

PORTFOLIO REPORTS - STATE COUNCIL

STUDENT ACCOMMODATION REPORT

Jane Hughes – Portfolio Holder, March 2023

On 15th March Nuveen Real Estate's first purpose-built accommodation 'The Switch' opened in Perth Central providing accommodation for international students and young professionals. The portfolio of four properties totals 1721 beds for students.

On 12th May, the Western Australian Government announced a \$41.2 million package for international students.

A \$10 million incentive package will aim to increase awareness of the State's international education sector through overseas education agents who enrol international students in WA institutions.

A \$1 million familiarisation program will also allow key offshore stakeholders to visit and experience Western Australia. (Copied from online)

On 14th September, the Western Australian Government released an announcement stating they will invest a further \$16.8 million into encouraging international students to study in WA.

\$10 million is committed to the Agent Incentive Scheme in 2022-23, which will provide payments of:

- \$500 per student to agents enrolling a confirmed international student in an English Language Intensive Course for Overseas Students (ELICOS) or VET provider.
- \$1000 per student for a confirmed enrolment at one of the five WA universities.

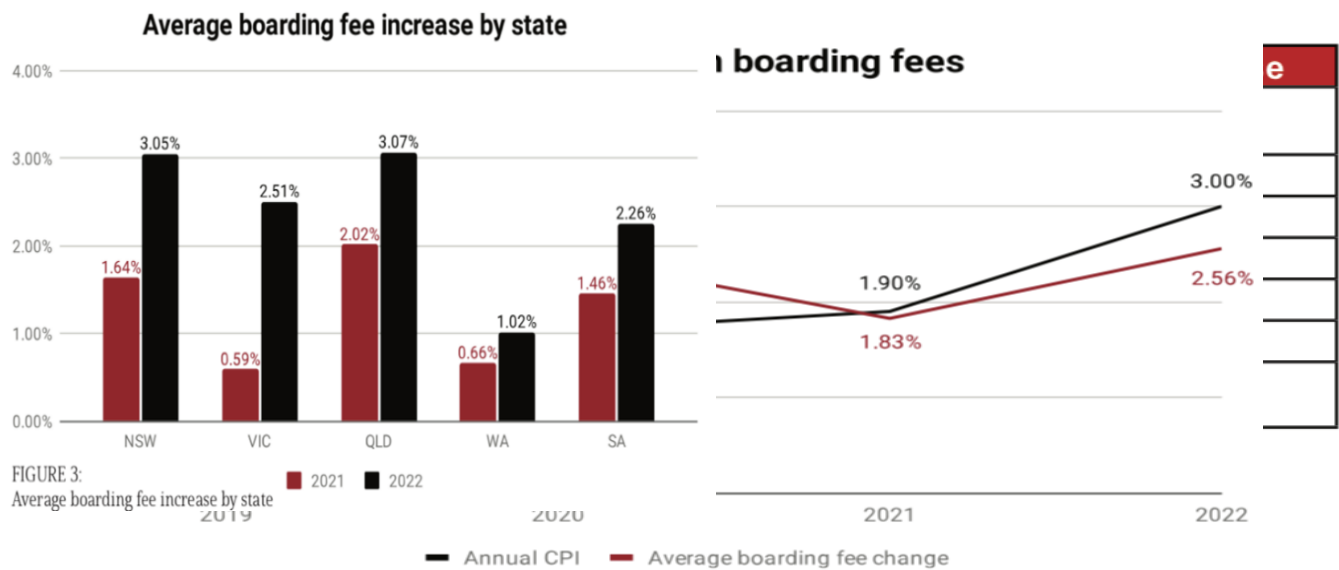
\$6.8 million was committed to continuing the International Student Accommodation Subsidy (ISAS) and the International Student ELICOS Bursary (ISEB) to support and attract international students to WA. This will provide a one-off payment.

- ISAS - \$1,500 for up to 2,500 eligible students to offset accommodation expenses while studying full time in WA in semester 2 2022.
- ISEB - \$1,500 for up to 2,000 eligible international students to offset fees when undertaking an approved ELICOS course in WA.

Over four years, \$4 million has been allocated for the Premier's WA Certificate of Education Bursary and \$2 million for the Premier's University Scholarships, both are new scholarship programs.

An annual report by Edstart school analysed fees at 100 boarding schools from around Australia finding an average increase in fees by 2.56% up from 1.83% last year.

The Eastern States experienced a higher rate of fee increases than Western Australia and South Australia.



The University of Western Australia (UWA) has partnered with MyStay International also known as Australian Homestay Network, to offer new and returning students struggling with the tight housing availability the opportunity to live with a local family. This comes as good news as the West Australian reported that WA has the lowest amount of student accommodation in Australia.

Austudy and Youth Allowance will be increasing from 1st January 2023.

Welfare payments increasing on January 1

YOUTH ALLOWANCE (living at home): Up \$19.10 a fortnight to \$332.90 from \$313.80

YOUTH ALLOWANCE (living away from home): Up \$32.40 a fortnight to \$562.80 from \$530.40

YOUTH ALLOWANCE (single with children): Up \$41.40 a fortnight to \$720.40 from \$679

AUSTUDY (single with no children): Up \$32.40 a fortnight to \$562.80 from \$530.40

AUSTUDY (single with children): Up \$41.40 a fortnight to \$720.40 from \$679

ABSTUDY: Up \$22.40 a fortnight to \$389.40 from \$367 for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and apprentices aged 18 to 21

CARERS ALLOWANCE: Up \$8.30 a fortnight to \$144.80 from \$136.50