

Apply for the Secondary Assistance Scheme

School staff can help parents or guardians apply for the 2026 Secondary Assistance Scheme.

The Secondary Assistance Scheme (SAS) is to assist low-income families with secondary schooling costs for students in Years 7 to 12.

It is made up of 2 allowances:

- the Education Program allowance (EPA) paid directly to the school
- the clothing allowance paid to the applicant or the school.

Note:

The clothing allowance payment has returned to \$115 for 2026.

Eligibility

Concession cards

To be eligible for the scheme, the parent or guardian must hold at least one of these concession cards:

- Centrelink Health Care Card
- Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card
- Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession Card (blue card).

The concession card must:

- be valid for at least 4 weeks
- be valid for some time within Term 1, 2026 (2 February to 2 April 2026)
- have the student listed on it
- not be expired at the time of applying for SAS.

Note:

If a Year 11 or 12 student (or student with a disability or health condition) is not listed on the parent or guardian concession card, both the parent or guardian and student must produce their cards.

Electronic concession cards

Electronic concession cards are also valid. Access the electronic card on the claimant's device and validate the information the same way you do for a physical card.



To check the card signature, rotate the phone 180 degrees.

If your school policy is to keep a copy of the card, the parent can email the concession card from their phone to your school email address.

You can then print and attach it to the application form.

Student eligibility

Students must be:

- enrolled in and attending a Western Australian public school where education program charges and/or voluntary contributions apply
- in Years 7 to 12.

Note:

Students are not eligible if they are born in 2007 or before.

Independent students must:

- attach a letter of confirmation or income statement from Centrelink which has the word 'independent' to the application
- hold a concession card that is valid for at least 4 weeks, and be valid for some time in Term 1, 2026 (2 February to 2 April 2026).

If a grandparent is applying, they must:

- be the primary caregiver of the child or children
- be the recognised guardian
- have the student listed on their concession card.