

Request for a Statement of Support: Assistance for Isolated Children Scheme

Student needs to be removed from a local school 4.3.5.4

The Department of Social Services through Centrelink manages the Assistance for Isolated Children (AIC) Scheme for the Australian Government. The scheme provides allowances for parents or carers of eligible children, who board away from home to attend a school, live in a second family home to attend school daily or live at home and undertake distance education or approved home schooling.

For full details on the allowances and eligibility rules please consult the [AIC Guidelines](#) or contact Centrelink on 132 318.

Consideration for statements of support

In considering requests for a statement of support, the AIC criteria require the NSW Department of Education to consider:

- Reasons for the student to be removed from the local school environment (in broad terms only). For example, this might be because of interpersonal problems affecting psychological, emotional or physical health (such as bullying or harassment) or expulsion from school.
- Attempts that have been made by the family and the school to resolve the problem
- Whether there is any other suitable school in the district that the student can attend daily.

Further Information

The Executive Director responsible for your local school will be contacted to investigate the circumstances in your application. The Executive Director will be required to:

- Confirm the reason the student was removed from the local school (in broad terms only, e.g., interpersonal problems affecting health, expulsion).
- Confirm that attempts been made by the family and the school to resolve the problem.
- Confirm that there is not another suitable school in the district that the student can attend daily.

To request a statement of support

1. Complete the application request on the following pages.
2. You do not need to contact the local school. The circumstances described in your application will be investigated with the local Executive Director.
3. Send your completed application to: rde@det.nsw.edu.au

It will generally take 3 – 4 weeks for the Department to respond to your request.

Should you require any further information or clarification about this process please contact the Rural and Distance Education office on 6334 8070.

Supporting Statement Application Request

Parent/Carer name: _____

Address (include rural address number or GPS if known):

Contact phone number: _____

Student name: _____

Name of current school: _____

Current year level: _____

Name of nearest NSW government secondary school:

1. Please give details of the interpersonal problems affecting the child that prevent them from attending the local school.

2. Please explain how the family and the school have tried to resolve the problem without success. This may include meetings with school and educational service personnel or Director.

3. How far is it from your home to the next nearest government school (primary or secondary, whichever is appropriate for the student)?

4. Is there any reason why the student could not transfer to that next nearest school (and continue to live at home)?

I declare that the information provided in this document is accurate.

Signature: _____

Date: _____