

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to voice my concern at the proposed changes to the youth allowance for country students. It is not a viable option and would be very detrimental to country students. There are not the employment opportunities/ jobs available for students to be employed for 30 hours per week in country areas. Often students rely on seasonal work to make their money and that only lasts for the duration of the season not for 18 months. Having to defer for 18 months is unrealistic as the university only offers 12 month deferment. Students would be forced to take 2 years off and may then choose not to go to university at all - isn't this country always complaining that we don't have enough qualified people in trades. Give country students a fair go and leave the Student Youth Allowance as it is and give more students the opportunity to further their education!!!

Yours truly Vicki Johnson