Youth assistance

All young Australians deserve a safe, stable home. Young people require employment and further education guidance to assist them with the best possible start for a fulfilling career.

For links to help with health issues, safety issues, legal rights visit the [Youth NSW](https://www.youth.nsw.gov.au/) website.

## Homeless youth

* [Youth Off The Streets](https://youthoffthestreets.com.au/), phone 1800 062 288
* [Yfoundation](http://yfoundations.org.au/), phone (02) 8306 7900
* [Salvation Army](https://www.salvationarmy.org.au/), phone 13 72 58
* [Barnardos Australia](https://www.barnardos.org.au/), phone 1800 066 757
* [Youth Solutions](https://youthsolutions.com.au/get-help/accommodation/), phone (02) 4628 2319

## Youth wellbeing

If you need to talk to someone:

* [Lifeline](https://www.lifeline.org.au/), 13 11 14
* [Beyond Blue](https://www.beyondblue.org.au/get-support/get-immediate-support), 1300 22 4636
* [Kids Helpline](https://kidshelpline.com.au/), 1800 55 1800
* [headspace](https://headspace.org.au/), 1800 650 890
* [Black Dog Institute](https://www.blackdoginstitute.org.au/), (02) 9382 2991
* [MensLine](https://mensline.org.au/), 1300 78 99 78
* [SISTER2sister](https://sister2sister.org.au/), (02) 9211 9129
* [Suicide Call Back Service](https://www.suicidecallbackservice.org.au/), 1300 659 467.

## Department of Employment – support for youth

The Australian Government through the [Department of Employment](https://www.employment.gov.au/youth) is delivering a range of initiatives to give young job seekers the employability skills and real work experience they need to get a job. The initiatives include:

* [Youth Jobs PaTH](https://jobactive.gov.au/path) which is a flexible program designed to prepare young people for work. It also encourages employers to trial a young person for a job by offering interns and financial incentives to reduce the cost of recruitment. Youth Jobs PaTH has three elements, Prepare – Trial – Hire.
* The [Encouraging Entrepreneurship and Self-Employment Initiative](https://www.employment.gov.au/news/launch-encouraging-entrepreneurship-and-self-employment-initiative) to support young Australians who wish to start their own business.
* The youth [Transition to Work](https://www.employment.gov.au/transition-work) program assists young people to get intensive pre-employment support to help them set and achieve their employment and education goals.
* [Empowering YOUth Initiatives](https://www.employment.gov.au/empowering-youth-initiatives) support new, innovative approaches to help long-term unemployed young people aged 15 to 24 years to improve their skills and move toward sustainable employment.
* [Engaging Early School Leavers](https://www.employment.gov.au/engaging-early-school-leavers) has been designed to strengthen the chances of early school leavers finding and keeping a job.
* [ParentsNext](https://www.employment.gov.au/parentsnext) helps eligible parents to plan and prepare for employment by the time their children are at school.
* [Job Jumpstart](https://www.jobjumpstart.gov.au/) has tips and ideas about jobs and careers in the one spot.

## Income support for students and trainees

The Australian Government provides [financial support](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/subjects/payments-students-and-trainees) to assist with costs while you finish school, undertake tertiary education, or undertake an Australian Apprenticeship or traineeship.

* [ABSTUDY](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/abstudy) provides help with costs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians who are studying or undertaking an Australian Apprenticeship.
* [ABSTUDY Fares Allowance](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/abstudy-fares-allowance) helps cover the cost of travel between your permanent home and place of study if you need to live away from home to study and receive ABSTUDY.
* [Assistance for Isolated Children Scheme](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/assistance-for-isolated-children-scheme) helps parents and carers who mainly live in rural and remote areas with the extra costs of educating their children.
* [Austudy](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/austudy) provides financial help to full time students and Australian Apprentices 25 years or older.
* [Education Entry Payment](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/education-entry-payment) helps students or trainees who get specific income support payments to assist with the cost of study.
* [Fares Allowance](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/fares-allowance) helps with travel costs between your permanent home and your place of tertiary study in Australia.
* [Jobs, Education and Training Child Care Fee Assistance](https://www.education.gov.au/jobs-education-and-training-child-care-fee-assistance) provides extra help with the cost of approved child care for eligible parents who are looking for work, studying, training or undertaking rehabilitation to enter or re-enter the workforce.
* [ParentsNext](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/parentsnext) connects you to local support services to help you plan for your future. It’s important to think about your study and work goals for when your children are at school.
* [Pensioner Education Supplement](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/pensioner-education-supplement) helps with the cost of study in an approved course if you get certain payments.
* [Relocation Scholarship](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/relocation-scholarship) is a yearly payment to help students move to or from a regional or remote area to study. You must get ABSTUDY or Youth Allowance and be in full time higher education.
* [Rent Assistance](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/rent-assistance) gives extra financial help to people who pay rent and receive an income support payment.
* [Student Start-up Loan](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/student-start-loan)

Available for eligible new recipients of Youth Allowance, Austudy or ABSTUDY studying a Student Start-up Loan [approved course](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/student-start-loan/who-can-get-it/approved-courses).

The loans are paid in two half-yearly instalments.

Repayment arrangements are the same as for HELP.

* [Youth Allowance](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/youth-allowance) provides financial help for people 16 to 24 years of age who are studying full time, undertaking a full time Australian Apprenticeship, training, looking for work or sick.
* [Youth Disability Supplement](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/youth-disability-supplement) provides additional financial support to young people with a physical, intellectual or psychiatric disability who receive certain income support payments.
* [Australian Apprenticeships](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/subjects/payments-and-services-australian-apprentices) information about resources and the support available.
* [Concession and health care cards](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/subjects/concession-and-health-care-cards) can get you cheaper health services and medicines.
* [Manage your money](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/subjects/manage-your-money) is information about budgeting, borrowing and credit, and managing debt, to help manage your money.
* [Financial and health support for young people](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/subjects/financial-and-health-support-young-people) provides information, payments and services if you are between 15 and 24 years of age and becoming independent.
* [Leaving school](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/subjects/leaving-school) is information to help you choose your next adventure if you’re about to or have just finished school.