



Out of Pocket Costs Skyrocketing **Increase to the AIC Boarding Allowance**

Urgent financial assistance is required to overcome the unsustainable costs associated with accessing boarding school education:

Increase to the Assistance for Isolated Children's, (AIC), Boarding Allowance

Attending boarding school is a necessity for many children in rural and remote areas due to the distance they are from available schooling. Rural and remote families are expressing a growing concern about the affordability of accessing and utilising boarding schools to educate their children during the compulsory years of schooling. Boarding school costs have increased significantly and the financial impact for these families is enormous. An increasing number of rural and remote families are separating, with the mother and children relocating. This is evidenced by the substantial increases in AIC second home allowance claims. This is a drastic measure by families to reduce educational expenses and negatively impacts the family unit, small communities and rural schools (due to the younger siblings being removed from primary schooling). A significant increase in the AIC Boarding allowance is required as a matter of urgency.

4572 students received the AIC Boarding Allowance in 2015.

Funding this allowance would assist considerably in alleviating and overcoming the challenges families face when educating their children in isolated regions of Australia. Further details about our main lobby areas [here](#).

SUMMING UP RURAL EDUCATION

DO THE MATHS

Election Campaign

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