



Transition to Independent Living Allowance (TILA)

Home Stretch Participants

The Transition to Independent Living Allowance (TILA) helps young people who have left or are leaving care. The TILA is worth up to \$1,500 and helps with the costs of leaving care (OOHC). It can be used to pay for a wide range of items such as payment of rental bonds, furniture, course fees and buying a car.

[Transition to Independent Living Allowance - Services Australia](#)

Eligibility

Young people need to meet the age requirements and have left formal care or are preparing to leave. Young people don't need to be leaving their current home to get this payment. They can get it if they are moving to their own home or staying with their care family.

To get the Transition to Independent Living Allowance (TILA) the young person must be all of the following:

- be an Australian citizen or permanent Australian resident who resides in Australia at the time you apply
- be aged from 15 to 25 years
- either have been in, or currently be in, formal care on a court order
- have left the care of the state or territory statutory department after the age of 15 years and was last in their care for a continuous period of at least 6 months
- either be approaching to leave formal care, within 12 weeks of applying, in the process of leaving formal care, or have left formal care
- [have a transition to independence plan](#)
- have not received the full amount of TILA assistance previously.

Find out more about the [TILA](#) on the Department of Social Services website.

Funding Options

The Transition to Independent Living Allowance (TILA) is a payment of up to \$1,500. It is available in up to six payments of at least \$250 each or a lump sum of \$1,500.

TILA is paid to Communities from the Federal Government, not directly into the young person's account. As part of the application, the young person and support person agree how to best to use the allowance. The district support then makes the purchases or payments for the young person. The district may give the Home Stretch transition coach a pre-paid card for TILA funds. In this instance, the transition coach **must** accompany the young person to spend the funds and ensure the expenditure is aligned to category and application. To note, not all Districts use pre-paid cards.

[Insert title]

You can use TILA for items like:

- rental bond
- essential household items
- clothes for job interviews
- training courses
- car costs.

You can find a complete list of [what the TILA can and can't be used for](#) on the Department of Social Services website.

Application Process

The young person can apply for the Transition to Independent Living Allowance (TILA) with the help of the district. Please see contact details [Home Stretch Contact List - Provider Coordinators & District Champions.xlsx](#) if you need to ask questions on behalf of a young person.

The district will submit the application on behalf of the young person and manage the payment.