



Department of
Education

2019

SECONDARY ASSISTANCE SCHEME & ABSTUDY SUPPLEMENT ALLOWANCE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

GENERAL INFORMATION

Secondary Assistance Scheme

The Western Australian Department of Education provides an allowance to assist eligible families with secondary schooling costs.

To be eligible for the allowance the parent/guardian must hold a Centrelink or Veterans' Affairs card that represents a statement of income for the family.

The allowance consists of two components:

- \$115 Clothing Allowance paid directly to the parent/guardian.
- \$235 Educational Program Allowance paid directly to the school.

Application is made by the parent or guardian for student/s enrolled in Years 7 – 12 at a secondary school.

ABSTUDY Supplement Allowance

The Western Australian Department of Education provides an allowance to assist eligible families with secondary schooling costs. The ABSTUDY Supplement Allowance is available to valid Centrelink card holders, this funding supplements the Centrelink ABSTUDY Fees Allowance payment.

Applicants apply through Centrelink for the ABSTUDY Fees Allowance. A payment of \$79 is then made to the school directly by Centrelink.

The Eligibility Criteria is as below.

Please note: that the Secondary Assistance Scheme cannot be claimed as well as this allowance.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Parent or Guardian must hold one of the following cards:

- Centrelink Family Health Care Card
- Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card
- Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession Card

PLEASE NOTE: The only Veterans' Affairs Card that meets the criteria is a blue card that is issued each year and expires in December each year. This card is income means tested.

- Parent/guardian must be the holder of a card that is valid some time during first term. The only exception to this is when a student holds their own health care card and has been declared independent by Centrelink (e.g. living away from home). In this instance, a letter of confirmation from Centrelink needs to accompany the application.
- The allowance is paid up to and including the year the student turns 18 years of age.

APPLICATION FORMS

Application forms are to be completed at the school during Term 1.

Applications close on 12th April 2019.

LATE APPLICATIONS

Late applications will only be accepted in extenuating circumstances and must be accompanied with a written explanation.

Eligible interstate or overseas students who are enrolled after first term may apply for the allowance. Date of enrolment must be noted on the application

CONTRIBUTIONS AND CHARGES

Schools will receive the Educational Program Allowance of \$235 for Secondary Assistance recipients. For students in Years 7 to 10 the Allowance will be paid directly to the school and in the first instance, will be applied towards the voluntary contribution. Any balance will be applied against charges or as negotiated with the parent/guardian. For students in Years 11 to 12 the Allowance will be applied to cover charges, in the first instance.

CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

The clothing allowance of \$115 will be paid to the parent/guardian unless indicated on the application form that you wish it to be paid to the school. If payment to the parent/guardian is requested, the payment will be deposited into the parent/guardians bank account. It can take between 8 – 12 weeks to receive this payment.

PROCESSING OF PAYMENTS

Once the form is completed by the parent/guardian, the school will forward it to the Schools Resourcing and Budgeting Directorate for processing.

If you change any of your details supplied on the application from please notify us as soon as possible on 9264 4516

FURTHER INFORMATION

Schools Resourcing and Budgeting Directorate
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EAST PERTH WA 6004

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