



## ALLOWANCES

**AIM: ICPA seeks to achieve equality of access to education and educational opportunities between 'geographically isolated and 'non geographically isolated' students by way of government funded allowances to subsidise the costs incurred in gaining access to educational facilities.**

Children who are geographically isolated from a school gain access to schooling through..

- Distance Education (correspondence, school of the air, etc)
- travel over comparatively long distances and/or non 'all weather' roads,
- boarding facilities at schools, hostels, private board and second home.

ICPA believes that allowances should be made to subsidise the 'access costs' relative to each of the afore mentioned methods at primary, secondary and post-secondary levels.

The costs associated with transporting isolated students between their homes and schools are great. There is a need for a variety of travel allowances suited to the particular need of the student to help defray the cost of travelling to and from school or place of board.

### **OBJECTIVES:**

1. The assessment of daily or weekly conveyance allowances for students being transported privately at regular intervals be based on annual kilometres travelled; and payment be on a per family basis.
2. The provision of either financial assistance or free return passage on appropriate forms of transport (bus, train or plane) between the student's home and his or her place of board (school, hostel, or private) at the beginning and end of each term.
3. The provision, for NT primary and secondary students, of either financial assistance or free return passage on appropriate forms of transport (bus, train or plane) between the student's home and his or her place of board in the middle of each school term.
4. The provision of either financial assistance or free return passage on appropriate forms of transport (bus, train or plane) between the student's home to the nearest point of departure from the Northern Territory for students attending interstate schools.
5. The provision of a Functions Allowance for primary and secondary correspondence students to enable attendance at specified school functions.

6. The provision of assistance towards costs associated with the delivery of materials required for correspondence schooling.
7. The provision of assistance towards costs associated with the establishment and maintenance of a correspondence classroom in remote locations.
8. Strategies to be developed to alleviate transport problems in regions affected by climatic conditions, or where transport is difficult because of rough terrain, impassable roads, or lack of regular public transport services, i.e. the use of light aircraft.
9. There should be reciprocal student travel allowances between adjoining States.
10. The provision of a basic, non means tested allowance to assist with boarding costs, whether the student is boarding at a school, in a hostel, in a private home, or in a second home.
11. The provision of an allowance to increase access to well supervised educational opportunities within the Northern Territory for all isolated primary & secondary school aged students.
12. Allowances should be linked to the Consumer Price Index.