



Queensland

ISOLATED CHILDREN'S PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

ARE YOU AWARE OF THE EDUCATIONAL ALLOWANCES AVAILABLE?

Both state and federal governments provide allowances to assist with the cost of educating children in regional, rural and remote Queensland.

QUEENSLAND STATE ALLOWANCES

Living Away from Home Allowance (LAFHA)

Preferably claimed on line from **1st December the year preceding year of claim and no later than 31st December of the current year**. Eligibility criteria is similar to AIC.

<https://www.qld.gov.au/education/schools/financial/ruralremote/lafhas>

- **Remote Area Tuition Allowance (RTuA)** - to help with payment of tuition fees (paid direct to approved, non-state, primary or secondary school at which the students boards).
- **Remote Area Travel Allowance (RTrA)** - to help with travel expenses for distances more than 50km. (Paid direct to parents.)
- **Remote Area Allowance (RAA)** - for students attending one of the campuses of the Australian Agricultural College equivalent to and in lieu of Years 11 and 12 (PACE Programs). (Paid direct to parents.)
- **Remote Area Disability Supplement (RADS)** – (Paid direct to parents.)
- **Special Circumstances** – You may also be eligible for the following reasons: Impassable Roads, Itinerant Occupations, Medical Conditions, Schools Approved for Bypassing.
- **Gifted and Talented** - Queensland Academies Isolated Students (QAIS) Bursary

<https://qa.eq.edu.au/apply/homestay/>

Contact Information - Phone 1800 248 997 School Financial Services, Department of Education and Training, Post PO Box 15033, City East, Qld, 4002

Online Application form:

<https://lafhas.eq.edu.au/LAFH/Security/Auth/login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%252flafh%252fDefault.aspx>

Textbook and Resource Allowance

Available for all secondary students. Parents do not apply - the allowance is claimed by the school on behalf of parents.

Conveyance Allowance

Queensland Transport – **must be claimed by the 31st December of the current year**.

For students who reside more than 4.8km (Secondary) or 3.2km (Primary) from the nearest State school with the required year level.

Conveyance Allowance: Queensland Transport **132380** and ask for the School Transport number for your area.

Conveyance Allowance payment information - <http://tinyurl.com/ConveyanceAllowancePayments>

Drought Assistance Arrangements Information - <http://tinyurl.com/DroughtAssistanceArrangements>

Isolation Package Information - <http://tinyurl.com/IsolationPackage>

School Transport Assistance Scheme - <http://tinyurl.com/SchoolTransportAssistance>

Links to Application Forms - <http://tinyurl.com/LinksToApplicationForms>



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Bypass Schools

If you live near certain secondary schools, you may still be eligible for allowances to send your child away to boarding school, year levels vary for eligibility. A bypass school is a rural or remote Queensland state school that may not deliver the programs a senior student needs to complete their chosen areas of study.

List of Bypass schools: <https://tinyurl.com/QldBypassableSchools2018a>

School of Distance Ed ICT Subsidy Scheme

State Schools of Distance Education will administer funds to eligible students currently enrolled at a State School of Distance Education for a minimum of six months continuous enrolment. Hardware subsidies are available to support students who are identified as belonging to geographically isolated or medical categories. Internet Subsidies are available to support students who are identified as belonging to the geographically isolated category.

<https://tinyurl.com/ict-subsidy-scheme>

FEDERAL ALLOWANCES

Assistance for Isolated Children (AIC)

If your student attends a primary or secondary school, School of Distance Education, boarding school, special education facility or rural training college, and

A. You live at least 16km (by shortest practicable route) from the nearest state school with the required year level and at least 4.5 km from the nearest transport.

B. If you live less than 4.5km from transport, a student may still qualify if the family home is: -

i. At least 56km from the school via the transport service; or

ii. At least 3 hours traveling time per day to and from the school via the transport service.

- **Boarding Allowance** - income test free. [For families with low income, a means-tested Additional Allowance is available] Students aged 17, participating in an approved tertiary course at an Agricultural, TAFE or similar College are also eligible.

- **Second Home Allowance** - for a second home maintained by the family so the student can go to school daily

- **Distance Education Allowance** - for prep, primary and secondary level.

Must be claimed by the 31st December of the current year.

<http://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/services/centrelink/assistance-for-isolated-children>

Contact Information - Phone **132318** All applications to: PO box 1122 Lismore NSW 2480

Online Application form: <https://www.humanservices.gov.au/sites/default/files/2017/10/sy040-1710en.pdf>

Youth Allowance

Includes **Rent Assistance** and **Remote Area Allowance** for those eligible.

Can be claimed on line at www.centrelink.gov.au Austudy is still available for students over 25.

Dependent Youth Allowance also has **Fares Allowance** included to allow for reimbursement two return trips per year. **Contact Information** - Phone **132490**

Online Application form - <http://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/services/centrelink/youth-allowance>

Abstudy

Educational assistance for A.T.S.I. students. Can be claimed on line at www.centrelink.gov.au

Contact Information - **132317** <http://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/services/centrelink/abstudy>

Indigenous Call Centre: 136380 <http://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/themes/indigenous-australians>

Compiled by **ICPA Qld Council** November 2018

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