



## SECONDARY ASSISTANCE SCHEME - PRIVATE SCHOOLS - 2017 ELIGIBILITY AND PROCEDURES

### ELIGIBILITY

#### CLAIMANT

- ◆ The Claimant must hold one of the following cards, valid for a period of no less than four weeks
  - Department of Human Services (Centrelink) Health Care Card
    - *Card holder must be parent/guardian. Claims cannot be made by a parent using a student's card (i.e. the student may hold a card for disability purposes)*
  - Department of Human Services (Centrelink) Pensioner Concession Card
    - *Student name should be listed on the card (except for some year 11 and 12 students, see note below)*
  - Department of Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession Card
    - *Health Pensioner Card, TPI / TPI Gold Cards or State Cards cannot be accepted as they are issued for medical benefit purposes only*

#### CARD DETAILS

- ◆ The card must be current some time during first term (1 February 2017 – 7 April 2017).
- ◆ For overseas or interstate applicants applying throughout the year, the card must be current at the time of application. Application for the Secondary Assistance Scheme must be made within one month of enrolling at the school.

#### STUDENTS

- ◆ Must be enrolled in Years 7 to 12 studying a full-time secondary course. Allowance is paid up to and including the year the student turns 18 years of age (i.e. not eligible if born in 1998 or before).
- ◆ Students can only claim for themselves if they are classified by the Department of Human Services (Centrelink) as an Independent Youth. Appropriate evidence must be supplied by the Department of Human Services (Centrelink) to validate the claim.

#### NOTE FOR YEAR 11 AND 12 STUDENTS

- ▶ **Students in Years 11 and 12 will possibly not be listed on the parent/guardian concession card, however if the parent/guardian holds a valid concession they will still be eligible.**
- ▶ **Please ensure to sight both parent and student cards for validity, when accepting the completed Secondary Assistance Scheme forms, if the student also has a concession card.**

## INELIGIBILITY

- ◆ Parents/Guardians/Students in receipt of ABSTUDY School Fees Allowance through the Department of Human Services (Centrelink) (Commonwealth Aboriginal Secondary Grants Scheme).
  - *ABSTUDY payments are made for schooling expenses, the same purpose as the Secondary Assistance Scheme, therefore both cannot be applied for. Alternatively the ABSTUDY Supplement Allowance of \$79 may be applied for, by completing the 2017 Abstudy Supplement Allowance application.*
- ◆ 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 independent by the Department of Human Services (Centrelink). Proof of independent status needs to be provided.
- ◆ Foster parents cannot apply as the child is a Ward of the State. The Department for Child Protection and Family Support is responsible for all associated costs.

## CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

- ◆ Claimants who satisfy the eligibility criteria will receive payment of \$115 made to the parent/guardian. Payments will be made via EFT only.
- ◆ Claimants that submit applications for students from interstate or overseas who enrol during the year will receive the full \$115 clothing allowance.

## EDUCATION PROGRAM ALLOWANCE

- ◆ An amount of \$235 will be paid to the school for eligible claimants.
- ◆ Applications submitted for students from interstate or overseas who enrol after Term One will receive a pro-rata Education Program Allowance at \$58.75 per term enrolled.

► **To assist with prompt payment, schools are requested to submit completed application forms to Schools Resourcing and Support Directorate as soon as possible after commencement of Term 1.**