

## **PORTFOLIO REPORTS - STATE COUNCIL**

### **POST COMPULSORY REPORT**

**Elize Scheepers – Portfolio Holder, March 2019**

As of 1 January 2019, the Government has introduced a ***lifetime cap*** on the amount of tertiary education assistance a student can access for tuition fees. The new HELP tuition limit will apply to HECS-HELP loans, FEE-HELP loans, VET FEE-HELP loans and VET Student loans. The loan limit isn't renewable – once a student has reached their lifetime limit, they may not borrow any further funds for their tuition. The limits cover almost nine years of study as a Commonwealth supported student. FEE-HELP limit is currently set at lifetime limit of \$101,440. unless you are studying medicine, dentistry or veterinary science where the FEE-HELP limit is set at \$150,000. This amount starts as of 1 January 2019 – any previous HECS-HELP debt would not be taken into account. It is advisable to go online to ascertain whether or not the loan fee applies to your child, and the particular course, before going ahead. <https://www.studyassist.gov.au/help-loans/fee-help>

Federal Government announced that teachers who work in remote communities can have part or all the HECS debt paid by their employer.

A review of the Vocation Education and Training (VET) system was announced by the Australian Government on 28 November 2018, led by Steven Joyce. This will focus on how the Government's investment could be more effective to ensure Australians are equipped with the skills they need to ensure success throughout their working lives. It will also focus on ensuring Australian businesses and businesses in rural and remote areas have the skills they need to support their business growth. Mr. Joyce has recognised a bias against vocational education in favour of universities. He was surprised by the lack of information on VET pathways being provided to school leavers. They called on public submissions to contribute to this review, submissions to the review closed on 25 January 2019. Mr. Joyce will report his findings to the Government in March 2019.

The WA State government, through the Department, prioritises its investment on courses that help people to take up jobs which are in high demand. Courses which are subsidised can be found on the government Jobs and Skills WA website. <https://www.dtwd.wa.gov.au/jswa>

Study Perth provide a table of indicative annual tuition fees which may provide useful information for tertiary education.

Indicative FULL tuition fees:

Primary and Secondary Schools	\$7800 to \$30000
Vocational Education and Training (Certificates 1 to 1V, Diploma and Advanced Diploma)	\$4000 to \$22000
Undergraduate Bachelor degree (excluding high value courses e.g. veterinary and medical)	\$15000 to \$33000
Postgraduate Master's degree	\$20000 to \$37000
Doctoral Degree (excluding high value courses e.g. veterinary and medical)	\$14000 to \$37000

<https://www.studyperth.com.au/blog/2017/06/28/cost-of-study/>

<https://www.studyinaustralia.gov.au/english/australian-education/education-costs>