

# How to get ABSTUDY

When a high school student needs to live away from home.

To get ABSTUDY, your child needs to be an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Australian.

If they're 15 or younger, you'll need to claim ABSTUDY for them.

If they're 16 or older, your child will need to claim, with your assistance.

## Steps to claiming

- 1 Call ABSTUDY on **1800 132 317**.
- 2 Give ABSTUDY information about you and your child over the phone.
- 3 Tell ABSTUDY which school your child plans to go to. You can also tell us if it's ok to talk to the school about your child's ABSTUDY. This can make things easier for you.
- 4 Have your bank account details handy.
- 5 Send or upload documents if ABSTUDY asks you to.
- 6 Wait for a letter from ABSTUDY. It will tell you if your claim is approved.

## How much you'll get

Some ABSTUDY payments don't have an income or assets test. For these payments, it doesn't matter how much you earn.

Other payments have an income and assets test. If you earn more than a set amount, your child will get less ABSTUDY payments. ABSTUDY will tell you how much you'll get after assessing your claim. Usually, payments for boarding and school fees will go straight to the school or hostel.

When you claim a payment with an income test, ABSTUDY will ask how much you and your partner earn. Your last tax Notice of Assessment has these details. This is a document from the Australian Taxation Office.

## When you should claim

Claim before you take your child to a high school orientation or open day.

OR

Claim in October in the year before your child starts at a boarding school.


Claim before you want to travel. This is so ABSTUDY can pay for your travel, a place to stay and meals.

**ABSTUDY**

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

## For more information

 [servicesaustralia.gov.au/abstudy](https://servicesaustralia.gov.au/abstudy)

 ABSTUDY line **1800 132 317**