

Liverpool Hospital Laundering Allowance Update

Dear Member,

Off the back of our union win for laundering allowance to be paid to Administration workers in the Emergency Department, other members have come forward noting they have yet to receive this payment. In the process, it has come to light a group of employees in Allied Health have not been receiving this allowance.

What is the Laundering Allowance?

The Laundering Allowance is an entitlement for NSW Health employees who are provided with a uniform and are required to wash it themselves. You can read more about this allowance in Clause 23 of *the Health Employee Conditions of Employment (State) Award 2018*. This weekly allowance should be automatically allocated to those who receive a uniform, but there are numerous instances where this has not been properly processed on the employee's record.

Do I receive this payment for working at Liverpool Hospital?

The Laundering Allowance is for those who are supplied with a uniform and wear it. The HSU acknowledges there are certain professions that don't wear a uniform, as is the case for many Allied Health workers. This is seen as best practice for those workers. However, if you work in Allied Health and wear a uniform, then you are entitled to the Laundering Allowance.

What happens now?

Previous requests for payment were submitted using individual forms in a collective process, with the Union office acting as the intermediary. In this instance there are a number of affected employees. An audit has been conducted, with no need for individuals to submit paperwork to their employer or the Union office. We are unsure how long this process will take but based on the more recent experience with Administration members in the Emergency Department, it should be expedited to prevent additional delays in what you're automatically entitled to.

Who should I thank?

Credit goes to those who raised this matter to begin with. All employees will benefit from these members raising the matter directly with the Union office. Those who questioned internal processes have made the subsequent payment much easier for all others involved in receiving their entitlements.

It is only by working together that we build power in the workplace. Talk to your colleagues, let them know what's happening at Liverpool Hospital and if they're not a member, encourage them to get on board. Your colleagues can join the Union by visiting www.hsu.asn.au or by calling 1300 478 679.

In unity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gerard Hayes', with a long, sweeping underline.

Gerard Hayes
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD