

I would like to comment on the new changes to youth allowance. As the parent of a clever student at University who wishes to do well and get high distinctions, We find it intolerable that she has to work to support herself and we have to work harder than ever at a time when we are almost ready to retire, in order to support her and her dreams of a good job gained from a good education. She has no choice but to move away to study and we seem to be penalised for wanting to help her become well educated and in turn earn a good income and pay taxes etc.

Please make conditions that make it equiable. Our daughter wants to study and do well but this is almost impossible as she has to work long hours, returning home/walking as she cannot afford a private car, at night (risking her safety) just to make ends meet and then study.

She wishes to be a high achieving student but She finds her mind set has changed to that of a worker struggling to make ends meet and someone who is dependent on her parents. She would like to be independent but because both her parents work hard and pay taxes she feels she is penalised and so we are not rewarded for years of hard work and paying taxes to support others who would get rent assistance and government assistance.

Do you as a government want only some to have the opportunity to go to university or all students to have a chance. Your new changes still don't give all Australians a fair go!

Maree Thornton