Dear Principal

This letter is to update you on changes to the Conveyance Allowance Program (CAP) announced by the Minister for Education in Parliament yesterday. The information below explains how the changes affect your school.

**Means testing**
In October 2012 it was announced that means testing was being introduced for all new applicants, effective from 1 January 2013.

After receiving feedback from rural and regional Victoria, the Minister for Education announced in Parliament yesterday that the means testing component of the CAP will be removed.

This means in 2013, students in rural and regional Victoria will be entitled to apply for the conveyance allowance under the 2012 criteria.

**Urban Metropolitan Boundary**
The Minister for Education also announced that a new metropolitan boundary based on Melbourne’s Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) would be used for the CAP. This change, including the grandfathering of existing students currently receiving an allowance, will proceed.

**Next steps**
We request your assistance in making your school community aware of the removal of the means testing component from the conveyance allowance criteria as soon as possible.

A revised conveyance allowance policy will be issued in due course. In the interim, eligible schools should refer to the 2012 conveyance allowance policy and procedural guidelines.

Assistance, if required, is available through the Department’s Information and Referral Service. The number is 1800 809 834 and select option 6. This information line operates 9 am – 12 pm and 1 pm – 4.30 pm Monday to Friday, and is available for a limited time.

Thank you for your assistance.

Yours sincerely

Jim Miles
Deputy Secretary
Infrastructure and Finance Service Group

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