



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.



LIVING AWAY FROM HOME ALLOWANCE

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 including Australian School-based Apprentices who have to live away from their family home. The allowance is available to eligible Australian Apprentices during the first three years of their training.

Am I eligible?

You may be eligible to receive the allowance if you have to move away from your family or legal guardian's home 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 may also be eligible to receive the allowance if you are homeless.

The allowance is not available to Australian Apprentices who:

- Receive Youth Allowance, Austudy or ABSTUDY; or
- Receive rental or accommodation assistance from Centrelink or their employer; or
- are currently attending boarding school; or
- Moved away from their family home three months or more before starting their Australian Apprenticeship.

How much will I be paid?

Australian Apprentices eligible to receive the allowance receive \$77.17 a week for up to 12 months, \$38.59 a week for a further 12 months and \$25 a week for a third 12 months.

The allowance is generally paid monthly via direct credit into an eligible Australian Apprentice's nominated bank account.

How do I apply for the allowance?

You will need to complete and submit an application form for LAFHA to your Australian Apprenticeships Centre to apply for the allowance. Your Australian Apprenticeships Centre can provide you with an application form.

Do I need to pay Tax?

You won't be required to pay tax on the Living Away From Home Allowance.

Are Australian School-based Apprentices eligible?

Yes, from 1 January 2008, Australian School-based Apprentices will be able to access the Living Away From Home Allowance for the first three years of their Australian Apprenticeship.

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.australia.gov.au/australianapprenticeships for more information.