



## Benefits Funds Program New Program Limits 2021/22

On 1 July 2021 the boards of Wajarri Yamaji Aboriginal Corporation and Winja Wajarri Barna Limited temporarily suspended some Member Programs. This decision was to be in place until the Benefits Management System (BMS) was agreed and established by the WY people. In the event it hadn't been agreed by the end of September 2021 then the board agreed to review the suspension.

### Background Information

The BMS will determine how the funds from the SKA ILUA financial benefits will flow to and be disbursed amongst the WY people. Land Groups will also need to decide how financial benefits from Native Title Future Acts will be managed and flow between the affected Land Groups and the PBC.

By now you would have received a notice of a Common Law Holders (CLH) Meeting on Saturday 4 December 2021 and the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Sunday 5 December 2021. At the CLH meeting you will have an opportunity to discuss and potentially decide how future monetary benefits from native title arrangements will be managed, having the CLH's decide this matter will provide greater clarity on how the BMS needs to be set up.

Until WY People have had an opportunity to decide how monetary benefits are managed, the boards have agreed to reopen some member programs effective **15/11/21** with changes as follows:

Program	Program Amount	Notes
Medical Assistance Program	\$330	
Medical Crisis Travel	\$330	Strictly as per the Policy (Medical Emergency, not an appointment) Australia Post cards will no longer be issued. As per Policy, a third party quote or invoice must be provided.
Chronic Medical Assistance Travel	\$125	Maximum of six per annum. As per Policy a third party quote or invoice must be provided.
Seniors Program	\$410	Eligibility age has increased to 60+ years
Elders Christmas Fund	\$450	Limited to \$100,000 in total. The program amount is calculated based on the number of eligible members.
Youth Program (individuals 15 years and under)	\$140	
Youth Program (individuals 16 to 25 years)	\$190	
Language and Arts Program 18yrs+	\$165	
Cultural Program	\$330	Australia Post cards will no longer be issued. As per Policy, a third party quote or invoice must be provided.
Funeral Program	\$1,100	



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What programs are suspended?**

Post-Secondary Education, Primary and Secondary Education Programs. All other programs remain with some changes to the amounts and or eligibility.

### **Why are they suspended?**

Programs have been suspended temporarily because the WY community has not yet had the opportunity to finalise its Benefits Management System (BMS).

### **When can we access the suspended member programs again?**

Member programs can be made available again when the BMS has been agreed and established by the WY people.

### **What is the BMS?**

The BMS is the system of how the money and financial benefits flow to the WY people, between Land Groups, to the PBC and the trusts.

### **When will the BMS be finalised?**

It was expected we would have the opportunity to finalise the SKA ILUA negotiations by September 2021, you will be given the opportunity to discuss and or decide on the BMS structure Saturday 4 December 2021.

### **When is the next Common Law Holders (CLH) and Annual General Meeting (AGM)?**

Notices were sent to all known Common Law Holders and all WYAC Members Friday 5 November 2021. The CLH meeting is Saturday 4 December and the AGM Sunday 5 December 2021.

### **Is WYAC the PBC?**

Wajarri Yamaji Aboriginal Corporation was registered as the PBC late July 2021.

### **When will my Land Group Membership application be processed?**

Membership Applications are reviewed by the Land Committees under the Rulebooks. WYAC is developing the process for this to happen now, this will commence at the first CLH and AGM in December 2021.

### **Who made the decision to suspend Member Programs?**

This decision was made by the WWBL and WYAC boards.

### **Are the member program amounts going to change in the future?**

This will depend on what the WY community decides for its BMS.

### **Are the different Land Groups going to pay different amounts?**

This will be up to the BMS the WY community sets up.

### **What is happening with the Elders Christmas bonus?**

The total budget allowance for Elders Christmas bonus has been set at \$100,000. We currently have approximately 220 eligible Elder Members aged 65 years and over, so each eligible applicant can apply for \$450.

**Want more information?**

**Please send an email with your question to [corporationsecretary@wajarri.com.au](mailto:corporationsecretary@wajarri.com.au) and it will be addressed by the WYAC board.**