

# 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.

- 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 must reside over 16 kilometres to the nearest state and the nearest not-state school of type, and over 16 kilometres to the nearest approved bus service which will transport the student to the nearest school.
- Carpooling** – If families in receipt of Class I conveyance allowance share transport arrangements with other families by carpooling, 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.
- 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.
- Designated bus service** – Special consideration in relation to identifying the designated bus service for students living in isolated areas.
- 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 Class I for students in isolated areas who travel to and from school by private arrangement.

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 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

Maximum amounts to be paid per family for conveyance allowance Class I in 2024 are:

Approved Scale			Weekly Rate (\$)
1.	16.01km to	20km	43.85
2.	20.01km to	30km	84.80
3.	30.01km to	40km	143.35
4.	40.01km to	50km	201.95
5.	50.01km to	60km	260.55
6.	60.01km to	70km	319.10
7.	70.01km to	80km	377.70
8.	80.01km to	90km	436.25
9.	90.01km to	100km	494.85
10.	100.01km+		553.40

Scale 10 is the maximum rate for Class I.

#### Please note:

- the actual amount paid is based on the number of weeks the student travels to 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. Carpooling

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 carpooling amongst families in isolated areas. Carpooling 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 carpooling 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 carpooling. This is entirely the responsibility of the parents involved.
- determining the distribution of conveyance allowance Class I amongst families who carpool.

## 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 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 a student living in an isolated area (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 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 and non-state school of type and the nearest approved bus service which can transport the student to a state school or non-state school of type 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 either**
- 3) (a) reside in the seven week Summer Vacation Zone, as defined by the Department of Education  
**or**
- 3) (b) 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.

## For more information

Please contact your local Translink Division office of the Department of Transport and Main Roads or go to [translink.com.au](http://translink.com.au)

### TransLink SEQ

#### Southport

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Southport BC Qld 4215  
Phone: 5585 1857  
Fax: 2139 5081  
[stgoldcoast@translink.com.au](mailto:stgoldcoast@translink.com.au)

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### TransLink Sunshine Coast/ Wide Bay

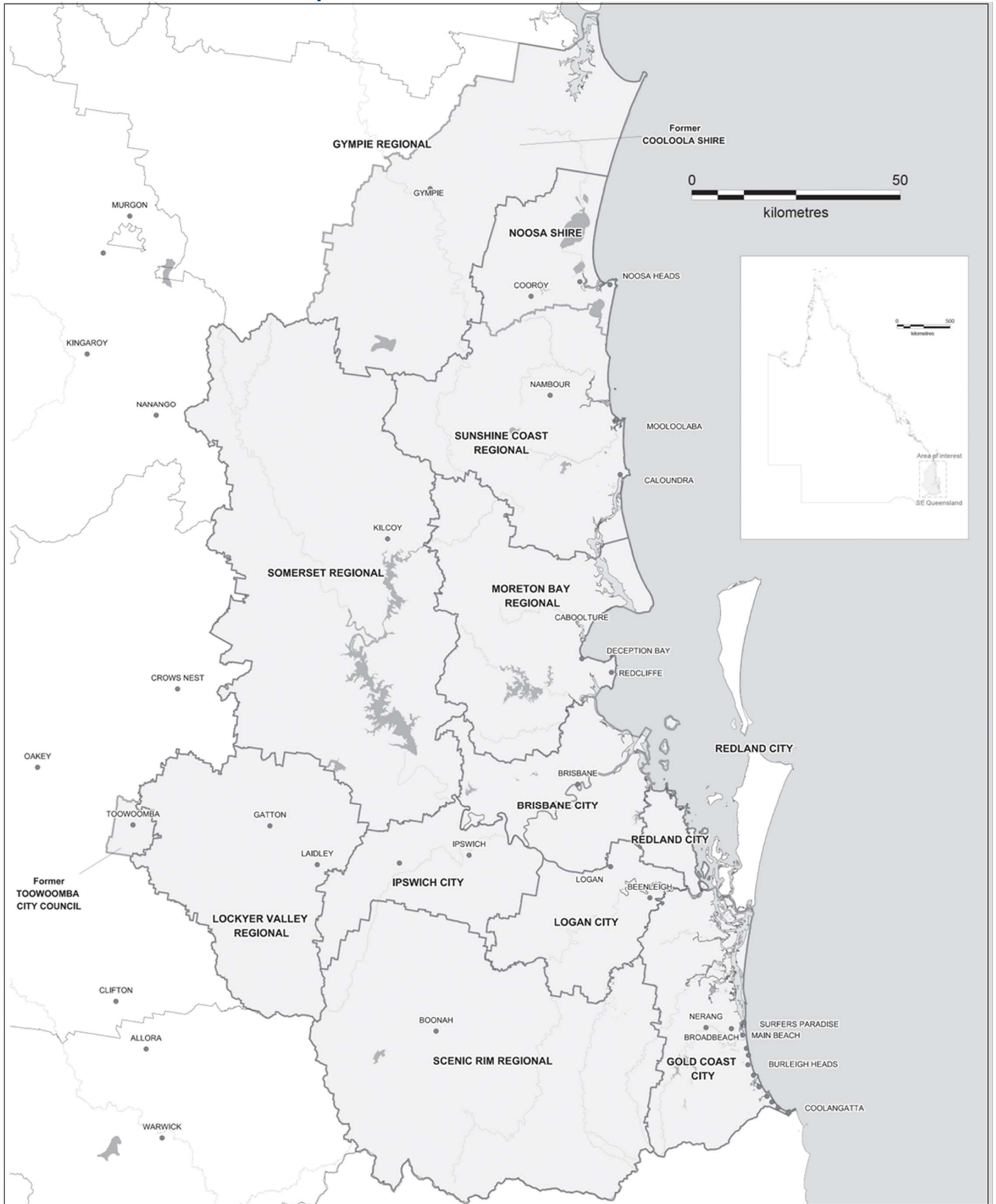
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# South East Queensland Transport Zone



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