# Prepare for higher education with ABSTUDY

Support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians after high school.

ABSTUDY can help support you after high school. This can be whether you’re starting an apprenticeship or further study at a TAFE, university or other higher education provider.

## Learn how ABSTUDY can help

The type of payments you can get and how much depends on your situation. There are payments if you’re studying full-time or part-time, face-to-face or by distance.

### If you study full time or do an apprenticeship

The main payment you can get is ABSTUDY Living Allowance. It’s a fortnightly payment to help with living costs.

There are also other payments that could help you pay for:

* a place to live
* costs of moving from or to a regional or remote area to study
* books or study materials
* other costs to help you stay in study if you’re in severe financial distress and think you need to drop out.

### If you study part time

The main payment you can get is ABSTUDY Incidentals Allowance. It’s a one-off payment for each course or year of a course you do. It can help you buy books or study materials.

Depending on your situation, you may be eligible for other payments from Services Australia. For example, Youth Allowance for job seekers. This is a fortnightly payment to help with living costs while you look for work.

### If you need to travel for study

ABSTUDY can help with organising and paying for travel to:

* a test, interview or audition before you enrol
* visit your place of study for orientation activities before your course starts
* start your course and return home at the end of the year, and one trip during your course
* your home during your course for an important event, like Sorry Business
* a residential part of your course or placement in another town.

Call us and let us know when you’re travelling and why.

If you organise and pay for travel yourself, we can pay back the costs.

To find out more about how ABSTUDY can help you with travel you can:

* call the ABSTUDY line on 1800 132 317
* watch our interactive video at [servicesaustralia.gov.au/abstudyfaresallowance](http://servicesaustralia.gov.au/abstudyfaresallowance)

## Claim ABSTUDY

Follow these steps to claim ABSTUDY. You can do this up to 13 weeks before your new course or training starts.

### Steps to claim for the first time

1. Get a Tax File Number.
2. Go to [my.gov.au](http://my.gov.au) to create or login to your account.
3. Prove your identity and link myGov to Centrelink.
4. Claim ABSTUDY Living Allowance or ABSTUDY Incidentals Allowance using your Centrelink online account through myGov.
5. Fill out the online claim form with information about what course you’ll study, where you’ll study, your address, your parents’ details and your bank account.
6. Upload supporting documents using myGov if we ask you to do this.
7. Check if you can get other payments. If you can, claim them using myGov.

### Steps to claim if you get ABSTUDY as a high school student

If you already get ABSTUDY, you don’t need to claim again.

Call the ABSTUDY line on 1800 132 317 before you finish high school. You’ll need to tell ABSTUDY:

* the name of the course you’ll do after high school, and the name of the higher education or apprenticeship provider where you’ll study or train.
* your bank account.
* the address where you’ll live while you study.

ABSTUDY — Help for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians with the costs of study.

## For more information

* [servicesaustralia.gov.au/abstudy](http://servicesaustralia.gov.au/abstudy)
* ABSTUDY line 1800 132 317

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