



The Road Travel Subsidy (RTS)

What it is, who is eligible and how to apply

What is the RTS?

The RTS is a subsidy scheme funded by the WA state government that provides travel assistance to parents or guardians of primary, secondary and tertiary students who have to travel more than 56km from home to the nearest;

- appropriate government school with boarding facilities offering classes in the grade or year in which the student is enrolled; or
- regular passenger transport (bus depot, airport) or school bus service operating between the student's home and school they are attending

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 Defined Remote Area (DRA). (*students who live with a parent in the same residence where they undertake their education do not qualify*)

Tertiary students who have a gap of more than one year in study are not eligible for the Student Subsidised Travel Scheme (SSTS).

What is the subsidy provided?

The Department of Transport (DoT) currently pays 20c (0.2038) per kilometre travelled. For example, if the parent is required to make a 500km round trip to drop their child at school or at a bus stop/airport to board transport, the subsidy would be calculated as below;

$$500\text{km} - 112\text{km} (56\text{km} \times 2) = 388\text{km}$$

$$388\text{km} \times 0.2038 = \text{\$79.07}$$

How many trips are we entitled to?

- Parents are entitled to 8 round trips per school year.
- If the student is also registered for the SSTS each claim for RTS should correspond with an approved SSTS travel voucher.

How do we apply?

RTS should only be claimed at the end of the school year when all travel has been undertaken. To claim the RTS you need to complete the Road Travel Subsidy application form. The original form must be posted to DoT via the student's educational institution to confirm the student was enrolled at the time that the travel occurred.

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

If your application is accepted the total subsidy amount will be paid directly into your bank account.

Rule: If students from more than one family are travelling together, only the parent driving the vehicle may claim the RTS.