Department of **Education**

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

2021

ABSTUDY SUPPLEMENT ALLOWANCE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Applications close 1 April 2021

GENERAL INFORMATION

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 Services Australia (Centrelink) card holders, this funding supplements the Centrelink ABSTUDY Fees Allowance payment.

Parents/guardians must apply for the Secondary Assistance Scheme (SAS) each school year (annually) – applications do not carry forward to future years.

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

Furthermore, the school or parent must have received the School Fee Allowance of $78 or $156 from the Centrelink as part of the student's ABSTUDY School Fees Allowance.

The Department of Education ABSTUDY Supplement Allowance consists of $79 Education Program Allowance paid directly to the school.

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

Application is made by the parent or guardian for student(s) enrolled in Years 7–12, studying a full time secondary course at a Western Australian public school.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Parent or Guardian must hold one of the following cards:

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

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

The parent/guardian must be the holder of a card that is valid some time during first term. Students must be listed on claimant's card (except for some year 11 and 12 students, or in cases of disability/health reasons). In this instance, the school must sight both concession cards. The only exception to this is when a student holds a health care card in their name and is declared independent by the Centrelink (e.g. living away from home). In this instance, a letter of confirmation from Centrelink needs to accompany the application. The concession card must not be expired when applying for SAS.

The allowance is paid up to and including the year the student turns 18 years of age. i.e. students born in 2002 or before are ineligible in 2021.

APPLICATION FORMS

Application forms should not be altered and are to be completed at the school during Term 1 only. If the form is completed prior to the commencement of Term 1 the school must complete the enrolment confirmation section to confirm attendance. (Forms dated by the school prior to Term 1, 2021 will not be accepted). Please ensure you keep a photocopy of the signed form for school records.

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 ABSTUDY Supplement Allowance of $79 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.

PROCESSING OF PAYMENTS

Once the application form is completed by the parent/guardian, the school will forward either the electronic file (via email) to the Financial Planning and Resourcing Directorate for processing whilst retaining the **original application form at the school** or if completing applications manually, forward the **original application forms** retaining a photocopy for the school records.

POST TO

Financial Planning and Resourcing Directorate
Department of Education
151 Royal Street
EAST PERTH WA 6004

FURTHER INFORMATION

Telephone: (08) 9264 4516
E-mail: student.allowances@education.wa.edu.au

Department of **Education**

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

2021 ABSTUDY SUPPLEMENT ALLOWANCE YEARS 7 – 12

ASA

$79 Education Program Allowance Paid to school

APPLICATIONS CLOSE THURSDAY 1 APRIL 2021

- Valid to claim with Parent/Guardian card only. Student cannot claim with own card if living with parents(s).
- To be eligible, parent/school must have received $78 or $156 ABSTUDY from Centrelink.
- Not eligible if student born in 2002 or before.
- If living as an independent student, letter of proof from Centrelink must be provided.
- Please retain a copy of the application form at the school.
- The Education Program Allowance (EPA) of $79 for students in Years 7 to 10 will be paid to the school and 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 EPA will be applied to cover charges in the first instance.

SCHOOL NAME *(Please use school stamp)*	**SCHOOL CODE**
JOHN FORREST SECONDARY COLLEGE 180 Drake Street MORLEY WA 6062 Ph: 9473 4000	4026

PARENT/GUARDIAN DETAILS

SURNAME/FAMILY NAME	FIRST NAME	
STREET ADDRESS (EG 15 Jones Road)	SUBURB	POSTCODE
CONTACT PHONE No.	E-MAIL	

PARENT/GUARDIAN SERVICES AUSTRALIA (CENTRELINK) CONCESSION CARD DETAILS

☐ **Centrelink Health Care Card (Family Card only NOT Student card)**	☐ **Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card**	☐ **Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Card (Blue card only – expires Dec 2021)**

CARD No. (CRN OF PARENT/GUARDIAN): *(as per Centrelink Card)* ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐-☐

START DATE ON CARD:	☐☐-☐☐-☐☐☐☐	**CARD EXPIRY Date:**	☐☐-☐☐-☐☐☐☐

STUDENT DETAILS ☐ **INDEPENDENT STUDENT** ***(Attach letter from Centrelink)***

SURNAME/FAMILY NAME	FIRST NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	YEAR LEVEL

PARENT/GUARDIAN DECLARATION

- I have **not** claimed nor do I intend to claim 2021 Secondary Assistance Scheme payment for any of these children.
- I have **not** claimed this allowance for any of these children at another school in Western Australia in 2021.
- I authorise Centrelink to verify my current benefit status and other pertinent details to gain this entitlement.

I DECLARE THE ABOVE TO BE TRUE AND CORRECT AND AM AWARE THAT IT IS AN OFFENCE TO PROVIDE FALSE OR MISLEADING INFORMATION

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

WITNESS DECLARATION *(Concession card and application must be sighted and witnessed at attending school by a Department Officer)*

I have sighted the claimant's card and confirm the details provided are correct.

PRINT NAME OF WITNESS	WITNESS SIGNATURE	POSITION HELD	DATE

If the form is completed and dated prior to the start of Term 1 complete the commencement confirmation below (tick box and current date).

☐ I confirm that the above student(s) has/have commenced at this school in Term 1, 2021 DATE:_____