



Australian Government
**Department of Education, Employment
and Workplace Relations**

HIGHER EDUCATION REPORT

2010





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The *Higher Education Report 2010* is part of a suite of publications which report on the Australian higher education sector in 2010.

Analysis of 2010 student, staff and financial data is published separately and available at www.deewr.gov.au/HigherEducation/Pages/default.aspx

The *Higher Education Report 2010* provides:

- an overview of the higher education sector and its major achievements in 2010;
- details of funding allocations under the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* (HESA); and
- an overview of program outcomes (including the allocation of places).

This publication primarily relates to higher education matters and programs which fall within the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) but does include some information on research block grant programs which are administered by the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research (DIISR).

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Key features of the sector in 2010

In 2010:

- The Australian higher education system comprised:
 - 39 universities (with 37 public institutions and 2 private);
 - 2 Australian branches of overseas universities;
 - 4 other self-accrediting higher education institutions; and
 - Around 150 non self-accrediting higher education institutions accredited by state and territory authorities as listed on state and territory registers.¹ These include several that are registered in more than one state and territory. The non self-accrediting higher education institutions form a very diverse group of specialised, mainly private, bodies that range in size and offer courses in areas such as business, information technology, theology, natural therapies, hospitality, health, law and accounting.
- 1,192,657 domestic and international students undertook higher education at Australian higher education providers, an increase of 5.1 per cent from 2009. Of these, 857,384 were domestic students and 335,273 were international students. Within this combined group of domestic and international students:
 - 833,767 students were undertaking undergraduate study (e.g. bachelor degree, etc.);
 - 320,455 students were undertaking postgraduate study (e.g. masters degree, etc.) and of these 55,740 were undertaking postgraduate study by research; and
 - 38,435 students were undertaking enabling programs or non-award units of study (those not leading to a higher education award).
- Around 735,000 students were assisted in meeting the cost of their higher education place through discounts and loans under the Higher Education Loan Program (HELP) (HECS-HELP and FEE-HELP).
- Five non-self accrediting higher education providers were newly approved to offer FEE-HELP to students.
- Publicly funded higher education providers received, on average, around 58 per cent of their operating revenue from Australian Government grants and payments on behalf of students who take out HELP loans or receive discounts for upfront payments.
- 110,929 people (fulltime equivalent (FTE), including actual casual) were employed by the major higher education providers, which had close to \$21.5 billion in total revenue.

Key Higher Education Initiatives in 2010

The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) has continued to implement the landmark reforms to higher education following the Australian Government's response to the recommendations of the Review of Higher Education (Bradley Review) in the 2009–10 Budget.

Released as part of the 2009–10 Budget package, *Transforming Australia's Higher Education System* is an unprecedented investment in higher education that aims to transform the scale, potential and quality of the nation's universities. Specifically, the reforms are designed to support high quality teaching and learning, improve access and outcomes for students from low socio-economic status (SES) backgrounds, build new links between universities and disadvantaged schools, reward institutions for meeting agreed quality and equity outcomes, improve resourcing for research and invest in world class tertiary education and infrastructure.

¹ The Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) register is at www.aqf.edu.au/register.htm

Two key targets have been set:

- By 2020, 20 per cent of higher education enrolments at undergraduate level should be people from low SES backgrounds; and
- By 2025, 40 per cent of all 25–34 years olds will have a qualification at the bachelor level or above.

2010 Implementation of the Higher Education Reforms

The 2010–11 Budget continued to support the following initiatives originally announced in the 2009–2010 budget:

- **Mission-based Compacts** – An important feature of the higher education reforms announced with the 2009–10 Budget was the establishment of a new relationship between the Australian Government and each Table A and Table B higher education provider through the introduction of mission based compacts. Compacts are a joint initiative of the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) and the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research (DIISR).

Compacts will facilitate alignment of institutional activity with national priorities and will be used to help set performance targets for each institution.

Interim agreements were negotiated at bilateral meetings with each university at the end of 2009, and provide a starting point for an on-going dialogue between the Australian Government and universities around Compacts.

The first mission-based Compacts are three-year agreements that will be negotiated at bilateral meetings in early 2011.

Interim agreements are available on the Department's website at www.deewr.gov.au/HigherEducation/Policy/Pages/InterimAgreements.aspx

- **Funding to support low socio-economic status participation targets** (\$437 million including \$4 million in Departmental funds) – In 2010, equity funding to support low SES participation targets was about 2 per cent of teaching and learning grants and will increase to about 3 per cent in 2011. By 2012, equity funding will be broadly in line with the recommendation of the Bradley Review to increase it to 4 per cent of teaching and learning grants.

In 2010, following consultation with the higher education sector, DEEWR developed an interim enhanced indicator of low SES in higher education based on a combination of the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Socio-economic Index for Areas (SEIFA) Index of Education and Occupation (IEO) measure at the Census Collection District (CD) level and a Centrelink student payments measure. The interim measure will supplement the existing postcode measure. DEEWR is working on the development of an enhanced measure and is currently investigating the feasibility and implications of including information on parental education, parental occupation and school background.

- **Reform of student income support** – The *Social Security and other Legislation Amendment (Income Support for Students) Act 2010*, passed on 18 March 2010, introduced a package of student income support measures in response to the Bradley Review, the first of which took effect on 1 April 2010.

The reforms included the introduction of a Student Start-up Scholarship, paid twice yearly, to assist with the costs of textbooks and equipment required for study. Student Start-up Scholarship is paid to students who are receiving Youth Allowance, Austudy or ABSTUDY and who are undertaking a higher education or preparatory course at a higher education institution.

The Relocation Scholarship is paid to full-time dependent students receiving Youth Allowance or ABSTUDY who have to live away from home to study a higher education or preparatory course at a higher education institution. It is also available to young independent higher education students who are unable to live in the family home due to extenuating circumstances. The Relocation Scholarship is an annual payment, which is paid at a higher rate in the first year of living away to study in recognition of the higher initial costs of relocation.

From 1 July 2010, changes to the Parental Income Test (PIT) for students applying for Youth Allowance or ABSTUDY were implemented in order to allow more dependent young people from low to middle income families to qualify for assistance. The PIT threshold for students to receive the maximum rate of Youth Allowance or ABSTUDY increased from the previous \$33,300 to \$44,165. The PIT threshold is indexed each year. These changes resulted in more students being entitled to Youth Allowance or ABSTUDY and many students already on Youth Allowance or ABSTUDY receiving more support.

From 1 July 2010, changes to the workforce participation criterion for independence for Youth Allowance and ABSTUDY were made which required a young person to work full-time for an average of 30 hours a week for at least 18 months in a two-year period to demonstrate financial independence. By providing assistance as an independent young person to those who had demonstrated they were self supporting over an extended period, student income support targets students most in need of assistance. This is consistent with targets to increase low SES participation in higher education. Many students no longer eligible for assistance as an independent under the changed criterion were, however, eligible as a dependent as a result of the increased parental income test threshold.

Transitional arrangements were put in place until 31 December 2010 for the workforce participation criterion for students completing secondary school in 2008, who took a gap year in 2009 and began university in 2010.

From 1 January 2011, students from Outer Regional, Remote and Very Remote areas of Australia will be able to use additional part-time and earnings workforce participation criteria to assess independence if they need to live away from home to study higher education or VET and their parents' income is less than \$150 000 per annum.

Other initiatives include reducing the age of independence from 25 years to 22 years, in a phased implementation. The age of independence was lowered to 24 years from 1 April 2010 and it will reach 22 years in 2012.

In addition, from 1 January 2010, equity and merit-based scholarships were exempted from being treated as assessable income for means testing, up to the equivalent combined value of the Commonwealth Education Costs Scholarship and the Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarship. This measure, which aligned the treatment of equity and merit-based scholarships with that of the Commonwealth Scholarships, means that an equity or merit-based scholarship up to the defined value will not impact on the level of a student's payment. Scholarship amounts in excess of this value will continue to be subject to means testing.

From 1 July 2012 the personal income threshold will be raised from \$236 to \$400 per fortnight so that student income support recipients will be able earn up to \$400 per fortnight without having their income support payments reduced. In addition, the personal income threshold will now be indexed for the first time. The student income bank maximum amount will also increase from \$6000 to \$10,000 from this date.

A \$20 million Rural Tertiary Hardship Fund was announced to operate from 1 January 2011 to 30 June 2013 to help prevent the barriers to rural and regional students attending university. The purpose of the Fund is to assist certain rural and regional students aged under 25 years experiencing financial hardship to undertake higher education. The Rural and Regional Taskforce, chaired by Professor Tony Vinson provided advice to the Minister for Tertiary Education on eligibility criteria for grants through the Fund.

- **The Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA)** (\$70 million over four years in the 2010–11 Budget) – TEQSA, as the new national regulatory and quality agency for higher education, will have powers to regulate university and non-university higher education providers, and monitor quality and standards. It will register providers, evaluate standards and performance, protect and quality assure international education and streamline current regulatory arrangements through a nationally consistent process.

In July 2010, the Minister established interim advisory arrangements for the transition to TEQSA to guide its establishment prior to the enactment of statutory powers for the agency. The interim appointments include an Interim Chair and Interim Chief Executive Officer and both are leading the arrangements to take forward the complex task of implementing the new quality assurance and regulatory arrangements for higher education.

TEQSA will be established in July 2011 as an independent body with powers to regulate university and non-university higher education providers, monitor quality and set standards.

- **Performance Funding** (\$393.8 million in Facilitation Funding over four years from 2011 and \$335.1 million in Reward Funding over four years from 2012) – Performance Funding will provide incentives to universities to improve outcomes for students and achieve national quality, participation and attainment objectives. In 2009, the Australian Government convened an Indicator Development Group comprised of experts in the higher education sector. The group assisted in the development of a draft indicator framework, outlined in the discussion paper, *An Indicator Framework for Higher Education Performance Funding*, which was released for consultation in December 2009. Feedback from 61 submissions informed the development of draft Performance Funding Guidelines, which were released for consultation in October 2010. Feedback from 61 submissions informed the final performance framework, which was released in December 2010. The final Performance Funding framework includes seven performance indicators across three performance categories: participation and social inclusion, student experience and the quality of learning outcomes. The Australian Government plans to release final Performance Funding Guidelines in 2011. In 2011, universities that have agreed performance targets and signed Compacts will receive a share of Facilitation Funding. In 2012, universities that achieve their performance targets will receive Reward Funding.

- **Structural Adjustment Fund** (\$400 million) – The Structural Adjustment Fund (SAF) is intended to support universities to make changes necessary to establish longer term financial stability and to ensure that all students have access to a high quality teaching and learning experience in the transition to the demand driven system. Its priority is to assist those universities that may otherwise struggle in the new system to be introduced in 2012. The challenges are likely to be particularly acute for universities serving regional and outer metropolitan areas. SAF includes \$200 million from Other Grants under the *Higher Education Support Act 2003 (HESA)* and \$200 million from the Education Investment Fund (EIF) which has been earmarked for capital infrastructure for structural adjustments.
- **Review of Regional Loading** – The Bradley Review highlighted the complexity of issues for regional higher education provision. It recommended issues related to regional provision should be considered further and that \$80 million should be provided per year from 2012 for sustainable higher education in regional areas to replace the existing regional loading.

In response, the Review of Regional Loading was announced as part of *Transforming Australia's Higher Education System*. The review's objective was to develop options for a new, more effective basis for funding.

The Department established a Regional Provision Reference Group to provide high level advice to the Review of Regional Loading.

The Review held state-based consultations between October and December 2009. In 2010, the Department received 63 submissions in response to the issues paper for the Review which was released on 24 December 2009. In addition, as part of the Review, the Department commissioned three research reports on regional higher education. These research reports examined good practice in regional higher education provision, the characteristics and experiences of regional students, and costs and revenue factors associated with regional higher education provision.

The outcomes of the consultations and the responses to the issues paper, along with the commissioned research and input provided by the Reference Group, informed the development of the advice the Department provided to the Australian Government in December 2010.

Any changes to regional higher education funding in response to the review's findings are expected to be implemented in 2012.

- **Review of base funding levels for learning and teaching** – On 26 October 2010 the Minister announced the panel and terms of reference for the Higher Education Base Funding Review. This announcement marked the formal commencement of the review. The Australian Government's intention to commission the review was announced in the 2009–10 Budget as part of its higher education reforms initiated in response to the Bradley Review.

The Review's role is to establish the principles for public investment in Australian higher education, the funding levels required for Australia to remain internationally competitive and the appropriate level of public and private contribution.

- **Strengthening research** – The 2009–10 Budget, in response to recommendations from both the *Review of Australian Higher Education* and the *Review of the National Innovation System* and as outlined in *Powering Ideas – An Innovation Agenda for the 21st century*, delivered a suite of initiatives designed to address the serious shortfalls in research funding for the indirect costs of research. In particular, the Australian Government will over time increase funding of indirect Australian competitive grant research costs to a sector average of 50 cents in the dollar.
 - **Sustainable Research Excellence in Universities** (\$512 million) – The Sustainable Research Excellence (SRE) initiative closes the gap in current funding for the indirect cost of Australian competitive grant research (augmenting Research Infrastructure Block Grants) to secure the sustainability of conducting research over the longer term. 2010 was the first year of funding under SRE. Funding is being increased annually. A total of \$85 million was allocated under SRE in 2010 and funding will reach more than \$300 million per year (indexed) in 2013. There are three categories of SRE funding – Base, Threshold 1 and Threshold 2 – each with specific eligibility criteria and allocation mechanisms. Institutions participated in a trial of Transparent Costing in 2010 to determine the indirect costs associated with research activities. A one-off SRE implementation payment was provided to institutions in 2010 to assist with the costs associated with the transparent costing exercise.
 - **Joint Research Engagement** – In 2010, the Institutional Grants Scheme was replaced by the new Joint Research Engagement (JRE) initiative, giving greater emphasis to collaborative research activities beyond those supported by competitive grants. The JRE scheme, worth \$318 million in 2010, encourages greater collaboration between higher education providers, business and the non-government sector. This will in turn strengthen the linkages between Australia’s university research sector and the wider innovation system.
 - **Australian Postgraduate Award Stipend Increase** (\$51 million) – In 2010 the Australian Postgraduate Award (APA) stipend increased to \$22 500, helping attract more high quality higher degree by research (HDR) students. The Government has also committed to doubling the number of APA places by 2012 with an extra 485 places being offered in 2010. This will bring the total number of students commencing an APA scholarship in 2010 to 3,069. The increase in support for postgraduate students will in turn boost the number of research trained postgraduates to enter the academic labour market.
 - **Collaborative Research Networks** (\$61.5 million) – The Collaborative Research Networks program (CRN) will help smaller less research-intensive and regional universities to strengthen their research capacity by teaming up with other institutions in areas of common interest.
 - **Excellence in Research for Australia** (\$36 million) – The Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) initiative evaluates research in Australian higher education institutions at a discipline level using a combination of indicators and expert review. ERA will provide evidence of the quality of research conducted in Australian universities that will enable universities, students, Government and industry to make informed decisions in relation to planning, undertaking and investing in research. ERA will be a key measure of research performance in the Australian Government’s mission based compacts with universities. ERA outcomes will also inform the future allocation of research block grants and support the accreditation and development of standards in relation to university research. Results of the ERA 2010 evaluations are published in the ERA 2010 National Report, available on the ARC website at www.arc.gov.au/era/outcomes_2010.htm

Publications in 2010

A survey on factors influencing Year 12 decision-making on post-school destination, choice of university and preferred subject

Author: Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations and Roy Morgan Research

The Year 12 Student Choices survey was designed to obtain up-to-date information on the relative importance of factors influencing Year 12 students' decision making – both those who intend to go to university and those who do not. The report is based on survey data collected from 3,212 Year 12 students from across Australia.

Discussion Papers in 2010

Draft Performance Funding Guidelines

The draft guidelines were released in October 2010 for sector consultation. Sector feedback informed the development of the final performance framework, which was released in December 2010 and final Performance Funding Guidelines, which will be released in 2011.

Reference Groups in 2010

Review of Regional Loading

A Reference Group established by the Department in 2009 to provide high level advice to the Review of Regional Loading (see Section 1.5.1) continued to meet with the Department in 2010. The members of the Regional Provision Reference Group were:

- Professor Richard Larkins AO (Chair) – former Vice-Chancellor of Monash University
- Ms Paddi Creevey – Mayor of Mandurah (WA) and Chair of Challenger Institute of Technology Governing Council
- Professor Ian Goulter – Vice-Chancellor of Charles Sturt University
- Professor Sandra Harding – Vice-Chancellor of James Cook University
- Ms Virginia Simmons – former Chief Executive Officer of Chisholm Institute of TAFE

Legislation

Legislation enacted in 2010, Legislative Instruments Tabled in Parliament in 2010 and Determinations Registered in 2010 can be found in Appendices C, D and E.

Legislation and guidelines can be accessed from www.comlaw.gov.au

Funding under the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* (HESA)



1.1 Overview of Australian Government Funding

Most Australian Government funding for the higher education sector is administered under the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* (HESA). Other funding is provided through the *Annual Appropriations Act* and the *Nation Building Funds Act 2008*.

Government funding for higher education teaching activities and resources is provided largely through the Commonwealth Grant Scheme (CGS). The CGS provides funding to public universities for the supply of a specified number of Commonwealth supported places each year, for which students pay a student contribution towards the cost of their course. These arrangements will change from 2012 at which time the Australian Government will fund Commonwealth supported places for all domestic students accepted into a bachelor level higher education course at public universities. For 2010 and 2011, transitional arrangements have been implemented to lift the cap on funding over enrolments from five per cent to ten per cent over the cost of allocated student places.

Funding is provided to assist higher education students through the Higher Education Loan Program (HELP). The Australian Government, through HELP, assists eligible students in meeting the costs of their higher education places (student contributions or tuition fees). In 2010, the Australian Government supported higher education providers in assisting around 735,000 students in meeting the cost of their higher education place through discounts and loans under HELP (HECS-HELP and FEE-HELP).

HECS-HELP assists domestic students in Commonwealth supported places by providing a loan for their student contribution or a 20 per cent discount for upfront payments of \$500 or more. FEE-HELP assists domestic students to pay their tuition fees at approved higher education providers. In addition, OS-HELP assists Commonwealth supported undergraduate students to undertake part of their study towards their Australian course at an overseas higher education institution.

Other funds for the sector are provided through a range of grants, including for quality, equity, collaboration, national institutes, superannuation and capital projects. Funding programs designed to help students from disadvantaged backgrounds include the Commonwealth Scholarships Program (CSP), the Higher Education Participation and Partnerships Program (HEPPP), the Higher Education Disability Support Program (DSP) and Indigenous Support Program (ISP).

Table 1 shows the expenditure on higher education programs administered through DEEWR for 2010.

Table 1: Expenditure on higher education programs, 2010

Program	Expenditure (\$m)
Commonwealth Grant Scheme	
Commonwealth Grant Scheme (Cluster funding) ^(a)	4,626.912
Enabling Loading	13.741
Regional Loading	31.822
Medical Student Loading	13.174
Transitional Loading (maths, science)	161.073
Sub-total Commonwealth Grant Scheme^(a)	4,846.723
Other Grants	
Capital	
Capital Development Pool (including special projects) (CDP)	71.869
Diversity and Structural Adjustment Fund	18.265

Clinical Outreach Program – James Cook University Dental School	2.042
Equity Programs	
Higher Education Disability Support Program	6.217
Higher Education Participation and Partnership Program (HEPPP)	56.418
Indigenous Support Program	35.504
National Institutes	
National Institutes	179.930
Quality, Promotion, Open Access	
Australian Learning and Teaching Council	28.605
Australian University Quality Agency	1.240
Graduate Careers Council	.649
Graduate Skills Assessment	.024
Open Learning Initiative ^(b)	.273
Superannuation	
Superannuation Grants	123.962
Workplace Productivity	
Workplace Productivity Program	28.349
Transitional Costs Program	
Transitional Costs Program	15.240
Sub-total Other Grants	567.899
Scholarships^(c)	
Indigenous Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarships	1.438
Indigenous Commonwealth Education Costs Scholarships	1.642
Indigenous Access Scholarships	4.006
Grandfathered	60.038
Indigenous Staff Scholarships	.181
Sub-total Scholarships	67.305
Other Funds (2010-11 funding)	
Indigenous Higher Education Advisory Council ^(c)	.200
Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency ^(c)	9.683
Education Investment Fund ^(d)	383.303
Higher Education Special Projects ^(e)	2.000
Sub-total Other Funds	395.186
Total Funding	5,877.113

Source: DEEWR

- (a) Commonwealth Grant Scheme expenditure for 2010 includes the repayment of three advances and adjustments for over and under enrolments in 2009 and an advance for over enrolments for 2010.
- (b) 2009 funding paid retrospectively in 2010.
- (c) Financial year programs funded under the Annual Appropriation Act for 2009–10.
- (d) Education Investment Fund Special Account.
- (e) Victorian College of the Arts Foundation trust fund establishment contribution.

Notes:

(i) Table 1 does not include expenditure related to the Higher Education Loan Program (see 1.5.2)

(ii) Funding for the Away from Base program and Indigenous Tutorial Assistance Scheme is provided under the Indigenous Education (Targeted Assistance) Act 2000. Funding details for these programs are published in the National Report to Parliament on Indigenous Education and Training.

(iii) Table 1/Scholarships – The Student Start-up Scholarship and Relocation Scholarship replaced the Commonwealth Education Costs Scholarship (CECS) and Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarship (CAS) available under the capped Commonwealth Scholarships Program delivered through universities. In 2010 the Commonwealth Scholarships Program was closed to new entrants, aside from Indigenous Scholarships. CECS and CAS for Indigenous students continued to be available through universities under the remaining elements of the Commonwealth Scholarships Program.

1.2 Commonwealth Grant Scheme

1.2.1 Overview of the Commonwealth Grant Scheme

The Commonwealth Grant Scheme (CGS) supports the provision of higher education undergraduate and some nonresearch postgraduate student places.

Higher education providers listed in Table A of HESA receive CGS funding. Table B providers and other providers approved under HESA may receive CGS funding for student places in designated national priority areas.

\$4.85 billion was provided in 2010 under the CGS (including regional loading, enabling loading, medical student loading, transitional loading and advance payments for estimated over-enrolments in 2010).

Each higher education provider receiving funds under the CGS must enter into a funding agreement with the Australian Government. In 2010, 44 higher education providers received funds under the CGS. All providers had three year funding agreements for the 2009-2011 period.

The CGS funding agreements set out the number of Commonwealth supported places providers were funded to offer in each of the eight funding (or discipline) clusters, as well as any conditions attached to the grant. Providers are able to request changes to the profile of their Commonwealth supported places across the funding clusters in response to changes in student demand and the institution's educational focus.

The amount the Australian Government provides for each Commonwealth supported place (equivalent full-time student load (EFTSL)) varies according to the funding cluster in which a unit of study is classified. The rate for each funding cluster is specified in HESA and Table 2 shows the Commonwealth contribution for each of the funding clusters in 2010.

Table 2: Commonwealth contribution amounts for 2010 for an equivalent full-time student load

Cluster	Discipline	Commonwealth contribution (\$)
1	Law, accounting, administration, economics, Commerce	1,765
2	Humanities	4,901
3	Mathematics, statistics, behavioural science, social studies, computing, built environment, other health	8,670
4	Education	9,020
5	Clinical psychology, allied health, foreign languages, visual and performing arts	10,662
6	Nursing	11,903
7	Engineering, science, surveying	15,156
8	Dentistry, medicine, veterinary science, agriculture	19,235

By funding providers according to the discipline mix they actually deliver, at rates set out in legislation, the CGS ensures that all providers are funded for student places on the same, transparent basis.

In addition to the funding cluster rate, higher education providers may also receive regional loading (Section 1.2.5), enabling loading (Section 1.2.6), medical student loading (Section 1.2.7), and/or transitional loading (Section 1.2.8) as part of the CGS Basic Grant.

In 2010, the Australian Government agreed to fund a total of 452,025 places at eligible higher education providers. Table 3 shows the agreed number of Commonwealth supported places and the CGS amount for these places for each higher education provider for 2010. The CGS payment includes, where applicable, regional loading, enabling loading, medical student loading and transitional loading.

Table 3: Agreed target number (as per funding agreement) of Commonwealth supported places and CGS amount by provider, 2010

Higher education provider	Number of places (EFTSL)			Total CGS (\$) ^(a)
	Undergraduate	Postgraduate non-research	Total	
Avondale College	660.8	27.0	687.8	6,794,612
Charles Sturt University	10,727.8	609.0	11,336.8	117,579,097
Macquarie University	10,594.6	496.4	11,091.0	82,133,959
Southern Cross University	6,083.2	192.0	6,275.2	56,812,972
The University of New England	6,693.9	1,055.7	7,749.6	70,358,623
The University of New South Wales	16,402.3	928.0	17,330.3	172,685,912
University of Newcastle	14,110.8	281.0	14,391.8	150,657,365
The University of Sydney	21,760.0	1,016.0	22,776.0	236,915,040
University of Technology Sydney	13,183.4	470.4	13,653.8	117,902,437
University of Western Sydney	18,982.1	1,141.3	20,123.3	171,116,821
University of Wollongong	9,472.6	517.7	9,990.4	97,859,148
Deakin University	15,626.6	442.0	16,068.6	145,371,412
Holmesglen Institute of TAFE	80.0	0.0	80.0	952,240
La Trobe University	14,201.4	1,012.0	15,213.4	141,099,499
Monash University	21,447.0	1,631.0	23,078.0	225,004,575
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology	13,621.4	660.6	14,282.0	145,648,545
Swinburne University of Technology	6,425.7	11.0	6,436.7	58,268,899
Tabor College - Victoria	0.0	45.0	45.0	405,900
The University of Melbourne	17,306.0	3,139.0	20,445.0	211,818,021
University of Ballarat	3,580.0	220.0	3,800.0	37,350,727
Victoria University	10,186.6	524.2	10,710.8	92,023,393
Central Queensland University	6,107.0	193.0	6,300.0	59,601,116
Christian Heritage College	255.0	0.0	255.0	2,126,357
Griffith University	17,914.6	854.0	18,768.6	174,993,214
James Cook University	8,430.4	468.0	8,898.4	100,971,666
Queensland University of Technology	19,743.0	920.0	20,663.0	181,547,042
The University of Queensland	19,586.5	414.0	20,000.5	213,041,605
University of Southern Queensland	7,810.3	480.0	8,290.3	75,795,789
University of the Sunshine Coast	4,127.2	210.0	4,337.2	47,428,154
Curtin University of Technology	13,758.2	229.0	13,987.2	142,838,951
Edith Cowan University	10,829.4	412.8	11,242.1	103,775,672
Murdoch University	7,428.8	343.8	7,772.5	74,920,114
The University of Notre Dame Australia	3,459.9	36.0	3,495.9	39,019,160
The University of Western Australia	11,415.5	554.7	11,970.2	124,930,584
Tabor College - Adelaide	190.0	0.0	190.0	1,638,094
The Flinders University of South Australia	8,041.9	475.4	8,517.3	83,573,062
The University of Adelaide	10,032.9	410.2	10,443.1	112,984,337
University of South Australia	13,398.7	1,386.0	14,784.6	136,839,515
University of Tasmania	10,648.2	1,030.0	11,678.2	126,291,761
Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education	562.8	14.0	576.8	6,257,757
Charles Darwin University	2,986.9	354.5	3,341.5	36,215,543
The Australian National University	6,330.6	132.0	6,462.6	58,851,967
University of Canberra	5,314.7	469.1	5,783.8	48,844,693
Australian Catholic University	8,054.8	646.0	8,700.9	81,123,468
Total	427,573.4	24,451.7	452,025.1	4,372,368,818

(a) CGS amounts include enabling loading, regional loading, medical student loading and transitional loading (maths, science). They do not include adjustments to 2010 CGS grants in relation to enrolments in 2009 (additional \$36.1 million), adjustments for 2009 transitional loading (additional \$7.2 million), or repayments of advances (reduction of \$8.1 million), and they exclude any advance for over enrolments for 2010 (additional \$339.2 million).

Table 4: Actual number of Commonwealth supported places and CGS adjustment amounts by provider, 2010

Higher education provider	Number of places (EFTSL)	Funding adjustment in 2011 in relation to over or under enrolment in 2010 (\$)
Avondale College	617.8	-571,332
Charles Sturt University	13943.6	11,776,942
Macquarie University	13748.6	8,268,594
Southern Cross University	6606.4	4,390,705
The University of New England	7707.3	0
The University of New South Wales	20216.5	17,277,794
The University of Newcastle	17090.3	15,239,611
The University of Sydney	23821.2	12,272,519
University of Technology, Sydney	14398.3	7,318,943
University of Western Sydney	23547.1	17,093,218
University of Wollongong	12045.9	9,803,972
Deakin University	17527.7	11,532,400
Holmesglen Institute of TAFE	71.3	-103,506
La Trobe University	17044.7	14,152,403
Monash University	25658.2	22,567,569
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology	15845.2	14,671,779
Swinburne University of Technology	7591.9	5,854,771
University of Ballarat	4122.4	3,719,245
Tabor College - Victoria	11.1	-309,929
The University of Melbourne	20394.1	237,217
Victoria University	12223.6	9,280,066
Central Queensland University	5889.9	-1,827,523
Christian Heritage College	199.7	-470,699
Griffith University	20703.7	17,514,051
James Cook University	8763.6	748,424
Queensland University of Technology	23158.6	18,107,721
The University of Queensland	22480.7	21,319,561
University of Southern Queensland	8932.5	7,585,040
University of the Sunshine Coast	4995.3	4,752,830
Curtin University of Technology	15800.1	14,273,348
Edith Cowan University	12601.4	10,415,305
Murdoch University	7756.9	0
The University of Notre Dame Australia	3582.8	0
The University of Western Australia	12829.6	8,139,699
Tabor College - Adelaide	166.7	-252,395
The Flinders University of South Australia	9486.3	8,382,236
The University of Adelaide	11738.2	11,284,160
University of South Australia	15735.9	6,726,727
University of Tasmania	11583.5	-1,727,261
Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education	227.1	-249,167
Charles Darwin University	3681.9	2,647,532
The Australian National University	6884.8	3,810,326
University of Canberra	7017.7	4,901,491
Australian Catholic University	10873.5	8,137,492
Total	499,323.4	328,691,879

1.2.2 Funding agreements

Higher education providers receiving funds under the CGS in 2010 entered into a funding agreement with the Australian Government for three years for 2009-2011. The agreements set out the number of Commonwealth supported places providers were funded to offer in each of the eight funding (or discipline) clusters, as well as any conditions attached to the grant. Providers are able to request changes to the profile of their Commonwealth supported places across the funding clusters in response to changes in student demand and the institution's educational focus.

1.2.3 Allocation of new places

In 2010, the Australian Government allocated new ongoing Commonwealth supported places in early childhood education to commence in 2011.

Table 5 shows the allocation of these new places at each higher education provider.

Table 5: New Commonwealth supported places allocated in 2010 for commencement in 2011

Higher Education Provider	For commencement in 2011
Avondale College	10
Macquarie University	10
Holmesglen Institute of TAFE	120
Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE	30
University of the Southern Queensland	10
University of the Sunshine Coast	10
Edith Cowan University	10
The University of Western Australia	5
The Flinders University of South Australia	5
Australian Catholic University	10
Total	220

1.2.4 National priority places

National priority places are Commonwealth supported places in national priority areas. Higher education providers that are not listed on Table A of HESA may be allocated Commonwealth supported places only in national priority areas.

The CGS Guidelines specify the following as national priorities:

- increasing the number of persons undertaking teaching and nursing courses of study;
- supporting a number of persons undertaking teaching courses at Avondale College;
- supporting a number of persons undertaking teaching and information and communications technology courses of study at the University of Notre Dame Australia (UNDA);
- supporting a number of persons undertaking medical courses at the UNDA; and
- supporting a number of Indigenous students undertaking courses of study at the UNDA.

1.2.5 Regional loading

The regional loading provides additional funding under the CGS to providers with regional campuses to assist them to meet the higher costs associated with these campuses. In 2010, the Australian Government provided \$31.8 million in regional loading.

In 2010, the amount of regional loading payable to a higher education provider was determined by its share of total regional loading paid in 2006 (indexed). The amount of regional loading paid to each higher education provider in 2010 is set out in Table 6.

1.2.6 Enabling loading

Enabling loading provides additional funding towards the costs associated with offering preparatory courses to students, with the aim of enabling them to undertake a course that leads to a higher education award. Enabling loading is intended to compensate providers for not being able to charge Commonwealth supported students a contribution for an enabling course.

In 2010, the amount of the enabling loading for each place (EFTSL) was \$2,712.58 and total funding was \$13.74 million. The amount of enabling loading paid to each higher education provider in 2010 is set out in Table 6.

1.2.7 Medical student loading

Medical student loading provides additional funding to providers with Commonwealth supported places in a medicine course of study, completion of which would allow provisional registration as a medical practitioner by an authority of a state, a territory or the Commonwealth.

In 2010, the amount of the medical student loading for each place (EFTSL) was \$1,180 and total funding was \$13.17 million. The amount of medical student loading paid to each higher education provider in 2010 is set out in Table 6.

1.2.8 Transitional loading

Transitional loading provides additional funding to providers for mathematics, statistics and science units of study to compensate for the reduction in the maximum annual student contribution amount which is paid by Commonwealth Supported Students who commenced their course of study from 1 January 2009.

In 2010, the amount of this transitional loading for each place (EFTSL) in mathematics, statistics and science units was \$3,318 and total funding was \$161.07 million. This includes adjustments to the amount of 2010 transitional loading in respect of performance in 2009. The amount paid to each higher education provider in 2010 is set out in Table 6.

Table 6: CGS loadings allocated to higher education providers in 2010

Higher Education Provider	Regional Loading (\$)	Enabling Loading (\$)	Medical Student Loading (\$)	Transitional Loading (Maths, Science) (\$)	Transitional Loading Adjustment (Resulting from 2009 performance) (\$)
Avondale College	0	0	0	107,673	-12,275
Charles Sturt University	1,912,773	437,487	0	3,165,304	190,329
Macquarie University	0	0	0	3,278,432	551,989
Southern Cross University	1,270,712	438,759	0	1,738,791	156,101
The University of New England	2,008,368	334,664	204,140	1,854,255	58,812
The University of New South Wales	0	53,403	1,229,560	6,454,937	92,031
University of Newcastle	51,719	2,579,664	561,292	6,951,593	1,738,750
The University of Sydney	8,654	51,311	990,020	9,055,719	-418,233
University of Technology, Sydney	0	216,724	0	4,568,465	260,929
University of Western Sydney	0	233,452	467,280	6,469,181	-184,639
University of Wollongong	1,164,532	172,587	333,940	4,388,693	180,581
Deakin University	608,461	0	446,040	4,913,108	-114,563
La Trobe University	1,055,995	15,936	0	6,087,464	424,531
Monash University	203,223	0	1,406,560	8,131,318	671,124
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology	32,464	0	0	4,999,967	1,069,246
Swinburne University of Technology	0	0	0	1,966,419	278,818
University of Ballarat	1,385,321	70,470		978,893	-158,271
Tabor College Victoria	0	0	0	0	0
The University of Melbourne	44,223	0	984,120	6,683,194	636,446
Victoria University	0	487,130	0	3,848,089	777,270
Central Queensland University	1,931,348	1,472,085	0	1,886,333	137,037
Christian Heritage College	0	0	0	0	0
Griffith University	0	8,137	450,760	7,510,338	147,303
James Cook University	4,431,537	194,288	856,703	2,474,678	82,064
Queensland University of Technology	33,570	0	0	6,022,979	-469,826
The University of Queensland	104,450	0	1,341,660	8,067,200	154,007
University of Southern Queensland	1,495,543	1,031,289	0	1,188,988	54,620
University of the Sunshine Coast	1,141,840	780,884	0	2,345,649	100,154
Curtin University of Technology	228,331	497,080	0	5,496,494	-105,466
Edith Cowan University	184,773	1,265,758	0	2,850,155	377,381
Murdoch University	223,228	170,667	0	3,257,301	-112,339
The University of Notre Dame, Australia	67,008	65,294	677,320	147,734	167,323
The University of Western Australia	50,247	170,383	1,087,960	6,195,328	404,721
The Flinders University of South Australia	22,348	0	469,640	2,941,886	249,301
Tabor College Adelaide	0	0	0	1,936	-3,712
University of Adelaide	73,757	72,786	758,740	4,573,946	-142,731
University of South Australia	96,903	489,959	0	3,887,917	34,937
University of Tasmania	5,580,989	1,033,154	525,100	2,712,403	-153,693
Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education	1,069,201	436,486	0	22,595	-28,571
Charles Darwin University	5,152,879	865,203	0	571,976	-128,963
The Australian National University	0	0	383,500	2,146,910	-162,135
University of Canberra	0	96,296	0	1,892,320	170,218
Australian Catholic University	187,425	0	0	2,014,620	251,458
Total	31,821,822	13,741,336	13,174,335	153,851,181	7,222,064

1.3 Other Grants

Funds are also provided to the higher education sector through a range of grants for specific purposes under Part 2-3 Other Grants of HESA. Eligibility for grants under this part is outlined in the Act. Grants provided through DEEWR in 2010 included:

Item	Purpose of Grant	Programs/initiatives
1.	Grants to promote equality of opportunity in higher education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher Education Disability Support Program Higher Education Participation and Partnerships Program Indigenous Support Program
2.	Grants to support national institutes specified in the Other Grants Guidelines for the purposes of this item	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Institutes
3.	Grants to support the capital development projects of higher education providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capital Development Pool (CDP)
4.	Grants to assist with the costs of higher education providers' superannuation liabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher Education Superannuation Program
5.	Grants to support diversity and structural reform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diversity and Structural Adjustment Fund Clinical Outreach Program
6.	Grants for activities that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Assure and enhance the quality of Australia's higher education sector; or Support open access to higher education across Australia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Australian Learning and Teaching Council Australian Universities Quality Agency Australian Graduate Survey Open Learning Initiative
7.	Grants to assist higher education providers with the transitional costs of changes to maximum student contribution amounts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transitional Costs Program

The Other Grants Guidelines contain requirements on grants payable to higher education providers and other eligible bodies for a variety of purposes. The Other Grants Guidelines are available at www.comlaw.gov.au

1.3.1 Equity

Grants to promote equality of opportunity in higher education were paid through the Commonwealth Scholarships Program, Indigenous Support Program, the Higher Education Disability Support Program and the Higher Education Participation and Partnerships Program.

The Higher Education Participation and Partnerships Program (HEPPP), announced in the 2009–10 Budget, replaces the Higher Education Equity Support Program. HEPPP provides funding to eligible universities to improve access to undergraduate courses for people from low socio economic status (SES) backgrounds, in addition to improving retention and completion rates of those students.

HEPPP will assist eligible universities to meet the Australian Government's target of 20 per cent of domestic undergraduate students coming from a low SES background by 2020. HEPPP funding announced in the 2009–2010 Budget comprised \$433 million over four years.

Details of funding allocations for 2010 under HEPPP are provided below.

Table 7: Funding allocations for 2010 under HEPPP

Institution	Participation (\$)	Partnerships (\$)	Total HEPPP (\$)
Australian Catholic University	753,012	355,505	1,108,517
Bachelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education	133,139	355,505	488,644
Central Queensland University	1,208,896	355,505	1,564,401
Charles Darwin University	333,389	355,505	688,894
Charles Sturt University	2,060,770	355,505	2,416,275
Curtin University of Technology	1,069,984	355,505	1,425,489
Deakin University	1,412,213	355,505	1,767,718
Edith Cowan University	1,006,121	355,505	1,361,626
Griffith University	1,653,776	355,505	2,009,281
James Cook University	1,112,740	355,505	1,468,245
La Trobe University	1,597,670	355,505	1,953,175
Macquarie University	599,667	355,505	955,172
Monash University	1,614,267	355,505	1,969,772
Murdoch University	773,578	355,505	1,129,083
Queensland University of Technology	1,559,424	355,505	1,914,929
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology	1,437,650	355,505	1,793,155
Southern Cross University	1,191,216	355,505	1,546,721
Swinburne University of Technology	532,196	355,505	887,701
The Australian National University	204,399	355,505	559,904
The Flinders University of South Australia	989,884	355,505	1,345,389
The University of Adelaide	812,365	355,505	1,167,870
The University of Melbourne	930,711	355,505	1,286,216
The University of New England	1,143,409	355,505	1,498,914
The University of New South Wales	1,062,046	355,505	1,417,551
The University of Newcastle	1,962,630	355,505	2,318,135
The University of Queensland	1,358,091	355,505	1,713,596
The University of Sydney	1,179,851	355,505	1,535,356
The University of Western Australia	403,026	355,505	758,531
University of Ballarat	439,828	355,505	795,333
University of Canberra	259,423	355,505	614,928
University of South Australia	1,887,220	355,505	2,242,725
University of Southern Queensland	1,532,183	355,505	1,887,688
University of Tasmania	1,485,999	355,505	1,841,504
University of Technology, Sydney	1,009,187	355,505	1,364,692
University of the Sunshine Coast	503,692	355,505	859,197
University of Western Sydney	2,679,380	355,505	3,034,885
University of Wollongong	907,258	355,505	1,262,763
Victoria University	1,505,843	355,505	1,861,348
Total	42,306,135	13,509,190	55,815,325

Indigenous Support Program

The Indigenous Support Program (ISP) provides funding to eligible higher education providers to assist in meeting the specific needs of Indigenous students and to advance the goals of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Policy (AEP).

To be eligible to receive ISP grants in any one year, Table A higher education providers must demonstrate that they have:

- implemented strategies for improving the access, participation, retention and success of Indigenous Australian students;
- worked to increase the participation of Indigenous people in their decision-making processes; and
- an Indigenous employment strategy.

Eligible providers are allocated ISP funds according to objective indicators of actual performance using the Department's annual higher education student statistical collection.

Table 8: Indigenous Support Program allocations, 2010

Institution	\$m
Australian Catholic University	1.127
Australian National University	0.508
Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education ^(a)	2.602
Central Queensland University	0.819
Charles Darwin University	0.932
Charles Sturt University	1.354
Curtin University of Technology	1.867
Deakin University	1.249
Edith Cowan University	0.624
Flinders University of South Australia	0.453
Griffith University	1,906
James Cook University(b)	1,908
La Trobe University	0.549
Macquarie University	0.602
Monash University	0.488
Murdoch University	0.596
Queensland University of Technology	1.495
RMIT University	0.363
Southern Cross University	0.769
Swinburne University of Technology	0.108
University of Adelaide	0.578
University of Ballarat	0.138
University of Canberra	0.304
University of Melbourne	0.724
University of New England	0.863
University of New South Wales	0.752
University of Newcastle	2.132
University of Queensland	0.833
University of South Australia	1.096
University of Southern Queensland	0.937

Institution	\$m
University of Sydney	1.495
University of Tasmania	0.985
University of Technology, Sydney	1.086
University of the Sunshine Coast	0.255
University of Western Australia	0.715
University of Western Sydney	1.356
University of Wollongong	0.763
Victoria University	0.173
Total	35.504

Source: DEEWR

- (a) Allocations for Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education from this program have been separately determined as part of an agreement to maintain a total funding package for this institution at 1998 levels. The allocation was re-weighted in 2005 based on Batchelor's share of total EFTSL, to reflect changes both in the share of EFTSL across the sector since 1998 and to allocate to Batchelor a relative share of additional funding provided for the ISP from 2005.
- (b) The allocation for James Cook University includes an additional allocation for undergraduate places on Thursday Island which is determined separately as part of an agreement to maintain funding at a rate negotiated in 2001 for these places.

Higher Education Disability Support Program

The Disability Support Program (DSP) provides funding to eligible higher education providers to undertake activities that assist in removing barriers to access for students with a disability. In 2010, \$6.22 million was made available to higher education providers to support access to and participation in higher education by people with disability.

The program consists of three components: Additional Support for Students with Disabilities (ASSD), Performance-based Disability Support funding and the Australian Disability Clearinghouse on Education and Training (ADCET).

The ASSD component provides funding to eligible higher education providers to assist with the cost of providing educational support services and equipment to high cost students with a disability. ASSD recognises that while higher education providers are responsible for meeting the needs of students with a disability, the cost to provide support for some students with high cost needs is significant and requires additional funding.

In 2010, the ASSD component included funding for alternative format materials, such as Braille and audio tapes, for students with vision impairments; sign interpreting services for hearing impaired students; and the purchase of equipment, such as that used for voice recognition software.

Performance-based Disability Support funding aims to further encourage higher education providers to implement strategies to attract and support students with a disability. Funding allocations are based on the number of students with a disability enrolled at each higher education provider, as well as the retention and success rates of those students.

ADCET is a website providing information and other resources designed to promote inclusive teaching and learning practices for people with a disability. The website is currently hosted by the University of Tasmania and can be found at www.adcet.edu.au.

Details of funding allocations for 2010 (for expenses incurred in the 2009 calendar year) under the DSP are provided in Table 9.

Table 9: Higher Education Disability Support Program allocations, 2010

Higher Education Provider	Additional Support for Students with Disabilities (\$)	Performance-Based Disability Support (\$)	Total (\$)
University of Wollongong	87,787	52,070	139,857
University of South Australia	105,731	49,150	154,881
Queensland University of Technology	128,347	40,782	169,129
Monash University	219,403	39,445	258,848
University of Tasmania	60,201	36,584	96,785
The University of Melbourne	208,090	36,383	244,473
Deakin University	149,730	36,244	185,974
Charles Sturt University	105,665	35,391	141,056
La Trobe University	506,072	35,303	541,375
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology	104,105	35,236	139,341
Griffith University	139,932	34,121	174,053
University of Western Sydney	401,369	31,673	433,042
The Australian National University	55,316	31,191	86,507
University of New South Wales	190,254	30,751	221,005
The University of Western Australia	164,107	30,304	194,411
University of Newcastle	162,635	28,666	191,301
Macquarie University	280,550	28,150	308,700
The University of Adelaide	16,070	27,496	43,566
University of New England	63902	26,809	90,711
Australian Catholic University	75,455	26,498	101,953
The University of Queensland	82,355	26,053	108,408
University of Technology, Sydney	291,919	25,957	317,876
Murdoch University	431,749	25,684	457,433
Flinders University of South Australia	53,611	25,181	78,792
University of Southern Queensland	154,230	23,643	177,873
The University of Sydney	211,384	21,869	233,253
Curtin University of Technology	46,032	20,710	66,742
Central Queensland University	5,229	20,335	25,564
Southern Cross University	127,870	18,773	146,643
James Cook University	18,825	17,448	36,273
Edith Cowan University	57,679	14,758	72,437
Swinburne University of Technology	101,177	13,733	114,910
University of Canberra	79,285	12,749	92,034
University of the Sunshine Coast	112,046	11,797	123,843
Victoria University	82,597	11,023	93,620
Charles Darwin University	17,884	9,627	27,511
University of Ballarat	64,929	6,528	71,457
Bachelor Inst of Indigenous Tertiary Ed	5,189	2,365	7,554
ADCET (Grant to University of Tasmania)	-	-	47346
Total	5,168,711	1,000,480	6,216,537

Source: ASSD – application-based reimbursement; Performance based funding - formula-derived result based on the Higher Education Student Statistics Collection, 2009.

1.3.2 Productivity

Grants to promote the productivity of higher education providers are paid through the Workplace Productivity Program (WPP) and the Workplace Reform Program (WRP).

Workplace Productivity Program

The WPP was a competitive grants program open to higher education providers listed in Table A of the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* (HESA). The program commenced in 2006 and aimed to improve the efficiency, productivity and performance of universities.

Through two competitive funding rounds held in 2006 and 2007, 84 projects were funded with an additional three projects funded outside the rounds. Total funding for the 87 projects was \$140 million. In 2010, the Australian Government discontinued the WPP at the recommendation of the Bradley Review. Final payments under the WPP were made in 2010.

Table 10: Workplace Productivity Program Allocations, 2010

Grant Recipient	Project Title	Funding provided in 2010 (\$)
New South Wales		
Macquarie University	Academic Repositioning Project	450,002
The University of Sydney	Performance Aligned Remuneration Program	1,215,709
University of Technology Sydney	Performance Management Framework Blueprint	476,108
University of Western Sydney	Our People 2015	1,375,733
Victoria		
Deakin University	Improving Productivity Through Workplace Reform	1,044,016
La Trobe University	Business Improvement Program	1,600,000
Monash University	Higher Degree Research Admissions Improvements	551,266
RMIT University	Improved Strategic Resource Management and Cost Reduction	766,667
Swinburne University of Technology	People, Productivity and Performance	1,030,167
The University of Melbourne	LH Martin Institute for Leadership and Governance	2,499,999
Victoria University	Building Workforce Capacity	1,572,026
Queensland		
Central Queensland University	HR Systems and Processes Renewal	142,804
Griffith University	Accelerating Workplace Reform	789,936
Queensland University of Technology	Standards for the Professional Practise of HR	303,425
The University of Queensland	Financial Transformation Project	1,350,000
University of Southern Queensland	An Integrated Dashboard for Universities	765,029
University of the Sunshine Coast	Administrative Productivity Improvement Plan	1,276,087

Grant Recipient	Project Title	Funding provided in 2010 (\$)
Western Australia		
Murdoch University	Governance and Operational Efficiency Reform Program	1,994,276
University of Western Australia	Organisational Renewal and Productivity Program	1,074,843
South Australia		
The University of Adelaide	Support Service Excellence Program	1,391,667
University of South Australia	Efficiency and Governance of Corporate Services	1,581,313
Northern Territory		
Charles Darwin University	Reforming HR Practices	984,581
Australian Capital Territory		
The Australian National University	Enabling Workplace Flexibility	1,450,000
University of Canberra	Re-making UC Systems and Processes	2,158,333
Total funding provided in 2010		28,349,000

Source: DEEWR internal administrative data, 2010

1.3.3 National Institutes

The National Institutes program recognises the national role played by the Australian National University, the University of Tasmania (for the Australian Maritime College) and Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education in particular areas of higher education.

The Australian Government provided \$179.93 million in 2010 under the National Institutes program (\$172.831 million to the Australian National University, \$4.842 million to University of Tasmania (for the Australian Maritime College Institute) and \$2.257 million to Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education).

1.3.4 Capital Development

Grants to support the capital development projects of higher education providers are funded under the Capital Development Pool (CDP) program. Some additional capital projects are funded separately as special capital projects under *Higher Education Support Act 2003* or under the *Annual Appropriations Act*.

Capital Development Pool

The Capital Development Pool (CDP) was established in 1994 to assist higher education providers with specific capital projects. The Australian Government considers higher education providers' applications for funding assistance on a competitive basis. It obtains the views of state and territory governments on the relative merits of project proposals.

The focus of the program is to encourage:

- development of, or on, new campuses in suburban growth corridors and regional centres;
- capital developments that assist higher education providers to establish or expand provision of courses identified by the government as discipline areas of national importance;
- communications and information technology infrastructure projects which improve the cost-effectiveness and quality of educational delivery;

- the building or major refurbishment of capital infrastructure for student amenities;
- the rebuilding or restoration of campus facilities in circumstances which are, in the view of the Minister, special and extraordinary; and
- capital developments which the Minister considers are priorities for particular higher education providers.

On 15 October 2009, the Minister announced that 21 universities would share in \$71.5 million CDP grants to improve teaching and research facilities for students. The projects valued at up to \$5 million, aimed to improve vital teaching and learning facilities and allow for the expansion of curriculum in important subject areas. A total of 23 grants were awarded, including:

- A new building for the University of Western Australia's Community Clinical School at Joondalup Health Campus, to improve teaching and learning facilities for undergraduate students from medical and allied professions.
- A student services precinct on James Cook University's Douglas campus, to better accommodate core student support services.
- The creation of a simulation learning facility at the Clinical Education and Training Centre on the University of South Australia's City East campus.
- A dedicated, high-capacity network fibre connection for the Australian Research and Education Network at the University of New England, to ensure reliable access to global teaching and research networks.
- A new building for the University of Sydney's Camden campus, to support education and evidence-based teaching in global change biology, sustainable ecosystems and sustainable agriculture.

The projects are designed to provide universities with additional facilities or upgrades to existing facilities over the next two years.

Table 11 below sets out CDP funding allocations for 2010 and includes total project funding where projects are allocated funding over multiple years.

Table 11: CDP allocations by institution, 2010

Higher Education Provider	Project	2010 \$m	Total Project Allocation ^a \$m
Australian Catholic University	Construction of Physiotherapy Teaching Space	1.017	2.165
Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education	Remote Accommodation	1.042	1.042
Bond University	School of Sustainable Development Building	3.127	3.127
Charles Sturt University	Regional Inter Professional Clinical Simulation Centre	0.613	1.650
Charles Darwin University	Allied Health Infrastructure – Casuarina Campus	2.085	6.652
Deakin University	Institute of Koorie Education Building	1.042	1.042
Deakin University	Student Amenities Refurbishment, Geelong Campus, Waurn Ponds	1.429	5.164
Edith Cowan University	Nursing Facilities, Health and Wellness Building	1.042	5.409
Griffith University	Science and Engineering Building – Gold Coast Campus	2.085	6.652
Griffith University	GUMURRII student support unit	1.634	2.049
James Cook University	Student Services Precinct	0.807	3.047
La Trobe University	New Campus Development Shepparton	2.606	5.219
La Trobe University	Teaching and Learning Transformation – Bundoora	0.919	2.078

Higher Education Provider	Project	2010 \$m	Total Project Allocation ^a \$m
Macquarie University	Chemistry laboratory refurbishment	0.110	1.196
Monash University	Peninsula Campus Hockey Centre	0.208	0.208
Monash University	Student Residences Development - Gippsland Campus	1.042	3.084
Murdoch University	Veterinary Surgery and Teaching Building	2.085	3.106
Queensland University of Technology	Library and Learning Support Extension	0.054	2.594
Queensland University of Technology	Nursing and Allied Health Skills Development Centre	0.817	2.580
Southern Cross University	Gold Coast Airport Campus Development	1.564	3.606
Southern Cross University	Building M, H and NMSC Coffs Harbour	1.409	5.164
The Flinders University of South Australia	Clinical Education and Training Centre	2.849	4.900
The University of Newcastle	Education and Nursing Building (IT Teaching Facilities) – Ourimbah Campus	2.085	4.127
The University of Newcastle	Media Rich Technology – Teaching and Learning	0.408	1.186
The University of New England	Fibre Connectivity to the Australian Research and Education Network (AREN)	0.306	5.181
The University of New South Wales in partnership with the University of Western Sydney	Medical and Nursing Education Network for South Western Sydney	1.021	3.666
The University of Notre Dame Australia	Education Building Sydney and Fremantle	0.834	4.407
The University of Queensland	Veterinary Science – Equine Clinic Gatton Campus	3.127	3.637
The University of Sydney	Anderson Stuart Teaching & Mortuary Project	3.686	3.686
The University of Sydney	Clinical Education Centre	1.511	3.606
The University of Sydney	The Lawson-Paterson Centre for Sustainable Land Futures	1.124	4.692
The University of Western Australia	Business School Building	2.085	3.106
The University of Western Australia	Albany Sciences Building	1.042	1.042
The University of Western Australia	Community Clinical School Joondalup	0.817	5.174
University of Ballarat	Biomedical Science Laboratories	1.042	1.552
University of Canberra	InSPIRE Centre	1.409	5.164
University of Southern Queensland	Building 1 – Springfield Campus	2.606	6.152
University of Southern Queensland	Science Teaching Laboratory Complex – Toowoomba	2.085	3.106
University of the Sunshine Coast	Stage VII Campus Development – Health & Sports Centre	2.606	6.152
University of the Sunshine Coast	Science Skills Training Facility	2.553	2.553
University of Tasmania	AMC Student Accommodation Modernisation	1.042	1.042
University of Tasmania	Dynamic Positioning Simulator	0.625	0.625
University of Tasmania	Launceston Clinical School Development	1.409	3.089
University of Tasmania	Morris Miller Library redevelopment stage 2	1.021	2.058
University of Technology, Sydney	Nursing, Midwifery and Health Teaching Facilities	1.409	2.467
University of Western Sydney	Blacktown Hospital Clinical Campus	2.085	3.106
Victoria University and The University of Melbourne	Sunshine Hospital Teaching Training and Research Building	2.085	3.106
Victoria University	Health Precinct – St Albans campus	2.085	6.652
Sub Total CDP (excluding Special Projects)			71.694

Source: DEEWR

^a Total Project Allocation includes total funding for a particular project over multiple years where applicable.

1.3.5 Higher Education Superannuation Program

The Australian Government provides supplementation funding to eligible higher education providers to cover certain superannuation expenses incurred for staff who are members of identified state emerging cost superannuation schemes. A proportion of the funding is recovered from the relevant states under cost-share arrangements.

In 2010, \$125 million was paid to higher education providers. The recovery from the states was \$27 million.

1.3.6 Collaboration, Structural Adjustment and Diversity

Structural Adjustment Fund

The Australian Government is committed to supporting universities to make the structural changes required in the transition to the demand driven system and has allocated \$400 million for this purpose through the Structural Adjustment Fund (SAF). SAF includes \$200 million from Other Grants under the *Higher Education Support Act 2003 (HESA)* and \$200 million from the Education Investment Fund (EIF) which has been earmarked for capital infrastructure for structural adjustments. Its priority is to assist those universities that may otherwise struggle in the new student demand driven system to be introduced in 2012. The challenges are likely to be particularly acute for universities serving regional and outer metropolitan areas.

In December 2010, the Australian Government announced \$8.88 million to support a higher education partnership between the Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education (BIITE) and Charles Darwin University (CDU).

Applications for the SAF competitive funding round (stage 1) opened on 19 July 2010 and closed on 8 September 2010.

Previous Funds

The Collaboration and Structural Reform Fund provided funding for projects that aimed to improve the quality of higher education in Australia by facilitating structural reform in the higher education sector and by fostering collaboration between higher education and other education and training providers, business, industry, professional associations, and local communities and reform of course structures and delivery modes. Approximately \$52.3 million was allocated over 2005 to 2010.

The objective of the Diversity and Structural Adjustment Fund was to promote structural reform by eligible higher education providers that supports greater specialisation among providers, more diversity in the higher education sector and better responsiveness to labour markets operating in the local or national interest. Over \$200 million was allocated to the Diversity Fund over four years (2008–2011) with a competitive funding round held in 2008.

Clinical Outreach Program

The Clinical Outreach Program provides grant funding to James Cook University for the provision of infrastructure and resources for the clinical training of dentistry students in remote locations. In 2010, the Australian Government provided \$2.042 million under the Clinical Outreach Program.

1.3.7 Quality

Grants for activities that assure and enhance the quality of Australia's higher education were paid to the Australian Learning and Teaching Council, the Australian Universities Quality Agency, Graduate Careers Australia and the Australian Council for Educational Research.

Australian Learning and Teaching Council

The Australian Learning and Teaching Council (ALTC) was established in 2004 to promote and enhance learning and teaching in Australian higher education institutions through a suite of grants, fellowship and awards programs. In 2010, the ALTC received around \$28 million from the Australian Government, which was its only source of funding.

In 2010, the ALTC's activities included:

- managing a major competitive grants scheme for innovation in learning and teaching;
- liaising with the sector about options for articulating and monitoring academic standards;
- improving assessment practices;
- facilitating benchmarking of effective learning and teaching processes at national and international levels;
- developing mechanisms for dissemination of good practice;
- managing a program for international experts in learning and teaching to visit Australian higher education providers and the development of reciprocal relationships with international jurisdictions; and
- coordinating the Australian Awards for University Teaching.

In 2010, the Australian Government provided \$2.5 million in additional funding to the ALTC to undertake the Learning and Teaching Academic Standards (LTAS) project to co-ordinate the development of academic standards.

The aim of the project was to formulate threshold learning outcomes (TLOs), described in terms of discipline-specific knowledge, skills and capabilities. In 2010, six discipline groups agreed TLOs (Business, Management and Economics; Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities; Law: Engineering and ICT; Health, Medicine and Veterinary Science; and Creative and Performing Arts). Two more – Science; and Architecture and Building – joined the project in mid 2010 and will finish in mid 2011, while the Education discipline will finish in September 2011.

Australian Universities Quality Agency

The Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA) was established by the Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs (MCEETYA) in 2000 as an independent national body. In 2011, the functions of AUQA will be subsumed by the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) and AUQA Limited (the company) will be wound-up.

AUQA is responsible for the following:

- conducting periodic quality audits of Australian universities and other higher education institutions and State and Territory accreditation authorities;
- publishing reports revealing the outcomes of these audits;
- commenting on the criteria for the accreditation of new universities and non-university higher education awards, as a result of information obtained during the audits of higher education providers and state and territory accreditation processes; and

- reporting on the relative standards and international standing of the Australian higher education system and its quality assurance processes obtained during the audit process.

Universities and agencies are asked to indicate how they intend to address the recommendations made in the audit report and are expected to report on their progress at a later stage. Should a higher education provider or agency receive a negative audit report, it is the responsibility of the governing body of that institution or agency, and if required the relevant government, to determine appropriate action.

The Australian Government funds 50 per cent of AUQA's core operating grant, the states and territories contribute the other half, and higher education providers/accreditation authorities also pay a fee for audit.

Since the first round of audits commenced in 2002, around ten universities or accreditation authorities have been audited per year with the final first cycle audits occurring in 2007. The second cycle of audits commenced in 2008 with a stronger focus on academic risk, outcomes and standards. Audits of non self-accrediting institutions (NSAI) commenced with pilot audits in 2006. Please refer to Section 2.2.2 for more information about 2010 NSAI audits.

A total of \$650,000 was allocated to AUQA in 2010 annual operational funding. An additional \$189,500 was also paid to AUQA in 2010 to assist with NSAI audits.

AUQA hosts a national forum on quality annually. The Australian Universities Quality Forum (AUQF) was held at the Gold Coast in 2010 with the theme "Quality in Uncertain Times."

Graduate Careers Australia

In 2010, Graduate Careers Australia received \$672,688 from DEEWR to conduct the annual Australian Graduate Survey and publish three undergraduate reports and three postgraduate reports comprising the Course Experience, the Graduate Destinations and the Graduate Salaries reports. The Australian Graduate Survey and the resultant reports provide valuable information that is used in policy making and to inform the higher education sector of aspects of its effectiveness. The publications report on the level of graduates' satisfaction with their learning experiences, the gross salaries received 4 months after graduation and details of their employment status and further study activities.

1.3.8 Open access

Grants for activities that support open access to higher education are paid through the Open Learning Initiative (which ceased at the end of 2010) and the Framework for Open Learning Program (FOLP).

Opening Learning Initiative – Administrative payment to Open Universities Australia

The Australian Government provided financial assistance to Open Universities Australia for administration costs relating to FEE-HELP. The 2009 payment of \$272,997 was paid in 2010. The 2010 payment of \$278,379 was to be paid in 2011. This program is to be discontinued following the 2010 payment.

Framework for Open Learning Program

The Framework for Open Learning Program (FOLP) is a discretionary grant program that supports cross-sectoral projects that provide ICT initiatives in education. Priorities are in accordance with the Joint Ministerial Statement for ICT in Australian Education (2008–2011). In the 2010–2011 Budget, a total of \$3.306 million was provided.

1.3.9 Transitional Costs Program

The Transitional Costs Program assists providers with the transitional costs associated with changes to funding arrangements for accounting and related disciplines from 2008.

The Program compensates providers for receiving a lower Commonwealth contribution amount under the Commonwealth Grant Scheme (CGS) for accounting and related disciplines from 2008 and not being able to charge continuing students a higher student contribution amount to make up the difference between the new and old CGS amounts. The program began in 2008 and will cease at the end of 2012. A total of \$15.2 million was provided to eligible providers under the program in 2010.

1.3.10 Research Grants

Grants to support research by, and the research capability of, higher education providers and to support the training of research students were provided to universities through the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research. Programs and initiatives in 2010 included:

- Research Infrastructure Block Grants
- Joint Research Engagement
- Sustainable Research Excellence in universities
- Research Training Scheme; and the
- Commercialisation Training Scheme

Research Block Grants

In 2010, approximately \$1.42 billion was provided as block grants to the 41 eligible higher education providers for research and research training through a variety of performance-based schemes administered by the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research (DIISR). This includes \$184 million for research scholarships delivered under the Commonwealth Scholarships (see 1.4.2 below). Further information can be found on the DIISR website www.innovation.gov.au

The research block grants include funding for: Research Training Scheme (\$610 million in 2010); Research Infrastructure Block Grants (\$216 million in 2010); Commercialisation Training Scheme (\$5 million in 2010); Sustainable Research Excellence in universities (\$85 million in 2010); and Joint Research Engagement (\$321 million in 2010) which replaced the Institutional Grants Scheme (IGS) from January 2010.

Research block grants are provided under the *Higher Education Support Act 2003 (HESA)* and can only fund higher education providers specified in Table A and Table B of HESA. Research block grants are indexed annually.

Research block grants are principally allocated to higher education providers using program-specific formulae that reward the performance of higher education providers in attracting research income, disseminating research results in mainly peer-reviewed publications and successful completion of research degrees by students, and take account of higher degree by research student load. Higher education providers have considerable autonomy in deciding what research projects, teams and students, and what equipment and infrastructure, this funding should support. This system recognises that these sorts of decisions are often best made by higher education providers, researchers and stakeholder communities. The *Other Grants Guidelines (Research) 2010* are available at www.comlaw.gov.au

Table 12: Research block funding to support research and research capability, 2010

	Research Training Scheme (\$m)	Research Infrastructure Block Grants (\$m)	Joint Research Engagement (\$m)	Sustainable Research Excellence (\$m)	Commercialisation Training Scheme (\$m)	Total (\$m)
New South Wales						
Charles Sturt University	3.504	1.285	1.893	7.818	4.015	7.504
Macquarie University	1.153	2.878	5.689	1.409	1.254	2.163
Southern Cross University	3.435	3.633	1.675	4.456	3.546	5.954
The University of Sydney	6.264	2.684	3.680	9.827	5.845	1.367
University of New England	7.331	1.250	3.072	7.732	6.574	1.249
University of New South Wales	5.320	1.898	2.727	7.151	4.897	1.071
University of Newcastle	1.447	5.017	8.330	1.985	1.344	2.994
University of Technology, Sydney	9.355	2.205	5.011	1.066	1.017	1.774
University of Western Sydney	7.514	1.380	3.098	8.224	7.699	1.289
University of Wollongong	1.153	3.376	5.526	1.627	1.064	2.217
Victoria						
Deakin University	9.803	2.083	4.240	1.009	9.530	1.723
La Trobe University	1.141	2.612	5.887	1.119	9.777	2.113
Melbourne College of Divinity	5.821	0	2.843	2.000	2.213	1.089
Monash University	4.571	1.968	2.507	6.395	4.335	9.729
RMIT University	1.424	1.729	5.369	9.128	1.335	2.238
Swinburne University of Technology	6.499	1.283	2.618	7.924	5.523	1.125
The University of Melbourne	6.970	3.033	3.717	1.062	6.218	1.484
University of Ballarat	1.913	2.702	8.545	3.827	2.212	3.442
Victoria University	4.767	1.900	2.146	3.285	4.736	7.479
Queensland						
Bond University	6.154	1.812	2.660	3.225	2.213	1.407
Central Queensland University	2.321	1.975	1.338	3.336	2.213	4.212
Griffith University	1.296	2.817	6.587	1.192	1.223	2.368
James Cook University	8.090	2.590	3.761	1.153	5.942	1.565
Queensland University of Technology	1.517	3.350	7.706	1.421	1.600	2.781
The University of Queensland	5.417	2.406	2.812	7.698	4.927	1.145

	Research Training Scheme (\$m)	Research Infrastructure Block Grants (\$m)	Joint Research Engagement (\$m)	Sustainable Research Excellence (\$m)	Commercialisation Training Scheme (\$m)	Total (\$m)
University of Southern Queensland	2.203	2.736	1.124	3.850	2.467	4.010
University of the Sunshine Coast	6.341	1.444	3.682	2.976	2.212	1.466
Western Australia						
Curtin University of Technology	1.458	2.581	8.304	1.250	1.497	2.687
Edith Cowan University	4.412	3.709	2.034	4.508	4.680	7.314
Murdoch University	8.844	1.960	4.963	8.712	6.364	1.670
The University of Notre Dame Australia	3.144	7.7494	1.480	2.524	2.213	8.145
The University of Western Australia	3.236	1.420	1.680	4.857	2.804	6.850
South Australia						
The Flinders University of South Australia	1.019	3.058	6.075	1.359	1.008	2.078
The University of Adelaide	2.807	1.284	1.527	4.551	2.511	6.098
University of South Australia	1.128	2.383	6.631	1.092	1.141	2.150
Tasmania						
University of Tasmania	1.415	6.154	8.383	2.115	1.208	3.093
Northern Territory						
Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education	1.625	4.727	1.160	2.320	0	5.577
Charles Darwin University	3.422	2.052	2.398	1.019	3.666	8.929
Australian Capital Territory						
The Australian National University	3.272	1.507	1.646	5.672	2.917	7.022
University of Canberra	2.718	5.184	1.639	5.410	3.107	5.447
Multi-state						
Australian Catholic University	1.684	1.234	6.541	2.835	2.213	2.767

Source: Performance-based funding derived from the Higher Education Research Data Collection (DIISR) and Higher Education Student Data Collection (DEEWR)

1.4 Scholarships

1.4.1 Commonwealth Scholarships

From January 2010, following the Australian Government's reforms to student income support, Commonwealth Education Costs Scholarships (CECS) have been replaced by the Student Start-up Scholarships and Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarships (CAS) have been replaced by with Relocation Scholarships administered by Centrelink.

The Commonwealth Scholarships Program (CSP) was revised in 2010 to account for these changes and now provides scholarships to support eligible Indigenous students from low socio-economic status backgrounds and regional and remote areas in Commonwealth supported places at universities across Australia.

Students who were in receipt of a Commonwealth Scholarship prior to 1 January 2010 continue to be supported through the program until their scholarship entitlement is consumed (providing they maintain their eligibility).

Amendments were made to the CSP Guidelines to reflect these changes. The Guidelines now cover five types of scholarships for Indigenous students and include transitional arrangements for those scholarships awarded to recipients prior to 1 January 2010.

The five types of scholarships are:

Indigenous CECS – provides funding (\$2,254 per year in 2010) to assist students with general education costs for up to 8 semesters, to students to undertake an undergraduate course;

Indigenous Enabling CECS – provides funding (\$2,254 per year in 2010) to assist students with general education costs for up to 2 semesters, to students to undertake an eligible enabling course;

Indigenous CAS – provides funding (\$4,508 per year in 2010) for up to 8 semesters, to assist students from regional and remote areas who need to move away from home to commence higher education with accommodation costs to undertake an undergraduate course;

Indigenous Enabling CAS – provides funding (\$4,508 per year in 2010) for up to 2 semesters, to assist students from regional and remote areas who need to move away from home to undertake an eligible enabling with accommodation costs; and

Indigenous Access Scholarship (IAS) – provides scholarships for eligible commencing students with a one off payment (\$4,253 in 2010). These scholarships assist Indigenous students to undertake an eligible enabling course, undergraduate course or graduate diploma (or equivalent post graduate course of study) in an area of National Priority required for initial registration to practice in the chosen National Priority field.

1.4.2 Commonwealth Research Scholarships

In 2010, approximately \$184 million was provided through the research block grants to 41 eligible higher education providers to support Commonwealth Research Scholarships. Australian Postgraduate Awards are awarded to domestic students of exceptional research potential undertaking a higher degree by research in Australia. The scholarship helps support the living costs of research doctorate and research masters degree students. Award holders receive an annual stipend which, for 2010, was \$22,500 and may be eligible for other allowances. The Australian Government is committed to doubling the number of postgraduate awards by 2012 and has offered an additional 485 places in 2010.

The International Postgraduate Research Scholarships scheme aims to attract top quality international postgraduate students to areas of research strength in Australia and give the opportunity to gain experience working with leading Australian researchers. The scholarship covers tuition fees and health cover costs for the recipient and their dependants. A total of 330 International Postgraduate Research Scholarship places are awarded each year at a cost of around \$20 million per annum.

The Australian Government allocates funding annually to higher education providers who determine their own application, selection and offer process in line with broad Commonwealth research scholarship guidelines. Further information can be found on the DIISR website www.innovation.gov.au

Research block grants are provided under the *Higher Education Support Act 2003 (HESA)* and can only fund higher education providers specified Table A and Table B of HESA. Commonwealth research scholarships are indexed annually. Scholarships paid to full-time students and are treated as tax exempt income. The *Commonwealth Scholarships Guidelines (Research) 2010* are available at www.comlaw.gov.au

Table 13: Research block funding to support Commonwealth Research Scholarships, 2010

	Australian Postgraduate Awards (\$)	Australian Postgraduate Award (new places)	International Postgraduate Research Scholarships (\$)	International Postgraduate Research Scholarship (new places)	Total Funding (\$)
New South Wales					
Charles Sturt University	1,057,929	22	112,030	2	1,169,959
Macquarie University	3,484,517	68	410,059	7	3,894,576
Southern Cross University	1,066,381	19	112,030	2	1,178,411
The University of Sydney	17,037,387	317	2,105,048	34	19,142,435
University of New England	2,050,362	35	224,061	4	2,274,423
University of New South Wales	14,116,147	266	1,789,715	28	15,905,862
University of Newcastle	3,987,922	73	448,121	8	4,436,043
University of Technology, Sydney	2,871,264	55	326,291	6	3,197,555
University of Western Sydney	2,230,737	42	230,424	4	2,461,161
University of Wollongong	3,144,118	58	365,268	6	3,509,386
Victoria					
Deakin University	2,677,490	52	285,981	5	2,963,471
La Trobe University	3,036,493	53	336,091	6	3,372,584
Melbourne College of Divinity	172,427	3	56,015	1	228,442
Monash University	12,556,715	235	1,389,261	25	13,945,976
RMIT University	3,921,447	72	459,239	8	4,380,686
Swinburne University of Technology	1,620,109	30	190,139	3	1,810,248
The University of Melbourne	18,155,179	337	2,312,649	36	20,467,828
University of Ballarat	534,228	10	56,015	1	590,243
Victoria University	1,266,383	25	169,222	3	1,435,605

	Australian Postgraduate Awards (\$)	Australian Postgraduate Award (new places)	International Postgraduate Research Scholarships (\$)	International Postgraduate Research Scholarship (new places)	Total Funding (\$)
Queensland					
Bond University	228,576	5	56,015	1	284,591
Central Queensland University	581,204	10	56,015	1	637,219
Griffith University	3,619,096	66	403,223	7	4,022,319
James Cook University	1,941,237	32	255,074	3	2,196,311
Queensland University of Technology	4,423,672	86	500,762	9	4,924,434
The University of Queensland	14,135,455	267	1,908,114	29	16,043,569
University of Southern Queensland	660,228	13	56,015	1	716,243
University of the Sunshine Coast	195,851	4	56,015	1	251,866
Western Australia					
Curtin University of Technology	4,218,172	81	514,129	9	4,732,301
Edith Cowan University	1,391,533	25	168,045	3	1,559,578
Murdoch University	2,141,139	34	264,255	4	2,405,394
The University of Notre Dame Australia	92,726	2	56,015	1	148,741
The University of Western Australia	8,310,298	152	1,055,154	16	9,365,452
South Australia					
The Flinders University of South Australia	2,809,670	52	304,449	5	3,114,119
The University of Adelaide	7,079,037	136	805,721	15	7,884,758
University of South Australia	3,273,017	62	367,733	7	3,640,750
Tasmania					
University of Tasmania	3,677,495	65	416,963	7	4,094,458
Northern Territory					
Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education	0	0	0	0	0
Charles Darwin University	994,756	20	112,030	2	1,106,786
Australian Capital Territory					
The Australian National University	8,609,274	158	1,128,405	17	9,737,679
University of Canberra	859,454	17	100,913	2	960,367
Multi-state					
Australian Catholic University	598,628	10	56,296	1	654,924

Source: Performance-based funding derived from the Higher Education Research Data Collection (DIISR) and Higher Education Student Data Collection (DEEWR)

Table 15 displays the number of new Indigenous Commonwealth Scholarships allocated to higher education providers under the CSP in 2010.

Table 14: Number of new Indigenous scholarships allocated under the CSP, 2010

Higher Education Provider	ICECS	ICAS	IAS
New South Wales Total	163	89	217
Avondale College	3	0	3
Charles Sturt University	4	2	21
Macquarie University	4	1	9
Southern Cross University	11	8	11
The University of New England	15	11	23
The University of New South Wales	24	10	19
The University of Newcastle	60	40	64
The University of Sydney	2	1	11
University of Technology, Sydney	9	4	37
University of Western Sydney	2	2	4
University of Wollongong	29	10	15
Victoria Total	45	17	104
Deakin University	7	0	25
La Trobe University	7	1	17
Monash University	6	2	9
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology	4	3	14
Swinburne University of Technology	4	2	4
The University of Melbourne	6	2	18
University of Ballarat	6	4	9
Victoria University	5	3	8
Queensland Total	236	83	270
Central Queensland University	84	4	59
Christian Heritage College	0	0	0
Griffith University	12	11	50
James Cook University	40	18	49
Queensland University of Technology	12	10	36
The University of Queensland	4	3	28
University of Southern Queensland	55	8	41
University of the Sunshine Coast	29	7	29
Western Australia Total	266	80	166
Curtin University of Technology	84	20	59
Edith Cowan University	54	14	25
Murdoch University	60	13	32
University of Notre Dame Australia	6	3	10
The University of Western Australia	62	30	40
South Australia Total	86	43	68
Tabor College, Adelaide	0	0	0
Flinders University of South Australia	6	1	7

Higher Education Provider	ICECS	ICAS	IAS
The University of Adelaide	72	37	42
University of South Australia	8	5	19
Tasmania Total	9	11	27
University of Tasmania	9	11	27
Northern Territory	55	15	43
Batchelor Institute of Indig. Tertiary Ed.	37	8	31
Charles Darwin University	18	7	12
Australian Capital Territory Total	42	33	34
The Australian National University	2	3	4
University of Canberra	40	30	30
Multi state Total	2	0	4
Australian Catholic University	2	0	4
Total	904	349	955

Source: Formula-derived result based on the Selected Higher Education Student Statistics, various years (DEEWR) and competitive bid processes.

Table 16 sets out the total funding provided to higher education providers under the CSP in 2010. The grant amount includes funding to support new and continuing scholarships awarded in previous years.

Table 15: Total CSP funding for 2010

Higher Education Provider	\$
New South Wales	32,278,295
Avondale College	127,713
Charles Sturt University	2,214,835
Macquarie University	1,025,529
Southern Cross University	2,787,647
University of New England	2,164,737
University of New South Wales	2,645,859
University of Newcastle	5,012,354
The University of Sydney	4,306,843
University of Technology, Sydney	3,509,059
University of Western Sydney	6,348,498
University of Wollongong	2,135,221
Victoria	21,765,152
Deakin University	2,842,681
La Trobe University	4,120,485
Monash University	4,061,667
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology	2,732,786
Swinburne University of Technology	977,216
The University of Melbourne	3,556,730
University of Ballarat	1,658,903
Victoria University	1,814,684
Queensland	26,168,862
Christian Heritage College	38,318
Central Queensland University	1,880,569

Higher Education Provider	\$
Griffith University	4,745,444
James Cook University	4,310,677
Queensland University of Technology	5,285,466
The University of Queensland	5,889,324
University of Southern Queensland	2,701,107
University of the Sunshine Coast	1,317,957
Western Australia	12,476,386
Curtin University of Technology	4,758,927
Edith Cowan University	2,423,437
Murdoch University	1,916,756
University of Notre Dame Australia	308,502
The University of Western Australia	3,068,764
South Australia	8,624,496
Tabor College Adelaide	33,810
Flinders University of South Australia	2,299,549
The University of Adelaide	2,601,676
University of South Australia	3,689,461
Tasmania	6,105,963
University of Tasmania	6,105,963
Northern Territory	3,498,513
Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education	2,122,125
Charles Darwin University	1,376,388
Australian Capital Territory	3,216,804
The Australian National University	1,750,338
University of Canberra	1,466,466
Multi-state	1,561,002
Australian Catholic University	1,561,002
Total	115,695,473

1.4.3 Indigenous Staff Scholarships

The Indigenous Staff Scholarships Program rewards Indigenous staff (academic or general) who have actively encouraged Indigenous students to participate in higher education and to complete their courses. The scholarships enable Indigenous staff of eligible higher education providers to take one year of leave from their employment to undertake full-time higher education study in their chosen academic or professional area. This recognises their commitment to assisting students in higher education and enhances their own academic and professional standing.

Applicants for Indigenous Staff Scholarships are considered by the Indigenous Higher Education Advisory Council, which advises the Minister on who should receive a scholarship under this program.

Five Indigenous Staff Scholarships are available to be awarded annually. In 2010, each provided \$11,600 (indexed annually) to cover tuition fees and/or student contribution amounts for that year, and a non-taxable stipend of \$23,200 for each scholarship holder (indexed annually).

Table 16: 2010 Indigenous Staff Scholarships allocations

	\$ per person	No.	Total \$
Stipend	24,200	5	121,000
Course Fees	12,000	5	60,000
Total	36,200	5	181,000

Source: Commonwealth Scholarships guidelines
Guidelines (Education) 2010

1.4.4 International Scholarships

Endeavour Awards

The Endeavour Awards is the Australian Government's internationally competitive, merit-based scholarship program providing opportunities for citizens of the Asia Pacific, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas to undertake study, research or professional development in Australia. Awards are also available for Australians to do the same abroad.

The Endeavour Awards aim to:

- develop ongoing education, research and professional linkages between individuals, organisations and countries
- provide opportunities for high achieving individuals to increase their skills and enhance their global awareness
- contribute to Australia's position as a high quality education and training provider, and leader in research and innovation
- increase the productivity of Australians through an international study, research or professional development experience.

Available Awards include:

- Endeavour Postgraduate Awards
- Endeavour Australia Cheung Kong Research Fellowships
- Endeavour Research Fellowships
- Endeavour Research Fellowships for Indigenous Australians
- Endeavour Executive Awards
- Endeavour Vocational Education and Training (VET) Awards
- Endeavour Europe Awards (as of the 2012 round these Awards are no longer available)

The Endeavour Awards are part of the Australia Awards initiative, which was announced by the Australian Government in November 2009. Further information is available through the Australia Awards website at www.australiaawards.gov.au

Table 17: Endeavour Awards offered in 2010 (for the 2011 round)

Award Type	Incoming Endeavour Awards (International)	Outgoing Endeavour Awards (Australian)
Endeavour Postgraduate Award	194	n/a
Endeavour Research Fellowships	157	48
Endeavour VET Award	106	n/a
Endeavour Australia Cheung Kong Award	6	6
Endeavour Executive Award	71	37
Endeavour Europe Award	28	n/a
Endeavour Research Fellowships for Indigenous Australians	n/a	3
Total	532	93

Source: DEEWR internal administrative data, 2011

The Prime Minister's Australia Asia Awards

The Prime Minister's Australia Asia Awards are prestigious awards that recognise the best and brightest scholars from Australia and Asia. They provide the unique opportunity for postgraduate and undergraduate scholars to undertake international study and research opportunities, together with an international internship. The Awards also provide an opportunity for Australian universities and the Australian Government to work in partnership to identify and reward high calibre scholars

Table 18: Prime Minister's Australia Asia Awards offered in 2010 (for the 2011 round)

	Outgoing Awards (Australian)	Incoming Awards (International)
Prime Minister's Australia Asia Undergraduate Award (Outgoing)	20	n/a
Prime Minister's Australia Asia Postgraduate Award (Outgoing)	20	n/a
Prime Minister's Australia Asia Postgraduate Award (Incoming)	n/a	21

Endeavour Language Teachers Fellowships

The Endeavour Language Teachers Fellowships are for Australian language teachers, both practising and trainee (pre-service), to improve their language skills and gain valuable cultural experience. Teachers participate in a three week in country study program in one of the countries that have languages in the top ten taught in Australian schools. Further Information is available through the website at www.eltf.austraining.com.au

International Student Exchange Program

The Australian Government encourages young Australians to immerse themselves into social and academic cultures of other countries and provides opportunities for international students, to study in and experience Australia. It also seeks to support Australian higher education providers in further developing and diversifying their linkages with counterpart institutions overseas.

In recognising the enduring benefits of undergraduate student exchanges, the Australian Government has been funding Australian higher education providers to subsidise the costs to students participating in student exchanges since 1993.

In 2010, the Australian Government allocated almost \$10 million to the International Student Exchange Program: The program supports the Australian Government’s objective of building international linkages between Australian and overseas institutions and enriches the educational experience of the participating students.

The key features of the International Student Exchange Program are tuition fee waiver and credit transfer.

Short-Term Mobility Program

The Study Overseas Short-Term Mobility Program funds projects managed by eligible Australian higher education providers that support their Australian students to undertake meaningful short-term international mobility experiences in the Asia-Pacific, Middle East, Europe and the Americas.

This Program aims to:

- increase the overall number of students with an international mobility experience related to their field of study by addressing some of the barriers to uptake of student mobility;
- encourage students through participation to consider longer-term mobility options;
- assist institutions that are seeking to diversify their programs to include innovative options, minority groups and/or non-traditional destinations; and
- increase collaboration between higher education Institutions in Australia and participating Institutions or organisations overseas.

Table 19: International Student Exchange and Mobility Subsidies offered in 2010 (for the 2011 Round)

Award Category	International students for in-Australia study	Australian students for overseas study
International Student Exchange Program	590	1369
Short-Term Mobility Program	N/A	1066
Total	590	2435

Source: DEEWR internal administrative data

Australian-American Fulbright Commission

The Fulbright Commission is a non-profit organisation in Australia, established through a treaty between the Australian and United States Governments in 1949. The Fulbright awards allow Australians and Americans to participate in educational and cultural exchange programs.

In 2009–10, the Government provided \$849,414 in core funding to the Fulbright Commission.

1.5 Support for Students

1.5.1 Overview

Government funded higher education places are called Commonwealth supported places. To be eligible for a Commonwealth supported place, a student must be an Australian citizen, a New Zealand citizen or the holder of an Australian permanent visa. In 2010, over 500,000 students (expressed in EFTSL) were in Commonwealth supported places.² Of that number, over 30,000 were students in postgraduate Commonwealth supported places (see Table 24).

² Includes work experience in industry (WEI) load. WEI load is excluded from the Commonwealth supported category for some funding purposes

The Australian Government pays a Commonwealth contribution to higher education providers for each Commonwealth supported place through the Commonwealth Grant Scheme. Commonwealth supported students are generally required to contribute to the cost of their higher education through a student contribution.

Since 2005, universities have been able to set student contributions up to a maximum level set by the Australian Government which varies by discipline. The maximum annual student contribution amounts in each band are indexed annually. Table 21 sets out the student contribution bands and ranges for 2010.

Table 20: Student contribution bands and ranges for 2010

Student Contribution Band	Student contribution range (per EFTSL)
Band 3 (law, dentistry, medicine, veterinary science) (accounting, administration, economics, commerce) ^a	\$0 – \$8,859
Band 2 (computing, built environment, health, engineering, surveying, agriculture)	\$0 – \$7,567
Band 1 (humanities, behavioural science, social studies, foreign languages, visual and performing arts, education, nursing) ^b	\$0 – \$5,310
National priorities (mathematics, statistics, science) ^c	\$0 – \$4,249

Notes:

- (a) Students who commenced their Commonwealth supported course of study before 1 January 2008 may be a pre-2008 student for units in accounting, administration, economics and commerce. The maximum student contribution amount for units in accounting, administration, economics and commerce for pre-2008 students is \$7,567 (the band 2 rate), which is lower than the amount in the above table. The lower amount applies to Commonwealth supported students who commenced a course of study before 1 January 2008 and are covered by the saving provision in Schedule 7 of the Higher Education Legislation Amendment (2007 Budget Measures) Act 2007.
- (b) Students who commenced their Commonwealth supported course of study before 1 January 2010 may be a pre-2010 student for units in education and nursing. The maximum annual student contribution amount that may be charged for pre-2010 students is \$4,249 which is lower than the amount in the above table.
- (c) Students who commenced their course of study before 1 January 2009 may be a pre-2009 student for units in mathematics, statistics and science. The maximum student contribution amount for units in mathematics, statistics and science for pre-2009 students is \$7,567 (the Band 2 rate), which is higher than the amount in the above table. This amount applies to students who commenced a course of study before 1 January 2009 (and are not covered by the course transfer arrangements described below). Students who commenced a course of study that is not a natural and physical science course of study before 1 January 2009 and transfer to a natural and physical science course of study, may be charged a student contribution amount up to the maximum of the National Priorities Band, which is \$4,249. Mathematics, statistics and science courses of study are courses of study classified to the natural and physical sciences field of education. Natural and Physical Sciences course of study means the field of natural and physical sciences, classified as Broad Field 01 by the Australian Bureau of Statistics in the publication *Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED) 2001*.

Student Learning Entitlement

On 1 January 2005, all eligible students received a Student Learning Entitlement (SLE) giving them access to seven years of equivalent full-time study in a Commonwealth supported place.

Additional SLE is also provided to eligible students enrolling in an undergraduate course that is longer than six years, an honours course, a graduate entry bachelor degree or a postgraduate course. Students also accrue lifelong SLE to encourage lifelong learning. Students must have sufficient SLE to cover the units of study in which they wish to enrol as a Commonwealth supported student.

As announced in the *Transforming Australia's Higher Education System 2009–10 Budget package*, the SLE will be abolished from 2012 when the cap on the number of bachelor level undergraduate places that universities can offer will be removed as part of a student demand driven funding system.

Domestic fee paying students

Where a domestic student is not Commonwealth supported, higher education providers may charge tuition fees under the conditions described below. Providers determine their own fee levels for domestic fee paying students. For units of study in which Commonwealth supported students are enrolled, fee paying students must be charged an amount equal to or more than the student contribution amount for Commonwealth supported students for that unit.

Table 22 shows the number of domestic full fee paying students by course level for all providers. This table also includes students undertaking units access to which was provided by Open Universities Australia (OUA).

Table 21: Domestic full fee-paying students (EFTSL) by course level, Table A, B, C, private providers and OUA, 2010

	Undergraduate award course	Postgraduate award course	Enabling, non-award Units	Total
Table A	8,225	42,509	2,187	52,921
Table B	6,356	960	229	7,545
Table C	0	10	0	10
Private providers	19,836	3,940	66	23,842
OUA	0	0	15,914	15,914
Total	34,417	47,419	18,396	100,232

As set out in Table 23, in 2010 there were 861,459 students (in EFTSL) enrolled at Australian higher education providers. Of these, 608,520 were domestic students.

Domestic undergraduate fee paying students

From 1 January 2009, in line with the Australian Government's commitment to phasing out full fee paying domestic undergraduate places at public universities, Table A providers are no longer able to offer full fee paying places to domestic students commencing an undergraduate course of study except under particular circumstances.

Students who were enrolled prior to 2009 may continue to be enrolled as full fee paying students. This does not preclude universities from transferring students to Commonwealth supported places under their own policies.

Undergraduate fee paying places can be offered at Table B providers, Table C providers and other approved higher education providers, without the above conditions. All providers may offer full fee paying places in postgraduate courses and enabling courses.

In 2010, Table A providers enrolled 8,225 domestic undergraduate full fee paying EFTSL (including in employer reserved places).

Domestic postgraduate fee paying students

Domestic postgraduate coursework students usually pay tuition fees. Most domestic postgraduate research student places are provided under the Research Training Scheme (RTS) and are exempt from the payment of tuition fees. Postgraduate research students who are not in an RTS place are charged tuition fees.

In 2010, Table A providers enrolled 42,509 postgraduate full fee paying domestic EFTSL in research and coursework degrees.

Open Universities Australia

Students who undertake units through OUA pay tuition fees determined by OUA. All units offered through OUA are defined as 'non-award' as OUA does not offer award courses under HESA.

Table 22: Actual Student Load (EFTSL) for All Students by Liability Status, Full Year 2010

Liability Status	Total Postgraduate	Bachelor	Other Undergraduate	Sub-total Other Undergraduate ^(a)	Undergraduate Cross Institution Programs	Total Undergraduate	Enabling and non-award courses	Total
Commonwealth supported students								
Student Contribution liable								
Pre-2005 HECS student - liability deferred	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pre-2005 HECS student - paid up-front with discount	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pre-2005 HECS student - paid up-front without discount	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2005 onwards student - deferred all or part through HECS-HELP	20,407	370,289	1,737	1,946	791	374,763	6	395,177
2005 onwards student - paid full contribution up-front with HECS-HELP discount	7,763	72,735	677	688	122	74,222	0	81,985
2005 onwards student - paid up-front without HECS-HELP discount	1,875	12,019	50	88	15	12,172	0	14,048
Sub-total	30,045	455,043	2,464	2,722	928	461,158	7	491,210
Student Contribution exempt								
Pre-2005 merit-based equity scholarship holder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Exemption scholarship holder	97	709	63	7	0	779	2	878
Enrolled in an enabling course	0	0	0	0	0	0	7,867	7,867
Work Experience in Industry, student contribution cannot be charged ^(a)	88	441	8	0	0	449	0	537
Sub-total	185	1,150	70	7	0	1,228	7,869	9,282
Total Commonwealth supported	30,231	456,194	2,535	2,729	928	462,385	7,875	500,491

Liability Status	Total Postgraduate	Bachelor	Other Undergraduate	Sub-total Other Undergraduate ^(a)	Undergraduate Cross Institution Programs	Total Undergraduate	Enabling and non-award courses	Total
Domestic fee-paying students^b								
FEE-HELP								
Pre-2005 PELS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deferred all or part of award or enabling course tuition fee	25,642	19,213	771	3,215	46	23,245	407	49,294
Deferred all or part of Employer reserved place tuition fee ^(c)	6	179	1,799	0	0	1,977	0	1,983
Deferred all or part of BOTP tuition fee	0	0	0	0	0	0	76	76
Sub-total	25,648	19,392	2,570	3,215	46	25,223	483	51,353
Paid tuition fee up-front with no FEE-HELP assistance								
Paid full award or enabling course tuition fee	17,994	6,320	183	514	21	7,039	142	25,175
Paid full tuition fee for Employer reserved place ^(c)	1,110	1,348	420	41	0	1,809	83	3,003
Paid full BOTP tuition fee	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Sub-total	19,104	7,669	603	555	21	8,848	226	28,179
Tuition fee exempt								
Exemption scholarship holder	2,663	17	0	0	0	18	0	2,681
Work Experience in Industry, tuition fee cannot be charged	27	13	0	0	0	13	0	40
Sub-total	2,690	30	0	0	0	30	1	2,721
Total Domestic fee-paying	47,442	27,090	3,173	3,771	67	34,101	709	82,253
Other domestic students								
Non-award students	4	31	38	260	0	329	329	2,106
RTS students	23,669	0	0	0	0	0	0	23,669
Total Other Domestic	23,673	31	38	260	0	329	1,773	25,775
Overseas								
Total Overseas fee-paying students	78,358	150,865	894	15,265	273	167,297	7,284	252,939
Total EFTSL	179,704	634,179	6,640	22,025	1,269	664,113	665,382	861,459

(a) Work experience in industry load is excluded from the Commonwealth supported category for some funding purposes.

(b) Includes Commonwealth supported students who may be undertaking a fee-paying unit (for example, during summer school). Excludes students undertaking units through OUA.

(c) Employer reserved places have their entry restricted under an arrangement with an employer or industry body.

Note 1: Tables may not add due to rounding.

1.5.2 The Higher Education Loan Program

The Higher Education Loan Program (HELP) is an income-contingent loan program that supports access to higher education for Australian citizens and permanent humanitarian visa holders through the provision of discounts and loans for tuition costs. Support is also provided for the costs associated with overseas study that contributes to an Australian higher education award.

HELP consists of a number of programs:

- Higher Education Contribution Scheme (HECS-HELP) for eligible Commonwealth supported students;
- FEE-HELP for eligible fee paying students enrolled at an eligible provider;
- VET FEE-HELP for eligible students undertaking certain vocational education and training (VET) courses; and
- OS-HELP to assist Commonwealth supported students who wish to study overseas.

Debts from each of these programs are combined by the Australian Taxation Office and treated as one debt. HELP debts are indexed annually, but there is no real interest charged on the loans.

Data at 30 June 2010 indicates that since 1989, around 2.5 million students have been able to access higher education opportunities through Government funded loans. Over \$27.9 billion (excluding indexation) has been loaned to those students. Approximately 1.1 million people have repaid their debt in full. The average repayment time was 7.9 years.

As at 30 June 2010, there were around 1.5 million persons with a HELP debt, totalling around \$20.5 billion with the average debt being around \$13,600. Table 24 shows the breakdown of the outstanding HELP debt by size.

Table 23: Breakdown of outstanding HELP debt as at 30 June 2010

Range of loan balances	Number of persons
\$1,000 and under	52,846
\$1,000.01 to \$2,000	73,110
\$2,000.01 to \$4,000	148,693
\$4,000.01 to \$6,000	152,516
\$6,000.01 to \$8,000	123,762
\$8,000.01 to \$10,000	106,949
\$10,000.01 to \$12,000	103,732
\$12,000.01 to \$14,000	99,469
\$14,000.01 to \$16,000	103,442
\$16,000.01 to \$18,000	90,327
\$18,000.01 to \$20,000	74,069
\$20,000.01 to \$30,000	224,071
\$30,000.01 to \$40,000	71,669
\$40,000.01 to \$50,000	21,976
Over \$50,000	15,141

Source: Australian Taxation Office

Due to reporting timeframes this information for 30 June 2010 does not include debts incurred in the first half of 2010, and repayments relating to 2009–10 income years respectively.

The amount of outstanding debt, repayments and debt not expected to be repaid for each financial year 1988–89 to 2009–10 is set out below.

Table 24: Accumulated HELP debts and debt not expected to be repaid 1989–90 to 2009–10

Year	Voluntary repayments by students	Compulsory repayments through tax system ^(a)	Accumulated HELP debt ^(b)	Fair value of accumulated HELP debt	Debt expected not to be repaid (DNER) ^(c)	Proportion of DNER against accumulated HELP debt ^(d)
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	
1988–1989	0	9	216	N/A	N/A	N/A
1989–1990	2	28	673	N/A	N/A	N/A
1990–1991	6	50	1,190	N/A	N/A	N/A
1991–1992	12	58	1,749	N/A	N/A	N/A
1992–1993	11	73	2,321	N/A	386	16.6%
1993–1994	19	133	2,932	N/A	438	14.9%
1994–1995	16	169	3,354	N/A	541	16.1%
1995–1996	32	218	3,958	N/A	687	17.4%
1996–1997	58	262	4,504	N/A	607	13.5%
1997–1998	67	427	4,922	N/A	700	14.2%
1998–1999	72	497	5,526	N/A	953	17.2%
1999–2000	80	532	6,229	4,812	1,124	18.0%
2000–2001	97	586	7,162	5,323	1,397	19.5%
2001–2002	134	612	8,104	5,661	1,723	21.3%
2002–2003	137	638	9,164	5,918	2,019	22.0%
2003–2004	156	701	10,185	6,891	2,055	20.2%
2004–2005 ^(e)	193	666	11,371	7,580	2,166	19.0%
2005–2006	137	800	12,779	8,830	2,496	19.5%
2006–2007	158	921	14,425	9,603	2,964	20.5%
2007–2008	184	1,158	16,113	10,517	3,698	22.9%
2008–2009	196	1,163	18,278	12,048	3,934	21.5%
2009–2010	202	1,251	20,497	14,018	4,495	21.9%

Source: Australian Taxation Office / DEEWR

(a) Compulsory repayments (PAYG withholdings) made through the tax system are in relation to the income year.

(b) The actual outstanding HELP debt for a particular year may be different to that published in the Annual Report for that year because the Annual Report is based on estimated compulsory repayments and estimated first half year debt.

(c) 'Debt not expected to be repaid' arises from the income contingent nature of HELP repayments and debt being written off upon death of a debtor. The estimated provision for the amount of HELP debt not expected to be repaid is determined by a preliminary actuarial assessment accounting for compulsory (PAYG) repayments when they are credited against individuals' outstanding debts. The actual amount is determined once a full dataset is available for the financial year. The income repayment threshold was \$44,912 in 2010-11.

(d) Debt not expected to be repaid as a percentage of estimated net outstanding debt taking account of PAYG receipts over the course of the financial year that have not yet been allocated against individual debtors' obligations.

(e) Before 2005, debts were incurred under HEFA. From 1 January 2005, debts are incurred under HESA and are known as HELP debts. Debts incurred under HEFA include HECS, PELS, BOTPLS and OLDPS debts. All previous debts under these schemes became HELP debts on 1 June 2006. HELP debts incurred since 1 January 2005 include HECS-HELP, FEE-HELP and OS-HELP debts, and from January 2009 VET FEE-HELP.

N/A : Data is not available

The repayment arrangements under HELP ensure that only those people whose income level exceeds the minimum repayment threshold (\$43,151 in 2009–10, see Table 26) are required to make compulsory repayments. This repayment threshold is indexed annually in line with the movement in average weekly earnings. People may also make voluntary repayments towards their HELP debts. Voluntary repayments of \$500 or more attract a ten per cent bonus.

Table 25: HELP 2009–10 repayment thresholds and repayment rates

For repayment income in the range	Percentage rate to be applied to repayment income
Below \$43,151	Nil
\$43,151–\$48,066	4.00%
\$48,067–\$52,980	4.50%
\$52,981–\$55,764	5.00%
\$55,765–\$59,943	5.50%
\$59,944–\$64,919	6.00%
\$64,920–\$68,336	6.50%
\$68,337–\$75,203	7.00%
\$75,204–\$80,136	7.50%
\$80,137 and above	8.00%

HECS-HELP

HECS-HELP loans assist eligible Commonwealth supported students to pay their student contribution for units of study. To be eligible to receive assistance, a student must be an Australian citizen or the holder of a permanent humanitarian visa who will be resident in Australia for the duration of the unit.

Students in Commonwealth supported places can choose to access a HECS-HELP loan for all or part of their student contribution. If eligible, a HECS-HELP discount of 20 per cent applies for full up-front payments or partial up-front payments of \$500 or more.

In 2010, approximately 80.4 per cent of students (EFTSL) required to pay student contributions took out a HECS-HELP loan for all or part of their student contribution. An additional 16.7 per cent paid their entire student contribution up-front with HECS-HELP discount. The remaining 2.9 per cent paid their student contribution up-front because they were not eligible for the HECS-HELP discount.

In terms of EFTSL, the number of students receiving HECS-HELP assistance increased by around 6.2 per cent to 477,162 between 2009 and 2010.

Table 27 provides a breakdown of student contribution liabilities for Commonwealth supported students and the type of HECS/HECS-HELP assistance accessed by students.

Table 26: Student contribution (HECS) liabilities and assistance accessed

Year	Total students' liabilities \$m	Deferred under HECS/ HECS-HELP loan \$m	Up-front payments made to institutions \$m	Up-front discount ^(a) \$m
1989	505	411	80	14
1990	578	475	87	15
1991	682	548	114	20
1992	785	633	129	23
1993	816	639	133	44
1994	869	664	156	48
1995	885	668	164	53
1996	957	719	179	58
1997	1,191	895	220	76
1998	1,374	1,049	246	79
1999	1,534	1,188	263	83
2000	1,639	1,275	277	87
2001	1,753	1,367	295	91
2002	1,864	1,450	317	98
2003	1,907	1,470	334	103
2004	1,919	1,457	350	112
2005 ^(b)	2,037	1,557	391	89
2006 ^(b)	2,237	1,719	424	94
2007 ^(b)	2,439	1,887	453	99
2008 ^(b)	2,641	2,055	483	104
2009 ^(b)	2,875	2,258	510	107
2010 ^(b)	3,112	2,467	535	111

Note figures may not total due to rounding.

(a) The up-front discount represents the amount paid by the Australian Government to higher education providers on behalf of students paying up-front.

(b) The figures represent advance payments to providers including the effect of any reconciliation adjustments.

FEE-HELP

FEE-HELP offers eligible students an income contingent loan to pay their undergraduate or postgraduate tuition fees in courses at universities or other approved higher education providers. FEE-HELP can cover all or part of a student's tuition fees.

To be eligible to receive assistance, a student must be an Australian citizen or the holder of a permanent humanitarian visa who will be resident in Australia for the duration of the unit. Permanent visa holders who will be resident in Australia for the duration of the unit and undertaking a unit as part of a bridging course for overseas-trained professionals are eligible for FEE-HELP assistance.

From 1 January 2010, the general FEE-HELP limit was \$85,062 for all courses except medicine, dentistry and veterinary science which had a FEE-HELP limit of \$106,328.

There is a loan fee of 20 per cent for FEE-HELP for undergraduate courses of study. The FEE-HELP limit does not include the loan fee. The 20 per cent FEE-HELP loan fee does not apply to postgraduate courses, bridging studies for overseas-trained professionals, enabling courses or units of study undertaken directly with Open Universities Australia.

In 2010, approximately 77.5 per cent of domestic undergraduate full fee paying students at Table A and Table B providers took out a FEE-HELP loan for all or part of their tuition fees.

In 2010, approximately 52.7 per cent of domestic postgraduate full fee paying students³ at Table A and Table B providers took out a FEE-HELP loan for all or part of their tuition fees.

Table 28 shows FEE-HELP payments for 2010 by level of course for all providers and OUA. For 2010, based on data submitted by providers and OUA (subject to revisions), the Australian Government's FEE-HELP loan payments totalled \$884.8 million to providers (including OUA) on behalf of students who had elected to take out a FEE-HELP loan for all or part of their tuition fees. This benefited 64,878 EFTSL.

Table 27: FEE-HELP payments by course level, 2010

	FEE-HELP student load ^a	FEE-HELP payments (\$)
Undergraduate	25,223	343,311,112
Postgraduate	25,648	442,142,550
Enabling and Non Award Courses	483	7,069,207
Open Universities Australia Units	13,524	92,266,156
Total	64,878	884,789,025

Total may be different to sum of parts due to rounding

(a) Students enrolled in a cross-institutional course are counted once for each of the providers at which they are enrolled

OS-HELP

The OS-HELP loan scheme provides loans to eligible undergraduate Commonwealth supported students who wish to undertake some of their Australian course of study overseas. To be eligible, a student must be an Australian citizen or the holder of a permanent humanitarian visa.

OS-HELP is intended to encourage more Australian students to undertake part of their study overseas and to increase the accessibility of overseas study to students who may not otherwise have sufficient financial means to take up such opportunities. The loan may assist students with travel, accommodation and other overseas expenses.

Loans are provided to students for a period of up to six months. Students are eligible for a maximum of two OS-HELP loans over their lifetime.

In 2010, eligible students who were selected by their higher education provider to receive a loan were able to borrow up to \$5,523 per six month study period. From 2010, no loan fee applied to OS-HELP loans.

Table 29 shows the number and amount of loans distributed to eligible students in 2010.

³ Students enrolled in postgraduate research and postgraduate coursework degrees in the same year are counted twice.

Table 28: OS-HELP loan distribution by higher education provider, 2010^(a)

Higher Education Provider	OS-HELP loans	\$
New South Wales		
Avondale College ^(b)	0	0
Charles Sturt University	15	82,127
Macquarie University	136	728,308
Southern Cross University	22	113,002
The University of Sydney	101	548,931
University of Newcastle	195	1,048,328
University of New England	24	125,514
University of New South Wales	290	1,554,499
University of Technology, Sydney	217	1,182,938
University of Western Sydney	51	255,523
University of Wollongong	171	929,318
Victoria		
Deakin University	162	888,657
La Trobe University	175	930,695
Monash University	475	2,500,523
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology	132	713,367
Swinburne University of Technology	44	243,012
The University of Melbourne	153	811,066
University of Ballarat	2	5,500
Victoria University	194	1,039,674
Queensland		
Christian Heritage College ^(b)	0	0
Central Queensland University	8	40,523
Griffith University	179	978,625
James Cook University	23	126,414
Queensland University of Technology	101	543,390
The University of Queensland	273	1,473,905
University of Southern Queensland	23	93,974
University of the Sunshine Coast	61	324,965
Western Australia		
Curtin University of Technology	52	275,220
Edith Cowan University	42	230,397
Murdoch University	57	290,525
The University of Notre Dame Australia ^(b)	0	0
The University of Western Australia	117	613,734
South Australia		
Tabor College (Adelaide) ^(b)	0	0
The Flinders University of South Australia	45	229,982
The University of Adelaide	177	958,040
University of South Australia	68	361,312

Higher Education Provider	OS-HELP loans	\$
Tasmania		
University of Tasmania	60	296,125
Northern Territory		
Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education ^(b)	0	0
Charles Darwin University ^(b)	0	0
Australian Capital Territory		
The Australian National University	123	667,439
University of Canberra	88	472,680
Multi-State		
Australian Catholic University	32	138,536
Total	4088	21,816,768

(a) Data is provided for calendar year 2010 based on actual loans reported by providers as at 29 August 2011.

(b) These providers did not distribute any OS-HELP loans to students in 2010.

1.5.3 Study Assist Website and Course Information System

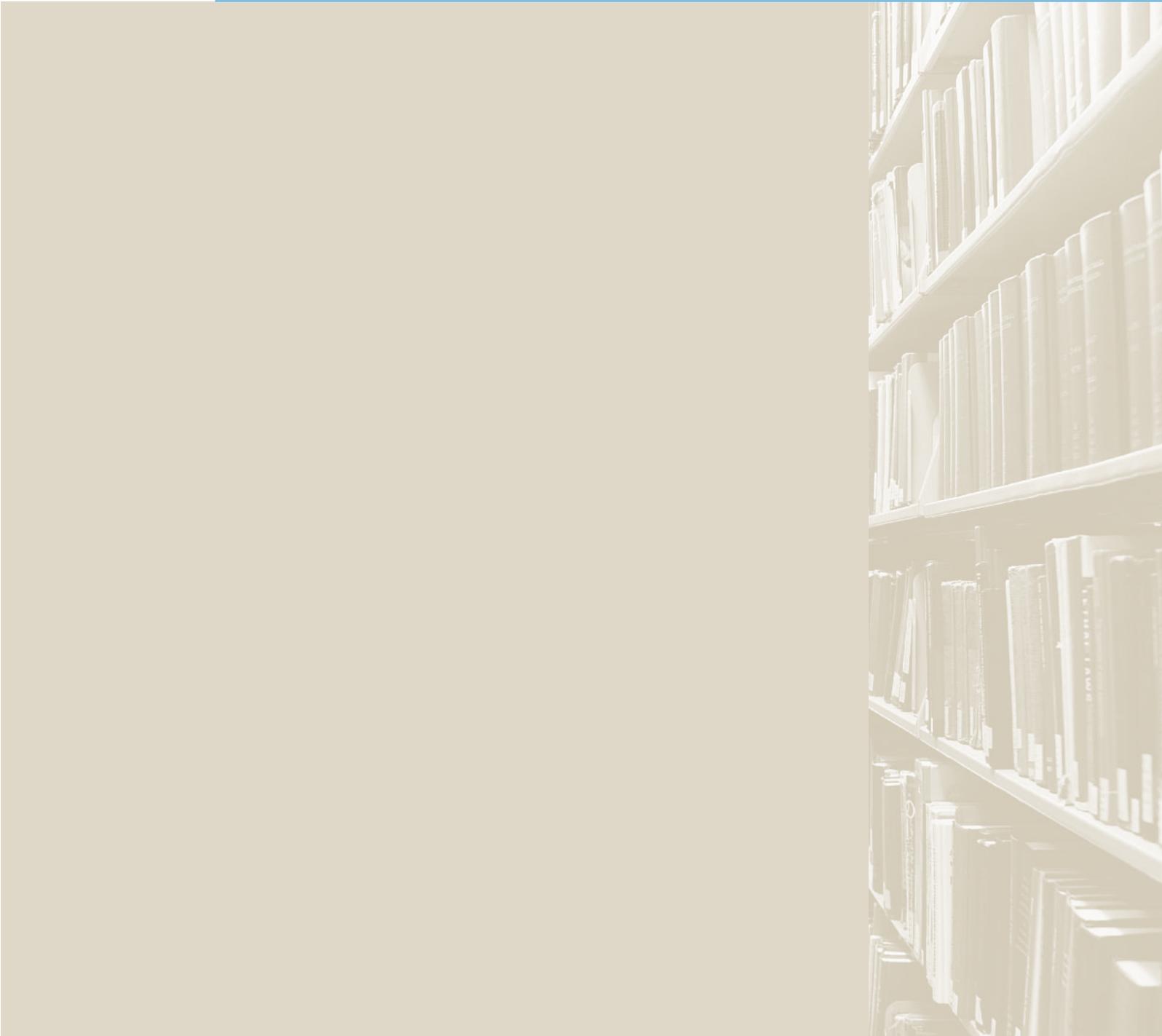
The Study Assist website provides a range of material about undertaking higher education study in Australia and includes links to the Course Finder system and *myUniAssist*. The Study Assist website can be accessed at www.studyassist.gov.au

The Course Finder provides a source of nationally comparable information about courses, cut-off scores, indicative costs, eligibility requirements and more, for all higher education providers who receive Commonwealth assistance. The Study Assist website (previously named Going to Uni) was developed in close consultation with the higher education sector and further enhancements have occurred since the site was launched in December 2004. www.goingtouni.gov.au/CourseFinderDisclaimer.htm

In the 2010 calendar year, approximately 1.5 million visitors have made use of this information to help inform themselves about higher education choices.

Students receiving Government assistance, such as a Commonwealth supported place, or assistance under HELP or a Commonwealth Learning Scholarship are allocated a unique number, called the Commonwealth Higher Education Student Support Number (CHESSN). Using this number and other details, students can access their entitlement usage through *myUniAssist* available at <https://app.heims.deewr.gov.au/myuniassist/forms/logon.aspx>

To help manage these new entitlements, higher education providers are sent an alert when students approach their entitlement limits. In 2010, 290,917 CHESSNs were allocated.



2.1 Mission Based Compacts

An important feature of the higher education reforms announced with the 2009–2010 Budget was the establishment of a new relationship between the Australian Government and each Table A and Table B higher education provider through the introduction of mission based Compacts. Compacts are a joint initiative of the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) and the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research (DIISR).

Compacts will facilitate alignment of institutional activity with national priorities and will be used to help set performance targets for each institution.

Interim agreements were negotiated at bilateral meetings with each university at the end of 2009, and provide a starting point for an on-going dialogue between the Australian Government and universities around Compacts.

The first mission-based Compacts will be three-year agreements that will be negotiated at bilateral meetings in early 2011.

Interim agreements are available on the Department's website at

www.deewr.gov.au/HigherEducation/Policy/Pages/InterimAgreements.aspx and also at www.innovation.gov.au/Research/MissionBasedCompacts/Pages/InterimAgreements.aspx

2.2 Infrastructure

2.2.1 Education Investment Fund

The Education Investment Fund (EIF) is a major component of the Australian Government's Education Revolution. Its role is to build a modern, productive, internationally competitive Australian economy by supporting world-leading, strategic infrastructure investments that will transform Australian tertiary education and research.

On 12 December 2008, the Australian Government announced a \$4.7 billion Nation Building Package to help shield Australia from the global financial crisis, including a \$1.6 billion investment in education. Of this \$580 million was fast tracked to fund 11 projects under Round 1 of the EIF and \$500 million each to the one-off Teaching and Learning Capital Funds (TLCs) for the higher education sector and the vocational education and training sectors.

On 16 February 2009, the Minister and the Minister for Industry, Innovation Science and Research announced the opening of EIF Round 2. The Round was also conducted within a short timeframe to maximise the opportunity to provide a stimulus to the Australian economy. It was a single-stage application process with priority given to projects ready to proceed immediately. On 12 May 2009, the Minister, as part of the 2009–10 Budget, announced funding of \$934 million for 31 successful projects from this round. The projects span the teaching, learning and research spectrum, as well as a variety of disciplines including engineering, medicine, marine science, transport and the traditional trades.

On 4 August 2009, the Minister and the Minister for Industry, Innovation Science and Research announced the opening of EIF Round 3 and the EIF Sustainability Round.

The successful projects were announced over the period 21 May–15 July 2010. In total, 19 projects totalling \$550 million were approved for funding across the tertiary education and research sectors. The successful projects are listed in tables below.

On 7 September 2010, the Australian Government announced that regional higher education institutions and vocational education and training providers will have access to a dedicated Regional Priorities Round of the EIF, with funding of up to \$500 million available. This includes an allocation of \$20 million in seed funding for a multi-partner campus on the mid north coast of NSW. All allocations from this funding round will be subject to approval by the independent EIF Advisory Board and will be fully offset.

Table 29: Successful Projects for EIF Round 3 and Sustainability Round

EIF Round 3

Sector	Institution/Project title	EIF Funding (\$m)
Higher Education (HE)	Swinburne University of Technology – ‘Advanced Manufacturing Centre – Factory of the Future’	40
	University of Technology, Sydney – ‘Building for the Future: a Unique Interactive Learning Environment for C21 ITE’	50
	University of South Australia – ‘Participate@UniSA’	30
Vocational Education and Training (VET)	Pilbara TAFE – ‘Pundulmurra Campus Upgrade’	12.19
	Civil Train SA – ‘Civil Train Highway to Skilling the Industry’	8.2
	Box Hill Institute of TAFE – ‘Integrated Technology Hub: Building Services and Electro Mechanical Technologies’	15
	Victoria University – ‘Sunshine Construction Futures’	38.95
	TAFE NSW Sydney Institute – ‘AutoCel - A Transport Technology Centre of Excellence’	16.859
Research	AuScope Limited – ‘AuScope Australian Geophysical Observing System’	23
	The University of Western Australia – ‘Indian Ocean Marine Research Centre’	34
	Deakin University – ‘Australian Future Fibres Research and Innovation Centre’ (AFFRIC)	37
	The University of Sydney – ‘The Australian Institute for Nanoscience’	40
	The University of Queensland – ‘National Imaging Facility’	40.23
	Monash University – ‘Green Chemical Futures’ (GCF)	29.12
EIF Round 3 Total		414.55

EIF Sustainability Round

Sector	Institution/Project title	EIF Funding (\$m)
Higher Education (HE)	Griffith University – ‘Sir Samuel Griffith Centre’	21.05
Vocational Education and Training (VET)	Central TAFE – ‘Central Tech Green Skills Training Centre’	12
Research	University of Wollongong – ‘Retrofitting for Resilient and Sustainable Buildings’ (“RRSB”)	25.1
	The University of Newcastle – ‘Newcastle Institute for Energy and Resources’	30
	CSIRO – ‘Sustainable Energy for SKA’	47.3
EIF Sustainability Round Total		135.45

2.2.2 Teaching and Learning Capital Fund for Higher Education (TLC (HE))

The Teaching and Learning Capital Fund for Higher Education (TLC (HE)) was announced by the Prime Minister on 12 December 2008 as part of the \$4.7 billion nation-building infrastructure package to support Australia's economy. The TLC (HE) was a one-off capital injection of \$500 million to eligible higher education institutions across Australia to target new infrastructure as well as the upgrading of existing facilities.

The TLC (HE) continues to revitalise universities by developing teaching and learning spaces that are physically and technologically appropriate for 21st century approaches to tertiary education. Funding was distributed among universities through grants taking into account each university's share of total domestic students. Projects encompass critical infrastructure such as lecture theatres, tutorial rooms, auditoria and performance spaces, laboratories, libraries and student study spaces, as well as world class information and communications technology infrastructure and vital student amenities.

All TLC (HE) grants were made available from 1 July 2009 to enable universities to commence projects as soon as possible. Universities put forward capital works projects which could proceed quickly so as to accelerate the benefits of capital spending by responding to immediate areas of demand, stimulating the economy and boosting national productivity. Projects were announced on 18 September 2009. As at 31 December 2010 funding agreements were finalised with 39 universities, with 99% of funding paid to universities by 31 December 2010.

Details of the TCL (HE) funding allocations to Higher Education Providers are available at: www.deewr.gov.au/HigherEducation/Programs/EIF/TLCHE/Pages/Home.aspx

2.2.3 Better Universities Renewal Funding

The Better Universities Renewal Funding (BURF) was announced in the 2008–09 Budget as a one off \$500 million initiative of the Australian Government. The Australian Government decided that immediate access to capital funding was required to renew universities' infrastructure.

Funding was provided for campus renewal, to improve higher education institutions' infrastructure for teaching, learning and research and to enhance the student experience through improved student amenities.

BURF funding was made available to Higher Education Providers in June 2008. DEEWR has implemented this initiative and funding agreements have been finalised with universities.

Under each funding agreement, funding was provided for one or more of the following priority areas:

- information and communications technology;
- laboratories;
- libraries and student study spaces;
- teaching spaces; and
- student amenities.

Under the funding agreement, all universities submitted a Schedule of Works plan for projects that aligned with one or more of the priority areas. All projects have been approved. As at 31 December 2010, 16 universities had fully completed their BURF projects.

Details of the BURF funding allocations to Higher Education Providers are available at:
www.deewr.gov.au/HigherEducation/Programs/BURF/Pages/default.aspx

2.3 Higher Education Providers

2.3.1 Approval of higher education providers

In 2010, the Department continued to assess applications from non self-accrediting higher education institutions wishing to become approved higher education providers under HESA in order to offer students FEE-HELP.

Approved higher education providers are able to offer their eligible Australian students access to FEE-HELP. Approved higher education providers may also be allocated Commonwealth supported places in areas of national priority (in 2010, national priorities included nursing and teaching, as well as information and communications technology and medicine at the University of Notre Dame Australia).

In 2010, a total of five applications from non self-accrediting higher education institutions seeking to offer FEE-HELP were approved (Table 33) and the University College London was listed on Table C of HESA (Appendix D).

In 2010, five approved non self-accrediting higher education providers were allocated National Priority Places which provide Australian Government grants for student places in areas of national priority. These providers were Avondale College, Christian Heritage College, Holmesglen Institute of TAFE, Tabor College Adelaide and Tabor College Victoria. One Table B provider, the University of Notre Dame Australia, was also allocated National Priority Places in 2010. The national priority areas in 2010 included teaching and nursing; as well as information and communications technology, medicine and places for Indigenous students at the University of Notre Dame Australia.

Private higher education providers approved under HESA offer a variety of higher education courses, including education, theological training, design, arts management, dramatic arts, business, architecture, natural therapies, hospitality, health, law, accounting, music, multi-media studies, youth work, counselling, information technology, viticulture, applied aquaculture and equine studies.

A list of private higher education providers approved under HESA can be found at
www.deewr.gov.au/HigherEducation/Programs/Quality/HEPS/Pages/ApprovedHEPs.aspx

More information on FEE-HELP is provided in Section 1.5.2 of this report. National Priority Places have also been described in Section 1.2.4 of this report.

Table 30: Higher Education Providers approved under HESA during 2010^(a)

Stott's Colleges Pty Ltd
Morling College Ltd
TCOL Ltd
Chifley Business School Pty Ltd
Jazzworx! Pty Ltd

Source: DEEWR internal administrative data, 2010

(a) Includes higher education providers for which instruments of approval were tabled in 2009 or 2010 and had their 15 day joint Parliamentary disallowance period expire in 2010. For a list of instruments of approval tabled in 2010, see Appendix D.

2.3.2 Auditing and quality improvement for non self-accrediting higher education providers

In the 2010 calendar year, a range of quality audit and improvement activities were undertaken by the Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA), specifically for non self-accrediting higher education providers.

This included conducting 16 audits of non self-accrediting providers and publication of 18 audit reports on non self-accrediting providers. Further information on audits of non self-accrediting higher education providers approved under HESA is available at: pandora.nla.gov.au/pan/127066/20110826-0004/www.auqa.edu.au/qualityaudit/nsai/index.html

In June 2010, a review of the first twenty non-self accrediting institution audits was completed. The review highlighted the generally positive manner in which providers have embraced a 'quality culture', or commitment, to continuous improvement. It commended providers for student centred approaches and effective engagement with communities. Some areas for improvement were noted, including institutional or corporate governance including risk management and the relationship between institutional and academic governance and applying external validation of performance through appropriate benchmarking. Further information is available at: pandora.nla.gov.au/pan/127066/201108260004/www.auqa.edu.au/qualityenhancement/nsai/index.html

On behalf of DEEWR, AUQA managed a consultation process to review the four Quality Audit Factors (QAFs), which are the basis on which non self-accrediting providers are audited:

- Institutional and Educational Objectives and Institutional Governance;
- Achieving Effectiveness in Teaching, Learning and other Core Functions;
- Organisational Structures, Decision-making Processes and Resources to Support Teaching and Learning; and
- Maintaining a Commitment to Quality Improvement.

AUQA also provided several workshops for the sector on quality improvement with themes including good governance, benchmarking, use of performance data and preparing for the audit process.

AUQA undertook consultation to inform finalisation of draft report 'Academic Governance and Quality Assurance: Good Practice for NSAs' which provides best practice guidelines and for the first time a non-self accrediting provider was included in the AUQA good practice database.

2.4 Quality

2.4.1 Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA)

Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) is being established in 2011 as an independent body with powers to regulate university and non-university higher education providers, monitor quality and set standards. Its primary task will be to ensure that students receive a high quality education at any of Australia's higher education providers.

Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA) worked closely with the Interim Chair and Chief Executive Officer of the Tertiary Education Quality Standards Agency to ensure a smooth transition of quality assurance functions when this new agency assumes the role previously undertaken by AUQA in 2012. This included developing arrangements for the continuation of scheduled audit activity, information migration and staffing transition.

TEQSA will register all (self accrediting and non accrediting) providers, carry out evaluations of standards and performance, protect and assure the quality of international education and streamline current regulatory arrangements. It will join together the regulatory activity currently undertaken in the States and Territories with the quality assurance activities currently undertaken by the Australian Universities Quality Agency.

The agency's approach to quality assurance and regulation is being developed with regard to the views of the higher education sector, the autonomy of Australia's universities and the diversity of their missions, curriculum and approach to delivery.

Interim arrangements

In July 2010, the Minister established interim advisory arrangements for the transition to the new agency, in order to guide the establishment of TEQSA prior to the enactment of statutory powers for the agency.

The interim arrangements included the appointment of Professor Denise Bradley AC as Interim Chair and Mr Ian Hawke as Interim CEO. As Interim Chair, Professor Bradley provided a key public role for TEQSA and provided independent advice to the Minister for Tertiary Education on the development of TEQSA, and Mr Hawke guided the establishment of TEQSA prior to the enactment of statutory powers for the agency.

Professor Bradley and Mr Hawke undertook a program of consultation engaging stakeholders, including with peak bodies such as Universities Australia, TAFE Directors Australia, the Australian Council for Private Education and Training, and the Council of Private Higher Education. Key relationships were also built with other bodies including the National VET Regulator, the Australian Learning and Teaching Council, Skills Australia, the Australian Qualifications Framework Council and the Australian Research Council.

Professor Bradley and Mr Hawke maintained an active conference presence both nationally and internationally, to provide direct updates to the higher education sector on the progress of TEQSA's establishment.

Consultation on Provider Standards

Work on developing the Provider Standards, which will form part of TEQSA's Higher Education Standards Framework and which are based on the current *National Protocols for Higher Education Approval Processes*, commenced at the beginning of 2010.

In March and April 2010, peak education bodies and state and territory governments were invited to comment on the first draft of the Provider Standards. The second draft of the Provider Standards was released to stakeholders for comment in November 2010 and was also discussed at the exposure draft process for the draft TEQSA legislation on 10 November 2010.

It is anticipated that after further consultation and refinement of the draft, the final version of the Provider Standards will be made into legislative instruments by the Minister in 2011 prior to commencement of TEQSA's regulatory functions in 2012.

Legislation

The Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency Bill 2011 will establish TEQSA and a new national regulatory and quality assurance environment for Australian higher education. Consultations on the legislation were undertaken in November and December 2010 with officials representing state and territory governments and representatives of peak stakeholder groups.

2.4.2 Australian Higher Education Graduation Statement

In 2010, the Australian Government continued to implement the Australian Higher Education Graduation Statement (AHEGS).

The AHEGS has the potential to make Australian awards better understood internationally, thus enhancing the international mobility of Australian graduates and Australia's competitiveness in the international higher education export market.

AHEGS will be given to graduates in addition to their academic transcripts, and will provide information on the qualification the graduate has obtained, academic achievements, the awarding institution and the Australian Higher Education System.

At the end of 2010, over 20 universities were issuing AHEGS to graduating students.

2.5 Indigenous Education

2.5.1 Indigenous Higher Education Advisory Council

The Indigenous Higher Education Advisory Council (IHEAC) provides policy advice to the Australian Government on improving outcomes in higher education for Aboriginal and Torres Strait students and staff relating to their participation, retention and progression in study and employment.

The Council, now in its third term, was appointed by the Minister and the Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research and jointly announced on 5 November 2009. IHEAC met three times in 2010. Members also formed regular out-of-session working groups to provide policy advice through the development of reports and submission papers.

IHEAC includes senior Aboriginal and Torres Strait academics, researchers and administrators from a range of Australian higher education and research providers. Council members are nominated by their employer institutions and appointed based on the individual's relevant knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait higher education issues and their involvement in relevant networks. Members serve on the Council in an individual capacity rather than representing the interests of their organisation. Professor Steven Larkin of Charles Darwin University is the Chair of IHEAC.

IHEAC reports and information about the Council, including achievements since its establishment, can be viewed at: www.deewr.gov.au/IHEAC

2.5.2 Indigenous Education (Targeted Assistance) Act 2000

The Australian Government provides supplementary funding to support improvements in education outcomes for Indigenous Australians under the *Indigenous Education (Targeted Assistance) Act 2000*. Detailed information concerning these programs is published each year in the National Report to Parliament on Indigenous Education and Training and can be made available by contacting the Director, Indigenous Reporting Team at the DEEWR National Office.

Programs which provide assistance to support Indigenous Australian students enrolled in and undertaking university studies include:

Away from Base for 'mixed-mode' delivery

Away from Base for 'mixed-mode' delivery (AFB) provides funding to eligible institutions to cover travel costs including fares, meals and accommodation, for students studying approved 'mixed-mode' courses when they are required to travel away from their permanent home for a short period of time to undertake approved activities.

'Mixed-mode' study is a form of tertiary education where students undertake accredited courses of study through a combination of distance education and 'residential' periods of intensive face-to-face teaching. This mode of study allows students to complete courses in their home communities with occasional time on campus, and is well-suited for some Indigenous students.

Indigenous Tutorial Assistance Scheme – Tertiary Tuition (ITAS TT)

The Indigenous Tutorial Assistance Scheme – Tertiary Tuition (ITAS TT) provides funding for supplementary tuition to support eligible Indigenous students studying university award level courses at eligible ITAS funded institutions and is available for subjects in a student's formal education program. It is not usually available for basic literacy, numeracy, enabling and bridging courses.

ITAS TT aims to improve the educational outcomes of Indigenous students in tertiary courses to the same levels as those for non-Indigenous Australians.

2.6 International Higher Education

2.6.1 Key achievements in 2010

- Release of the *Review of the Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) Act 2000* (Baird Review) in February 2010.
- CRICOS re-registration of all providers of education services to overseas students by 31 December 2010.
- Introduction of the *Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) Legislation Amendment Bill* into Parliament in 2010.
- Release of the discussion paper *Reforming ESOS: Consultations to build a stronger, simpler, smarter framework for international education in Australia*. Submissions process commenced in December 2010
- Development and implementation of the Council of Australian Government's (COAG) *International Students Strategy for Australia* (ISSA).
- The release of the AEI 2010 International Student Survey: the survey was based on responses from over 50,000 international students and showed that 84 per cent reported being satisfied or very satisfied with their study experience in Australia.
- Release of research into the employment outcomes of international students educated in Australia. The research showed that most international students have similar employment outcomes to Australian graduates.
- 3,711 scholarships, fellowships and mobility opportunities were granted in 2010 through the Endeavour Awards, Prime Minister's Australia Asia Awards and Student Mobility Programs.

2.6.2 Australian Education International and its focus on higher education

In 2010, Australian Education International (AEI), the international arm of the Department, worked to position Australia as a regional and world leader in education and training excellence and a partner of choice for international collaboration. Support was provided for strengthening regional and government-to-government links; for student and academic mobility through scholarships, fellowships and exchange programs; developing professional qualifications and skills recognition; and assistance for collaborative projects between Australian and overseas education institutions.

AEI's goals are:

- to support the quality of international education by developing world's best practice, regulation and quality assurance for both students and providers of education and training
- to build strong international partnerships by developing, maintaining and enhancing strategic international bilateral and multilateral education and training partnerships
- to facilitate the internationalisation of education and training in Australia
- to provide strategic leadership in international education.

2.6.3 Funding of International Education

During 2009–10, the Australian Government allocated \$38.017 million for programs administered by AEI to promote and support Australia's international education sector.⁴

On 1 July 2010, Austrade assumed full responsibility for the international marketing and promotion of all Australian education, including higher education.

2.6.4 Education Services for Overseas Students legislative framework

The Department administers the Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) legislative framework which includes the *Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) Act 2000* and the National Code of Practice for Registration Authorities and Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students (the National Code) 2007. The ESOS legislation sets out the responsibilities and standards for the conduct of providers delivering education and training to international students and provides the tuition protection framework for international students.

A review of the ESOS Act was undertaken in 2009–10 by the Hon Bruce Baird AM. The Australian Government's first phase response to the review, the *ESOS Legislation Amendment Bill* was introduced into Parliament in October 2010. The proposed changes will foster the quality and integrity of the international education sector by further strengthening the registration of providers and ongoing monitoring activity through risk management approaches and greater scrutiny of business sustainability; strengthen enforcement by introducing financial penalties for a broader range of non-compliance and publishing information about regulatory activities; and by providing all overseas students with access to robust complaints handling mechanisms through the Commonwealth Ombudsman.

In December 2010 submissions were invited to the consultation paper, *Reforming ESOS: Consultations to build a stronger, simpler, smarter framework for international education in Australia*, to inform the Australian Government's second phase response to the remaining Review recommendations, including risk management approaches; strengthening the tuition protection framework; and a range of recommendations for making ESOS stronger, simpler and smarter.

⁴ This includes funding for international awards and scholarships and mobility; increasing the profile of Australia's international sector; strengthening regional links; supporting the international recognition of Australian professional qualifications and skills; and the recognition of overseas professional qualifications and skills in Australia.

Protecting International students

A key aim of the ESOS legislative framework is to protect international students who are in Australia on student visas. In 2010, the Department continued its compliance activity in conjunction with state and territory authorities. Changes to the ESOS Act enacted in March 2010 required all providers registered on the Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS) to re-register under strengthened registration criteria by 31 December 2010. The re-registration process allowed for increased scrutiny of provider compliance and capacity. It encouraged a number of providers to address areas of concern in order to meet the new criteria as well as encouraging unsustainable providers unable to meet new compliance standards to leave the sector.

2.6.5 Transnational Quality Strategy

The Transnational Quality Strategy (TQS) establishes a quality assurance framework for offshore delivery of Australian transnational education and training.

AusLIST, the Australian list of providers and their courses offered around the world continues to be regularly updated by Australian higher education institutions.

As at the end of December 2010, AusLIST included details of 23 Australian higher education institutions delivering a total of 382 courses in 21 countries around the world.

2.6.6 Country Education Profiles

The Country Education Profiles (CEP) Online is subscription based qualifications recognition tool supporting mobility through transparent and consistent decision making. CEP online provides guidance on the comparability of overseas educational qualifications for 119 countries using the Australian Qualifications Framework as its benchmark. It provides guidelines for higher education qualifications, and technical and vocational qualifications above certificate IV. It also includes lists of recognised education institutions in that particular country. CEP Online is used by universities and other education institutions as part of admission decisions. An Australian Country Education profile is also available.

2.7 Voluntary Student Unionism Transition Fund

Voluntary Student Unionism Transition Fund for Sporting and Recreational Facilities

The Voluntary Student Unionism Transition Fund for Sporting and Recreational Facilities (VSU Transition Fund) was established in 2006 to assist universities to adjust to the introduction of voluntary student unionism, which resulted from the commencement of the *Higher Education Support Amendment (Abolition of Compulsory Up-front Student Union Fees) Act 2005*.

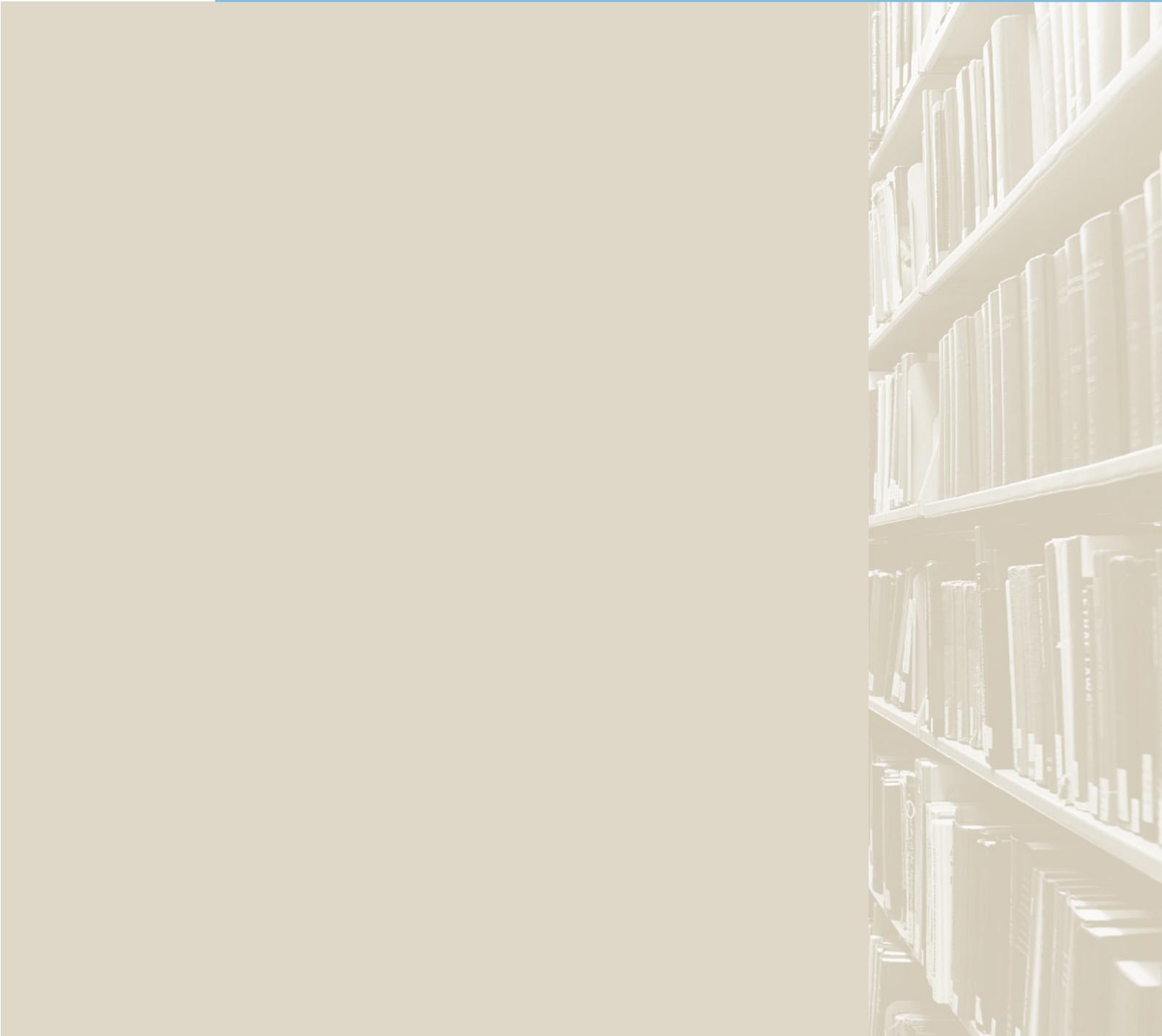
A key policy objective of the fund has been to assist universities in the provision of sporting and recreational infrastructure in areas with restricted access to alternative facilities. A total of 51 projects were funded across 27 universities, with a total value of \$85 million, under two competitive funding rounds held in 2007. All funding for the VSU Transition Fund is fully committed.

Although no more funding will be paid under this initiative, many projects involve extensive construction and it is expected that they will take a number of years to complete. Projects are expected to continue into 2011–12.

2.8 Support for Small Businesses on Regional University Campuses Program

The Support for Small Businesses on Regional University Campuses Program was announced in the 2006–07 Budget to complement the VSU Transition Fund. The program assisted higher education providers to encourage and support small businesses to establish operations on regional campuses to provide services for students.

Funding of \$2.6 million for 11 projects at seven universities was allocated in the first round. Funding of \$1.7 million for nine projects at five universities was allocated in the second and final round. Final payments for existing projects were made in 2010.



Appendix A – Abbreviations

ACER	Australian Council for Educational Research
ADCET	Australian Disability Clearinghouse on Education and Training
AEI	Australian Education International
AEP	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Policy
APA	Australian Postgraduate Awards
ALTC	Australian Learning and Teaching Council
APA	Australian Postgraduate Awards
AQF	Australian Quality Framework
ASSD	Additional Support for Students with Disabilities
AUQA	Australian Universities Quality Agency
AUQF	Australian Universities Quality Forum
AVCC	Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee
AWAs	Australian Workplace Agreements
AWE	Average weekly earnings
BIHECC	Business, Industry and Higher Education Collaboration Council
BOTP	Bridging Courses for Overseas Trained Professionals
BOTPLS	Bridging for Overseas-Trained Professionals Loan Scheme
BURF	Better Universities Renewal Funding
CAS	Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarship
CASR	Collaboration and Structural Reform Fund
CDP	Capital Development Pool
CECS	Commonwealth Education Costs Scholarships
CEP	Country Education Profiles
CEQ	Course Experience Questionnaire
CGS	Commonwealth Grant Scheme
CHESSN	Commonwealth Higher Education Student Support Number
CSP	Commonwealth Scholarship Program
CPI	Consumer Price Index
CTS	Commercialisation Training Scheme
DIISR	Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research
Diversity Fund	Diversity and Structural Adjustment Fund

DSP	Higher Education Disability Support Program
ECKSEP	Endeavour Cheung Kong Student Exchange Program
EFTSL	Equivalent Full-time Student Load
EIF	Education Investment Fund
ESEP	Endeavour Student Exchange Program
ESOS	Education Services for Overseas Students
ESP	Higher Education Equity Support Program
FOLP	Framework for Open Learning Program
FRLI	Federal Register of Legislative Instruments
GCA	Graduate Careers Australia
GDS	Graduate Destination Survey
HECS	Higher Education Contribution Scheme (replaced by HELP in 2005)
HEEF	Higher Education Endowment Fund
HEFA	<i>Higher Education Funding Act 1988</i>
HEIF	Higher Education Indexation Factor
HEIMS	Higher Education Information Management System
HEIP	Higher Education Innovation Program
HELP	Higher Education Loan Program
HEP	Higher Education Provider
HEPPP	Higher Education Participation and Partnerships Program
HESA	<i>Higher Education Support Act 2003</i>
HEWRRs	Higher Education Workplace Relations Requirements
IAF	Institution Assessment Framework
IAS	Indigenous Access Scholarships
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IHEAC	Indigenous Higher Education Advisory Council
IGS	Institutional Grants Scheme
IPRS	International Postgraduate Research Scholarships
ISP	Indigenous Support Program
ISSP	Indigenous Staff Scholarship Program
JCHE	Joint Committee on Higher Education
JRE	Joint Research Engagement
MCEETYA	Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs
NGPs	National Governance Protocols
OLDPS	Open Learning Deferred Payment Scheme
PELS	Postgraduate Education Loan Scheme
RDLO	Regional Disability Liaison Officer
RIBG	Research Infrastructure Block Grants
RRMA	Rural, remote and metropolitan areas classification
RTS	Research Training Scheme

SES	Socio economic status
SLE	Student Learning Entitlement
SNA	Safety Net Adjustment
SRE	Sustainable Research Excellence in universities
TAFE	Technical and Further Education
TAR	Tuition Assurance Requirement
TEQSA	Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency
TLC (HE)	Teaching and Learning Capital Fund for Higher Education
TQS	Transnational Quality Strategy
UA	Universities Australia (formerly the AVCC)
UCC	Universities Chancellors Council
UMAP	Australian University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific Program
VET	Vocational Education and Training
VSU	Voluntary Student Unionism
VSU Transition Fund	Voluntary Student Unionism Transition Fund for Sporting and Recreational Facilities
WPP	Workplace Productivity Program
WRP	Workplace Reform Program

Appendix B – Program Index

A

Australian-American Fulbright Commission
www.fulbright.com.au

Australian Awards
www.australiaawards.gov.au

Australian Council for Educational Research
www.acer.edu.au

Australian Education International
www.aei.gov.au

Australian Learning and Teaching Council (ALTC)
www.altc.edu.au

Australian Scholarships
<http://australia.gov.au/topics/education-and-training/scholarships>

Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA)
<http://pandora.nla.gov.au/pan/127066/20110826-0004/www.auqa.edu.au/>

B

Better Universities Renewal Fund (BURF)
www.deewr.gov.au/HigherEducation/Programs/BURF/Pages/default.aspx

C

Capital Development Pool (CDP)
www.deewr.gov.au/HigherEducation/Programs/Funding/CDP/Pages/default.aspx

Commonwealth Scholarships
www.deewr.gov.au/HigherEducation/Programs/StudentSupport/CommonwealthScholarships/Pages/Home.aspx

Commonwealth Grant Scheme (CGS)
www.deewr.gov.au/highereducation/programs/funding/commonwealthgrantscheme/Pages/Home.aspx

D

Diversity and Structural Adjustment Fund
www.deewr.gov.au/dsa

E

Education Investment Fund (EIF)
www.deewr.gov.au/eif

Endeavour Awards
www.endeavour.deewr.gov.au

Endeavour Language Teacher Fellowships
www.eltf.austraining.com.au/

F

FEE-HELP
www.goingtouni.gov.au/Main/Quickfind/PayingForYourStudiesHELPLoans/FEEHELP.htm

G

General Sir John Monash Postgraduate Student Awards
www.monashawards.org

Graduate Careers Australia
www.graduatecareers.com.au

H

HECS-HELP
www.goingtouni.gov.au/Main/Quickfind/PayingForYourStudiesHELPLoans/HECSHELP.htm

Higher Education Disability Support Program (DSP)
www.deewr.gov.au/HigherEducation/Programs/Equity/HEDisabilitySupportProgram/Pages/Home.aspx

Higher Education Participation and Partnerships Program (HEPPP)
www.deewr.gov.au/HigherEducation/Programs/Equity/Pages/HEPPPProgram.aspx

Higher Education Information Management System (HEIMS)
www.goingtouni.gov.au/Main/Resources/YourCHESSESSNAndStudentAssistanceRecord/Default.htm

Higher Education Loan Program (HELP)
www.goingtouni.gov.au/Main/Quickfind/PayingForYourStudiesHELPLoans/Default.htm

Higher Education Superannuation Program
www.deewr.gov.au/highereducation/programs/funding/superannuationprogram/Pages/Home.aspx

Higher Education Workplace Relations Requirements (HEWRRs)
www.nteu.org.au/campaigns/archive/hewrrs

I

Indigenous Higher Education Advisory Council (IHEAC)

www.deewr.gov.au/IHEAC

Indigenous Staff Scholarships Program

www.deewr.gov.au/Indigenous/HigherEducation/Programs/Pages/indigenous_staff_scholarships.aspx

Indigenous Support Program

www.deewr.gov.au/indigenous/highereducation/programs/pages/indigenoussupport.aspx

Institution Assessment Framework (IAF)

www.deewr.gov.au/highereducation/programs/quality/qualityassurance/pages/theausgov.aspx#institution

International Scholarships and International Student Exchange Programs

www.deewr.gov.au/international/endeavourawards/pages/otherscholarships.aspx

M

The Ministerial Council for Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Affairs

www.mceecdya.edu.au/mceecdya/

N

National Governance Protocols

www.deewr.gov.au/HigherEducation/Programs/StudentSupport/NationalProtocolsforHEApprovalProcesses/Pages/default.aspx

O

OS-HELP

www.goingtouni.gov.au/Main/Quickfind/StudyOverseas/OSHELP.htm

R

Regional Loading

www.deewr.gov.au/highereducation/pages/reviewofregionallloading.aspx

Research Block Grants

www.innovation.gov.au/Research/ResearchBlockGrants/Pages/default.aspx

S

Student Learning Entitlement (SLE)

www.deewr.gov.au/highereducation/resources/hesupportact2003guidelines/pages/sleguidelines.aspx

T

Teaching and Learning Capital Fund for Higher Education (TLC (HE))

www.deewr.gov.au/HigherEducation/Programs/EIF/TLCHE/Pages/Home.aspx

Transnational Quality Strategy (TQS)

www.transnational.deewr.gov.au/

Appendix C – Legislation Enacted in 2010

Higher Education Support Amendment Act 2010

(Received Royal Assent on 19 February 2010)

FEE-HELP and VET FEE-HELP assistance is available to full fee-paying students studying in higher level education or training, and provides a loan for all or part of a student's tuition costs. This assistance is aimed at encouraging students to take up higher level skill qualifications by reducing the financial barriers associated with study.

The amendments provide for a streamlined application and assessment process for higher education and training organisations applying for approval to offer FEE-HELP and VET FEE-HELP assistance to students. The amendments provide for administrative efficiencies resulting in faster approvals of higher education and VET providers to allow students to access financial assistance sooner.

Higher Education Support Amendment (FEE-HELP Loan Fee) Act 2010

(Received Royal Assent on 24 November 2010)

Eligible fee paying students can access a FEE-HELP loan to pay the tuition fee for eligible units of study. When the unit of study is undertaken as part of an undergraduate course of study a loan fee applies. The loan fee is included as part of the FEE-HELP debt incurred for the unit of study. The Act amends the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* to increase the FEE-HELP loan fee from 20 per cent to 25 per cent, commencing from 1 January 2011. The loan fee applies when the unit of study is undertaken as part of an undergraduate course of study.

The amendment gives effect to a recommendation of the Review of Australian Higher Education, that the loan fee for FEE-HELP for fee paying undergraduate students be increased to 25 per cent.

Higher Education Support Amendment (2010 Budget Measure) Act 2010

(Received Royal Assent on 24 November 2010)

The amendments provide for changes to the maximum grant amounts under the Commonwealth Grant Scheme for 2010 and 2011 to account for indexation and increases in funding as a result of the cap on over enrolments being lifted from 5 per cent to 10 per cent, for 2010 and 2011, as part of the introduction of the demand driven funding system from 2012.

From 2012, the cap on funding for undergraduate Commonwealth supported places will be removed for public universities, and funding will be on the basis of student demand.

The amendments also provide for updates to the maximum payment amounts to reflect 2010–11 Budget measures including a 20 per cent reduction in funding for the Australian Learning and Teaching Council and the cessation of the Graduate Skills Assessment Program; and to take account of movements in indexation and to include funding for the 2014 year.

Higher Education Support Amendment (Indexation) Act 2010

(Received Royal Assent on 14 July 2010)

The amendments provide for revised indexation arrangements under Part 5-6 of the *Higher Education Support Act 2003*.

The changes to indexation came about as a result of the Australian Government's acceptance of recommendations arising from the Review of Australian Higher Education. The amendments replace the Safety Net Adjustment wage price index with the Professional, Scientific and Technical Services wage price index published by the Australian Statistician.

Higher Education Support Amendment (University College London) Act 2010

(Received Royal Assent on 31 May 2010)

The Act provides for an amendment to section 16-22 of the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* to include the University College London on the list of Table C providers.

This amendment will allow the University College London to offer FEE-HELP to eligible domestic students.

Social Security and Other Legislation Amendment (Income Support for Students) Act 2010

(Received Royal Assent on 24 March 2010)

The Act amends social security veterans' affairs and higher education legislation to give effect to the 2009–10 Budget measures to implement the Australian Government's student income support reforms with the following implementation dates:

1 April 2010

- Reduction in the Age of Independence to 24 years
- Introduction of Relocation Scholarships
- Introduction of Student Start-up Scholarships
- Introduction of the Equity and Merit Scholarship concession

1 July 2010

- Changes to the Parental Income Test (increase in the Parental Income Test threshold and a 20 per cent family taper rate was introduced)
- Tightening of the Workforce Participation Criterion
- Transitional Workforce Participation Criterion Arrangements for eligible 2009 Gap Year students (up to 31 December 2010)

1 January 2011

- Reduction in the Age of Independence to 23 years
- Introduction of the Outer Regional and Remote Workforce Participation measure
- Commencement of the Rural Tertiary Hardship Fund

1 January 2012

- Reduction in the Age of Independence to 22 years

30 June 2012

- Review of the impact of the student income support reforms

1 July 2012

- Increase in the Personal Income Test and Student Income Bank thresholds

Appendix D – Legislative Instruments Tabled in Parliament in 2010

Higher Education Providers Approved in 2010⁵

Instruments approving the following institutions as higher education providers under the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* passed the 15-day Parliamentary disallowance period in 2010:

- Stott's Colleges Pty Ltd
- Morling College Ltd
- TCOL Ltd
- Chifley Business School Pty Ltd
- Jazzworx! Pty Ltd

VET Provider Approvals Tabled in 2010:

- Nature Care College Pty Ltd
- Golf Education Australia Pty Ltd
- Academy of information Technology Pty Ltd
- Jazzworx! Pty Ltd
- Southbank Institute of Technology
- Emma's Secret Investment Pty Ltd
- Gold Coast Institute of TAFE
- Design College Australia Pty Ltd
- St Patrick's Business College Limited
- HRA Pty Ltd
- Navitas College of Public Safety Pty Ltd
- Australian National Memorial Theatre Ltd
- PA & WJ Dow Pty Ltd
- Grenadi School of Design Pty Ltd
- Education Centre Gippsland Ltd
- Kal Multimedia Training Pty Ltd
- Wealth Within Institute Pty Ltd
- Australian Academy of Vocational Education and Trades Pty Ltd
- Avondale College Ltd

⁵ Includes higher education providers for which instruments of approval were tabled in 2009 and 2010 and had their 15 day joint Parliamentary disallowable period expire in 2010.

- Alphacrucis College Ltd
- Actors Centre Australia Pty Ltd
- Photography Holdings Pty Ltd
- The Health Arts College Pty Ltd
- CALAM Training Ltd
- Albury Wodonga Community College Ltd
- Mertise Pty Ltd
- Canberra Institute of Technology
- Allied Educational Services Pty Ltd
- Ella Bache College Pty Ltd
- Visual Concepts & Design Australia Pty Ltd
- Proteus Technologies Pty Ltd
- Dazzle-M Pty Ltd

All Guidelines made under the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* are legislative instruments and must be tabled in Parliament. Section 238-10 of the Act lists the Guidelines that may be made by the Minister. During 2010, the following Guidelines were created or amended and tabled in Parliament. Guidelines are then registered on the Federal Register of Legislative Instruments.

- Higher Education Support Act 2003 – HECS HELP Benefit Guidelines No 1
- Higher Education Support Act 2003 – Other Grants Guidelines (Education) 2010 (DEEWR)
- Higher Education Support Act 2003 – Other Grants Guidelines (Education) 2010 (DEEWR) Amendment 1
- Higher Education Support Act 2003 – Other Grants Guidelines (Research) 2010 (DIISR)
- Higher Education Support Act 2003 – Amendment No. 7 to the Commonwealth Grant Scheme Guidelines No 1
- Higher Education Support Act 2003 – Commonwealth Scholarship Guidelines (Education) No 2010 – Amendment No 1
- Higher Education Support Act 2003 – Commonwealth Scholarship Guidelines (Education) No 2010 (DEEWR)
- Higher Education Support Act 2003 – Commonwealth Scholarship Guidelines (Research) 2010 (DIISR)

Appendix E – Determinations Registered in 2010

Determinations under the *Social Security Act 1991*

Title	Section	Date Registered on FRLI
1. Social Security (Approved Scholarship Courses) Determination 2010 (No. 1)	592N(1)	31 March 2010 Commenced on 1 April 2010
2. Student Assistance (Education Institutions and Courses) Amendment Determination 2010 (No.1) – as part of Student Assistance (Education Institutions and Courses) Determination 2009 (No.2)	3(1) and 5D(1)	11 October 2010 Commenced on 2 October 2010
3. Student Assistance (Education Institutions and Courses) Amendment Determination 2010 (No.2) – as part of Student Assistance (Education Institutions and Courses) Determination 2009 (No.2)	3(1) and 5D(1)	21 January 2011 Commenced on 24 December 2010

