



Department of
Education



SECONDARY ASSISTANCE SCHEME PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Applications open 1 February to 1 April 2021

The Western Australian Department of Education provides an allowance to assist eligible families with secondary schooling costs.

Parents/guardians must apply for the Secondary Assistance Scheme each school year (annually) – applications do not carry forward to future years.

To be eligible for the allowance the parent/guardian must hold a Department of Human Services (Centrelink) or Veterans' Affairs card that represents a statement of income for the family.

The allowance consists of two components:

- \$115 Clothing Allowance paid directly to the parent/guardian or the school.
 - \$235 Educational Program Allowance paid directly to the school.
- Application is made by the parent or guardian for student/s enrolled in Years 7–12 studying a full time secondary course at a Western Australian public school.

ABSTUDY ALLOWANCE

If the Parent/Guardian receive the Abstudy Allowance, they can apply for a further allowance of \$79.00 to be paid to the school to go to Voluntary Contributions (Yr 7 – 10) or Charges (Yr 11 & 12) Application can be completed **at the school during Term 1 only**.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Parent or Guardian must hold one of the following cards:

- Department of Human Services (Centrelink) Health Care Card
- Department of Human Services (Centrelink) Pensioner Concession Card
- Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession Card *Please Note: The only Veterans' Affairs Card that meets the criteria is a blue card that is issued annually and expires in December each year.*

APPLICATION

Application can be completed **at the school during Term 1 only**.

Please visit Reception with your current eligible card

CONTRIBUTIONS AND CHARGES Schools will receive the Educational Program Allowance of \$235 for Secondary Assistance recipients. For students in Years 7 to 10 the Allowance will be paid directly to the school and in the first instance, will be applied towards the **voluntary contribution**. Any balance will be applied against charges or as negotiated with the parent/guardian. Clothing Allowance paid to the school will be applied against Charges or as negotiated (eg. Other Optional costs). For students in Years 11 to 12 the Allowance will be applied to cover charges.

CLOTHING ALLOWANCE The clothing allowance of \$115 will be paid to the parent/guardian unless indicated on the application form that you wish it to be paid to the school. If payment to the parent/guardian is requested, the payment will be deposited into the parent/guardian bank account. It can take between 8 to 12 weeks to receive this payment.

