

# Factsheet for carers

## Transition to Independent Living Allowance (TILA)

September 2025

---

Moving to independence can be a positive time for some young people. As a carer you can help by being aware of the support and financial assistance available, including allowances and payments such as the Transition to Independent Living Allowance (TILA).

The TILA is a one-off payment of up to \$1,500 to help eligible young people aged 15–25 years get the best possible start when leaving out-of-home care (OOHC). TILA is provided by the Australian Government Department of Social Services (DSS) and is administered by the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ).

To access TILA, the young person will need to work with their caseworker to apply, to ensure the purchases meet their needs. Young people can go to their caseworker or agency, or call the Care Leavers Line on 1800 994 686.

---

### Eligibility

To be eligible, the young person must:

- Be aged 15–25 years
  - Have been in, or is currently in, statutory out-of-home care
  - Be an Australian citizen or permanent Australian resident
  - Have a leaving care (transition to independence) plan
  - Have not received the full amount of TILA previously (total is \$1,500).
- 

### What can TILA be used for?

TILA can be used for a range of things, including:

- Whitegoods or kitchen appliances – fridge, washing machine, microwave, blender, toaster
  - Furniture and linen – couch, dining/coffee table, entertainment unit, bed, mattress, doona, towels
  - One-off transport expenses – driving lessons, car or motorcycle purchase, registration, insurance
  - Educational or employment expenses – laptop, clothing for school or work, textbooks, course enrolment fees, broadband connection, work tools
  - Utility connection fees – phone, electricity and gas connections.
- 

### More information

For more information, visit [nsw.gov.au](https://nsw.gov.au) and search for TILA. Young people can also contact the Care Leavers Line on 1800 994 686 or [careleavers@dcj.nsw.gov.au](mailto:careleavers@dcj.nsw.gov.au).