

Youth Allowance for students living in rural areas:

I wish to submit my support for students who live outside of the metropolitan area to receive the youth allowance to enable them to live and study in the city (where the majority of universities are based). My son is 17yo and he wishes to attend Curtin University or Murdoch University after a gap year – we live in Bunbury (South West of Western Australia). It is highly unlikely that he will be able to work full time in the small city of Bunbury as he is competing against so many other young people (school leavers, students on a gap year and school students).

Rural areas (in Western Australia) do not have the industry or retail to support many of these students to work the required hrs per week to qualify for youth allowance and public transport is almost non existent or limited. Many do not have their drivers licence that enable them to work outside of work hours or weekends due to the lack of transport. Perth is a city that sustains over 1Million in population and there are many options for school leavers and students (including public transport) to enable them to access casual, part time and full time employment that is not available to students who live in excess of 100km outside of the metropolitan area. This places students in the metropolitan area at a greater advantage to those of their country counter parts.

Regards

Carolyn Ngan