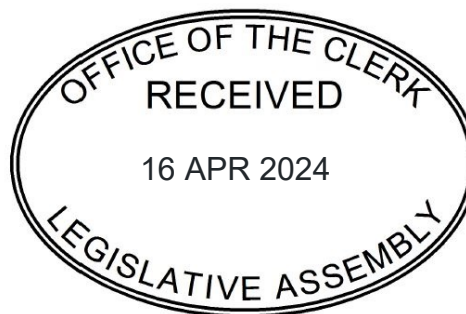


The Hon Jo Haylen MP
Minister for Transport



Ms Helen Minnican
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000



Ref: LA Petition

Re: PETITION 20,000+ - LEONG, JENNY - TRANSPORT CONCESSIONS

Dear Ms Minnican,

I write in response to the petition lodged in the Legislative Assembly on 12 March 2024, by Ms Jenny Leong MP, regarding transport concessions.

Under NSW law, full fee-paying overseas students are not eligible to receive concession travel. As part of their student visa application, these students are required to provide evidence to the Australian Government that they have sufficient funds to meet their educational and living costs whilst they are residing in Australia. Exceptions apply for overseas students in Australia on specific federal government scholarships.

Any student that is ineligible for a concession fare can access the Study Fare on regional rail which provides a 15% discount on the seasonal adult fare. The Study Fare is available to international, interstate and full fee-paying overseas students. Across the Opal enabled network, the weekly fare cap of \$50 for Adult Opal tickets also applies to these students.

Students that attend tertiary studies part-time due to their disability can receive concession travel. All other part-time and correspondence study is excluded from concession eligibility, as these formats offer the potential to undertake full-time employment hours while studying. This approach is consistent with other jurisdictions, except in the Northern Territory.

Thank you for taking the time to bring this matter to the Government's attention.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jo Haylen".

Jo Haylen MP
Minister for Transport