

Cost of living support in WA

Imagined
Futures

Where is
the door



The WA State Government Cost of Living Measures for 2025-26 include:

ENERGY BILL RELIEF

Energy bill relief will be provided to all Australian households and eligible small businesses:

- \$150 in energy bill relief

Rebates will be automatically applied to your electricity bill in two \$75 instalments

WA RENT RELIEF EXTENDED UNTIL DEC 2025

- for tenants in rental stress or at risk of eviction
- up to \$5000 to support rent for up to 3 months
- access through Emergency Relief Food Access Service (1800 979 777)

Eligibility - private tenants in WA that meet eligibility criteria

Visit: www.warentrelief.org.au/

REDUCED PUBLIC TRANSPORT COSTS

- Free transport on Sundays for Transperth bus, train and ferry services
- All fares capped at \$2.80 per trip using autoload SmartRider **from 1st Jan 2026**
- Free public transport for school-aged students

Apply for Student SmartRider:

<https://www.transperth.wa.gov.au/smartrider/types-of-smartrider/student-smartrider>

- Free off-peak public transport for seniors

Apply for a Seniors SmartRider:

www.transperth.wa.gov.au/SmartRider/Types-of-SmartRider/Seniors-SmartRider

CONCESSION CARD HOLDERS - SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

- KidSport vouchers of up to \$300 for eligible children 5-18 to participate in community sport

Apply: kidsport.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/

- **Dependent Child Rebate** – available for concession card holders with dependent children, calculated by your energy provider (Synergy or Horizon).
- **Clothing Allowance** - available for concession card holders with children enrolled in secondary school, apply through your school, (closed for 2025, available in 2026).

FREE TAFE COURSES IN 2026

- Free TAFE Courses - additional selected TAFE courses will be available fee-free in 2026.
- low-fee courses available for jobseekers, young people and concession card holders

Access through TAFE or training providers.

HUGS PROGRAM EXPANDED

Hardship Utility Grant Scheme (HUGS) assists WA utility customers experiencing financial hardship and unable to pay their utility bills.

- program expanded to include support for public housing tenants to pay water bills

Apply through your utility provider:

<https://www.wa.gov.au/service/community-services/grants-and-subsidies/hardship-utility-grant-scheme>

RESIDENTIAL BATTERY SCHEME

- One-off rebates for households to purchase batteries
- No interest loans for those on income of less than \$210,000 to help with upfront costs
- **Eligibility:** for synergy or horizon power account holders

Find out how to apply:

<https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/energy-policy-wa/wa-residential-battery-scheme>

For more cost of living measures and free and low-cost support available in Cockburn, Fremantle and Melville, **Visit:** <https://whereisthedoor.org.au/>