# Live Organ Donor Travel and Accommodation Reimbursement Scheme: Information Sheet for Donors

# WA Country Health Service

# Purpose

This scheme is designed to reimburse live organ donors from WA Country Health Service (WACHS) regions for some of their travel and accommodation costs when travelling for donation assessment, surgery and one post-operative visit, unless this can be done through Telehealth.

The scheme does not apply to escorts travelling with live donors.

# **Eligibility criteria**

This scheme applies where the primary purpose of travel is for live organ donation assessment and/or retrieval in Western Australia and the live donor is:

- a permanent resident of a WACHS region; and is
- eligible for treatment under Medicare.

Evidence of usual residence may be requested.

## **Application process**

The hospital that will be undertaking the transplant will apply to your local health service's Regional Director for you to access the scheme. Where practicable, the health service will provide you with fuel cards or book your accommodation and travel for you. You will then be given a travel and accommodation claim after your surgery is complete to reimburse you if you have outstanding expenses.

You will need to retain your tax receipts and other documentation to provide to the health service after your surgery.

To apply, the hospital will need your:

- full name
- · date of birth
- · residential address
- dates and type of treatment required away from your usual residential location.

#### **Reimbursement rates**

You will be reimbursed in line with Australian Taxation Office's Reasonable Travel Expense Rates at the time of travel. If you are using your own car, the Australian Taxation Office's car expenses rates per kilometre will apply.

These rates may vary from year to year, so you should check with your health service for the most current rates.

#### **Payment**

Once you have completed your travel and accommodation claim for outstanding expenses, submit your claim to your local health service. Payment will occur within six weeks of the claim being approved.

### **Appeals process**

If a request to access the Scheme is declined, you can appeal the outcome to the WACHS Chief Executive Officer.

You will be given contacts and information so you can contact the health service of origin. You can also complain to the Health and Disability Services Complaints Office, or the Health Consumers Council.

#### This document can be made available in alternative formats on request for a person with a disability

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