

Paying Court Fines

Local Court of NSW Information Sheet



Communities
& Justice
Court Services

Within 28 days of a court ordering you to pay a fine, you will need to pay it in full, arrange to pay by instalments or request an extension of the time allowed to pay. If you do not make arrangements within 28 days, an additional \$65 will apply.

How can I pay the fine?

You can pay by:

- **Online payment:** - [Online registry website](#) (or request a secure weblink by emailing a [Local Court](#)).
- **Credit card/EFTPOS** –at the Local Court or by phone.
- **Cheque or money order** –payable to the Local Court.
- **Centrelink instalments** – if you receive a Centrelink benefit, you can request deductions from your benefit. Complete the [Payment Plan Application of Court fines for Customers in receipt of a Government payment](#)
- **Instalments** – if you do not receive a Centrelink benefit, you can apply to pay by instalments direct to the court. Complete the [Application for Time to Pay Court Fines](#) form, available online or at any registry.

You can also **ask for an extension** of the 28 days. Contact the Local Court immediately if you cannot make a payment that you have agreed to make.

What if I don't pay on time?

If you do not pay the fine or instalments on time, the fine will be referred to Revenue NSW who will take further recovery action on the fine and add an extra \$65.

The types of recovery action that Revenue NSW can take include the below. Each action may add more to the debt.

- Ask Transport NSW to suspend your driver licence or cancel your car registration
- Take money from your bank account or wages
- Refer your debt to a private debt collection agency
- Register an interest on any land/property you own
- Order the Sheriff to take your goods/property and sell them to pay the amount you owe

For more information visit [this link](#) or contact Revenue NSW on 1300 138 118.

What if I can't pay the fine?

If you cannot pay the fine, you might be eligible for a Work and Development Order (WDO) with Revenue NSW which allows you to do an activity to pay off your fines through counselling, courses, or treatment programs.

To be eligible for a WDO, you must meet one or more of the following criteria: be 18 years of age or under; receive a Centrelink benefit; are in serious financial hardship; are homeless; have a serious addiction to drugs, alcohol, or other substances; have a mental illness; have an intellectual disability or cognitive impairment.

Visit [Revenue NSW](#) for more information or call the WDO hotline on 1300 478 879.

Do I need to pay a levy or other costs?

Yes, if the court has made a cost order or a levy payable by law applies in your case. This can include:

- Victims Compensation Levy – payable on certain offences to contribute towards compensation for victims.
- Court costs – an amount for commencing the prosecution or action against you.
- Professional costs – legal costs payable to another party in the case.
- Witness expenses – costs for witnesses attending.

Need help?

Contact [LawAccess](#) NSW, a free service for people with a legal problem in NSW. Telephone 1300 888 529 (TTY 1300 889 529) or contact the [Local Court](#). Details can be found on your fine notice or call 1300 679 272 and ask to be connected to the court your fine relates to.