

Assistance of \$10.00 per person per night is given if you, or your approved escort, choose to stay with friends or relatives. If you are not a concession card holder, again, you must meet the cost of the first four nights accommodation in a financial year.

Escorts

Assistance for escorts is only given if the hospital medical officer decides it is medically necessary that you be accompanied.

This pamphlet is intended as an information source only and every effort has been made to ensure that the information in this pamphlet is accurate and up to date. Queensland Health, and its officers and staff do not accept responsibility for any errors, omissions or inaccuracies. Please refer to the Queensland Health website for further information. <http://www.health.qld.gov.au>

Further Information

Refer to the booklet “Information for Patients and their Carers” which outlines the Scheme in detail. Please ask your GP or local public hospital for a copy.

Staff at your local hospital can also assist in answering your queries.

The Integrated Patient Transport Unit can also provide advice.

Telephone (07) 3328 9076

A copy of this pamphlet and the PTSS application form is available on the Queensland Health website
<http://www.health.qld.gov.au/>



PTSS

Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme

What is the purpose of the scheme?

Queensland Health's Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme (PTSS) provides financial assistance to patients who need to access specialist medical services, which are not available within their local area.

The Scheme can provide a subsidy towards the cost of travel and accommodation for patients, and in some cases, their escorts who are required to accompany them.

Am I eligible?

You need a current Medicare Card (or be eligible to hold a Medicare Card).

You need to be a resident of Queensland.

The service for which you are seeking travel subsidy must be classified as "essential". Please refer to the Scheme booklet Information for Patients and Their Carers for more detail.

The service you are seeking is not within 50 kilometres of your nearest public hospital.

A medical practitioner must refer you to the service.

You cannot apply for PTSS if you need medical attention whilst interstate for holiday or work purposes.

How do I apply?

The doctor who refers you to a specialist will complete an application form, which you must take to your local hospital.

The hospital will process your application and determine what assistance you are eligible for. This will normally occur within two working days.

Assistance can only be provided when your application has been approved before you travel, except in special circumstances.

What assistance is available?

Transport

Assistance is provided to you, and your approved escort, for the cost of the least expensive form of public transport from the transport terminal (airport, bus station, railway station) in the town where your hospital is located, to the transport terminal in the town to which you are travelling.

Private car travel is subsidised at 15 cents per kilometre from the post office nearest the referring hospital to the post office nearest the treating hospital.

If you choose a more expensive form of transport, you must meet the additional costs involved. The subsidy remains the same.

More expensive forms of transport such as air travel will be approved if necessary for medical reasons.

Accommodation

Assistance is provided to you and your approved escort of up to \$30.00 per person per night for commercial accommodation, if you are a concession card holder.

If you are not a concession card holder, you must meet the costs of the first four nights of accommodation in a financial year, then you and your approved escort may be provided with up to \$30.00 per person per night for commercial accommodation.