Information for customers

# ABSTUDY Reference Guide

This guide outlines the ABSTUDY payments a student or apprentice may get based on their situation.  
For more information, go to [**servicesaustralia.gov.au/abstudy**](http://servicesaustralia.gov.au/abstudy) or call the ABSTUDY line on **1800 132 317**.

**The student or apprentice is a full-time primary school student aged 14 or 15 and living at home.**

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with living costs?

* Not available.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with accommodation costs?

* If they’re studying by distance education or correspondence, help with short-term accommodation and meals to attend a residential school.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with education costs?

* Money for books, school clothes and other school costs.
* Money for school fees.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with travel costs?

* If they’re studying by distance education or correspondence, help with accommodation and meals to attend a residential school

**The student or apprentice is a full-time high school student aged 15 or younger and living at home.**

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with living costs?

* Not available

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with accommodation costs?

* If they’re studying by distance education or correspondence, help with short-term accommodation and meals to attend a residential school

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with education costs?

* Money for books, school clothes and other school costs.
* Money for school fees.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with travel costs?

* If they’re studying by distance education or correspondence, help with accommodation and meals to attend a residential school.

**The student or apprentice is a full-time high school student aged 16 or older and living at home.**

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with living costs?

* A fortnightly payment at the at-home rate.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with accommodation costs?

* If they’re studying by distance education or correspondence, help with short-term accommodation and meals to attend a residential school.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with education costs?

* Money for books, fees and other study costs if aged 18 or older on 1 January.
* Not available if they’re younger than 18 years on 1 January.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with travel costs?

* If they’re studying by distance education or correspondence, fares to attend a residential school.

**The student or apprentice is a full-time high school student who needs to study away from home.**

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with living costs?

* In some circumstances.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with accommodation costs?

* Boarding fees paid to a boarding school, hostel or a private board provider.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with education costs?

* Tuition fees.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with travel costs?

* Fares to the place they’re studying and back home each term.
* Fares for other special reasons between school and home.

**The student or apprentice is a full-time high school student who is considered independent.**

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with living costs?

* A fortnightly payment at the independent rate.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with accommodation costs?

* Help with rent.
* If they’re studying by distance education or correspondence, help with short-term accommodation and meals to attend a residential school.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with education costs?

* Money for books, fees and other study costs if they’re aged 18 or older on 1 January.
* Not available if they’re younger than 18 on 1 January.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with travel costs?

* Fares to the place they’re studying and back home each term if they need to study away from home fares.
* Fares for other special reasons between school and home.

**The student or apprentice is a full-time secondary student studying at TAFE or another institution.**

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with living costs?

* A fortnightly payment.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with accommodation costs?

* If they’re living away from home, help with rent.
* If they need to live away from home, help with the cost of establishing and maintaining accommodation.
* If they’re studying by distance education or correspondence, help with short-term accommodation and meals to attend a residential school.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with education costs?

* Money for books, fees and other study costs if they’re aged 18 or older on 1 January.
* Not available if they’re younger than 18 on 1 January.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with travel costs?

* If they need to study away from home, fares to the place they’re studying and back home each semester.
* If they’re studying by distance education or correspondence, fares to attend a residential school.
* Fares for other specific purposes.

**The student or apprentice is a part-time high school student aged 18 or older on 1 January**

Note: high school students who are younger than 18 on 1 January must be studying full time to get ABSTUDY

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with living costs?

* Not available.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with accommodation costs?

* If they’re studying by distance education or correspondence, help with short-term accommodation and meals to attend a residential school.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with education costs?

* Money for books, fees and other study costs.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with travel costs?

* If they’re studying by distance education or correspondence, fares to attend a residential school.

**The student or apprentice is a full-time student studying a tertiary (post-secondary) course at university, TAFE or another institution.**

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with living costs?

* A fortnightly payment.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with accommodation costs?

* If they need to live away from home, residential costs paid to a residential college or hostel, or help with rent and the cost of establishing and maintaining accommodation.
* If they’re studying by distance education or correspondence, help with short-term accommodation and meals to attend a residential school.
* Help with accommodation and meals to attend a field trip or work placement.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with education costs?

* Money for books, fees and other study costs.
* Sometimes extra money for study costs if they’re studying in a course with high essential course costs.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with travel costs?

* If they need to study away from home, fares to the place they’re studying and back home.
* Fares to attend a residential school, field trip or work placement part of their course.
* Fares for other specific purposes if they’re living away from home.

**The student or apprentice is a part-time student studying a tertiary (post-secondary) course at university, TAFE or another institution.**

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with living costs?

* Not available.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with accommodation costs?

* If they’re studying by distance education or correspondence, help with short-term accommodation and meals to attend a residential school.
* Help with accommodation and meals to attend a field trip or work placement.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with education costs?

* Money for books, fees and other study costs.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with travel costs?

* If they’re studying by distance education or correspondence, fares to attend a residential school.

**The student or apprentice is a student who is a pensioner.**

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with living costs?

* A fortnightly Pensioner Education Supplement if they’re studying at least 25% of a normal full-time workload.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with accommodation costs?

* Residential costs paid to a residential college or hostel.
* If they’re studying by distance education or correspondence, help with short-term accommodation and meals to attend a residential school.
* If they’re in a tertiary course, help with accommodation and meals to attend a field trip or work placement.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with education costs?

* Money for books, fees and other study costs.
* Sometimes extra money for study costs if they’re studying in a course with high essential course costs.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with travel costs?

* If they need to study away from home, fares to the place they’re studying and back home each semester.
* If they’re studying by distance education or correspondence, fares to attend a residential school
* Fares to attend a field trip or work placement part of their course.
* Fares for other specific purposes if they’re living away from home.

**The student or apprentice is a full-time master’s degree or doctorate student.**

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with living costs?

* A fortnightly payment.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with accommodation costs?

* If they need to live away from home, residential costs paid to a residential college or hostel.
* Help with accommodation and meals to undertake an essential course activity.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with education costs?

* Money for books, fees and other study costs.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with travel costs?

* Fares to the place they’re studying and back home each semester if they need to study away from home; or fares for them, their partner and children, and transfer of their personal belongings to relocate to their new place of study.
* Fares to attend a residential school, field trip or work placement that is part of their course.
* Fares for other specific purposes if they’re living away from home.

**The student or apprentice is a full-time Australian Apprentice.**

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with living costs?

* A fortnightly payment.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with accommodation costs?

* Help with rent if they’re living away from home.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with education costs?

* Money for books, fees and other study costs

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with travel costs?

* Mot available

**The student or apprentice is a person accepted for a selection test or interview for entry into a tertiary (post-secondary) course.**

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with living costs?

* Not available.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with accommodation costs?

* Help with accommodation and meal costs while they’re away for the selection test or interview.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with education costs?

* Not available.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with travel costs?

* Fares to selection test or interview.

**The student or apprentice is a high school student in prison or on remand.**

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with living costs?

* Not available.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with accommodation costs?

* Help with accommodation and meal costs if released to attend a residential school.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with education costs?

* Essential course costs paid to the institution, a bookshop or other supplier.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with travel costs?

* Fares if they’re released to attend a residential school.

**The student or apprentice is a tertiary (post-secondary) student in prison or on remand**

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with living costs?

* Not available.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with accommodation costs?

* Help with accommodation and meal costs if released to attend a residential school.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with education costs?

* Essential course costs paid to the institution, a bookshop or other supplier.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with travel costs?

* Fares if they’re released to attend a residential school.

**The student or apprentice is a full-time Australian Apprentice in prison or on remand.**

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with living costs?

* Not available.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with accommodation costs?

* Not available.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with education costs?

* Essential course costs paid to the institution, a bookshop or other supplier.

Can the student or apprentice get money to help with travel costs?

* Not available.

This information is accurate as at April 2024. Calls to ‘1800’ numbers from your home phone are free. Calls from public and mobile phones may be timed and charged at a higher rate.

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