Central Australian families will receive a boost to the family budget this week with the first instalment of the Government’s expanded Sport Vouchers scheme rolled out to students.

“Sport is extremely popular for children in the Centre and our expanded Sports Vouchers will help drive down the cost of living for families,” said Minister for Sport, Recreation and Racing Matt Conlan.

“We’ve more than doubled the popular $75 Sport Vouchers to a total of $200 per year per child which I know is great news for mums and dads.

“A $100 voucher will be issued to parents twice a year, at the beginning of Semester two in July and Semester one in January. Every school-aged child will receive their first $100 Sport Voucher at school this week, after the popular scheme received a $5 million boost in the 2014 Budget.

“I encourage parents to keep an eye out for the new green $100 Vouchers.”

Mr Conlan said as part of the $5 million Sport Vouchers expansion more sport, recreation, cultural and arts activities are now covered by the scheme.

“It’s great to see recreation activities like the Australian Dance Academy already sign up to the new scheme with the Duke of Edinburgh Award NT Division in Alice Springs and Artback NT two new organisations to join the program for the first time. Now there are even more choices for families and their children to stay healthy and active,” Mr Conlan said.

“The Sport Vouchers scheme has been very successful in the Centre with 1687 vouchers redeemed already this year for the $75 scheme, with netball and AFL the most popular sports and more than 30 organisations registered.

“We know the cost of children’s sport and recreation activities can often be expensive and every little bit of assistance helps. Our expanded Sport Vouchers will mean a typical Territory family is $400 better off each year.”
The Sport Vouchers are available for every enrolled, school-aged child across the Territory from preschool to Year 12 in both government and non-government schools. The Vouchers can be used for registration, essential equipment and uniform costs at any registered sporting or recreation club, group or organisation.

“Children in remote areas will also benefit from the scheme with funding allocated directly to remote schools per enrolled student to use on new sport, recreation or cultural programs and activities,” said Mr Conlan.

For more information go to: [www.sportvoucher.nt.gov.au](http://www.sportvoucher.nt.gov.au) or call 1800 045 678.

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