



Transition to Independent Living Allowance

What you need to know

An Easy Read fact sheet



The Australian Government Department of Social Services (DSS) wrote this fact sheet. When you see the word 'we', it means DSS.



We wrote this fact sheet in an easy to read way.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.

Bold
Not bold

We have written some words in **bold**.

This means the letters are thicker and darker.



You can ask for help to read this fact sheet. A friend, family member or support person may be able to help you.

What is the Transition to Independent Living Allowance?



Independent living is when someone:

- lives in their own home
- lives with their carer
- does things for themselves.



When a child or young person can't live with their parents or carer, they live in **out-of-home care**.

They might live:



- with a different family



- in a home for children in out-of-home care.



When young people decide to leave out-of-home care, they can apply for the **Transition to Independent Living Allowance (TILA)**.



TILA is a payment from the government.

15-25
years old



TILA is for young people aged between 15 to 25 years old.

They can get 1 payment of \$1,500 to help them:



- leave out-of-home care
- and
- move to independent living.



This payment is to help with the costs when a young person moves to independent living.

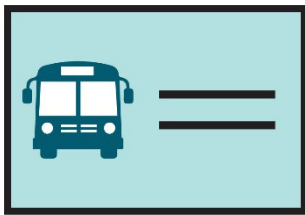
This can include costs to:



- set up their home



- learn new skills, like how to manage their money



- get to places, like a bus pass



- get support from professionals, like mental health support.



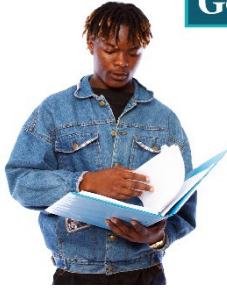
Young people must talk to their **caseworker** about:

- when they will get their TILA
- how they can use it.



A caseworker is someone who supports a young person in out-of-home care.

Goals



A young person's TILA must work with the goals in their leaving care plan.

This can include goals about their:



- health



- money



- life skills.

About our survey



We want to hear from young people who:

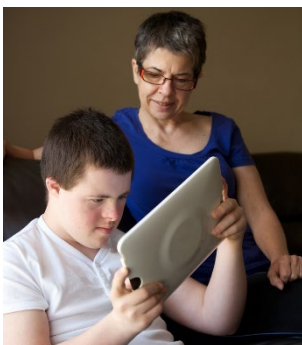
- had a TILA before
- can get a TILA but have not applied for it yet.



We want to know if they think the payment helped them when they moved into independent living.



We want to know how we can support them better to find and use the payment.



We also want to hear from:

- caseworkers
- carers who aren't a young person's parents.

We want to know their experience when they had to:



- find and use information about TILA

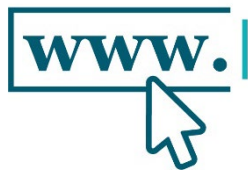


- apply for a TILA.



Everyone's ideas will help us make sure the way young people can apply for TILA works well.

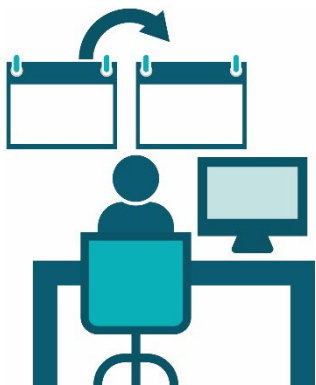
How to fill out our survey



We wrote a survey with questions for you.

You can fill it out online.

www.engage.dss.gov.au



You can tell us what you think online between:

- 26 April
- to
- 7 June.



You can contact the TILA team if you can't find and use our survey online.

You can also contact them if you:



- fill out our survey



- don't want to take part in it anymore.



You can send them an email.

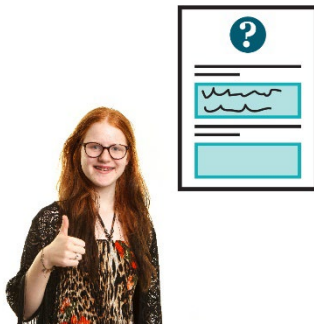
tila@dss.gov.au

How we will use your information



All of your answers to our questions will be private.

No one will know that they are your answers.



You don't have to answer all of our questions.



And you don't have to share any personal information about you.



For example, you don't have to share:



- your name
- where you live.



This survey will only ask you for information that will help us learn about what is important to you.

Support for you



You can ask someone you trust to help you fill out our survey.



If you need our survey or support document in another language, you can email the TILA Team.

tila@dss.gov.au



When you fill out our survey, we won't keep any personal information about you.



We won't know who you are.

And it will be hard to support you.



There are other services that can support:

- you
- someone you know.



If you are in an emergency, call Triple Zero.

000

If you need to talk to someone, please contact:



Lifeline

13 11 14



Beyond Blue

1300 22 4636



If you are aged 15 years and older, you can call the Suicide Call Back Service.

1300 659 467



If you are aged 5 to 25 years old, you can free call Kids Help Line for any reason.

1800 551 800



If you are a man, you can call Mensline.

1300 789 978

You can call 1800RESPECT if you need help or support with:



- violence – if someone is hurting you physically
- abuse – if someone is treating you badly.

1800 737 732



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