

What is the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme (PTSS)?

The Scheme provides financial support for patients to get specialist medical treatment when the service is not available within 50km of the patient's closest public hospital or public health facility.

Eligible patients can apply for travel and/or accommodation subsidies to help with the costs of getting to and from the closest public hospital or public health facility that provides the specialist medical treatment. Patients who need help when travelling can also apply for a patient escort to travel with them.

The PTSS does not cover the full costs of travelling for specialist medical treatment. Any costs incurred in addition to approved subsidies are at the patient's expense.

Am I eligible for PTSS?

Patient must be a Queensland resident and be eligible for Medicare to receive PTSS subsidies.

They must also have a valid referral for an approved PTSS specialty, that is not available within 50km of their nearest public hospital or health facility.

What subsidies are available?

Travel and accommodation subsidies are available for eligible patients and their patient escort. Patients should apply for PTSS as early as possible prior to travel.

Eligible patients can submit one retrospective application for assessment for travel undertaken in the last 12 months. **The approved travel subsidy** is for the most clinically appropriate and cost-effective mode of transport available, and is calculated using the rates on the table to the right.

Mode of transport	Subsidy amount
Commercial— air, bus, ferry or rail	Fully subsidised payment*
Private car (driving)	A rate of \$0.34 per km, calculated using a predetermined toll-free route between facilities.

* equal to the lowest economy rate (excluding GST)

The accommodation subsidy provides financial support for accommodation costs for as long as the patient is medically required to be away from home and is calculated using the rates below:

Type of accommodation	Subsidy amount *per approved person
Commercial accommodation	Up to \$70 per night
Private accommodation	\$10 per night

The accommodation subsidy does not apply to any nights the patient spends in hospital. Patient escorts may still be eligible during this time.

My PTSS ID is:

My local hospital or health facility is:

Their phone number is:

Their email address is:



Do you need to travel for a specialist medical appointment? >>>

If you are a permanent Queensland resident, and have a referral to a specialist medical service that is not available locally, you may be eligible for financial support as part of the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme (PTSS).



For more information visit:

www.health.qld.gov.au/ptss
or call 13 HEALTH (13 43 25 84)



**Queensland
Government**

Your guide to the Patient Travel Subsidy Scheme (PTSS)

Assessment

Your application is assessed against the PTSS Guideline to decide eligibility or alternatives to travel.

You will be notified of the outcome of your PTSS application.



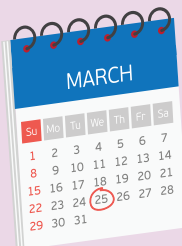
Step

2

ASSESSMENT
COMPLETED

Step

3



Booking

After you have received confirmation of approval via email, you can book your travel or accommodation.

- If you need support contact your local public hospital or public health service to help book your travel or for accommodation assistance.
- If you choose to book your own travel or accommodation, remember to keep all your tax invoices.

Step

5

Make a claim

Gather the following documents to make a claim:

- ☐ A completed and signed **Form C: Appointment attendance**
- ☐ All tax invoices for travel and accommodation bookings

Submit these documents for assessment:

- ☐ To any Queensland public hospital or public health service in person, via email, fax or post

Please ask your local travel team for further information.

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Final step

Subsidy payment

Subsidy payment should be received within 30 business days of submitting all necessary and correctly completed paperwork.



Referral

Have you received a specialist referral located more than 50km from your local public hospital or public health service?

Check if you are eligible for a travel subsidy using the Eligibility Checking tool online or ask your doctor for more information.

To register, complete three simple forms:

- ☐ **Form A: Patient Registration**
- ☐ **Patient Vendor Banking Details form**
- ☐ **Form B: Travel Referral** – ask your doctor to help fill this out

Submit these forms for assessment:

- ☐ Online (Form A only)
- ☐ To any Queensland public hospital or public health service in person via email, fax or post

Attendance

When you attend your appointment, ask the specialist or a representative to fill out **Form C: Appointment attendance**.

If you are staying with family or friends, complete and sign **Form D: Accommodation confirmation**.

Remember to keep these forms to submit a claim later. If you need assistance booking your return travel home, contact your local public hospital or public health service.

