



The Student Subsidised Travel Scheme (SSTS)

What it is, who is eligible and how to apply

What is the SSTS?

The SSTS is a subsidy scheme funded by the WA state government that provides travel assistance to parents or guardians of primary, secondary and tertiary students living within the Defined Remote Area (DRA) to travel to and from their educational institution.

Who is eligible?

The student must:

- be an Australian citizen or permanent resident;
- be less than 26 years of age;
- be dependent upon their parents/guardian (i.e. does not have full-time employment);
- not be receiving Youth Allowance or AbStudy payments; and
- have both parents, or a parent with sole or joint custody, living within the DRA.

A student who had a gap of more than one year between secondary and tertiary study is not eligible for the SSTS.

How many trips are we entitled to?

- Primary students are entitled to 4 return trips per school year
- Secondary students are entitled to 4 return trips per school year
- First year tertiary students under 20 years of age who:
 - have previously accessed the scheme are entitled to 3 return trips per school year.
 - have not previously accessed the scheme are entitled to 4 return trips per school year.
- All other tertiary students are entitled to 2 return trips per school year.
- Students enrolled with the School of Isolated and Distance Education (SIDE) are entitled to 3 return trips during the first 2 years of their post-compulsory study, 1 return trip in year 11 and 2 return trips in year 12. The student must be enrolled in at least 3 SIDE subjects and meet all other SSTS requirements.

What is the subsidy provided?

Subsidised travel is limited to the cost of the fare of the most direct route between home and Perth. An exception is made for students attending agricultural colleges, School of Mines or other approved specialised educational centres – these students are subsidised for the full journey.

How do we apply?

Each year that you wish to claim the SSTS you must complete the Student Registration Form, and at least one Return Travel Application Form. The original forms must be posted to the DoT via the student's educational institution to confirm enrolment.

Rule: Only original application forms that have been endorsed by an educational institution will be accepted.

If your application is accepted the DoT will send you an approved travel voucher which can be exchanged with a travel agent or participating airline for a flight booking. To apply for the remaining trips during the year only the Return Travel Application Form needs to be submitted.

Rule: Application forms will not be approved if the first travel date is more than 3 months into the future.

Refund policy

If you are unable to apply for an approved travel voucher prior to a flight you may apply for a refund of the fare. To apply for a refund you must submit a Return Travel Application Form along with the e-Ticket itinerary receipt and your bank account details.

Rule: Refunds will not be processed until after the return travel date.