

Health Education and Training Institute Higher Education Student Fees Policy

Document Reference Number	HEP18/26[v2]
Superseded Version	Student Fees Policy v2.4
NSWIOP Document Number	IOPD15/3734[v3]
TRIM Document Classification	Governance
Framework Part	Part 2 – Course Support Standards
Approval date	09 June 2020
Publication date	09 June 2020
Summary	This policy outlines the requirements for students, including FEE-HELP assisted students, to pay student tuition fees, and the associated administration of those fees by Health Education and Training Institute Higher Education.
Keywords	Students, tuition fees, census date, payment, refund, adjustment policies, extenuating circumstances
Authoring Portfolio	Mental Health
Contact	Director
Consultation	as per Document History
Applies to	Higher Education
Distribution	Higher Education
Related documents	Health Education and Training Institute Higher Education Enrolment Policy Postgraduate Prospectus Student Handbook Health Education and Training Institute Higher Education Tuition Assurance Policy (Statement of Tuition Assurance) Student Grievance Procedure
Review date	June 2023
Risk Assessment	As per Attachment 1 to this document.

Issued under the authority of the Health Education and Training Institute Higher Education Governing Council

Please note printed copies of this document are uncontrolled, to ensure you are viewing the latest version of this document, please refer to our website <http://www.heti.edu.au/policies-and-procedures>

Health Education and Training Institute Higher Education Student Fees Policy

Policy Statement

Health Education and Training Institute (HETI) Higher Education sets student tuition fees for students eligible to study its Award Courses, Non-Award units and Professional Development (PD) units and courses.

Aims and Objectives

1. This policy relates to student tuition fees and identifies the requirements and arrangements for:
 - a. HETI Higher Education to administer these fees
 - b. Students to pay these fees
 - c. HETI Higher Education to issue refunds
2. This policy applies to both commencing and continuing fee paying students, including FEE-HELP assisted students.

Principles

3. Student fees are calculated on the basis of students' enrolment in a program or unit or units of study. Refer to the Enrolment Policy available on the HETI Higher Education website <http://www.heti.edu.au/> for the conditions of students' enrolment.
4. HETI Higher Education is committed to assisting and guiding students in understanding their tuition fees and payment options. In addition to this policy, additional information will be made available and accessible where appropriate and as requested.

Definitions

5. For the purpose of this policy:
 - a. Census date: is the official deadline for students of HETI Higher Education to finalise their enrolment and fees for each teaching session. It is a pivotal date which must be

met in order to avoid academic and/or financial penalties (including FEE-HELP debt) in relation to aspects including enrolment, deferral, withdrawal, payment of fees, student records. The approved census date or dates for courses and units are published on the HETI Higher Education website.

- b. Postgraduate coursework student: means a student enrolled in a:
 - i. Graduate Certificate
 - ii. Graduate Diploma
 - iii. Masters (Coursework) Degree
- c. The Act: refers to the Higher Education Support Act 2003.
- d. The Department: The Commonwealth of Australia represented by the department which has the responsibility for administering the Higher Education Support Act 2003.
- e. Fee-help assisted student: refers to students who are, or would be entitled to FEE-HELP assistance under the Higher Education Support Act 2003.
- f. Tuition Fees: Unless otherwise stated, fees include:
 - i. study materials (including access to online materials)
 - ii. workshops as appropriate
 - iii. web forums as appropriate
 - iv. face-to-face teaching as appropriate
 - v. tutorials (face-to-face or online)
 - vi. assessments
 - vii. library resources
 - viii. other fees, including but not limited to, appeal and review fees

Procedures

- 6. Information concerning tuition fees is available on the HETI Higher Education website.
- 7. Students will receive a Letter of Offer and tuition fees upon enrolment. Acknowledgement of the terms of this Student Fee Policy is a condition of enrolment.
- 8. It is the student's personal responsibility to check the information in the Letter of Offer and notify the named Cohort Convenor of any errors or omissions.
- 9. Fees are payable prior to the approved census date for the relevant period of study. Each unit has an approved census date which is published on the HETI Higher Education.

10. All student fee liabilities are recorded on the student management system.

Conditions

11. HETI Higher Education reserves the right to vary arrangements, courses and units at any time without notice and at its discretion. Varied arrangements, courses and units will aim to keep disruption to students to a minimum. Students should contact HETI Higher Education or view its website for up-to-date information.
12. HETI Higher Education reviews tuition fees on an annual basis for all fee paying courses and may increase these fees over the period of enrolment. Any fee increases will be effective from 1 January of each calendar year and will apply to all fee paying students irrespective of the date of enrolment in that calendar year. The HETI Higher Education Executive Group will determine fees for approval by the Health Education and Training Institute Higher Education Governing Council.

Issue and Payment of Invoices

13. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that fees are paid on or before the census date.
14. In the case of third party invoicing, such as an employer paying a staff member's tuition fees, the student is required to provide a guarantee of payment from the third party on a period of study by period of study basis (Third Party Invoicing Form) and liaise with the third party as required to ensure timely payment of fees.

Unpaid fees

15. HETI Higher Education will not grant extensions to students for the payment of fees (except in extenuating circumstances – see Clause 51-53). In the event of failure to pay, students with outstanding fees who have received notification of the amount(s) owing may be liable to sanctions for non-payment of fees (see Clause 16). Outstanding fees owing may be referred to a debt collection agency for recovery action. All unpaid fees that meet requirements for referral will be reviewed by the Director of Education and Training with approval from the Executive Director required before referral to a debt collection agency. Students will be liable for any recovery costs incurred, including any late payment fees prescribed by the debt collection agency.

Sanctions for Non-payment of Fees

16. HETI Higher Education reserves the right to apply sanctions to students with debts to HETI Higher Education which may include any or all the following:
 - a. results will not be issued
 - b. academic documents or records will not be provided
 - c. enrolment in the course may be cancelled in cases where a student either fails to pay fees or to meet the conditions of a payment plan, and is also enrolled in units in a subsequent period of study, HETI Higher Education reserves the right to withdraw the student from those units
 - d. graduation will not be finalised
 - e. access to HETI Higher Education facilities and services including library and information technology resources will be withheld

Withdrawal from a unit or course – General provisions

17. Notification of a student's intention to withdraw either before or after the commencement of a unit/course must be made in accordance with the HETI Higher Education Enrolment Policy <http://www.heti.edu.au/policies-and-procedures>.
18. Students are entitled to a full refund for withdrawals on or before the census date. Refunds will be paid within 30 days of the census date to which the withdrawal applies. No refund will be given for withdrawals from a unit/course beyond the census date unless there are extenuating circumstances (see Clause 51-53).
19. A student's failure to inform HETI Higher Education in writing of the student's intention to withdraw from a unit/course on or before the census date will lead to the student being liable for the respective unit/course fee. In cases where the student is also enrolled in units in a subsequent period of study, the student may be withdrawn from those units.
20. Where a student (including a FEE-HELP assisted student) is dissatisfied with any decision made by HETI Higher Education in relation to an application for a fee refund or adjustment, the student may seek a review of the decision in accordance with the student grievance procedures which are outlined in the following sections.
21. Students who withdraw after the census date from a HETI Higher Education course and who apply to continue their study of units as PD will not have their fees refunded.

Additional provisions – Scholarship holding students

22. Should students defer their scholarship before census date and advise of their intention to return to study within twelve months, the offered scholarship funds may be made available with agreement from the appropriate scholarship authority for approved later study.
23. Should students withdraw from study after census date without approved special consideration, the offered scholarship will be forfeited.
24. Where students withdraw after census date with approved special consideration the offered scholarship funds may be made available with agreement by the appropriate scholarship authority for approved later study.

Additional provisions - FEE-HELP assisted students

25. Students who are eligible for FEE-HELP assistance and who withdraw from a unit/course of study on or before the census date for that unit/course are also entitled to a full refund of fees paid in accordance with Clause 18 and additionally will not incur a FEE-HELP debt.
26. Except where there are extenuating circumstances as referred to in Clause 18, students who are eligible for FEE-HELP assistance and who withdraw from a unit/course of study after the census date for that unit/course will not receive any refund of fees paid and additionally, will incur a FEE-HELP debt.
27. Applications under extenuating circumstances for either a whole or partial refund of fees paid or for re-credit of their FEE-HELP balance will be considered on their merits. Applications must be made within 12 months of the withdrawal date. HETI has the discretion to waive this requirement if it is satisfied that it was not possible for the application to be made within the 12 month period.
28. Applications must be made in accordance with the provisions of the HETI Higher Education Special Consideration Policy <http://www.heti.edu.au/policies-and-procedures>.
29. The application for re-crediting a FEE-HELP balance must include details of the:
 - a. Unit(s) for which a student is seeking to have a FEE-HELP balance re-credited; and
 - b. Special circumstances as referred to above, including supporting documentation.

30. HETI Higher Education will consider each application within 21 days of receipt of the application. It will consider each request to re-credit a FEE-HELP balance in accordance with the requirements of the Act. Applicants will be notified in writing of the decision within 28 days.
31. Where HETI Higher Education makes a decision not to re-credit a student's FEE-HELP balance that decision may be subject to review.
32. If a student is not satisfied with the decision made by the HETI Higher Education, the student may apply, within 28 days of the receipt of the original decision, for a review of the decision. The application for review must:
 - a. be made within 28 days of receipt of the original decision
 - b. include the date of the original decision
 - c. state fully the reasons for applying for the review
 - d. include any additional relevant evidence
 - e. Applications should be made in writing to the Executive Director as the designated Review Officer for any decision relating to a request for re-crediting of a FEE-HELP balance. The Review Officer is senior to the designated officer responsible for the original decision and was not involved in making the original decision to be reviewed.
33. The Review Officer will:
 - a. acknowledge receipt of the application for review of a decision in writing within 10 working days; and
 - b. inform the student that if the Review Officer has not advised them of a decision within 45 days of receipt of the application for review, it is taken that the Review Officer has confirmed the original decision.
34. The Review Officer will then:
 - a. review the information from the original decision and then assess any new evidence provided by the student
 - b. provide written notice to the student of the decision, setting out the reasons for the decision
 - c. inform the student of their right to apply to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) if they disagree with the Review Decision, and timelines involved (see below)

35. HETI Higher Education will advise the student of their review rights and responsibilities throughout this process or review. Should the student continue to be dissatisfied with the decision, the relevant officer will advise the student in writing of their right to have the decision reviewed by the Administrative Appeals Tribunal. To access the AAT review process, the following conditions and information apply:

- a. The student will be informed in writing of their right to appeal to the AAT and the contact details of the closest AAT office and the approximate costs of applying for a review.
- b. The application for a review must be made by the student with the AAT within 28 days of receiving written notice of the decision to be reviewed. The AAT may extend this time limit in limited circumstances.
- c. Full details of the application process to the AAT are available on its website at www.aat.gov.au . As at March 2017 an application fee is payable to the AAT (subject to change) in order for the application for review to proceed. Contact details for the AAT in NSW are:

Address	Level 7 55 Market Street Sydney NSW 2000
Postal	GPO Box 9955 Sydney NSW 2001
Telephone	02 9283 4881
Email	www.aat.gov.au/ContactsUs.htm

- d. The Secretary of the Department, or the Secretary's delegate, will be the respondent for cases that are brought before the AAT. Upon the Department's receipt of a notification from the AAT, the Department will notify HETI that an appeal has been lodged. Upon receipt of this notification from the Department, the Review Officer will provide the Department with copies of all the documents that are relevant to the appeal within five business days.

Withdrawal/Deferral from a unit course

36. Notification of a student's intention to withdraw from a unit or defer their course enrolment must be made in accordance with the HETI Higher Education Enrolment Policy and Special Consideration Policy where applicable.

37. Students who withdraw from a unit or withdraw or defer from their enrolled course after the census date will be liable for the full tuition fees, unless there are extenuating

circumstances supporting a withdrawal without academic penalty, in which case the student will receive a full refund

Advanced standing

38. Students who have been granted recognition of prior learning leading to advanced standing for one or more units of study will not be charged for those units. If a student wishes to receive the course materials for a unit(s) awarded as advanced standing, a fee of 30% of the unit(s) fee will apply. If a student is required to submit an assessment(s) as part of an advanced standing application a fee of 20% of the unit(s) fee will apply. Payment must be made by the student prior to marking of the assessment(s). The student will be invoiced by HETI.
39. Students applying for Advanced Standing through completion of Professional Development units will need to pay "The difference between the fee for the award and professional development unit price that has been paid" (HEP18/55 clause 7b). Please note that the full fee for the award would apply to such calculations.

Commonwealth Financial Assistance (FEE-HELP)

40. Students enrolled in Award Courses may be eligible for Commonwealth assistance (FEE-HELP) in accordance with the Higher Education Support Act (HESA) FEE-HELP Guidelines (the Guidelines).
41. Non-Award students are not eligible for Commonwealth assistance (FEE-HELP).
42. A Commonwealth FEE-HELP application form is available at the time application for enrolment in an Award Course is being made. The form must be lodged prior to the approved census date for the teaching session for which the loan is being sought.
43. After a student has been confirmed as a FEE-HELP student, they will have the option of deferring part or all of their payment, according to the Guidelines, for the duration of their study in the course specified on the original application form.
44. A debt will only be incurred for the amount of tuition fees unpaid by the student at the approved census date for the unit(s) of study concerned.
45. Within four weeks of the approved census date, eligible students who have opted for FEE-HELP will be issued a Commonwealth Assistance Notice (CAN), confirming their enrolment and deferred fee liability.

46. Students must notify HETI Higher Education in writing of any errors or omissions on the CAN within 14 calendar days of the date of issue appearing on the CAN.

Provisions concerning fees for Non-Award and Professional Development (PD) study undertaken at HETI Higher Education

47. HETI Higher Education makes available units of study in which a student can enrol in Non-Award units or PD units or courses. Non-Award units do not involve enrolment in the relevant course, but successful completion of the unit results in the attainment of Higher Education Credit. PD units or courses do not result in Higher Education Credit but students are eligible for receiving a certificate of participation or attainment Higher Education Non-Award Policy.
48. The fees charged by HETI Higher Education for:
- a. Non-Award units of study are the same as those for units undertaken within an Award Course.
 - b. PD units of study may be lower (typically, but not necessarily, 25% lower for a 10 credit point equivalent unit of study) than the fees chargeable for the same units to students undertaking study leading to an Award Course.
49. Students enrolled in Non-Award units of study can have their enrolment transferred to the same units in an Award Course providing they meet the entry requirements for that course in accordance with the provisions of the HETI Higher Education Admissions Policy and Enrolment Policy <http://www.heti.edu.au/policies-and-procedures>. Successfully completed Non-Award units of study will be granted advanced standing for those units in the Award Course in these circumstances. Such students on enrolment to an Award Course would be entitled to apply for FEE-HELP.
50. Where a student who has enrolled in or completed PD units of study is subsequently accepted for enrolment in the same units in an Award Course, they will be required to undertake the assessments associated with those units in order to pass the units and will be liable to pay any difference between the fees originally paid for the PD units and the fees applicable at the time of enrolment. Such students will not however be required to repeat the study if it was undertaken.

Extenuating Circumstances

51. HETI Higher Education may, at its absolute discretion, vary the manner in which it applies these student fee liabilities, refunds and adjustment policies in individual cases where a student claims that extenuating circumstances apply. Approval is by the Director, Education and Training on the recommendation of the relevant Learning Pathways Manager.
52. Extenuating circumstances are events or circumstances which:
 - a. are beyond the person's control, i.e. the person is not responsible, directly or indirectly, for the situation. These events or circumstances must be unusual, uncommon or abnormal; and
 - b. must not make the full impact on the person until on or after the census date where the situation occurred:
 - i. before the census date, but worsened after that day; or
 - ii. before the census date, but the full effect or magnitude does not become apparent on or before that day; or
 - iii. on or after the census date; and
 - c. where the outcome has made it impracticable for the student to complete the course requirements; and they were unable to:
 - i. undertake the necessary private study required, or attend sufficient lectures or tutorials or meet other attendance requirements in order to meet the compulsory requirements; or
 - ii. complete the required assessable work; or
 - iii. complete other course requirements because of their inability to meet the above.
53. Students will need to prove their claim for extenuating circumstances by providing appropriate independent supporting documentation. HETI Higher Education will not approach doctors, hospitals, police, etc. to obtain documentation on behalf of the student. HETI Higher Education may seek verification from these agencies that a presented certificate was issued to the student.

Tuition Assurance

54. In the event that HETI Higher Education ceases for any reason to provide a course of study in which a student is enrolled, in accordance with its Tuition Assurance Policy, the student will be given the option of either an offer of a place in a similar course of study with an alternative Higher Education Provider, without any requirement to pay the alternative provider tuition fees for any replacement units; OR a refund of fees already paid to HETI

Higher Education for any unit of study commenced but not completed because HETI Higher Education has ceased to provide the course of study.

Roles and Responsibilities

55. It is the responsibility of the student to inform HETI Higher Education in writing of a change in personal and contact details within 7 days of such change. If this written advice is not received, HETI Higher Education will not accept responsibility for correspondence that does not reach the recipient. Change of address may be notified via the Personal Details Variation Form.

Publication

56. These policies and procedures are published on the HETI website <http://www.heti.edu.au/> to ensure students have up to date and accurate information publicly available to them.

Related Documents

- HETI Higher Education Enrolment Policy
- Postgraduate Prospectus
- HETI Higher Education Tuition Assurance Policy (Statement of Tuition Assurance)
- Student Grievance Procedure
- HETI Higher Education Special Consideration Policy
- Relevant Scholarship Conditions and Guidelines

DOCUMENT HISTORY

Version	Issued	Status	Author	Reason for Change
v2.0	16 February 2017	Final	Rhonda Loftus	Amendment approved by Executive Director Mental Health and Higher Education.
v3.0	13 June 2017	Final	Rhonda Loftus	Governing Council Out of Session Approval
v3.1	20 November 2017	Final	Rhonda Loftus	Minor amendment for Fee-HELP Application
v1.0	27 August 2018	Final	Valerie Rhodes	Updated logos, template and new TRIM Reference
v1.1	22 September 2018	Draft	David Baxter	Policy review
v1.1	5 October 2018	Draft	Rhonda Loftus Silke O'Callaghan Julia Zheng	Inclusion of clauses for scholarship students
v1.2	5 October 2018	Draft	Silke O'Callaghan David Baxter	Incorporating feedback from policy review and inclusion of references to Professional Development (PD) and Non-Award units.
v.1.2	22 October 2018	Draft	Silke O'Callaghan	Endorsed by the Higher Education Academic Board
v2.0	21 November 2018	Final	Rhonda Loftus	Approved by the Higher Education Governing Council
v2.0	28 November 2018	Final	Jana Chadid	Updated Logos, Published version
v2.1	03 February 2020	Noted and endorsed	Susan Grimes	Organisational changes; new position titles, and responsibilities. Edits to the clause 36 and 37 to clarify Withdrawal/Deferral from a unit/course. Noted and endorsed by the T&L Committee
v2.2	03 February 2020	Endorsed	Susan Grimes	Edits to the clause 22, 23 and 24 to clarify additional provisions for scholarship holding students. Endorsed by the T&L Committee.
v2.3	06 February 2020	Endorsed	Susan Grimes	Introduction of a clause (#39) to clarify the impact of PCP subsidy in regards to those students who choose to transfer to

Version	Issued	Status	Author	Reason for Change
				Award study. T&L Committee Out of Session endorsement.
v2.3	24 February 2020	Endorsed	Susan Grimes	Endorsed by the HEAB.
v2.3	25 March 2020	Approved	Susan Grimes	Approved by the HEGC.
v2.3	14 April 2020	Published	-	Published on the HE Website.
v2.4	19 May 2020	Noted and Endorsed	Susan Grime	Minor edit to clarify debt collection process.
v2.4	19 May 2020	Published	-	Published on the HE Website.
v2.5	09 June 2020	Noted and endorsed	Susan Grimes	Minor edits to the clause 39 – word 'subsidy' removed.
v2.5	09 June 2020	Published	-	Published on the HE Website.

IMPLEMENTATION CHECKLIST – COMPLIANCE SELF ASSESSMENT

Assessed by:	Date of Assessment:		
IMPLEMENTATION REQUIREMENTS	Not commenced	Partial compliance	Full compliance
1. Presentation of key changes and messages was provided to all key stakeholders			
	Notes: Training session was conducted Jan/Feb 2019		
2. Quizzes were conducted to assess all key stakeholders knowledge and application to practice of the updated policy clauses			
	Notes: Relevant Director conducted and assessed the quiz Jan/Feb 2019		
3. Reflection/evaluation; Training session to assess progress of implementation			
	Notes: Session planned for June/July 2019		
4.			
	Notes:		
5.			
6.			
	Notes:		

Attachment 1

RISK ASSESSMENT

<Document Title>

1.	Policy/Process being assessed	Notes
	Document Number	
	Publication date	
	Scheduled review date	
	Date of this risk assessment	
	Name & position of assessing officer	
2.	Summary of policy purpose (from PD Cover Page)	
3.	Agency (HETI) key roles & responsibilities as per PD	
4.	Risk Assessment	
4.1	<u>Identification of risks</u> – what might happen & how?	
	1.	
	2.	
4.2	<u>Analysis of risks</u> – combined estimate of the consequence & likelihood of the risk, using NSW Health Risk Matrix (attached)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consequence: Likelihood: Risk rating : 	
4.3	<u>Evaluation of risks</u> – comparison of the level of risk as determined against a predetermined criteria to determine whether a level of risk is acceptable or needs to be treated. Risk level assessed after implementing treatment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consequence: Likelihood: Risk rating : Evaluation –	

Risk Assessment Approval

Name & position of approving T2 Officer:	
Date:	