



Student Subsidised Travel Scheme (SSTS) Summary

The Student Subsidised Travel Scheme (SSTS) provides travel assistance to primary, secondary & tertiary students. There are two main types of assistance:

FARES ALLOWANCE: which may be payable to students who live in the Defined Remote Area; and
ROAD TRAVEL SUBSIDY: payable to students living anywhere within Western Australia.

To be eligible for either type of assistance, students must either be an Australian citizen or hold a permanent residency visa and meet certain eligibility criteria.

Students living in the Defined Remote Area (DRA) who attend school outside the DRA

A fares allowance is provided to those students living within the DRA who elect to attend a recognised school, college or university away from home. The SSTS provides the following travel assistance between home and school by regular passenger transport (air, bus or rail):

- primary and secondary students with 4 return trips per calendar year;
- first year tertiary students, under 20 years of age, who **have not** previously accessed the SSTS, to receive 4 return trips per calendar year;
- first year tertiary students, under 20 years of age, who **have** previously accessed the SSTS, to receive 3 return trips per calendar year;
- all other tertiary students to receive 2 return trips per calendar year.

Free travel is limited to the cost of the fare of the most direct route between home and Perth. Any additional cost must be borne by the parents. A special exemption is made for students attending agricultural colleges, School of Mines or other approved specialised education centre - these students are subsidised for the full journey.

A fares allowance is also provided to escorts of eligible students who are unable to travel alone due to a disability.

The following students living within the DRA **are not eligible** for the subsidy:

- 26 years of age or older;
- receiving Youth Allowance (applies to tertiary students only) or is an Abstudy approved boarder; or
- if only one parent lives in the DRA, and the student primarily resides with a parent in the town/city where he/she attends school/college.

If you are not eligible for assistance under the SSTS, please contact Centrelink for transport assistance information.

School of Isolated and Distance Education

The SSTS entitles students attending the School of Isolated and Distance Education (SIDE) to 3 return trips to Perth during the 2 years of their post-compulsory study. Students can receive 1 return trip in Year 11 and up to 2 return trips in Year 12. Students must apply through SIDE for their travel entitlement.

Eligibility for the Scheme is based on satisfying **all** of the following criteria:

1. the student is dependent on their parents (i.e. does not have full-time employment);
2. the student lives with their parents;
3. the parents' home is situated within the DRA, as determined by the Scheme; and
4. the student must be studying at least 3 subjects with SIDE.



Arranging Air Travel

1. Lodge an Application for Student Subsidised Travel form with the Department of Transport (DoT) **at least one month** prior to the date of travel to meet ticket terms and conditions.
 - You may need to apply earlier if you will be using a 14-day advance purchase ticket.
 - Send completed application forms to DoT's at the postal address on the bottom of this page.
2. Upon approval of the application, DoT will issue a travel voucher, which will be sent to the address provided on the application form.
3. As soon as the travel voucher is received, follow the procedures relevant to the airline the student will be travelling with (please see next page).

You must have a travel voucher before you can book travel under the Student Subsidised Travel Scheme.

4. Students travelling with e-tickets must check in at the airport with their student identification, which can be a student card with a photo or a letter from the school.
5. You are able to apply for the whole years travel vouchers at the start of the year allowing you to make all bookings well in advance, securing the dates you want to travel.
6. For further information about tickets, please contact the airlines.

It is important to apply for your travel at least one month before your proposed travel date. You may need to apply earlier if you will be using a 14-day advance purchase ticket

Conditions of Air Travel

1. For travel by air, the student is entitled to an amount no greater than the minimum 14-day advance purchase ticket for the most direct route between the student's home and Perth.
2. The parents/traveller must pay any additional cost.
3. If all of the entitlements are not used before the end of the calendar year, they can not be carried over to the next year - **unused trips do not accumulate.**
4. Travel is subject to the availability of bookings with the airline.
5. If you choose to book and pay for your trip before applying for free travel, you may apply for reimbursement by sending a copy of your ticket and a completed Application for Student Subsidised Travel form to DoT's Client Services Officers.
6. If a booking is not available for the date specified on the travel voucher and you wish to change the travel date by more than one month, you should contact DoT's Travel Subsidy Officer on 1300 660 147
7. If a trip is cancelled, you must notify DoT immediately so the travel entitlement can be reinstated. Reinstatement of the travel entitlement will depend on the cancellation conditions of the booking.
8. The parents/traveller must pay any fees that result from cancelling or changing travel arrangements, or from not booking early enough. Additional costs can be paid by credit card over the phone to the airline.



Booking Your Travel

Rebooking and after hours booking fees will not be paid by this department.

QANTAS - Clients will need to obtain a V Flex class ticket or a ticket of lesser value

Travel on Qantas can be booked by contacting QBT or any travel agent (subject to the travel agent accepting the Department of Transport travel voucher).

To book travel directly with Qantas:

- Phone **1300 368 115** *Do not contact General Reservations.*
- Advise the operator that you wish to book travel under the Department's Student Subsidised Travel Scheme
- You will need to quote the Department's company profile number: **783476**
- You will also need to tell the operator the Department's travel voucher number
- Write the booking number on the travel voucher and take with you for the flight
- QBT Centre (Domestic) does not need these vouchers for your bookings to take place.
- QBT will send you an Itinerary/Receipt.

SKYWEST AIRLINES - Clients will need to obtain an NOXR class ticket or a ticket of lesser value

Travel on Skywest can be booked by contacting Skywest or any travel agent (subject to the travel agent accepting the Department of Transport travel voucher).

- Phone Stacey Lord or Jennifer Barrett at Skywest Reservations on **1300 660 088**.
- Advise that you wish to book travel under the Department of Transport's Travel Scheme.
- You will need to quote the Department's travel voucher number
- Write the booking number on the travel voucher in the space provided and send it to: Skywest Airlines
PO Box 176
CLOVERDALE WA 6985
- Upon receipt of the voucher, Skywest will send you an Itinerary/Receipt.

SKIPPERS AVIATION - Clients will need to obtain a "K" class ticket or the relevant student fare

Travel for Skippers can be booked by contacting Skippers Aviation or any travel agent (subject to the travel agent accepting the Department of Transport travel voucher)

- Phone **1300 729 924**.
- Advise that you wish to book travel under the Department of Transport's Student Travel Scheme.
- You will need to quote the Department's travel voucher number
- Write the booking number of the travel voucher in the space provided and send it to: Skippers Aviation
PO Box 1306
SUBIACO WA 6904
- Upon receipt of the voucher, Skippers will send you an Itinerary/Receipt

AIR AUSTRALIA

Clients will need to obtain a ticket from Derby Visitors Centre for the relevant student/pensioner fare.

- To book directly with Derby Visitors Centre phone **9191 1426** or **1800 621 426**.
- Advise that you wish to book travel under the Department of Transport's Student Travel Scheme.
- You will need to quote the Department's travel voucher number
- Write the booking number of the travel voucher in the space provided and send it to: Derby Visitors Centre
PO Box 48
DERBY WA 6728
- Upon receipt of the voucher, Derby Visitors Centre will send you an itinerary/receipt.

Other than booking directly with the airlines you are more than welcome to go to a travel agent in your home town for this.

If unavoidable, parents can pay directly with the airline and apply for a refund after the travel date