Interstate relocation information pack

A practical guide to moving between Australian states and territories

Plan your move around three connected tasks: leaving your current home, securing the next one and getting your household settled. This Relo Rentals pack brings together moving checklists, rental application guidance, removalist planning and practical reminders for an interstate move.

Use it for a permanent relocation or an interstate work assignment. Furnished accommodation can provide an arrival base while you learn the area or wait for your belongings. Confirm the actual stay length, inclusions and agreement before committing.

How to use this pack

Page	What you will find
2	Your relocation plan and budget
3	Removalists packing and storage
4	Finding your next rental home
5	Applications agreements and bond
6	Leaving your current home
7	Move-in day and the first week
8	Your moving timeline checklist
9	Address changes utilities and accounts
10	Schools health pets and interstate biosecurity
11	Vehicles licences and work arrangements
12	Relocation assistance and planning templates
13	Official tenancy guides for all jurisdictions
14	Further resources and key contacts

Information reviewed: 13 October 2026. This pack adapts relevant guidance from the Relo Rentals Renters Relocation Pack for domestic interstate moves. Legal requirements depend on the location, agreement and individual circumstances. Use the official sources linked in this pack for current rules and deadlines.

Your relocation plan and budget

Set the dates that everything depends on

Confirm your work start date, available move-in date, final date at your current home and the removalist's collection and delivery windows. Keep a separate date for when you actually receive the keys. An application approval alone does not confirm a completed tenancy or handover.

Decide whether you will move all belongings at once, use storage, or begin in a furnished home. Keep a backup for late delivery or a longer accommodation search. Allow for time-zone differences when arranging interstate calls and handovers.

Plan for the whole cost

Budget item	What to include
Departure	Cleaning, permitted tenancy-ending costs, packing materials, storage and final bills.
Transport	Removalist quote, access charges, insurance, vehicle transport or fuel, flights and overnight stops.
Arrival	Bond, permitted rent in advance, overlapping accommodation and utility setup.
Ongoing	Rent, utilities, internet, parking, commuting, childcare and household costs.
Contingency	Unexpected delays, extra storage, replacement essentials or extended temporary accommodation.

Compare weekly rents on the same basis. For planning, weekly rent × 52 ÷ 12 gives an approximate monthly equivalent. A hypothetical $650 a week is about $2,816.67 a month. Use the agreement's actual payment schedule and include charges outside the advertised rent.

If your employer contributes

Ask what is reimbursed, what needs prior approval, whether there is a spending cap and when reimbursements are paid. Confirm who signs the lease, pays the bond and receives invoices. Keep written approval before booking costs you expect the employer to cover.

Move from: _____ Move to: _____

Target arrival: _____ Work start: _____

Total budget: $_____ Contingency: $_____

Removalists packing and storage

Get comparable written quotes

Give each removalist the same inventory, collection and delivery addresses, stairs, lift access, parking limitations and heavy or fragile items. Ask whether the price is fixed or estimated, which services are included and what can trigger additional charges. NSW's official removalist guidance covers quotes, contracts and insurance. [S1]

[ ] Confirm the business identity, contact details and who will perform the move.

[ ] Record collection and delivery windows, not just the departure date.

[ ] Ask about packing, dismantling, reassembly and unloading responsibilities.

[ ] Check access, waiting-time, weekend, remote-location and storage charges.

[ ] Confirm cancellation terms and the process if dates or addresses change.

[ ] Ask what is excluded from carriage and what you must arrange separately.

Check insurance before booking

Ask what insurance is actually provided, what events are covered, exclusions, excesses and how to make a claim. Do not assume the removalist's business insurance covers the full value of your belongings. Check separate transit or storage cover where needed. [S1]

Pack so you can find things

Declutter before quoting and packing. Number boxes, label the destination room and keep an inventory. Photograph valuable items and their condition. Use suitable packaging and follow the mover's instructions for batteries, liquids, gas cylinders and other restricted items.

Keep an essentials bag with you

Carry medication, documents, devices, chargers, valuables, clothes and first-night supplies yourself. Include children's and pets' essentials. Keep a copy of the inventory and booking details available without needing to open packed boxes.

If you need storage

Confirm access hours, minimum period, security, environmental conditions, insurance and the cost of collection or redelivery. Keep frequently needed items outside storage. Match the storage end date to a confirmed delivery arrangement.

At collection and delivery

Count items against the inventory, photograph visible issues and record missing or damaged belongings promptly. Retain the contract and delivery record and follow the provider's claims process. If a dispute remains unresolved, seek the relevant consumer authority's advice. [S1]

Finding your next rental home

Choose around your daily routine

Start with the workplace, school or campus address and test the commute at the times you will travel. Compare access to groceries, transport, childcare and health services. A useful arrival base may be different from the neighbourhood you eventually choose for a longer stay.

Compare bedrooms, furnishing, lease length, move-in date and the full weekly cost. Availability and prices differ by suburb, property type and season. Do not use one advertised property or a city-wide average as your complete budget.

Inspect before committing

[ ] Confirm the exact address and whether the offer is for a whole home or room.

[ ] Inspect layout, storage, workspace, locks, ventilation, heating and cooling.

[ ] Check damp, leaks, cleanliness, pests and visible damage.

[ ] Confirm beds, appliances, kitchen items, laundry and linen if furnished.

[ ] Ask about internet, utilities, usage caps, parking and cleaning charges.

[ ] Check pet requirements, accessibility and any building move-in rules.

[ ] Confirm who handles repairs and after-hours access problems.

When you are still interstate

Ask for a live video inspection or arrange a trusted representative with the agent's agreement. Ask them to check the surroundings and access as well as the rooms. Retain written answers and verify the provider and payment details independently before sending money. [S2]

Furnished accommodation as an arrival base

A furnished home may reduce what you need immediately and give you time to explore locally. Confirm the inventory and extension or departure terms, especially if your belongings or work plans are uncertain. Furnished accommodation is not automatically exempt from residential tenancy law; check the arrangement and local guide. [G1–G8]

Your must-have requirements: _____

_____

Preferred areas and acceptable commute: _____

Applications agreements and bond

Follow the destination application process

Ask for the form and submission methods required for the property. Some jurisdictions prescribe forms and restrict document requests. Use the destination's process even if your previous state used a different one. Preparation templates in this pack do not replace an official form. [G1–G8]

Prepare only permitted evidence

Keep current identity, employment or income evidence and rental or residential history organised. Ask your current agent about a reference or rental payment record where appropriate. Obtain referees' consent and provide only documents allowed and needed for the application.

Submit and track the next step

Check applicant names, property reference, dates, term and attachments. Save the version you sent and request confirmation of receipt. Respond to follow-up requests through a verified channel. If employment is changing, ask which permitted evidence can explain your new role and ability to pay.

Check an approval before signing

[ ] Final rent, start date, agreement length and all named tenants.

[ ] Property address, furnishing and the complete inventory.

[ ] Utilities, usage limits, internet, parking and other disclosed charges.

[ ] Bond, permitted rent in advance and the lawful payment process.

[ ] Pets, occupants, building access and any agreed repair commitments.

[ ] Extension, notice and early-ending arrangements.

Keep bond and rent payments separate

Bond is security for the tenancy; rent in advance covers an upcoming period. Limits, lodgement and refund processes differ by state or territory. Keep receipts and the official bond reference. A previous bond is not automatically transferred to another jurisdiction, so plan for timing and any funding gap. [G1–G8]

Protect your information

Verify the recipient and the application channel. Do not share passwords, one-time codes or myGov access. Check local rules before supplying sensitive transaction records or paying an application-related charge. Do not offer higher rent or excessive advance payments as an approval strategy. [G1–G8]

Leaving your current home

Confirm the legal exit process first

Read the current agreement and the tenancy guide for the home you are leaving. Confirm the required notice, form, service method and potential costs before booking a final departure. A work transfer does not automatically cancel a fixed-term agreement. Record any agreed early end or replacement-tenant arrangement in writing. [G1–G8]

Prepare for the final inspection

[ ] Confirm the vacate date and how keys must be returned.

[ ] Arrange movers and any lift, parking or building access booking.

[ ] Remove your belongings, unwanted items and rubbish.

[ ] Clean to the required standard and account for supplied furniture.

[ ] Compare the property with the original condition report and photographs.

[ ] Record the final condition and relevant meter readings.

[ ] Attend or arrange the final inspection where possible.

[ ] Return every key, remote and access fob and keep a record.

Final bills and bond

Arrange account closing dates and retain final bills and payment records. Follow the local bond-refund process and read any claim or dispute notification promptly. If deductions are proposed, ask for the basis and evidence. Check response deadlines with the relevant authority. [G1–G8]

Do not assume your bond can pay the final rent or sign a blank bond-release form. Keep a forwarding contact for your former agent until the tenancy and bond matters are resolved.

Leave the right internet equipment

Leave nbn-supplied connection equipment at the property. It is registered to that address. Your own Wi-Fi router is a separate item; check what belongs to you, the provider or the furnished home before packing. Arrange cancellation or transfer with the service provider. [S3]

Before locking the door

Check cupboards, sheds, storage spaces, mail and outdoor areas. Follow any agreed instructions for appliances and security. Keep the final photographs, condition report, receipts and key-return record together.

Notice served: _____ Agreed vacate date: _____

Key return arrangement: _____

Move-in day and the first week

Before you arrive

[ ] Confirm signed paperwork, permitted payments and key collection.

[ ] Check arrival timing and a backup if transport or delivery is delayed.

[ ] Confirm utility connections and internet where not included.

[ ] Book building access, lift use and removalist unloading arrangements.

[ ] Have essential supplies and required contact numbers with you.

Record the property condition

Check every room and the furnished inventory against the report. Note existing damage, stains, cleanliness, missing items and appliance faults. Photograph overall rooms and close-up details. Return comments through the required process within the destination's deadline and keep a copy. [G1–G8]

Photos support the condition report; they do not replace it. Report serious faults promptly and retain written confirmation of any agreed repairs. Count keys and access devices and record their condition.

Get the home working

Locate the switchboard, water shut-off and safety equipment. Ask how to operate appliances, heating and cooling. Confirm emergency repair contacts and building rules. Check that the internet service is active and that the required connection equipment is present. [S3]

The first week

[ ] Reconcile delivered belongings against the moving inventory.

[ ] Test the commute and establish school or childcare travel routines.

[ ] Locate groceries, pharmacy, medical services and council facilities.

[ ] Check rubbish collection, parking restrictions and local transport options.

[ ] Update important accounts and start licence or registration enquiries.

[ ] Confirm rent dates, maintenance requests and your extension review date.

If arrival plans change

Contact the accommodation provider and movers promptly, retain their written response and check cancellation or extension terms. Keep an alternative place to stay if keys, accommodation or belongings will not be available as expected.

Your moving timeline checklist

Adjust these planning stages to your dates. Add the legal and administrative deadlines confirmed for your current home and destination.

Six to eight weeks before moving

[ ] Set arrival, work start, accommodation and delivery dates.

[ ] Choose must-have property requirements and compare suitable areas.

[ ] Set a total budget and confirm any employer contribution.

[ ] Check your current tenancy exit process and destination rental rules.

[ ] Compare mover quotes, insurance, vehicle transport and storage.

[ ] Contact schools, childcare, health providers and any support services.

[ ] Check interstate restrictions before packing plants or other risk goods.

Two to four weeks before moving

[ ] Inspect and apply for homes through the permitted local process.

[ ] Review and sign the agreement once you understand its terms.

[ ] Confirm movers, travel, building access and any pet transport.

[ ] Arrange old-service closures and new utility or internet connections.

[ ] Book cleaning and give any required tenancy notice correctly.

[ ] Organise mail redirection and prepare the address-update list.

The final week and departure day

[ ] Reconfirm keys, collection, delivery windows and contact details.

[ ] Pack an essentials bag and keep documents and valuables with you.

[ ] Label boxes and finalise the inventory and condition photographs.

[ ] Complete the final property check and return all access devices.

[ ] Leave nbn equipment and supplied furniture that belong at the home.

Arrival and the first month

[ ] Return the condition report within the local deadline.

[ ] Check deliveries and report missing or damaged items promptly.

[ ] Update accounts and confirm any benefit or accommodation changes.

[ ] Complete required licence, vehicle and pet registration steps.

[ ] Establish local routines and record any extension or departure dates.

Address changes utilities and accounts

Update each service that needs your new details

An address change with one organisation does not necessarily update every account. myGov lets you choose eligible linked services to share an update with; check confirmation in each relevant account. If you receive Centrelink payments, check the reporting requirements for address and accommodation changes. [S4,S5]

[ ] myGov and relevant linked services, including Medicare and Centrelink.

[ ] Australian Electoral Commission if enrolled, following its address rules.

[ ] Driver licence, vehicle registration and relevant transport accounts.

[ ] Employer, payroll, super fund, banks, cards and lenders.

[ ] Health, contents, motor and other insurers.

[ ] Schools, childcare, health providers and ongoing support services.

[ ] Electricity, gas, internet, phone, subscriptions and deliveries.

[ ] Pet microchip register, council registration and veterinary records.

Electoral enrolment and mail

Use the AEC to confirm whether and when to update your enrolment, particularly for a temporary assignment. Its guidance explains the residence period and options for people away from their enrolled address. Arrange Australia Post redirection if useful; it does not replace direct updates to important senders. [S4,S6]

Close old services and open new ones

Give retailers the correct end and start dates, record accessible meter readings and keep final bills. Check connection lead times, contract changes and charges. In furnished accommodation, establish which services are included and whether limits apply.

Contact your internet provider early and check the new address's service availability. Leave nbn-supplied equipment at the old address and confirm it is present at the new one. Ask the provider what to do if it is missing. [S3]

Keep an update log

Organisation	Date updated	Confirmation or next step
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Family health pets and biosecurity

Schools and childcare

Contact destination schools before relying on a place. Check catchments or enrolment rules against the exact address, year level and date of entry. Ask about records, term dates, uniforms and learning support. Compare childcare vacancies and operating hours with work and commuting arrangements.

Ask current providers how records can be transferred with your consent. Keep relevant school reports and support plans available, and prepare for any gap between arrival and the confirmed start date.

Health and ongoing support

Arrange transfer of relevant medical information and identify a new GP, pharmacy and any specialist or support service you use. Discuss continuity of prescriptions or scheduled treatment with your current provider before departure. Update Medicare contact details where needed. [S4,S5]

If you receive disability, aged-care or other ongoing services, contact the funding body and providers about destination coverage and the transition. Do not assume an appointment, provider or service schedule transfers automatically.

Moving with pets

Check destination rules, tenancy requirements, transport arrangements and any restrictions on the species you keep. Ask a vet about the journey, and arrange appropriate carriers and pet-friendly stops. Update microchip contact details and check local council registration requirements.

Keep food, water, medication and familiar bedding accessible. Confirm how the pet will arrive and be cared for if your belongings or accommodation are delayed.

Plants food and other restricted goods

Interstate biosecurity rules can apply to plants, fruit and vegetables, animal products, soil and equipment. Check every relevant border and destination requirement before packing, including goods carried in your own car or sent with a removalist. Clean outdoor equipment and ask the destination authority about uncertain items. [S7]

Household pot plants can be restricted too. Treatment or certification may be needed for some items; decide whether to move, give away or replace them only after checking the rules. [S8]

Items requiring a rule check: _____

_____

Vehicles licences and work arrangements

Check destination requirements early

Driver-licence and vehicle-registration requirements depend on the destination and whether you are visiting or becoming resident. They are separate processes. Check each deadline and the required documents with the destination authority; do not apply one state's timeframe nationally. [S4,S9]

[ ] Confirm your licence class, expiry and any conditions or restrictions.

[ ] Check whether a licence transfer is required and by what date.

[ ] Check registration transfer, vehicle inspection and identity requirements.

[ ] Confirm compulsory third-party arrangements and fees where applicable.

[ ] Ask your insurer about the new garaging address and transport cover.

[ ] Check any refund or cancellation process with the previous jurisdiction.

If you transport a vehicle

Compare driving with a carrier service. Confirm collection and delivery windows, insurance, inspection photographs, fuel requirements and what may be left in the vehicle. Budget for transport at the destination if the car arrives later than you do.

Official starting points

myGov directory for licence and registration address updates

NSW example of interstate licence transfer requirements

Use the destination authority's interstate-transfer guidance as well as address-change guidance. For temporary assignments, ask how your particular residence and vehicle use affect the requirements.

Work registrations and household timing

If your occupation requires a licence, registration, working-with-children check or other credential, ask the destination regulator whether recognition or a new application is needed before you start. Confirm workplace access, induction and employer documentation separately.

Check school term dates, public holidays and time-zone changes when coordinating work and family commitments. Set aside time for appointments and administrative tasks during the first weeks.

Licence deadline confirmed: _____ Vehicle deadline: _____

Authority or contact: _____

Relocation assistance and templates

Request help from Relo Rentals

Contact Relo Rentals through the website with your destination, arrival date, intended stay and essential property needs. Ask about available help with furnished-accommodation enquiries, application preparation, inspection arrangements and arrival coordination. Confirm the agreed scope, any fees and who communicates with providers before work starts.

Approval and availability remain with the landlord or property manager. For legal tenancy questions, disputes or transport requirements, use the relevant official service. Send the first enquiry without sensitive identity or financial attachments and agree a verified channel if documents are required.

Your relocation brief

Current city and destination: _____

Arrival date and intended stay: _____

Household size and required beds: _____

Weekly budget and inclusions: _____

Workplace or preferred commute: _____

Pets accessibility and other needs: _____

Help requested and best contact time: _____

Accommodation enquiry template

Hello [name], I am moving from [current city] to [destination] and am interested in [property/reference] from [date] for [term]. Please confirm availability, the total cost and inclusions, inspection options and the permitted application requirements. My main property needs are [brief details]. Please let me know the next steps. Thank you, [name and contact].

Your key dates

Milestone	Confirmed date
Current tenancy notice or exit	_____
Movers collect and deliver	_____
Travel and key collection	_____
Condition report due	_____
Extension or departure review	_____

Official tenancy guides

Use the guide for the home you are leaving and the guide for the home you are moving into. Notice, bond, application, repair and pet rules may differ. These are links to original government guides and resources, not reproduced guidebooks. [G1–G8]

G1 New South Wales

NSW Tenant Information Statement

G2 Victoria

Consumer Affairs Victoria Renters Guide

G3 Queensland

RTA Pocket guide for tenants houses and units Form 17a

G4 Western Australia

Consumer Protection WA tenant guides

The WA page notes that guide PDFs are being updated for March 2026 bond changes. Check current web guidance alongside the download.

G5 South Australia

SA tenancy guides forms and fact sheets

G6 Tasmania

Consumer Affairs Tasmania rental guide

G7 Australian Capital Territory

ACT Renting Book and rental guidance

G8 Northern Territory

NT Consumer Affairs rental guide and current resources

Application forms and tailored advice

Use the current local form where required. Ask the relevant tenancy authority which tenant advice, bond or dispute service fits your question, and act promptly on notices with response deadlines.

Further resources and key contacts

Sources reviewed on 13 October 2026. G1–G8 on page 13 support tenancy guidance; S1–S9 below support the interstate planning sections.

S1 NSW Government choosing a removalist

S2 Queensland RTA rental scam guidance

S3 nbn moving home and connection equipment

S4 myGov moving house

S5 Services Australia changing your address

S6 Australian Electoral Commission update your details

S7 Department of Agriculture travelling within Australia

S8 Australian Interstate Quarantine moving interstate

S9 NSW Government interstate licence transfers

Keep your important contacts together

Current agent or provider: _____

Destination agent and after-hours contact: _____

Removalist and booking reference: _____

Storage or vehicle transport contact: _____

School childcare or health contact: _____

Local tenancy advice contact: _____

Your next step

Confirm dates, budget and household needs. Explore furnished accommodation with Relo Rentals and use the destination city guide to compare areas before applying.

Visit Relo Rentals