

School Transport Assistance Scheme Isolation Package

Introduction

In recognition of the difficulties that parents in isolated areas of the state face to transport their children to and from school, the Queensland Government provides assistance to eligible families under the School Transport Isolation Package.

This package provides increased assistance under the School Transport Assistance Scheme for students in isolated parts of the state.

The school transport isolation package consists of the following five components.

- 1. Class I Conveyance Allowance** – Class I is payable for students who live outside the south-east Queensland school transport zone or other nominated areas and who must reside over 16 kms to the nearest state school and over 16 kms to the nearest approved bus service which will transport the student to the nearest state school.
- 2. Car pooling**– If families in receipt of Class I conveyance allowance share transport arrangements with other families by car pooling, the full Class I allowance will be paid to each family. For other forms of conveyance allowance, payment is only made on a per vehicle basis.
- 3. Reduced student numbers for subsidised service** - A reduction in the number of students required for a subsidised school bus service to be instituted in those areas classified as isolated.
- 4. Designated bus service** – Special consideration for isolated students in relation to identifying their designated bus service.
- 5. Assistance for senior secondary students travelling to P-10 schools** - Senior secondary students travelling to certain P-10 schools for tutoring and study may be eligible for assistance even though they are not enrolled in study at the nearest P-10 school.

Eligibility conditions relating to the school transport isolation package

1. Class I conveyance allowance

Financial assistance is available to parents in the form of conveyance allowance for students who travel to and from school by private arrangement.

Class I conveyance allowance is available for students in isolated areas (see definition and list of current centres on page three).

Class I conveyance allowance is not payable for the same journey for a student in receipt of Class A, C or D conveyance allowance or drought assistance (additional conveyance allowance).

Class I conveyance allowance is:

- calculated weekly and paid four times a year at the end of each school term;
- only paid while students are actually travelling to school.

Class I conveyance allowance must be applied for prior to 31 December in the year assistance is sought.

Retrospective claims for travel in previous years cannot be approved.

Allowance details

The maximum amounts to be paid per family for conveyance allowance Class I in 2021 are shown below:

Approved Scale			Weekly Rate (\$)
1.	16.01km	to 20km	36.05
2.	20.01km	to 30km	77.15
3.	30.01km	to 40km	135.90
4.	40.01km	to 50km	194.65
5.	50.01km	to 60km	253.35
6.	60.01km	to 70km	312.10
7.	70.01km	to 80km	370.85
8.	80.01km	to 90km	429.60
9.	90.01km	to 100km	488.35
10.	100.01km+		547.05

Scale 10 is the maximum rate for Class I.

Please note:

- the actual amount paid is based on the number of weeks the student is in attendance at school.
- students who travel less than 10 trips per week (for example, only travel Monday am and Friday pm) will have their weekly payment adjusted accordingly. The allowance paid in this example will be 20% of the weekly allowance.

Information on other classes of conveyance allowance is available from your nearest Department of Transport and Main Roads office listed on page three.

Timing of payments

Payment of the allowance is made at the end of each school term. Details of the method of payment will be contained in the approval letter forwarded to parents.



2. Car Pooling

Class I conveyance allowance will be paid on a per family basis rather than per vehicle basis, as is the case with Class A, C or D. This is to help promote car pooling amongst families in isolated areas. Car pooling will assist families in isolated areas by reducing duplication in travel and minimising time away from their homes and properties.

Please note:

Each family involved in car pooling must submit their own applications for this allowance. The allowance will only be paid to the legal guardians or parents of the students being carried. Payment cannot be made on behalf of other students or transferable to other parents.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads will not be involved in:

- making arrangements for car pooling. This is entirely the responsibility of the parents involved.
- determining the distribution of conveyance allowance Class I amongst families who car pool.

3. Reduction in the number of students required to institute a subsidised bus service in isolated areas

Under the school transport isolation package, the minimum number of eligible students required to institute a subsidised school bus service in isolated areas (as defined on the attachment) has been reduced from nine to seven.

Eligible students must come from a minimum of three different families, in order to institute a subsidised school bus service.

4. Designated bus service

The designated service for an isolated student (subject to the note below) will be the approved service nearest to the student's residential property which transports eligible students of the required year level or an approved service that will transport the student to the nearest state school from the student's residential property.

Distances are measured by the shortest trafficable route, over roads open for public use, between the residential property and the nearest point on the route of service (not to the bus stop).

No measurements are taken on private property.

Note: A student does not have a designated bus service if the distance to the nearest bus service which transports eligible students for the required year level is further than the distance from the student's residential property to the nearest state school offering the required year level.

5. Assistance for Senior Secondary Students travelling to P-10 Schools

The Department of Education requires students to participate in education and training for a period of two years after the completion of their compulsory years of schooling that ends when a student turns 16 or completes year 10.

A small number of students in isolated rural Queensland do not have access to schools offering year 11 and 12. These students need to complete year 11 and 12 by distance education and may receive tutoring at their nearest P-10 school.

School transport assistance is made available to these students under the following conditions:

A student must:

- have completed their compulsory years of schooling (to year 10)
- reside in a designated isolated area of the state
- meet the minimum 20% travel and all other eligibility criteria of the scheme
- attend their nearest P-10 school listed following for tutoring and assistance.

- | | | |
|----------------|----------------------|--------------|
| 1. Alpha | 6. Injune | 11. Richmond |
| 2. Baralaba | 7. Mornington Island | 12. Tambo |
| 3. Dirranbandi | 8. Normanton | 13. Taroom |
| 4. Doomadgee | 9. Palm Island | 14. Texas |
| 5. Inglewood | 10. Quilpie | |

How do students apply?

Students will be able to apply for school transport assistance through the normal application process. Students who have completed Year 10 must complete a new application form to receive assistance. The assistance provided will be on a bus where available or by conveyance allowance.

School transport isolation definition

To be classified as isolated under the School Transport Isolation Package, students must:

(1) reside more than 16 kms from the nearest state school and the nearest approved bus service which can transport the student to a state school with the required year level (see measuring note below)

and

(2) reside outside the south east Queensland school transport zone (see map on page four)

and

(3a) reside in the seven week Summer Vacation Zone, as defined by the Department of Education

or

(3b) reside more than 50 kms, measured by the shortest trafficable route from the main Post Office in each of the following centres:

Atherton	Gympie	Malanda	Sarina
Ayr	Hervey Bay	Mareeba	Stanthorpe
Bowen	Home Hill	Maryborough	Toowoomba
Bundaberg	Ingham	Mossman	Townsville
Cairns	Innisfail	Proserpine	Tully
Dalby	Kingaroy	Ravenshoe	Warwick
Gladstone	Mackay	Rockhampton	

Measuring note

Distances are measured by the shortest trafficable route, over roads open for public use, between:

- the residential property
- the nearest point on the route of the service (not to the bus stop) and/or
- the nearest state school which is closest to the catchment area involved.

No measurements are taken on private property.

Further information

Please contact your local TransLink Division office of the Department of Transport and Main Roads.

TransLink SEQ

Southport

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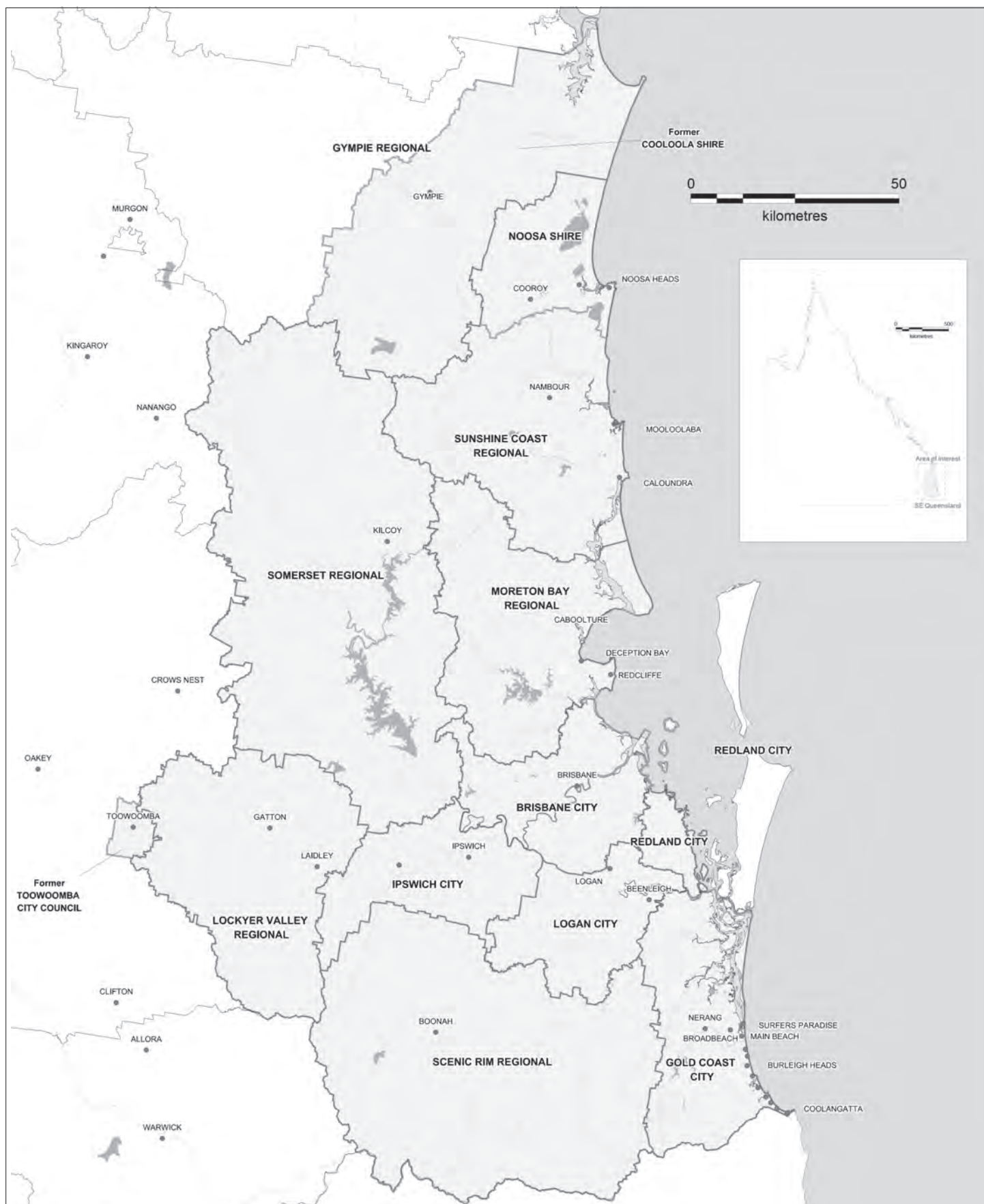
Cairns

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South East Queensland School Transport Zone



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