

POLICY: ICPA seeks travel access to appropriate educational facilities for rural and remote students, with the provision of appropriate public and government funded transport services, and adequate travel allowances to access these services.

OBJECTIVES:

1. That the assessment of conveyance allowances for students being transported privately at regular intervals be based on annual kilometres travelled and payment be made on a per family basis.
2. That the conveyance allowance be indexed annually to reflect vehicle and fuel costs in rural areas and rural road conditions.
3. That provision of realistic financial assistance for return passage on appropriate forms of transport (bus, train or plane) between a student's home and his or her place of board be made at least four times per year.
4. That student travel allowances be reciprocal between states.
5. That there be adequate funding from the appropriate authorities for the repair, upgrading and maintenance of roads used for educational access by rural and remote children.
6. That there be provision of uniform safety standards, equipment and appropriately trained coach/bus drivers for all buses used for the transport of school children.
7. That South Australian Education Department school bus policies are regularly upgraded to suit modern day needs.
8. That all new school buses be fitted with air conditioning and seatbelts.
9. That the South Australian Education Department consider preschool students when determining bus routes and bus sizes.
10. That bus routes that give rural and remote children access to school be retained and, when they are changed, that the parents are given all relevant information and documentation.
11. That commercial bus companies have a computerised booking system that will accept non-standard stops in SA.
12. That railway companies have fare structures that are equitable for rural and remote students.
13. That Area Schools have the right to retain at least one departmental bus.
14. That a conveyance allowance be paid for pre-school students living more than 5km from a pre-school facility or a school bus route serving a pre-school facility.