



# Driving Access and Equity Grant Program Evaluation

SERVICE FAMILY

Business Strategy and  
Operations Support



<b>Client</b>	Department of Transport
<b>Engagement Summary</b>	Cost of Service Review and Cost Benefit Assessment

## Background

The *Driving Access and Equity Program (DAEP)* is an initiative introduced by the Department of Transport (DoT) to improve access to obtaining a driver’s licence in regional and remote areas of Western Australia. DAEP grants are provided to eligible regional not-for-profit and Aboriginal organisations that have dedicated activities to improve access to driver licensing services, driving instructors and supervisors, and vehicles in which to learn to drive.

DAEP initially started as a pilot in the Kimberley and Pilbara regions, and coverage has since been expanded to the Mid-West, Gascoyne and Goldfields-Esperance regions. To support its strategy and budget submission to further expand and fund DAEP on a State-wide ongoing basis, DoT sought our help to develop a forecast cost model for the program and also assess the value the program delivers to the State.

## Approach

Through meetings with DoT program members and following a review of program metrics and cost data, we developed a cost option model to forecast the cost to State and associated funding requirements of an expansion of the DAEP on a State-wide basis. Our model incorporated the ability to test funding costs under a range of program scenarios.

Having identified the potential program costs, we then undertook a cost-benefit analysis (CBA) to quantify the potential value to State and how the value might be influenced by different program scenarios. In undertaking the CBA, we considered and tested DAEP benefit metrics identified by a third-party consulting group which DoT had previously engaged following the program’s inception. The benefits

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*The interest, professionalism and genuinely collaborative approach demonstrated by the WATC Advisory Services team resulted in a rigorous Cost Benefit Analysis tool to support funding requests, ensuring continued delivery of the Driving Access and Equity program.*

Strategy and Projects Manager, Regional Services  
Department of Transport

attributed values to metrics including reductions to driver training access costs, program success rates and longer-term licenced driver economic participation benefits. We then contrasted the net present value of program costs and benefits over an evaluation timeline to arrive at a benefit-cost ratio score for the DAEP under a range of program scenarios.

## Outcome

Our evaluation found that ongoing State support for the Driving Access and Equity grant program generates positive value to the State for two of the three tested scenarios, reflecting favourably on the State’s continued funding support for DAEP under such scenarios.

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*Getting my licence helped because I was able to get a job. Bloodwood Tree was a big support, they was able to help me learn the road rules.*

Participant, Driving Access and Equity Program



**More Information**

View the key aims of this program and the latest stories of change

Transport WA →

The Driving Access and Equity Program provides support to disadvantaged people in Western Australia to overcome the barriers they may face to get a driver’s licence.



This information is descriptive and general in nature and does not take into account your organisation’s specific financial objectives, situation and needs. Please contact our Advisory Services team before making any decisions in relation to WATC’s products and services, so they can provide information and advice on which options are suited to your organisation’s requirements.

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