

## FAQ's

### **What is the Home Ownership program?**

Habitat for Humanity Australia South Australia supports disadvantaged families to access safe and secure shelter by funding the cost of a small number of new homes and coordinating the various tasks and tradespeople involved during construction. Homes are built in partnership with families on low incomes. The "Partner" families help in a practical way to assist to build their own homes alongside volunteers and pay an affordable loan.

### **Who is eligible?**

Families who are seeking a transformative opportunity to achieve home ownership, are on a low income and do not own a home. "Partner" families will be asked to commit to and be expected to contribute 200 hours of "sweat equity" during their home construction.

### **How does the program work?**

If your application meets all of the eligibility criteria, Habitat SA will invite you for an interview to discuss the responsibilities of home ownership and go through the details of your application. If you are approved by Habitat SA you will be offered a home ownership opportunity.

### **Do I need a deposit?**

Habitat SA require a small deposit to commence the planning process. However, most lenders (HomeStart or other lenders) require the applicant to have a more significant deposit to obtain finance. Habitat will work with you to navigate this process.

### **What is the cost of the home and what are you buying?**

The Habitat Home is a house that is built and sold to owner-occupiers only. The contract price for the home is capped at no more than 75% of the current market value. The "Partner family" may be offered the opportunity to take out an affordable shared equity home loan from HomeStart to finance their house and land package.

### **Where is the Habitat Home located?**

Habitat SA will work with the applicant to source affordable land. Please note this may require the applicant to reconsider their chosen area. At present land is most affordable in areas north of the metropolitan area.

### **What do you need for the application?**

1. A copy of your last two Payslips from your employer (if employed)
2. A copy of your Centrelink Income Statement for the past three months
3. Copies of any documents listing the Liabilities you currently have. A photocopy of each liability document is acceptable, it must include what the debt is for, how much you paid in total, what your payments are, and when it will be paid in full.
4. A copy of your current Home Rental Agreement together with receipts for the last two months, showing the frequency of paying (a bank statement will suffice). If staying with extended Family, give evidence of your payment commitment.
5. A copy of your home loan application assessment from your lending institution, if you have applied for a home loan.

### **How do families apply?**

Complete a detailed application form which requires relevant financial statements. The form can be found at <https://www.habitatsa.org.au/building-shelter> and assists in determining a partner family's eligibility.