



Australian Government

A U S T R A L I A N A P P R E N T I C E S H I P S

Your Life. Your Career. Your Future.

About the Living Away From Home Allowance

July 2011



Sometimes it's hard to find work in your local area and the only way to get a job is if you are willing to move. It can be difficult to move from your parental home and establish a new home when you are starting a new job, but the Living Away From Home Allowance can make it a little easier for you.

What is the Living Away From Home Allowance?

The Living Away From Home Allowance (LAFHA) is an allowance provided by the Australian Government to help Australian Apprentices who need to move away from their parental home to take up or continue an Australian Apprenticeship.

The allowance is available to eligible full and part-time Australian Apprentices and Australian School-based Apprentices during the first three years of their training.

Am I eligible?

You may be eligible to receive the allowance if you need to move away from your parental or legal guardian's home for the first time in order to:

- take up an Australian Apprenticeship *or*
- remain in an Australian Apprenticeship *or*
- receive essential supplementary on-the-job training with another employer.

You also may be eligible to receive the allowance if you are undertaking an Australian Apprenticeship and you are, or become, homeless.

The allowance is not available to Australian Apprentices who:

- have lodged a claim for Youth Allowance, Austudy or ABSTUDY *or*
- receive rental or accommodation assistance from Centrelink or their employer *or*
- moved away from their parental or legal guardian's home three months or more before starting their Australian Apprenticeship.

How much will I be paid?

Australian Apprentices who are eligible to receive the allowance will receive \$77.17 a week for up to 12 months, \$38.59 a week for a further 12 months and \$25.00 a week for a third 12 month period.

Australian Apprentices may determine how regularly they lodge claim forms. Once the claim is processed, the allowance is paid into their nominated bank account. Australian Apprentices often choose to lodge their claims monthly.



13 38 73

www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au

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How do I apply for the allowance?

You will need to submit a completed Application for Living Away From Home Allowance (LAFHA) for Australian Apprentices form to your Australian Apprenticeships Centre to apply for the allowance. Your Australian Apprenticeships Centre can provide you with an application form.

Is the allowance taken into account for tax purposes?

This allowance is tax exempt so you will not be required to pay tax on the Living Away From Home Allowance.

For more information

Contact your Australian Apprenticeships Centre, call the Australian Apprenticeships referral line on 13 38 73 or visit the Australian Apprenticeships website at www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au for more information.

