

## Aurora High School Program Academic Support Plan Spending Policy

Aurora's High School Program (HSP) is an intensive academic and cultural enrichment program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high school students. Participants in HSP are supported through individualised academic support plans to cover education-related expenses that support students on their education journey.

This Academic Support Plan Spending Policy applies to all HSP participants, their parents/carers and program staff. The Policy outlines how and when funds can be spent in tailoring the support for each student.

### Accessing funds:

- Academic Support Plans are finalised by the HSP team at the beginning of Term 1 and reviewed at the beginning of term 3 each year, with input from parents/carers, students and schools.
- Each Academic Support Plan is tailored, and decisions are made on a student-by-student basis.
- Items provided through Academic Support Plans must support students' participation and engagement in school.
- To access funds, students must be actively engaged in the HSP, including consistent attendance at camp.

### What funds can be spent on:

- HSP staff have discretion over how a student's Academic Support Plan funding can be spent.
- All HSP students are required to use their Academic Support Plan funds to participate in fortnightly tutoring sessions for one Term in their first year of being part of HSP.
- Academic Support Plan funding does not extend to items purchased for camp (e.g. sleeping bags) camp prizes, Aurora merchandise, or gift cards.
- Academic spending must fall into one of the approved categories included in the table below.

### Amount of funding available:

- Each year, we provide up to \$2,500 for each participating student. This is split into two 6-month allocations (semesters) of up to \$1,250 unless otherwise authorised.
- A student's unspent funds from the first 6-month allocation do not roll over into the second 6-month allocation for that student for that calendar year.

Support Field	Support Category	Description/examples	Annual spending cap
Tutoring	Tutoring	Tutoring (including admin fee)	\$1000
School costs	Compulsory school fees	Compulsory school fees	\$500
	School uniform	School uniform, school backpack, school shoes	\$500
	Other school costs	Excursions, school events, additional subject costs	\$400
Education materials	Books	Books, textbooks, credits for e-readers	\$250
	Stationery	Calculator, pens, pencils, ruler, compass, notebooks	\$250
	Study furniture	Desk, chair	\$250
Technology	Laptop and bag	Laptop and bag	\$1200 (year)

			8 and year 11 only)
	IT related	External hard drive, noise cancelling headphones, scientific calculator, kindle/e-book, mouse, keyboard, cords, etc	\$300
	Printer and toner	Printer, ink, scanner	\$200
	Home Wifi	Wifi device, data pack	Dongle is \$147 and data is \$70 for 100GB
Wellbeing	Extra curricular activities and equipment	Sports fees, sports equipment (uniforms, shoes), music lessons, music equipment, swimming lessons, language classes, etc	\$250
	Health and wellbeing	Prescription glasses, mental health supports, health assessments/diagnostics, wellbeing support packs	\$200
Other	Other (clothing - not school or extra curricular)	All clothing and shoes that is not school uniform or related to extra-curricular activities	Must be approved by HSP National Manager
	Other (cultural)	Costs related to participation in community events and cultural activities (e.g. NAIDOC ball tickets, transport costs), cultural items (e.g. didgeridoo)	
	Other	All other academic-related spending	

#### Additional information:

- HSP does not reimburse parents/carers for items purchased under Academic Support Plans.
- HSP staff will work with schools, retailers and parents/carers to pay for the items directly.
- HSP does use preferred suppliers for some support items. This may inform or limit the type or brand of support item a student is able to access.
- Students and parents/carers can choose the item, not necessarily the brand of the item.
- Students must attend academic enrichment camps to access their funds.
- If a student defaults on, or leaves the program within the first 12 months, they will be required to hand back any electronic and ICT equipment purchased under the Academic Support Plan.

## Academic Support Plan Consent Form

Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Budget: \_\_\_\_\_ Up to \$2500 per year

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please tick area of support required and specific items where needed:

Support Field	Support Category	Description/examples	Max \$ per year	Required? (please circle)	Describe what is required
Tutoring	Tutoring	Private tutoring	\$1,000?	Yes / No	
School costs	Compulsory school fees	Compulsory school fees	\$500	Yes / No	
	School uniform	School uniform, school backpack, school shoes	\$500	Yes / No	
	Other school costs	Excursions, school events, additional subject costs	\$400	Yes / No	
Education materials	Books	Books, textbooks, credits for e-readers	\$250	Yes / No	
	Stationery	Calculator, pens, pencils, ruler, compass, notebooks	\$250	Yes / No	
	Study furniture	Desk, chair	\$250	Yes / No	
Technology	Laptop and bag	Laptop and bag	\$1200 (year 8 and year 11 only)	Yes / No	
	IT related	External hard drive, noise cancelling headphones, scientific calculator, kindle/e-book, mouse, keyboard, cords, etc	\$300	Yes / No	
	Printer and toner	Printer, ink, scanner	\$200	Yes / No	
	Home Wifi	Wifi device, data pack	Dongle \$147 + \$70 for 100GB	Yes / No	
Wellbeing	Extra curricular activities and equipment	Sports fees, sports equipment (uniforms, shoes), music lessons, music equipment, swimming lessons, language classes, etc	\$250	Yes / No	
	Health and wellbeing	Prescription glasses, mental health supports, health assessments/diagnostics, wellbeing support packs	\$200	Yes / No	
Other	Other (clothing - not school or extra curricular)	All clothing and shoes that is not school uniform or related to extra curricular activities	By discretion of HSP National Manager	Yes / No	

	Other (cultural)	Costs related to participation in community events and cultural activities (e.g. NAIDOC ball tickets, transport costs), cultural items (e.g. didgeridoo)		Yes / No	
	Other	All other academic-related spending		Yes / No	

**Notes**

- Invoices must be provided prior to payment
- All payments are made directly to Aurora’s preferred supplier
- Purchasing of items may take up to a week for EFT. Aurora cannot guarantee last minute purchases
- No reimbursements available
- Maximum cost (\$) per year is a guide
- Any additional spending must be approved by HSP National Manager

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Carer name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Please return this form to the HSP team or scan and email to:  
[aurorahsp@aurorafoundation.com.au](mailto:aurorahsp@aurorafoundation.com.au)