



AHURI policy for Consumer and Lived Experience (CLE) participation payments

AHURI plays a key role in bringing together multiple perspectives to address the issues that affect Australia's housing and homelessness sectors. This includes the perspectives of people currently accessing housing as tenants, and those who have experienced, or are experiencing challenges in accessing appropriate housing for their individual needs. AHURI encourages CLE participation in our events, either by the invitation of other parties involved in our events, or by direct invitation. In either case, AHURI recognises that CLE participants deserve to be appropriately compensated for their involvement.

1. Scope of this Policy

1.1 Definition of CLE Participation

Paid CLE Participation is defined as an activity whereby a person with a lived experience of homelessness or hardship in the private housing market, or who is a tenant in social or affordable housing, is asked personally to participate in an activity convened by AHURI.

Paid CLE Participation activities may take a number of formats, such as:

- A. Conference presentations or panel discussions
- B. Individual or group consultations
- C. Roundtables
- D. Teleconferences
- E. Face to face meetings

1.2 Who is eligible for Participation Payments?

AHURI will provide participation payments to individuals who we directly invite to participate in our work. This does not include:

- A. A person providing CLE perspective as a paid professional who is already receiving payment from another organisation for this work.
- B. A person providing a CLE perspective at an AHURI event at the invitation of another person or organisation. In this case the party inviting participation is responsible for coordinating payment.
- C. A person who brings a lived experience perspective to an AHURI event in their own capacity without pre-arrangement

2. Who is responsible for providing compensation?

AHURI will provide participation payments to individuals who we directly invite to participate in our work.

Where a third party is coordinating CLE participation, they are responsible for ensuring appropriate compensation to the participant.

- A. If the third party has a policy in place for compensating CLE participation, the third party policy and payment rates will apply.
- B. If a third party coordinating CLE participation does not have a relevant policy, we encourage them to compensate participation in line with this AHURI paid participation policy.

3. What compensation will be offered?

When a CLE voice is participating in an AHURI event at the direct invitation of AHURI, AHURI will compensate them for an agreed amount for their time as outlined below.

3.1 Participation time

Time spent travelling to and from, and preparing or reading for and after a Paid Participation Activity will be included in the hours paid. These hours are to be agreed in advance with AHURI when arrangements are being made for an engagement.

Minimum payment for an engagement is for 2 hours. Paid Participation payments will be based on the nature of participation and engagement at the following rates:

Type of activity	Bursary attendee	Attendee (outside of active participation)	Advisor or contributor	Speaker or panellist
Committee, workshop or focus group	N/A	N/A	Invited to share a perspective contributing to content	Invited to present

Type of activity	Bursary attendee	Attendee (outside of active participation)	Advisor or contributor	Speaker or panellist
			development or research	
Conference or webinar	Sponsored to attend	General attendance outside of active participation slot	Invited to share a perspective contributing to content development	Invited to present or speak individually or as a member of a panel
Payment	No payment	No payment	\$40 per hour	\$100 per hour

3.2 Travel, accommodation and meal allowances

AHURI will cover reasonable travel accommodation and meal costs associated with participation in a Paid Participation Activity. Flights and accommodation (where an overnight absence from home is necessary) for people to participate in AHURI activities will be booked by AHURI. All travel, accommodation and meal allowances must be pre-approved by AHURI.

3.3 Reasonable out of pocket expenses

AHURI will endeavour to meet reasonable out of pocket expenses directly related to participation in a Paid Participation Activity. For example, this might include parking, childcare arrangements or health or accessibility related accommodations. All out of pocket expenses must be approved by AHURI before they are incurred, and receipts must be provided when claiming these expenses.

4. Support people

CLE participants may have a support person, like a family member, friend, or caregiver, accompany them during Paid Participation Activities. Participants should let AHURI know in advance they will be bringing a support person. AHURI will make every effort to accommodate a support person attending our event, including providing access to the event catering. We do not pay the support person for their time attending or travelling to and from the event.

5. Claiming reimbursement

Unless the Paid Participation Activity and payment is being managed by a third party, the Participant who is entitled to a Paid Participation Payment must submit all forms and receipts for reimbursement to AHURI within 20 working days of involvement in the Paid Participation Activity.

Claims for reimbursement are to be sent to the AHURI employee who coordinated the engagement.

AHURI acknowledges the wealth of wisdom held by the Councils of Social Services network, the Mental Health Commission network, Mission Australia, and the Shelter network in appropriate practices for engaging consumer and lived experience participation. We are grateful for access to this wisdom, including from consumer and lived experienced voices, in creating this policy.