

Key Dates

1 October 2025

Scheme started

Employer Registrations due by end October 2025

1 January 2026 – 31 March 2026

Second Reporting quarter

21 April 2026

Second quarterly return due

Levy payment due





Employer Obligations - ongoing

Quarterly returns will be generated and required to be completed by the 21st day after the end of each period

Return Period	Due Date
1 January – 31 March	21 April
1 April – 30 June	21 July
1 July – 30 September	21 October
1 October – 31 December	21 January

Invoices for levies are generated on submission of return and are due on the same dates as the return lodgements.



Step 1

Quarterly Returns

To complete your quarterly return, login and select from the Dashboard OR via the menu

Forms > Pending Returns period (or) Returns from the menu

The screenshot shows the dashboard for 'SA Portable Long Service Leave Community Services'. The user is logged in as 'Welcome, Barry Allen'. The navigation menu includes 'Services Australia - Medicare', 'Workers', 'Forms', 'Correspondence', 'Invoices', 'Claims', 'Returns', and 'Logout'. The 'Returns' menu item is highlighted with an orange arrow. Below the navigation bar, there are several summary cards: 'Pending Approvals' (0), 'Pending Returns' (1), 'Outstanding Invoices' (0), 'Current Claims' (0), 'Temporary Forms' (0), and 'New Correspondence' (0). Below these cards, there are three tables:

- Pending Approvals (0)**: A table with columns 'Approval Type', 'Worker Ref', 'Worker Name', 'Date Submitted', and 'Status'. It contains the message 'There are no Pending Approvals for this employer'.
- Pending Returns (1)**: A table with columns 'Ref.', 'Return Type', 'Return Period', 'Workers', 'Remuneration', 'Levy', 'Due Date', and 'Status'. It contains one row with the following data:

Ref.	Return Type	Return Period	Workers	Remuneration	Levy	Due Date	Status
250001207	Periodic Return	1 Oct 2025 - 31 Dec 2025	3	\$0.00	\$0.00	21 Jan 2026	
- Outstanding Invoices (0)**: A table with columns 'Invoice', 'Return Period', 'Invoice Date', 'Invoice Amount', and 'Due Date'. It contains the message 'There are no Outstanding Invoices for this employer'.



Quarterly Returns

Video



**How to Complete a
Periodic Return**



OWP

Ordinary weekly pay and meaning of remuneration

Ordinary Weekly Pay (OWP) is the amount used to calculate what a worker is paid when they take long service leave.

It's based on the average of what they've earned each week over the past 3 years, across all employers and all return periods.





Ordinary weekly pay and meaning of remuneration

Remuneration is the amount a worker is paid in a quarter and is used to calculate the levy owed by the employer to the scheme.

Both are calculated using the same types of payments to keep things simple and consistent.





Ordinary weekly pay and meaning of remuneration

Included:

- Annual leave (excluding annual leave loading)
- Sick leave (or personal leave)
- Carers leave
- Parental leave paid by the employer (except under the Paid Parental Leave Act 2010)
- Compassionate or bereavement leave
- Casual loading
- Penalty rates or shift allowances for:
 - Weekend, public holiday or part-day public holiday rates
 - Late night or early mornings
 - Broken shift
- Sleepover allowance
- Days off for public holidays
- Rostered day off work
- Payments for salary packaging or salary sacrifice
- Workers' compensation paid by Return to Work SA (either directly or through the employer)
- First aid allowance
- Payment for stand down
- **ANY OTHER PAYMENT**

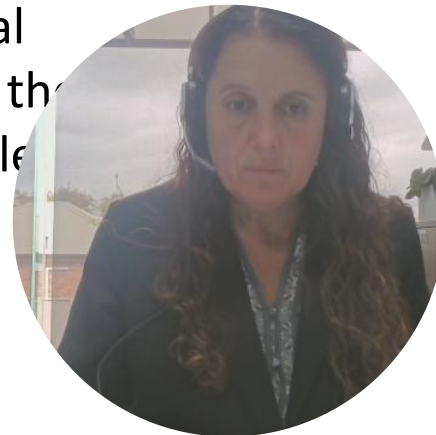




Ordinary weekly pay and meaning of remuneration

Excluded:

- Annual leave loading
- Parental leave (unless it's paid by the employer)
- Superannuation
- Reimbursements
- Overtime or hours paid at overtime rates
- Unused or hours paid at overtime rates
- Unused time off paid in lieu
- Bonuses
- Payments on retirement, retrenchment or redundancy, except for backpay
- Fares, travel allowance, vehicle allowance
- Payments made "at a special rate on an irregular basis to compensate for occasional disabilities, except where there is paid during a period of leave with pay"





Claiming Long Service Leave

- When a worker has at least **120 months of service**, they may take long service leave, or a cash payment in lieu of time off.
- Long service leave must be claimed in **whole calendar days**, with a minimum of 7 days (1 week) per claim.
- Workers will apply to SAPLSL-CS for their long service leave through their Worker Portal. The employer will need to **approve** the worker's time off **before the payment** can be paid to the worker.
- Workers are required to apply for their long service leave 2 months **in advance**, unless a shorter timeframe is **agreed with their employer**.
- SAPLSL-CS aims to make the payment to workers **the week after** their leave is claimed.
- Termination and pro-rata payments are available for workers who have accrued **months of service** and are **leaving** the Community Services sector.



Service



Transitional Provisions

- Months of **continuous service** accrued with the employer **before commencement** will **carry over** into the scheme.
- If the worker **leaves** the employer **before** they reach **7 years of service** with that employer, the service accrued before 1 October 2025 **will be lost**.
- If a worker **remains** with their employer for **7 or more years**, the employer is **liable** for a payment for the long service leave accrued **before commencement**.
- Employer **liability** for workers **holding an entitlement upon commencement** is **capped** at their liability on 30 September 2025.
- The worker's **rate of pay** for service accrued before the scheme commences will be **calculated** as per the *Long Service Leave Act 1987*.





Our Approach to Compliance

We are focused on **support and guidance**, not penalties.

Our goal is to help you **understand and meet your obligations** under the SAPLSL-CS scheme

If issues arise, we work **collaboratively** to resolve them rather than immediately applying fines.

Keeping **records and clear documentation** helps everyone





Support Available

Resources

Toolkits

Our toolkits are designed to cover everything you need to know at each stage of your portable long service leave journey.

Webinars

Our webinars give you practical information and guidance. They are interactive, so you can ask questions, get clear answers. Each session is designed to help you understand what you need to do and how the scheme works in practice.

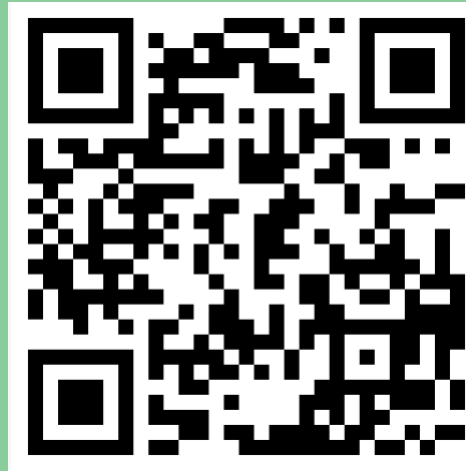
FAQs

You can find answers for the most common [employer](#), [worker](#), [self-employed contractor](#) or [working director](#) queries on our FAQ pages.





**SA Portable Long Service Leave
Community Services**



How to stay up to date

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