

I wish to comment on the inner regional students who may be unable to access Youth Allowance. We live in inner Mount Gambier and my daughter wishes to study Chiropractic. This course is only available in Melbourne, Sydney and Perth. Melbourne is the closest at 450 kms. The fact that she can't get Youth Allowance because we live in inner Mount Gambier, and if we lived on the other side of the road she could get it, is ridiculous.

If we don't support our country kids going to uni, then heaven help us trying to get the city kids to take up country postings when they graduate. We all know it's the country kids who are more likely to take a post in the country. We are already screaming out for professionals- don't take away our most likely sources of expertise for the future- give country kids and their parents a break.

It costs between \$15,000 and \$20,000 for a student to live away from home for a year- Youth Allowance covers about half of that, which is a terrific help. They can work part-time for the rest. Please let kids who need to leave home to pursue their course get Youth Allowance. Whoever supports this gets my vote, and many other country people's votes.

Yours sincerely,  
Merry Dickins.  
Mount Gambier.