

Title: March 2018 Update DHSTV transcript

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This month: census date changes for students, time limits for family and child care assistance and how the Commonwealth Games may impact you.

G'day I'm Hank Jongen here to tell you what's happening with the department in March.

For students it's that time of year again. Census date is just around the corner. This is the last day you can stop studying or drop a subject without adding to your fees or HELP debt. If you withdraw defer or reduce your study load let Centrelink know. Most students need to study full-time to receive a student payment so it's important to tell Centrelink if there's changes. You can let us know of changes to your study online.

Time is running out to lodge your lump sum claim for family and child care assistance. You have until the 30th of June this year to claim for the 2016-17 financial year. You also have until the 30th of June this year to confirm both you and your partner's income for the 2016-17 financial year for Family Tax Benefit purposes. Do this by either lodging tax returns with the Australian Taxation Office or by telling us you don't need to lodge one. If you've got a partner they will need to do this as well. If you don't provide this information you may miss out on family assistance including the Family Tax Benefit supplements.

We're getting set for a busy time in April with thousands of athletes, volunteers and up to 1.5 million spectators set to touchdown on the Gold Coast for the 2018 Commonwealth Games. The games will be the largest sporting event in Australia this decade and the biggest ever on the Gold Coast. Events are also scheduled for Brisbane, Cairns and Townsville so impacts will be felt far and wide. This means there are likely to be significant traffic delays before and during the games and we're preparing now to minimize any disruption to our services. If you'll be traveling to or live on the Gold Coast and need to access our services during the games I strongly encourage you to use self-service. Remember you can do most of your Centrelink, Medicare and Child Support business using our Express Plus mobile apps, our online account through myGov, or by using phone self-service.

Thanks for watching and as always don't forget to like or follow us on social media and subscribe to our channel to keep up to date. I'll see you next month good bye for now.

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