

LIVING AWAY FROM HOME ALLOWANCE 2008

The **NSW Secondary Schools Living Away from Home Allowance** provides assistance to eligible families who must board their children away from home to obtain secondary education. In 2008 the allowance is set at \$1,197 (or \$1478 for Year 11 and 12 students who are geographically isolated).

PRE-CONDITIONS FOR ELIGIBILITY

1. The student's home must be in NSW
2. The student must be living away from home to attend an appropriate secondary school in NSW, QLD, SA, VIC, or the ACT
3. The student must be following a normal secondary course of study.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The basic criteria relate to Income and Distance. There is also provision for Other Circumstances to be considered where relevant

1. **Income:** In 2008, the family's adjusted income for the 2006/2007 financial year must not exceed \$50,478.
2. **Distance:** There are three different ways in which applicants may qualify on distance grounds.
 - 2.1 Distance to the nearest government secondary school is in excess of 48 kilometres by road each way or the travelling time required from the transport pick up point to the school exceeds one and one half hours each way
 - 2.2 Distance to a school of preferred religious denomination is in excess of 48 kilometres by road each way or the travelling time required from the transport pick up point to the school exceeds one and one half hours each way.
 - 2.3 Distance from a government secondary school that offers Agriculture at School Certificate or Higher School Certificate level and Agriculture is not available at the nearest government secondary school
3. **Other Circumstances:** Applicants who satisfy the pre-conditions and whose income is below the cut-off point may be eligible if any of the following apply. Distance will **not** be taken into consideration.
 - 3.1 One-parent family: The student is from a one-parent family and the parent is required to work and so cannot provide adequate supervision of the student before and after school hours.
 - 3.2 Medical: It is essential to the management of the student's medical condition that he or she lives away from home.
 - 3.3 Impassable roads: It is very likely that the student will not have reasonable access to an appropriate government school or preferred denominational school on at least 20 days of the school year because of impassable roads (refers to public roads only).
 - 3.4 Change of place of residence when student is in Year 12: The parents change their place of residence when the student is in Year 12 and it is considered undesirable that the student change schools during the year.

APPLYING FOR THE ALLOWANCE

Further information can be obtained from

Living Away From Home Allowances Officer
Rural & Distance Education PO Box 717
BATHURST NSW 2795
02 6334 8075 or pam.metcalfe@det.nsw.edu.au

Application Forms can be obtained from the website at:

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/studentssupport/scholarshipsmore/studentassistance.php>