



Purpose of this form

This form is to claim for the cost of journeys you have already completed. Claims must be lodged before 1 April in the year following the year of study.

A student is eligible for reimbursement of fares allowance if:

- Fares Allowance entitlement has been established,
- the travel has been paid for and undertaken, and
- proof of travel has been provided.

For more information

Call Centrelink on **13 2317**, visit your local **Centrelink Customer Service Centre** or go to our website at **www.centrelink.gov.au**

To speak to Centrelink in languages other than English, call **13 1202**.

Note: Calls from your home phone to Centrelink 13 numbers from anywhere in Australia are charged at a fixed rate. That rate may vary from the price of a local call and may also vary between telephone service providers. Calls to 1800 numbers from your home phone are free. Calls from public and mobile phones may be timed and charged at a higher rate. All information is protected in accordance with the confidentiality provisions of the *Student Assistance Act 1973*.

If you have a hearing or speech impairment

TTY service Freecall™ **1800 810 586**. A TTY phone is required to use this service.

Fares Allowance

Fares Allowance entitlement is usually based on the cost of the cheapest practicable mode of public transport available. This is regardless of the mode of travel used by the student. Additional costs for taking an indirect route or for breaking the journey unnecessarily are not included. Entitlement will be assessed at concessional rates if the student qualifies to travel at that fare.

Exceptions that would entitle students to the next cheapest mode of travel would include cases where:

- the student is unable because of illness or incapacity to travel by a cheaper means of transport
- a journey by bus would exceed 18 hours (including waiting time between connections), or
- a journey by train would exceed 36 hours (including waiting time between connections).

This does not apply to school students who can be approved for airfares where travel by surface public transport takes longer than eight hours.

The cost of a sleeping berth (where available) may be included in the cost of economy rail travel where it is not possible for the journey to be made by day. A student will not be entitled to fares allowance at the level covering economy air travel or rail fare with sleeping berth simply because he/she cannot secure a booking at the desired time.

Where public transport is not available, a per kilometre rate is payable. For travel by private car, the rate varies according to the engine type and capacity. Actual cost may be payable where other types of transport are used such as ferries or taxis.

Travel by private vehicle for a journey or part of a journey for which public transport is available will attract the standard rate of Fares Allowance entitlement, i.e. the cost of bus or economy rail (including concessional rate, if applicable).

Payment

Payment will be made to the account given on your ABSTUDY claim.

