

Information for witnesses attending Magistrates Court, Children's Court or Coroner's Court in Queensland.

1. Loss of Income

Witnesses giving evidence who have suffered a loss of income for the purpose of attendance at court may be entitled an allowance from the Queensland Police Service.

For each **working** day:

- Up to four hours of necessary absence from the workplace - \$48.50.
- More than four hours of necessary absence from the workplace- \$105.00.

2. Travelling Allowance

A travel allowance or reimbursement may be paid to a witness attending court on behalf of the Crown.

The amount actually paid for fares travelling to and from court using public transport may be reimbursed, – i.e. train, bus or ferry. Receipts **must** be supplied for fares over \$15.00.

Taxis are **not** considered public transport. Reimbursement for taxi travel will be made in emergent circumstances or airport travel only. Receipts **must** be supplied for reimbursement to occur.

An allowance may be paid for travel in a private vehicle if public transport **is not** available. The current rate is 35c per km. If public transport is available, the equivalent fare will be paid.

A witness is not entitled to the payment of a travelling allowance if no expense is incurred.

The Queensland Police Service will organise all medium to long distance travel for a witness.

3. Accommodation and Meal Allowances

Where overnight accommodation for the witness is necessary, it will be arranged by the investigating police officer and paid direct to the accommodation provider.

Accommodation charges **only** will be paid. Meals and/or incidental expenses cannot be charged to the accommodation provider. Meal allowances may be claimed from the Queensland Police Service upon completion of the court proceedings. An allowance may also be available if private accommodation is utilised.

4. Additional Information

If the witness leaves home or his/her workplace earlier than the time required for court, or returns home or to his/her workplace at some time later than the time required to travel home from court, there is no entitlement to be paid any allowances for the extra time.

If the witness travels or shares accommodation with the defendant, there is no entitlement to be paid an allowance for travel or accommodation.

Further information can be obtained by contacting the police officer in charge of the matter.

This document applies for the period 1 January 2009 - 31 December 2009.