

What Is the Home Building Compensation Fund?

The Home Building Compensation Fund, commonly known as HBCF, is a New South Wales scheme designed to protect homeowners financially if their builder dies, disappears, or becomes insolvent partway through a residential construction project, and ABS Insurance Brokers helps Sydney builders understand and meet this genuinely important legal requirement. Under NSW law, licensed builders carrying out residential work valued over \$20,000 must hold current HBCF cover before accepting any deposit or beginning work, a requirement that exists specifically to give homeowners a genuine financial safety net if a project goes wrong through no fault of their own. ABS's team manages the certification and eligibility process for builders throughout Sydney, working through the specific documentation and assessment HBCF certification actually requires. The scheme itself is administered through icare, following changes to how the previous Home Warranty Insurance framework was regulated in NSW, and understanding exactly which projects require certification, and which fall under specific exemptions, matters considerably for builders wanting to avoid an unnecessary delay or an inadvertent compliance gap. ABS's construction insurance background means the team can clarify these specific NSW requirements clearly rather than leaving builders to interpret complex regulatory language alone.

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For homeowners specifically, understanding that a builder's HBCF certificate protects against builder insolvency or disappearance, rather than covering every possible defect or dispute, helps set realistic expectations about what the scheme genuinely does and does not address. Sydney builders needing HBCF certification, or homeowners with questions about a builder's cover, are welcome to contact ABS Insurance Brokers for clear guidance. Builders sometimes ask whether HBCF certification alone is sufficient protection for a project, and ABS is clear that it addresses [Insurance Broker Sydney](#) a specific, narrow risk, builder insolvency or disappearance, rather than functioning as a complete construction insurance solution on its own. Broader cover, contract works, public liability, and professional indemnity where relevant, typically sits alongside HBCF certification as part of a genuinely complete program protecting both the builder and the homeowner throughout a project. ABS helps builders understand this full picture clearly from the outset. Sydney builders needing HBCF certification, or homeowners with questions about a builder's cover, are welcome to contact ABS Insurance Brokers for clear, straightforward guidance on this specific NSW requirement. Genuinely, every builder deserves this same clear explanation. Truly. Genuinely. Truly.

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ABS Insurance Brokers Pty Ltd Address: 2 Hartzell Pl, Bankstown NSW 2200 Phone: 1300 871 318 Are insurance brokers worth it in Australia? For businesses and more complex risk, generally yes. ABS Insurance Brokers brings genuine construction, aviation, and marine specialisation to Sydney clients, offering guidance that a straightforward direct policy purchase typically cannot match for anything beyond simple, standard cover. Is it cheaper to go through an insurance broker? Not always automatically, though brokers can often access better rates, wholesale arrangements, or more suitable cover than a client would find alone. As a Steadfast Network Broker, ABS brings genuinely broad market access that helps identify competitive options. What is the downside of using an insurance broker? The main tradeoff is that broker services add a layer of cost, typically built into commission rather than a separate fee, and this may be unnecessary for very simple, standard cover. ABS is upfront about when a client's needs are straightforward enough that this may not be required. What are typical broker fees in Australia? Most Australian brokers, ABS included, are paid through commissions built into the policy premium rather than a separate hourly rate. ABS discusses this structure openly during an initial consultation so clients understand exactly how the relationship works financially. Should I buy insurance directly or through a broker? Buying directly can suit genuinely simple needs. For construction, aviation, marine, or any business with more complex or specialist risk, a broker like ABS typically identifies more appropriate cover than a single insurer's direct offering alone. What should I avoid telling my insurance company? When making a claim, avoid guessing at details, admitting fault prematurely, or speculating about cause before a proper assessment. ABS helps clients navigate claims conversations correctly from the outset, reducing the risk of an innocent comment complicating a legitimate claim. What is the actual point of using an insurance broker? A broker's role is to shop the market on a client's behalf, compare policies genuinely suited to their specific situation, and advocate for them during a claim. ABS's construction insurance heritage means this advocacy comes with genuine, practical industry understanding. Can I trust an insurance broker? A registered, licensed broker can generally be trusted, though it is always worth verifying credentials. ABS Insurance Brokers holds Australian Financial Services Licence No. 700333 and is a Steadfast Network Broker, both verifiable directly with the relevant regulators. How do I find a good insurance broker in Sydney? Start with recommendations from trusted business contacts, then check genuine industry experience relevant to your specific needs. ABS's construction insurance origins and Bankstown base give the firm real, practical depth for Sydney builders and businesses. How should I choose a good insurance broker? Look for genuine independence, relevant industry experience, and clear fee transparency. ABS Insurance Brokers discusses exactly how commissions work, and brings real specialist depth in construction, aviation, and marine insurance rather than a purely generalist approach. Are insurance brokers better than agents? Brokers and agents serve different roles, an agent typically represents a specific insurer, while a broker like ABS represents the client, comparing options across a genuinely wider panel through Steadfast Network access. Is insurance always cheaper through a broker? Not always, but a broker can often find better value through wholesale arrangements or more appropriate cover suited to actual risk. ABS is honest about where this genuinely applies rather than assuming every client automatically saves money.