

# 2017 SCHOOLCARD INFORMATION AND APPLICATION FORMS

From 2015 the School Card Allowance, previously provided by the Dept for Education & Child Development (DECD), will be administered & funded by non-government schools. This is as a result of the national *Better Schools Plan* funding arrangements.

In order to assist non-government schools in determining eligibility for fee relief, the Dept for Educ & Child Development (DECD) will continue to undertake eligibility assessments for parents thereby providing an objective & externally-assessed measure for schools.

If you are wanting additional information, please go to [sa.gov.au](http://sa.gov.au). The following information has been taken off their web site.

## **School Card Forms:**

The school card scheme has different forms depending on your financial circumstances. You are only required to complete one of them.

In most cases you will need to show evidence to support your application – see the relevant form for details.

Once you find a form that matches your circumstances, check the information on the back page to be sure you meet the eligibility criteria.

### **FORM A: Income Audit**

This form is suitable for most low-income students and families. Use this form if:

- Your combined gross income is within the income audit
- Your combined gross income is generated solely from a salary or Centrelink benefits
- Neither parent is self-employed
- The child was born after 1 July 1997.

### **FORM B: Hardship, change of circumstances or self-employment**

This form is for people who:

- Have a gross income above the School Card income limit, but have experienced hardship due to extraordinary or unavoidable expenses – eg. Medical or funeral costs
- Experienced a significant change of financial circumstances from the 1 July last year to end of February this year – eg. Unemployment.
- Are self-employed and the family gross income is within the limit.

## **FORM F: Foster parents and guardians**

This form is for:

- Foster (informal and formal care agreement) applicants who are the guardians of one or more students
- Grandparents who are the guardians of their grandchildren.

## **FORM M: Migrants and new arrivals**

This form is for:

- Newly arrived migrants who arrived in Australia after 1 July 2015
- Applicants who have exited a detention centre after 1 July 2015
- Families with a combined gross income that is within the income limit.

Newly arrived migrant may need to contact the School card Section on 1800 672 758 to discuss their visa class.

## **Getting help**

For more information or assistance with completing the form, talk to the school on 8381 4290 or ring school card on phone freecall 1800 672 758.

Please read the information carefully. If you meet the criteria, you are eligible for a reduction in school fees by 50%. A form **MUST** to be filled out **every** year to apply for the school card discount, even if you have been given the discount already.

I have attached Form A & B, as these are the most common forms used. If you are needing a different form, please see Trish at the Cashiers office, or download one from the [sa.gov.au](http://sa.gov.au) web site. Please ensure you fill out the correct school name: Prescott College Southern (as we have 2 other Prescott Schools & names have gone to the wrong school.)

We can submit to school card twice a term. Dates are 10/2/17 & 10/3/17 for Term 1, so if you could get your forms in ASAP, that would be wonderful. If not, they will be processed in Term 2.

School Card will notify you by letter if eligible/not eligible & a register will be sent to the school. Once the school has been notified, your school fees will be adjusted & given the school card discount. This process may take several months, or even longer. Please do not hold off paying School Fees until you have received your letter of eligibility/or not eligible.

For assistance at school, please speak to Trish Dunlop, or ring school card on phone freecall 1800 672 758.