**Away from Base Review
Response Template**

Thank you for reading through the discussion paper and for agreeing to share your views on how we can improve AFB assistance. Please enter your comments below in each of the discussion questions on this template.

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Personal information you provide when you submit comments will be used by the Department for the purpose of informing the Cross Portfolio Review of Away from Base. Personal information may also be disclosed to Ministers and their staff.

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It is best to respond to us by e-mail, attaching the completed template as a Word document. We would be happy to receive hard copies if e-mail is not convenient for you. Comments should be provided by **Friday 02 November 2018** to:

| E-mail | Hard copy |
| --- | --- |
| ITPT@pmc.gov.au  | AFB ReviewEducation, Community Safety and Health DivisionIndigenous Affairs GroupDepartment of the Prime Minister and CabinetGPO Box 6500 CANBERRA ACT 2600 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Respondent (optional):  |  |
| Is this response on behalf of an organisation? | Yes/ No |
| Provider contact name (optional): |  |
| Provider contact details (optional): | Ph:Email: |
| Is your submission confidential? | Yes/ No |

1. Importance of AFB assistance for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students

*Please comment on the relevance or otherwise of AFB assistance and its components to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people now and into the future. What are the gaps in State, Territory and university support to assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to access distance education and training? Are there other ways than AFB to address these gaps?*

1. Administration of AFB

*Does the two program model provide the best outcomes for students, or are there alternatives you believe would improve administration of AFB? If you are suggesting alternative models, please provide information on the preferred process for implementing the model.*

*Consider the time and resources spent on administering travel arrangements and undertaking reporting as well as the funds providers receive for this work. If your institution accesses both AFB programs, how does the administration and compliance requirements compare? Also consider whether special arrangements allowing provider payments should continue and if so, whether reimbursement, advance payment or both options should remain available to providers.*

1. Individual students

*Should individual students be able to claim AFB support, or should they be required to apply through a provider? Consider the advantages and disadvantages of a central travel agent organising travel compared to providers booking student and staff travel. Should both options be available in the future? Offer comments in support of your position and where relevant, suggestions on how any improved arrangement might be implemented.*

1. Targeting and Prioritising AFB

*What is the fairest way of targeting and prioritising existing AFB resources? Please comment on one or more of the following issues:*

* *Courses*
* *Student home locations*
* *Providers*
* *Per student allocations*
* *Number of trips and days of accommodation*
* *Co-contributions*
* *Employer-sponsored education and training*
* *Types of costs covered*

*Please offer advice on how your preferred approach might be implemented.*

1. Anything else you’d like us to consider?

*Please outline any issues you think we’ve missed and your proposed solutions to these issues.*