

104 – Abstudy and how to apply

Similar to NewStart Allowance, Abstudy is financial assistance that helps with costs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are studying or undertaking an Australian Apprenticeship.

1. To apply, you must be over 18 and need to “Register an Intent to Claim Abstudy”.
2. Call Abstudy on 1800 132 317 (free call) to register an intent to claim Abstudy. Note that telephone waiting times can be long.
3. Ensure you have personal identification in the form of:
 - a. Birth Certificate
 - b. Drivers Licence
 - c. Australian Passport
 - d. Bank Financial Institution, statement or passbook
 - e. Proof of enrolment at from TAFE, University or Registered Training Organisation
 - f. Confirmation of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Heritage
4. Once your application form is completed over the phone, Abstudy staff will send you a copy of your intent to claim form.
5. When you receive the Abstudy application form, sign it and return to Abstudy for processing. The usual processing time is approximately 21 days.
6. Your Abstudy payment will commence once your forms are signed, returned and processed by Abstudy.
7. For any questions or enquiries contact Abstudy between 8am and 5pm Monday to Friday or alternatively, speak to staff at your Indigenous Unit.