

Given the current policies in place by the Government, my daughter made the considered decision to defer studying this year, join the workforce, pay her taxes, and save money to help fund her education. With the proposed changes, my daughter is now faced with the prospect of being unable to commence university studies. To attend university in the field she wishes to pursue requires her to travel for 4 ½ hours. She is currently working in the nearest town a trip of an hour, leaving home most mornings at 5.00am to allow her to start at 6.00am. Some weeks she works up to 37 hours, some less, this would mean she would not qualify for youth allowance under the proposed new rules. My daughter has always been an A grade student and has been acknowledged for her community work with an Australia Day award. What more are these kids supposed to do? They cannot travel to Uni each day; they are doing it tough now and working hard to qualify for Youth Allowance. My husband and I bring in to our house a very modest income of \$52 thousand a year but this still too wealthy to allow her to qualify for Youth Allowance. The Government needs to realise the real damage they will do to this year's students who are currently doing their gap year if they implement these changes. These potential University students are the future of our country and to deny them an opportunity to study is criminal.