

2024 SECONDARY ASSISTANCE SCHEME

The Western Australian Department of Education provides an allowance to assist eligible families with secondary schooling costs. Application is made by the Parent or Caregiver for student/s enrolled in Years 7-12 at a secondary school. To be eligible for the allowance, the claimant must hold one of the following cards and be current during first term 2024.

- Centrelink Health Care Card
- Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card
- Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession – Blue card ONLY
 - Note – The only Veterans Affairs Card that meets the criteria is a blue card issued annually and expires in December each year.

The parent/guardian must be the holder of a card that is valid sometime during first term and be valid for at least 4 weeks. Students must be listed on claimant's card, except for some Year 11 and 12 students. In this instance, the school must sight both the parents and students concession cards.

- Claims **must not** be made by a parent using a student's card.



The Allowance consists of two components:

- **\$235 Education Program Allowance** paid directly to the school.
- **\$115 Clothing Allowance** can be paid directly to either the school or the Parent/Caregiver. If the payment is to the Parent/Caregiver, bank account details must be provided to enable the payment to be deposited into the Parent/Caregiver's bank account.

Applications close **Thursday 28 March 2024**

PLEASE NOTE: YOU MUST RE-APPLY FOR THE ASSISTANCE EACH YEAR.

NOT ELIGIBLE TO CLAIM

- Parent/Caregiver not holding an appropriate card.
- Parent/Caregiver in receipt of the Commonwealth Aboriginal Secondary Grants Scheme (Abstudy). Abstudy Payments are made for schooling expenses for the same purposes as the Secondary Assistance Scheme. Therefore, they cannot apply for both.
- Students who have previously received the allowance when enrolled at another school in the same year.
- Students cannot claim on their own concession card unless they have been declared as independent by Centrelink. Proof of independent status needs to be provided.
- Foster Parents cannot apply as the child is a Ward of the State. Department of Communities Child Protection are responsible for all associated costs.