



## Sharing your bank statements with NILS

(This option is only available if you're registered for internet banking)

### Responsible Lending

The Community Place has a responsibility to make sure that offering you a loan will not put you in greater financial hardship. To do this, we complete a budget that is submitted as part of your loan application. Our job is to make sure that you can not only pay back the loan but also keep up with your other financial commitments. Most banks and other lenders require bank statement information as part of their loan assessment : NILS is the same.

Some of the things your bank statements will show are your income (Centrelink, Wages, Child Support) any other loan repayments and your expenses (rent, utilities, food, education, health, entertainment etc) To make the gathering and assessment of bank statements quicker and easier, the NILS network have introduced a simple way to verify your expenses using Illion Bank Statements ([bankstatements.com.au](http://bankstatements.com.au))

### Who are BankStatements.com.au?

BankStatements.com.au is an independent Australian technology company located in Adelaide. They have been supporting automated bank statement retrieval since 2013. BankStatements.com.au is a subsidiary of Illion (Dun an Bradstreet) who is also a Credit Reporting Body, **however** there are no credit checks involved in NILS loan assessments.

### What does BankStatements.com.au do?

BankStatements.com.au streamlines loan applications. The technology retrieves your 90-day bank statement data, summarises it and sends it directly to your NILS provider, all within a few minutes of you authorising it.

### How does this work?

- After enquiring about a No Interest Loan, we will send you a link to access the [BankStatements.com.au](http://BankStatements.com.au) website
- Follow this link, choose your bank and enter your internet banking details
- The website will give you a list of all accounts that are connected to your internet banking. Select each account and press submit at the bottom of the page.
- We need statements from all accounts in order to assess your application. If you bank with more than one bank, simply repeat the process with each bank you have an account with.
- BankStatements.com.au retrieves your bank statement data and sends it directly to The Community Place NILS volunteers who will discuss the summary with you and attach the information to your loan application.
- The use of BankStatements.com.au is free for loan applicants. Good Shepherd is covering the costs of this technology for all NILS providers Australia wide.

### Who authorises you to get my bank statements?

You do. We can't get your bank statements without your permission. Your authorisation is for a one-time retrieval, meaning if you apply for another loan in the future you will need to repeat the process again (or provide us with your bank statement in another way).

### **What about security?**

We're glad you asked! We understand that some people may have concerns about using this new technology. Security of your information is our highest priority. All data sent via [BankStatements.com.au](https://BankStatements.com.au) is encrypted with 256 bit encryption, secured by 2048 bit keys. This is the same level of encryption that banks use.

Your bank log in details are never stored. They are securely discarded once they have been encrypted and passed to the bank. Your details will never be shared with people outside of the NILS program unless we have your consent.

Your NILS worker cannot access your internet banking at all; we simply receive a "read only" information statement about your recent transactions. The bank statement summary we receive from [BankStatements.com.au](https://BankStatements.com.au) is stored securely while your NILS application is being processed. Once your loan is approved, we'll delete the information about your bank account.

### **Do I have to use [BankStatements.com.au](https://BankStatements.com.au)?**

No. You have the option of providing the last 90 days of statements/transaction listings yourself. This can be provided to The Community Place in a printed form or emailed to [nils@thecommunityplace.com.au](mailto:nils@thecommunityplace.com.au). It is a requirement of the loan application that bank statement information be provided; your application cannot be submitted or assessed if bank statement data is not provided in some form.

### **Accessing your information**

If you'd like a copy of the bank statement summary we receive, you are welcome to request a copy from your NILS worker. But remember, we only keep it while your application is being processed and won't be able to be provided to you after you have commenced paying your loan.

### **The legal stuff**

illion Open Data Solutions Pty Ltd, trading as [BankStatements.com.au](https://BankStatements.com.au) is not a bank, and does not necessarily have an official association or relationship with any bank or banking institution accessible via the [BankStatements.com.au](https://BankStatements.com.au) website.

All [BankStatements.com.au](https://BankStatements.com.au) staff and servers are based in Australia. The Community Place is part of a network of NILs providers around Australia. The NILs program was set up by the Good Shepherd Sisters in 1981 and Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand continues to manage policies and training for NILs programs and administer funding for the network of over 170 community organisations.

