

Fact sheet

Sub-letting

The *Residential Tenancies and Rooming Accommodation Act 2008* (the Act) outlines the rules for collection, management and refund of rental bonds in Queensland. The Residential Tenancies Authority (RTA) administers the Act and holds bonds during a tenancy.

If a tenant would like to sub-let a room in a rental property, they must get written permission from the property manager/owner. Approved occupants should also be listed in the special terms of the tenancy agreement.

Rules of sub-letting

When a tenant named on an agreement gives another person the right to rent part, or all, of the property they are called a head-tenant.

As a head-tenant, they have the same responsibilities as a property manager/owner. That includes providing the sub-tenant with:

- a written tenancy agreement
- an *Entry condition report* (Form 1a/b)
- The RTA's *Pocket guide to tenants – houses and units* (Form 17a)
- receipt for bond money paid (see below)

Any agreement between a head-tenant and sub-tenant should be in writing, and it is recommended to include arrangements for sharing bills (e.g. gas, electricity or internet).

Whether occupants are co-tenants or sub-tenants depends on their specific circumstances and what has been agreed with the head-tenant.

If there is uncertainty about whether a person is classified as a tenant or a sub-tenant, call the RTA or make an urgent application to QCAT for a decision.

The property manager/owner is not responsible for resolving disputes between tenants.

Bonds

All bonds must be lodged with the RTA using the *Bond lodgement* (Form 2), even when sub-letting or in boarder or lodger situations, failure to do so is an offence. All bond contributors must be listed on the form along with the amount paid.

Anyone receiving a bond must give a receipt to the person who pays the bond to them. This could be the property manager/owner or head-tenant.

Leaving the property

Before leaving a share home, all tenants should pay their share of any costs for cleaning, damage or unpaid rent.

Further information

For more information contact the Residential Tenancies Authority on 1300 366 311.

Accessing RTA forms

The RTA's forms can be obtained electronically or in person by:

- rta.qld.gov.au
- 1300 366 311
- Level 23, 179 Turbot St Brisbane



If you need interpreting assistance to help you understand this information, contact TIS on 13 14 50 (for the cost of a local call) and ask to speak to the Residential Tenancies Authority (RTA).

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Disclaimer

This fact sheet is prepared for information only. The Residential Tenancies and Rooming Accommodation Act 2008 is the primary source on the law and takes precedence over this information should there be any inconsistency between the Act and this fact sheet.