

ICT Schools of Distance Education Subsidies

Dear Parents/Home Tutors,

As you have student/s enrolled in either the **Distance** or **Medical** categories, you may be eligible for the ICT Schools of Distance Education Subsidies for Computer Hardware, Software and Broadband Internet Access.

Background information

There is an agreed understanding that the move to digital delivery has an impact on distance education families. Some may be unable to immediately avail themselves of the enhanced learning opportunities due to lack of access to computer technology and to the expense of accessing internet services in geographically isolated areas. The subsidies aim to assist families to engage in ICTs.

Important notes on eligibility

To be eligible for a ICTs/DE subsidy, families must:

1. for computer hardware and software subsidies - belong to the **Geographic Isolation** or **Medical** categories.
2. for broadband internet subsidy – belong to the **Geographic Isolation** category.
3. have a minimum of **six (6) months continuous enrolment** at a School of Distance Education (SDE) in the subsidy category nominated. All subsidies are available to families who have a student enrolled in the preparatory year.

COMPUTER HARDWARE/SOFTWARE SUBSIDY

Geographic Isolation and Medical category

Education Queensland provides an annual subsidy to families of *\$250 per student* to assist in the *purchase, replacement or upgrade of computer hardware* used to enhance student learning. If eligible, you do not have to apply for this subsidy. It will be paid automatically via EFT deposit into your nominated account.

Through the *Microsoft Enterprise Agreement* (MEA) software packages are also available to **eligible Medical** and **Distance** enrolments.

Please email communityengagement@brisbanesde.eq.edu.au

Subject Line: **ICT Subs** for more information on this package.

BROADBAND INTERNET SUBSIDY

Geographic Isolation category only

This is an annual subsidy of *up to \$500 per student* to assist distance education families in meeting the costs of broadband internet access and download charges for the home classroom.

The subsidy is to be spent on monthly fees for broadband internet services. It is not intended for the purchase of infrastructure such as satellite dishes, although it is acknowledged that some broadband internet providers may combine infrastructure, access and download fees.

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