



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

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# Living Away From Home Allowance

July 2015

Sometimes it's hard to find work in your local area and the only way to get an Australian Apprenticeship is to move away. There also may come a time when you need to relocate to remain in your apprenticeship. It can be difficult to move from your parental home and establish a new home at times like these, 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 for eligible Australian Apprentices of any age who have to move away from their parents' or guardians' home in order to take up or retain 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 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 local Australian Apprenticeship Support Network (Apprenticeship Network) provider to apply for the allowance. Your Apprenticeship Network provider can provide you with an application form.

13 38 73

[www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au](http://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au)

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Once your application has been approved, you may determine how regularly you lodge claim forms. Once the claim is processed, the allowance is paid into your nominated bank account. Australian Apprentices often choose to lodge their claims monthly.

### 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 Apprenticeship Network provider, call the Australian Apprenticeships referral line on **13 38 73** or visit the Australian Apprenticeships website at [www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au](http://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au) for more information.

For information about Living Away From Home Allowance payment rates, see the factsheet *Summary of the Australian Government Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Programme* available from your Apprenticeship Network provider, or from the publications page at [www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au](http://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au).