



Education Assistance Scheme

Defence Community Organisation

Defence Community Organisation provides support to help ADF members' children who may experience disruption to their education when a member is posted to a new location.

A range of financial support is available to help members pay for some additional education costs for their children caused by a posting to a location within Australia.

WHAT DOES THE SCHEME COVER

The scheme includes support such as:

- tutoring
- secondary tuition fees and boarding school costs
- tertiary student accommodation
- special needs support (education)
- loss of a scholarship
- student reunion travel.

TUTORING SUPPORT

Reimbursement for the cost of face-to-face or web-based tutoring is available, where the new school certifies the child has not reached or is unlikely to maintain a sufficient standard in a subject as a result of relocation.

Evidence must be provided that the school cannot provide the required tutoring and that the student has declining grades for the subjects requiring tutoring.

A member may be reimbursed for one hour of tutoring a week for 14 weeks, for each approved subject. Reimbursement must be no more than the limits detailed in the

[ADF Pay and Conditions Manual \(PACMAN\)](#), Chapter 8, Part 4, Division 2

For more information, refer to the Education Assistance Scheme – Tutoring Support factsheet.

SECONDARY TUITION AND BOARDING SCHOOL SUPPORT

A member may choose to have their child attend boarding school, rather than relocate their child and disrupt their education. In this instance, where the child is in years 9 to 12, or an earlier year deemed critical, eligible members may apply for reimbursement of compulsory tuition fees and accommodation costs. More information is available in [PACMAN](#), Chapter 8, Part 4, Division 4.

TERTIARY STUDENT ACCOMMODATION

If a member's child is unable to undertake their chosen course within the member's new posting location, or it would be considered disruptive to change universities, accommodation costs, at a capped amount, may be reimbursed to the member for the student to live near or at the tertiary institution.



This applies only to full-time undergraduate students and is for a maximum of three years assistance. More information is available in [PACMAN](#), Chapter 8, Part 4, Division 5.

SPECIAL NEEDS SUPPORT (EDUCATION)

Special needs support (education) provides access to benefits (financial reimbursement) for services such as tuition, therapy and needs assessments where students had received these services in the old location and aren't able to access them at their new posting location. The member must be recognised as having a dependant with special needs.

A member with a dependant with special needs may also be entitled to reimbursement of private schooling costs, if a necessary special program is only available at a non-government school. More information is available in [PACMAN](#), Chapter 8, Part 4, Division 2.

LOSS OF A SCHOLARSHIP

If a child has to give up an education scholarship or bursary due to changing schools on a members posting, the member may be reimbursed their child's educational costs up to the remaining value of that scholarship. More information is available in [PACMAN](#), Chapter 8, Part 4, Division 3.

STUDENT REUNION TRAVEL

Depending on the type of education assistance the member is eligible for, if a member's child is studying at a location distant from the posting location, they may be entitled to one of more return journeys each calendar year. More information is available in [PACMAN](#) Chapter 9, Part 3, Division 5

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION ASSISTANCE

We offer a range of other education support services for Defence Children including Education Liaison Officers, who can advise families about education issues, and Defence School Mentors, who provide in-school support to Defence children.

For more information, refer to the Education Liaison Officer and the Defence School Mentor factsheets.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about the Education Assistance Scheme, or to get in touch with your local Education Liaison Officer, email education.supportprograms@defence.gov.au

Defence Community Organisation offers a wide range of support services for ADF members and their families.

For more information on this factsheet and other Defence Community Organisation support services visit

www.defence.gov.au/dco or call the all-hours Defence Family Helpline on 1800 624 608.

