

Allowances for remote and isolated families

2026

Allowance	Who can apply?	How much?
Federal Allowances: Services Australia Assistance for Isolated Children <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boarding Allowance 	Parents of geographically isolated school aged students who need to board away from home to attend school. Applies to boarding schools, hostels	\$13,582 per year, made up of 2 components: \$10,555 – Basic Boarding Allowance \$3,027 - Additional Boarding Allowance (*ABA is subject to Parental Means Test, and actual boarding costs – ie. boarding charges must be greater than \$9,146 in 2023)
Assistance for Isolated Children <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distance Education Allowance 	Geographically isolated and undertaking schooling via Distance Education	\$5,278 per year.
Assistance for Isolated Children <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Second Home Allowance 	Geographically isolated and run a second home to access education.	\$307.46 per fortnight, per child
Youth Allowance	Young people from 16-24 years, studying, training or looking for work. Dependant children up to 22 years are subject to Parental Means Test. Rural and regional students can claim the independent rate by earning 75% of Wage Level A in a 14 month period.	Varies by situation. Please call the dedicated hotline: 13 24 90 or see the Centrelink website.
State Allowances: DECD Transport Services Department (08) 8226 2406 Travel Allowance	School students living five kilometers or more from the nearest public school or school bus run.	Paid per km. Apply through school principal.
State Education Allowance (SEA) Remote Travel Allowance	Families in receipt of AIC Basic Boarding Allowance and recipients of AIC Second Home Allowance.	\$5269.37 per year. www.sa.gov.au/topics/education-and-learning/financial-help-scholarships-and-grants/travel-concession-and-allowances \$516 per year

Further information regarding the Assistance for Isolated Children (AIC)
 Apply through Services Australia (www.servicesaustralia.gov.au)
 Dedicated Assistance for Isolated Children (AIC) Call Centre: 13 23 18

* To qualify for AIC, students must live at least 56km from nearest/appropriate Govt school OR 4.5km from transport and 16km from nearest Govt School OR are adversely affected by road conditions preventing travel to school for more than 20 days in the school year (journey exceeds 3 hrs) OR meet special needs criteria.

* The AIC Additional Boarding Allowance threshold is \$58,108 or less for 2023. It is reduced by 20c for every dollar over \$58,108 and also dependent on the number of children in your family pool.