



This information is accurate as at 2 April 2019.

Extending Family Tax Benefit to ABSTUDY recipients aged 16 and over who study away from home

This measure gives more assistance to families of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students who need to live away from home to study. It will help them stay longer at school. From 1 January 2020, families with a child aged 16 and over who gets ABSTUDY assistance to study away from home will continue to get Family Tax Benefit (FTB) for the child while the child is studying.

This change is subject to the passage of legislation.

Existing FTB customers with a child aged 16 and over who gets ABSTUDY assistance will have their FTB reassessed to include the ABSTUDY student. Families not getting FTB will be invited to claim FTB for their ABSTUDY student.

Who is affected by this measure?

This measure affects families who:

- get FTB
- have a child aged 16 to 19 who gets ABSTUDY assistance to study away from home.

Families currently getting FTB don't need to do anything. Their FTB will automatically include the child getting ABSTUDY assistance from 1 January 2020.

Families not currently getting FTB who have a child who gets ABSTUDY assistance will be contacted and invited to claim FTB for their child.

FTB Part A can be paid until the end of the calendar year the student turns 19 years of age, while in full time secondary study.

FTB Part B can be paid to single parents and grandparent carers until the youngest child turns 19 while in full time secondary study. This measure does not affect coupled parents receiving FTB Part B as it can only be paid until their youngest child turns 13.

When will this start and finish?

This measure starts on 1 January 2020 and is ongoing.