



BOARDING SCHOOLS, SCHOOL TERM HOSTELS **AND SECOND HOME**

It is recommended that this Policy be read in conjunction with the Education Allowances Policy, other individual Portfolio Policies and associated ICPA Aust documents

POLICY

ICPA seeks to have boarding schools, school term hostels and second home arrangements as recognised forms of access to education for students from rural and remote areas who must live away from home for appropriate primary and/or secondary education.

OBJECTIVES

1. Boarding facilities are of an adequate standard and provide, at reasonable cost, suitable supervision and pastoral care.
2. Resources are available for families to make informed and considered choices regarding boarding schools for their children.
3. Pastoral care courses, including units regarding student mental health are available for boarding facility staff.
4. Mental health programs are available in boarding schools that support the unique needs of boarding students including COVID-19.
5. Provision is made in boarding facilities for children with disabilities.
6. A nationally accredited professional development program is available to train residential staff in the knowledge and skills required to work in boarding facilities.
7. Recurrent funding is available to government and non-government school term hostels.
8. Capital funding is available to government and non-government school term hostels.
9. Support mechanisms are in place which assist in reduction of costs associated with educating rural and remote students living away from home to access schooling.
10. Commonwealth school funding models support geographically isolated students regardless of where they are educated.
11. Unified approach by all governments to support students who must live away from home to access their education regardless of the state they live in.
12. Federal Government Departments continue to review and amend legislation and endorse operational edits to ensure that rural and remote families can access financial assistance through AIC.



Isolated Children's Parents' Association of Australia (Inc) FEDERAL COUNCIL

13. The Australian Government continually looks at ways to provide Tax concessions to ease financial pressure on families from geographically isolated areas with children enrolled in primary, secondary school. And tax concessions for boarding facilities where geographically isolated children attend.