

HIGHER EDUCATION REPORT

2006



The *Higher Education Report 2006* is part of a suite of publications which report on the Australian higher education sector in 2006.

Analysis of 2006 student, staff and financial data is published separately and available at http://www.dest.gov.au/sectors/higher_education/publications_resources/statistics/publications_higher_education_statistics_collections.htm.

The *Higher Education Report 2006* provides:

- an overview of the higher education sector and its major achievements in 2006;
- details of funding allocations under the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* (HESA); and
- an overview of programme outcomes (including the allocation of places).

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Key features of the sector in 2006

In 2006:

- The higher education sector comprised 37 public and two private universities, one approved branch of an overseas university, four other self-accrediting higher education providers, and around 150 non-self accrediting higher education institutions. These providers offered a range of programmes to students including undergraduate and postgraduate awards and various shorter courses.
- 733,352 domestic students and 250,794 international students undertook higher education at Australian higher education providers. Within this combined group of domestic and international students:
 - 683,673 students were undertaking undergraduate study (e.g. Bachelors degree);
 - 270,449 students were undertaking postgraduate study (e.g. Masters degree); and
 - 30,024 students were undertaking enabling programmes or non-award units of study (those not leading to a higher education award).
- Around 630,000 students were assisted in meeting the cost of their higher education place through discounts and loans under the Higher Education Loan Programme (HELP) (HECS-HELP and FEE-HELP).
- 21 new non-self accrediting higher education providers were approved to offer FEE-HELP to students.
- Publicly funded higher education providers received, on average, around 56 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 up front payments.
- Over 96,000 people (full-time equivalent) were employed in the higher education sector, which had close to \$15.5 billion in total revenue.

Major Developments

2006-07 Budget

The 2006-07 Budget provided:

- more than \$559.6 million over five years in new funding, particularly through an increased investment in university infrastructure;
- funding for additional Commonwealth supported places in medicine (605), nursing (1,036), mental health nursing (431) and clinical psychology (210); and
- increased Commonwealth Grant Scheme (CGS) funding to assist nursing clinical training. From 1 January 2007, this funding increased from around \$690 to \$1,045 per nursing unit of study (2007 prices). The funding, along with the additional places, formed part of the Australian Government's contribution to the Council of Australian Governments' Health Workforce and Mental Health packages.

The base level of funding for the Capital Development Pool (CDP) was increased by 50 per cent.

This delivered an additional \$95.5 million to the universities over four years.

Other components of the Budget included the following:

- The FEE-HELP loan limit for fee-paying higher education students enrolled in undergraduate and graduate studies, in public and private higher education providers, was increased from \$50,950 to \$80,000 for all courses except medicine, veterinary science and dentistry, for which the FEE-HELP loan limit was increased to \$100,000. These increases were effective from 1 January 2007 for all eligible students, regardless of when they commenced their studies.
- Deakin University received capital funding of \$18 million for its new medical school in Geelong and Monash University received \$5 million for a new branch of its medical school in Gippsland.
- The Australian National University in Canberra received capital funding of \$125 million.
- The University of Wollongong received \$12 million in capital funding for a global centre of excellence in transnational crime prevention.
- Bond University received \$4.5 million towards the cost of constructing its medical school.
- \$81.6 million transition fund provided for sporting and recreational facilities, announced in December 2005, following the passage of the *Higher Education Support Amendment (Abolition of Compulsory Up-front Student Union Fees) Act 2005*.
- \$10 million was provided over four years to encourage and support small businesses to establish services for students on regional campuses.

Legislation

Higher Education legislation and guidelines can be found at the department's website at www.dest.gov.au/sectors/higher_education/ under 'Legislation and Guidelines'. Legislation enacted in 2006, Legislative Instruments Tabled in Parliament in 2006 and Determinations registered in 2006, can be found in Appendices 2, 3 and 4.

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



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 HESA. Other funding is provided through annual appropriations. Some transitional funding is administered under the *Higher Education Funding Act 1988* (HEFA).

The funding for undergraduate and some non-research postgraduate student places is provided largely through the CGS. The CGS provides for a specified number of 'Commonwealth supported places' (formerly 'Higher Education Contribution Scheme (HECS) places') each year, for which students pay a student contribution.

Other funds for the sector are provided through a range of grants, including for quality, equity, research and research training, collaboration, National Institutes, workplace productivity, learning and teaching performance, superannuation supplementation and the CDP. These 'other grants' are made under the provisions set out in Section 41 of the HESA.

Funding is also provided to assist higher education students through HELP. The Government, through HELP, assists eligible students in meeting the costs of their higher education places (student contributions or tuition fees). In 2006, the Government supported higher education providers in assisting around 630,000 students in meeting the cost of their higher education place through discounts and loans under HELP. As part of this programme, FEE-HELP assists domestic students to pay their tuition fees at approved higher education providers. OS-HELP assists Commonwealth supported students to undertake part of the study towards their Australian course at an overseas institution.

Additional funding is provided to the sector through a range of programmes designed to help students from disadvantaged backgrounds. These programmes include Commonwealth Learning Scholarships (CLS), the Higher Education Equity Support Programme (ESP) and the Higher Education Disability Support Programme (DSP). The CLS Programme was introduced in 2004 to assist domestic students from low socio-economic backgrounds, particularly those from rural and regional areas and Indigenous students, with costs associated with higher education.

Table 1 represents the expenditure on higher education programmes administered through the Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST) for 2006.

Table 1: Expenditure on higher education programmes, 2006

Programme Other Funds	\$m
Commonwealth Grant Scheme	3207.568
Enabling Loading	12.545
Regional Loading	29.239
Sub-total Commonwealth Grant Scheme	3249.351
Other Grants	
Capital	
Capital Development Pool	74.444
Collaboration	
Collaboration and Structural Reform Fund	18.920
Equity	
Higher Education Disability Support Programme	6.603
Higher Education Equity Support Programme	11.028
Indigenous Support Programme	29.314
Learning and Teaching	
Learning and Teaching Performance Fund	54.381
National Institutes	
National Institutes	170.058
Quality, Promotion, Open Access	
Australian University Teaching Awards	4.577
Carrick Institute for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education	19.298
Chair in Child Protection - UniSA	1.041
Grants-in-Aid	0.018
Learned Academies	1.983
Australian University Quality Agency	1.215
Graduate Skills Assessment	0.204
Graduate Career Council	0.598
Research	
Institutional Grants Scheme	296.113
Research Infrastructure Block Grants	199.908
Research Training	
Regional Protection Scheme	3.086
Research Training Scheme	562.644
Superannuation	
Superannuation Grants	107.304
Systemic Infrastructure	
Systemic Infrastructure Initiative	54.673
Workplace Productivity	
Workplace Reform Programme	45.500
Workplace Productivity Programme	27.248
Sub-total Other Grants	1690.158
Other Funds	
Anglo-Australian Telescope Board ^(b)	4.701
Australian Education International ^(b)	5.847

Programme Other Funds	\$m
Framework for Open Learning ^(b)	2.928
Indigenous Higher Education Advisory Council ^(b)	0.278
National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy ^(b)	128.196
Special Infrastructure Projects ^(b)	11.500
VSU programmes ^(b)	21.594
Superannuation Payments for former Commissioners	0.071
School of Fine Furniture (University of Tasmania)	0.154
Sub-total Other Funds	175.269
Scholarships	
Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarships	41.814
Australian Postgraduate Awards	93.121
Commonwealth Education Costs Scholarships	26.158
Commonwealth Indigenous Staff Scholarships	0.163
International Postgraduate Research Scholarships	18.459
Sub-total Scholarships	179.715
Other	
Transition Funding ^(a)	9.791
TOTAL FUNDING	5304.284

(a) Transition Funding programme funded under the HEFA.

(b) Financial year programme funded under the Annual Appropriations Act for 2006/07 onwards.

1.2 Commonwealth Grant Scheme

1.2.1 Overview of the Commonwealth Grant Scheme

The CGS supports the provision of undergraduate and some non-research postgraduate higher education places.

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

In 2006, each higher education provider that received funds under the CGS entered into a one-year funding agreement with the Australian Government.

The amount the Australian Government provides for each Commonwealth supported place or 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 the HESA and Table 2 shows the Commonwealth contribution for each of the funding clusters in 2006.

Table 2: Commonwealth contribution amounts for 2006 for an equivalent full-time student load

Cluster	Discipline	Commonwealth contribution \$
1	Law	1,499
2	Accounting, Administration, Economics, Commerce	2,466
3	Humanities	4,156
4	Mathematics, Statistics	4,908
5	Behavioural Science, Social Studies	6,598
6	Computing, Built Environment, Health	7,349
7	Foreign Languages, Visual and Performing Arts	9,037
8	Engineering, Science, Surveying	12,232
9	Dentistry, Medicine, Veterinary Science	15,332
10	Agriculture	16,299
National Priority	Education	7,251
National Priority	Nursing	9,692

Source: HESA

In addition to the funding cluster rate, some places attract regional loading (Section 1.2.6), enabling loading (Section 1.2.7) and/or medical student loading (Section 1.2.8).

In 2006, the Australian Government agreed to fund a total of 417,239 Commonwealth supported places at eligible higher education providers. Table 3 shows the agreed number of Commonwealth supported places and the CGS payment to each higher education provider for 2006. The CGS payment includes, where applicable, regional loading, enabling loading and medical student loading.

Table 3: Agreed number of Commonwealth supported places and CGS payments by provider, 2006

Higher education provider	Number of places (EFTSL)			Total CGS funding (\$m)
	Undergraduate	Postgraduate non-research	Total	
Avondale College	357	4	361	2.8
Charles Sturt University	10,393	430	10,823	88.1
Macquarie University	9,971	473	10,445	63.9
Southern Cross University	5,752	79	5,831	42.6
University of New England	6,907	771	7,678	55.3
University of New South Wales	15,436	779	16,215	129.3
University of Newcastle	12,630	178	12,807	107.4
University of Sydney	21,241	297	21,538	180.5
University of Technology, Sydney	12,442	642	13,084	94.4
University of Western Sydney	18,658	265	18,923	132.3
University of Wollongong	8,173	271	8,444	64.2
Deakin University	13,718	357	14,075	102.4
La Trobe University	13,972	823	14,795	109.0
Monash University	20,505	1,392	21,896	168.8

Higher education provider	Number of places (EFTSL)			Total CGS funding (\$m)
	Undergraduate	Postgraduate non-research	Total	
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology	13,095	420	13,515	114.1
Swinburne University of Technology	5,436	13	5,449	42.0
University of Ballarat	3,285	95	3,380	26.2
University of Melbourne	17,212	1,215	18,427	158.0
Victoria University	8,931	730	9,661	66.6
Central Queensland University	6,543	142	6,685	51.7
Christian Heritage College	60	0	60	0.4
Griffith University	17,159	138	17,297	129.7
James Cook University	8,490	235	8,725	76.7
Queensland University of Technology	19,770	418	20,188	144.3
University of Queensland	19,855	224	20,079	172.3
University of Southern Queensland	7,061	378	7,439	57.4
University of the Sunshine Coast	2,850	100	2,950	24.9
Curtin University of Technology	12,939	118	13,057	111.4
Edith Cowan University	11,486	539	12,025	90.2
Murdoch University	6,909	185	7,094	54.1
University of Notre Dame, Australia	832	6	838	7.5
University of Western Australia	9,815	259	10,074	82.8
Flinders University of South Australia	7,831	81	7,912	62.7
Tabor College	60	0	60	0.4
University of Adelaide	9,024	162	9,186	78.0
University of South Australia	13,630	680	14,310	109.4
Australian Maritime College	430	0	430	4.5
University of Tasmania	9,221	250	9,471	81.9
Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education	491	7	498	5.1
Charles Darwin University	2,715	61	2,776	26.6
Australian National University	6,193	105	6,298	46.9
University of Canberra	5,254	275	5,529	38.7
Australian Catholic University	6,392	522	6,913	52.1
Total	403,121	14,117	417,239	3,257.7

(a) CGS amounts include enabling loading, regional loading, medical student loading and conditional increases. They do not include any adjustments to 2006 CGS grants in relation to enrolments in 2005.

Table 4 shows the number of Commonwealth supported places each provider delivered in 2006.

Table 4: Actual number of Commonwealth supported places and CGS adjustment amounts by provider, 2006

Higher education provider	Number of places (EFTSL)	Funding adjustment in 2007 in relation to over or under enrolment in 2006 (\$)
Avondale College	353	-55,486
Charles Sturt University	11,379	881,215
Macquarie University	10,501	-427,272
Southern Cross University	5,392	-554,298
University of New England	7,423	-492,764
University of New South Wales	16,123	1,292,546
University of Newcastle	13,055	843,106
The University of Sydney	22,100	1,805,357
University of Technology, Sydney	13,285	281,426
University of Western Sydney	19,290	614,151
University of Wollongong	8,904	642,208
Deakin University	14,131	654,659
La Trobe University	14,991	-110,396
Monash University	21,977	1,688,142
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology	13,869	1,141,078
Swinburne University of Technology	5,950	286,704
University of Ballarat	3,202	-241,552
The University of Melbourne	18,690	1,143,707
Victoria University	9,865	665,915
Central Queensland University	6,198	-701,697
Christian Heritage College	59	0
Griffith University	17,391	-510,041
James Cook University	8,024	-1,085,965
Queensland University of Technology	20,671	1,443,377
The University of Queensland	19,535	-783,272
University of Southern Queensland	7,213	-141,636
University of the Sunshine Coast	3,019	248,902
Curtin University of Technology	13,182	-410,993
Edith Cowan University	10,878	-1,845,642
Murdoch University	6,869	-339,013
University of Notre Dame, Australia	825	-86,503
The University of Western Australia	10,072	828,026
Flinders University of South Australia	7,871	0
Tabor College South Australia	57	-32,299
The University of Adelaide	9,362	779,692
University of South Australia	14,754	1,093,756
Australian Maritime College	334	-222,218
University of Tasmania	9,427	0
Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education	427	-234,379
Charles Darwin University	2,643	-350,530

Higher education provider	Number of places (EFTSL)	Funding adjustment in 2007 in relation to over or under enrolment in 2006 (\$)
Australian National University	6,078	-400,971
University of Canberra	5,072	-567,917
Australian Catholic University	6,901	0
Total	417,343	6,739,123

1.2.2 Conditional increases in Commonwealth Grant Scheme

Higher education providers that complied with the National Governance Protocols and the Higher Education Workplace Relations Requirements (HEWRRs) in 2006 received an additional 5 per cent over the funding cluster rate in Table 3.

42 eligible providers received the 5 per cent increment above base CGS funding in 2006. This amounted to a total funding increase of \$151.3 million (included in the figure for each provider in Table 3).

National Governance Protocols

The National Governance Protocols were introduced in 2004 with the aim of improving governance practices at universities by providing a set of standards to ensure that governing bodies were effectively overseeing university operations.

As at 31 August 2006, all eligible higher education providers had complied with the Protocols.

Higher Education Workplace Relations Requirements

See Section 1.3.2.

1.2.3 Funding agreements

Each higher education provider receiving funds under the CGS in 2006 entered into a one-year funding agreement with the Australian Government.

The agreements set out the number of Commonwealth supported places the provider was funded to offer in each of 12 funding (or discipline) clusters, as well as any conditions attached to the grant.

Through annual funding agreement discussions with the Australian Government, providers were 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.

1.2.4 Allocation of new places

In 2006, the Australian Government allocated 4,668 new places, with the majority to commence in 2007. This included 2,386 places funded through the *Our Universities: Backing Australia's Future* package and health related places funded as part of the Australian Government's contribution to the Council of Australian Governments' Health Workforce and Mental Health packages (431 mental health nursing places, 210 clinical psychology places, 1,036 general nursing places, 605 medical places). Table 5 shows the allocation of these new places at each higher education provider.

Table 5: New Commonwealth supported places allocated in 2006 for commencement in 2007 and later years

Higher Education Provider	Allocation of new places (EFTSL)
Avondale College	66
Charles Sturt University	50
Macquarie University	20
The University of New England	112 ^(a)
The University of New South Wales	25
The University of Newcastle	264 ^(a)
The University of Sydney	190
University of Western Sydney	95
University of Wollongong	210
Deakin University	251 ^(a)
La Trobe University	90
Monash University	120 ^(a)
RMIT University	80
Swinburne University of Technology	96
University of Ballarat	65
The University of Melbourne	219
Victoria University	260
Christian Heritage College	10
Griffith University	250 ^(a)
James Cook University	60 ^(a)
Queensland University of Technology	95
The University of Queensland	30
University of Southern Queensland	226
University of the Sunshine Coast	235
Curtin University of Technology	5
Edith Cowan University	10
Murdoch University	80
The University of Notre Dame Australia	210 ^(a)
The University of Western Australia	210 ^(a)
Tabor College	10
The Flinders University of South Australia	60 ^(a)
The University of Adelaide	215
University of Tasmania	440
Charles Darwin University	6
The Australian National University	13
University of Canberra	15
Australian Catholic University	275
Total	4,668

Source: DEST

a) Figure includes some medical places commencing later than 2007

1.2.5 National priority places

Education and nursing were recognised as national priority areas because of current and potential long-term shortages of qualified people in these professions. The Government allocated 650 new places in education and 1,467 new places in nursing in 2006 to commence in 2007 (see Table 5).

1.2.6 Regional loading

Regional loading supports higher education providers that offer places at eligible regional campuses. The regional loading is provided in recognition of the higher costs faced by providers due to their location, size and history. Regional campuses may also have a limited potential to diversify revenue sources, a smaller capacity to compete for fee-paying students and a narrower industrial base providing fewer opportunities for commercial partnerships.

A regional campus is defined as being located outside a mainland state capital city area (other than Darwin which is an eligible location) in a population centre with fewer than 250,000 people (other than Wollongong which is an eligible location). Eligible campuses are allocated to one of five funding bands on the basis of the size of the higher education provider and the distance of the campus from the nearest mainland capital city.

For 2006, the regional loading was applied according to the number of places (EFTSL) provided at the regional campus. The amount of regional loading paid to each higher education provider in 2006 is set out in Table 6.

1.2.7 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 student contributions for students in Commonwealth supported enabling courses. In 2006, the amount of the enabling loading for each place (EFTSL) was \$3,475.

The amount of enabling loading paid to each higher education provider in 2006 is set out in Table 6.

1.2.8 Medical student loading

Medical student loading provides funding for Commonwealth supported places in a medicine course of study, completion of which would allow provisional registration as a medical practitioner.

The medical student loading continues the previous grants under the HEFA that assisted higher education providers with the costs associated with their own infrastructure in teaching hospitals. In 2006, the amount of the medical student loading for each (EFTSL) place was \$1,090.

The amount of medical student loading paid to each higher education provider in 2006 is set out in Table 6.

Table 6: CGS loadings allocated to higher education providers in 2006

Higher Education Provider	Regional Loading	Enabling Loading	Medical Student Loading
Avondale College	\$0	\$0	\$0
Charles Sturt University	\$1,757,493	\$276,076	\$0
Macquarie University	\$0	\$0	\$0
Southern Cross University	\$1,167,555	\$172,882	\$0
University of New England	\$1,845,328	\$84,269	\$0
University of New South Wales	\$0	\$0	\$966,830
University of Newcastle	\$47,521	\$3,266,082	\$402,210
University of Sydney	\$7,952	\$98,541	\$842,570
University of Technology, Sydney	\$0	\$424,025	\$0
University of Western Sydney	\$0	\$273,658	\$0
University of Wollongong	\$1,069,995	\$208,720	\$0
Deakin University	\$559,066	\$0	\$0
La Trobe University	\$970,269	\$72,385	\$0
Monash University	\$186,726	\$182,438	\$875,270
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology	\$29,829	\$0	\$0
Swinburne University of Technology	\$0	\$0	\$0
University of Ballarat	\$1,272,860	\$41,304	\$0
University of Melbourne	\$40,633	\$0	\$918,870
Victoria University	\$0	\$450,449	\$0
Central Queensland University	\$1,774,560	\$1,065,027	\$0
Christian Heritage College	\$0	\$0	\$0
Griffith University	\$0	\$0	\$174,400
James Cook University	\$4,071,782	\$139,001	\$539,550
Queensland University of Technology	\$30,845	\$0	\$0
University of Queensland	\$95,971	\$0	\$1,066,020
University of Southern Queensland	\$1,374,134	\$819,670	\$0
University of the Sunshine Coast	\$1,049,145	\$304,064	\$0
Curtin University of Technology	\$209,795	\$351,196	\$0
Edith Cowan University	\$169,773	\$321,293	\$0
Murdoch University	\$205,107	\$312,898	\$0
University of Notre Dame, Australia	\$61,569	\$0	\$109,000
University of Western Australia	\$46,168	\$146,976	\$864,370
Flinders University of South Australia	\$20,534	\$0	\$331,360
Tabor College	\$0	\$0	\$0

Higher Education Provider	Regional Loading	Enabling Loading	Medical Student Loading
University of Adelaide	\$67,770	\$108,594	\$568,980
University of South Australia	\$89,037	\$637,086	\$0
Australian Maritime College	\$204,054	\$0	\$0
University of Tasmania	\$4,923,867	\$924,463	\$452,350
Batchelor Institute of Technology	\$982,403	\$595,955	\$0
Charles Darwin University	\$4,734,565	\$1,198,013	\$0
Australian National University	\$0	\$0	\$261,600
University of Canberra	\$0	\$69,935	\$0
Australian Catholic University	\$172,210	\$0	\$0
Total	\$29,238,516	\$12,544,999	\$8,373,380

Source: DEST

1.2.9 Transition funding

Under Section 110A of the HEFA, provision was made for transitional funding to be made available to higher education providers to ensure that no provider would be financially worse off under the new CGS during the transitional period to the end of 2007. In 2006, seven higher education providers received transitional funding totalling \$9.8 million.

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 the HESA. Eligibility for grants under this part is outlined in the Act.

Item	Purpose of Grant	Programmes/initiatives
1.	Grants to promote equality of opportunity in higher education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher Education Disability Support Programme Higher Education Equity Support Programme Indigenous Support Programme
2.	Grants to promote the productivity of higher education providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workplace Productivity Programme Workplace Reform Programme
3.	Grants to enhance learning and teaching in higher education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning and Teaching Performance Fund
4.	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
5.	Grants to support the capital development projects of higher education providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capital Development Pool
6.	Grants to assist with the cost of higher education providers' superannuation liabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher Education Superannuation Programme
7.	Grants to support research by, and the research capability of, higher education providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research Infrastructure Block Grants Institutional Grants Scheme
8.	Grants to support the training of research students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research Training Scheme Regional Protection Scheme Commercialisation Training Scheme

Item	Purpose of Grant	Programmes/initiatives
9.	Grants to foster collaboration and reform in higher education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboration and Structural Reform Fund
10.	Grants to support the development of systemic infrastructure used by higher education providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Systemic Infrastructure Initiative
11.	Grants for activities that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Assure and enhance the quality of Australia's higher education sector; or Foster an understanding of the importance of, or promote research and scholarship in, science, social science or the humanities in Australia; or Support open access to higher education across Australia 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Carrick Institute for Learning and Teaching in Higher Education • Australian Awards for University Teaching • Australian Universities Quality Agency • Graduate Careers Australia • Graduate Skills Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science Youth Conference • Learned Academies • Council for the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences • Chair in Child Protection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Learning Initiative

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: http://www.dest.gov.au/sectors/higher_education/programmes_funding/forms_guidelines/hesa_guidelines/other_grants_guidelines.htm.

1.3.1 Equity

Grants to promote the equality of opportunity in higher education are paid through the Indigenous Support Programme, the Higher Education Disability Support Programme and the Higher Education Equity Support Programme.

Indigenous Support Programme

The Indigenous Support Programme (ISP) assists higher education institutions to meet the needs of Indigenous students and to advance the goals of the *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Policy* in the higher education sector. Activities that are provided through ISP funding include study skills and personal counselling, provision of study centres, cultural awareness activities, and outreach programmes.

The ISP Guidelines under the HESA outline the conditions of eligibility and reporting requirements under the programme.

To be eligible to receive ISP grants in any one year, Table A providers must have demonstrated to DEST that they met all of the following criteria:

- the provider has implemented strategies for improving access, participation, retention and success of Indigenous Australian students;
- the provider has demonstrated participation of Indigenous people in the provider's decision-making processes; and
- the provider has an Indigenous employment strategy.

Table 7: Indigenous Support Programme allocations, 2006

Institution	\$000
Australian Catholic University	1,100
Australian Maritime College	58
Australian National University	332
Batchelor Institute ^(a)	2,223
Central Queensland University	812
Charles Darwin University	643
Charles Sturt University	1,029
Curtin University of Technology	1,718
Deakin University	952
Edith Cowan University	986
Flinders University of SA	426
Griffith University	1,349
James Cook University ^(b)	1,459
La Trobe University	338
Macquarie University	513
Monash University	365
Murdoch University	521
Queensland University of Technology	1,384
RMIT University	185
Southern Cross University	715
Swinburne University of Technology	69
University of Adelaide	472
University of Ballarat	67
University of Canberra	333
University of Melbourne	905
University of New England	706
University of New South Wales	545
University of Newcastle	1,343
University of Queensland	817
University of South Australia	871
University of Southern Queensland	466
University of Sydney	1,181
University of Tasmania	950

Institution	\$'000
University of Technology, Sydney	1,278
University of the Sunshine Coast	121
University of Western Australia	546
University of Western Sydney	862
University of Wollongong	564
Victoria University	110
Total ^(c)	29,314

(a) Allocations for Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education from this programme 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 for 2005 based on Batchelor's share of total 2004 EFTSL, to reflect changes both in the share of EFTSL across the sector since 1988 and to fairly allocate to Batchelor a 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.

(c) Additional funding of \$1.68m has been provided under this programme for 2005. The additional funding has been distributed according to the allocation formula, except as noted at (a) and (b) above.

Higher Education Disability Support Programme

The Disability Support Programme (DSP) provides funding to eligible higher education providers to undertake activities that assist in removing barriers to access for students with a disability. In 2006, \$6,603 million was available through this programme to higher education providers listed in Table A of the HESA.

The programme consists of three components: Additional Support for Students with Disabilities (ASSD), the Regional Disability Liaison Officer (RDLO) initiative and performance-based disability support funding.

The first component of this programme, ASSD, provides funding to higher education providers towards the cost of providing educational support services and equipment to students with a disability with high-cost needs. This component recognises that while higher education providers are responsible for meeting the needs of students with a disability, the provision of support for some students with high-cost needs is a significant cost to higher education providers.

In 2006, approximately \$4.4 million was allocated to higher education providers under the ASSD component. This 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 voice recognition software and electric scooters for students with mobility difficulties.

The second component, the RDLO initiative, aims to improve access to post-secondary education for students with a disability by facilitating their transition from school to study, whether higher education or vocational education and training, and from study to work. RDLOs are hosted by higher education providers in ten regions of Australia. These officers provide information, coordination and referral services for people with a disability interested in post-school education and training within a designated region. In 2006, funding of approximately \$900,000 was allocated to this initiative.

The third component, performance-based disability support funding, aims to further encourage higher education providers to implement strategies to attract and support students with a disability.

This component of funding comprises that amount of funding which remains after allocations for the ASSD component and the RDLO component have been made to higher education providers. 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 of those students. In 2006, approximately \$1.3 million was paid to higher education providers under the performance-based disability support component.

Details of funding allocations for 2006 under the DSP are provided in Table 8.

Table 8: Higher Education Disability Support Programme allocations, 2006

Higher Education Provider	Additional Support for Students with Disabilities \$	Regional Disability Liaison Officer Initiative \$	Performance-Based Disability Support \$	Total \$
New South Wales				
Charles Sturt University	26,777		42,216	68,993
Macquarie University	182,672		31,588	214,260
Southern Cross University	140,358		22,030	162,388
University of New England	38,450		37,737	76,187
University of New South Wales	104,279		37,397	141,676
University of Newcastle	72,595	94,228	47,832	214,655
The University of Sydney	99,453		29,165	128,618
University of Technology, Sydney	282,665		33,654	316,319
University of Western Sydney	320,032	94,228	65,455	479,715
University of Wollongong	67,760		68,040	135,800
Victoria				
Deakin University	116,032		26,466	142,498
La Trobe University	382,764		42,211	424,975
Monash University	278,031		62,396	340,427
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology	109,652		36,571	146,223
Swinburne University of Technology	34,083		13,270	47,353
The University of Melbourne	278,281		47,230	325,511
University of Ballarat	11,097	94,228	6,542	111,867
Victoria University	60,828		13,714	74,542
Queensland				
Central Queensland University	18,381	94,228	38,274	150,883
Griffith University	173,367		56,298	229,665
James Cook University	72,665	94,228	27,572	194,465
Queensland University of Technology	177,479		69,558	247,037
The University of Queensland	134,178		44,918	179,096
University of Southern Queensland	77,502	94,228	24,085	195,815
University of the Sunshine Coast	41,346		9,938	51,284

Higher Education Provider	Additional Support for Students with Disabilities \$	Regional Disability Liaison Officer Initiative \$	Performance-Based Disability Support \$	Total \$
Western Australia				
Curtin University of Technology	17,301	94,228	27,728	139,257
Edith Cowan University	27,329		18,604	45,933
Murdoch University	243,346		29,352	272,698
The University of Western Australia	182,074		31,304	213,378
South Australia				
The Flinders University of South Australia	102,212		32,294	134,506
The University of Adelaide	18,514		25,577	44,091
University of South Australia	57,889	94,228	64,208	216,325
Tasmania				
Australian Maritime College	0		1,370	1,370
University of Tasmania	164,030	94,228	41,359	299,617
Northern Territory				
Bachelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education	36,352		2,972	39,324
Charles Darwin University	36,541	94,228	9,977	140,746
Australian Capital Territory				
The Australian National University	60,809		35,221	96,030
University of Canberra	78,590		14,313	92,903
Multi-state				
Australian Catholic University	49,944		16,626	66,570
TOTAL	4,375,658	942,280	1,285,062	6,603,000

Source: ASSD – application-based reimbursement; RDLO – grant based allocations; Performance based funding - formula-derived result based on the Higher Education Student Statistics Collection, 2005

Higher Education Equity Support Programme

Providers are required to use ESP funds for equity initiatives which target disadvantaged students and encourage sustainable improvements in access, participation, retention and success for students from low socio-economic backgrounds, students from rural and isolated areas, students with a disability and students from non-English speaking backgrounds. In addition, providers may implement measures that assist in overcoming educational disadvantage associated with gender. Providers may tailor their programmes to address specific disadvantage, as appropriate to the demographics of their student population and catchment area.

Allocations under the ESP, available to Table A providers, are based on enrolments, retention and success of students from low socio-economic status (SES) backgrounds, with a weighting to low SES students from rural and isolated backgrounds.

To be eligible for funding, providers must fulfil the following eligibility criteria:

- run outreach programmes to attract disadvantaged students to higher education;
- offer specialised support for disadvantaged students to assist their progression through higher education;
- administer application and selection processes for CLS; and
- provide institutional equity scholarships to complement CLS.

Table 9 sets out the ESP funding by higher education provider for 2006.

Table 9: Higher Education Equity Support Programme allocations, 2006

State/Higher Education Provider	\$
New South Wales	
Charles Sturt University	502,276
Macquarie University	74,337
Southern Cross University	238,202
University of New England	469,333
University of New South Wales	106,648
University of Newcastle	356,034
The University of Sydney	166,788
University of Technology, Sydney	105,273
University of Western Sydney	192,630
University of Wollongong	105,742
Victoria	
Deakin University	300,331
La Trobe University	337,626
Monash University	404,123
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology	228,905
Swinburne University of Technology	85,906
The University of Melbourne	215,551
University of Ballarat	139,759
Victoria University	198,347
Queensland	
Central Queensland University	865,871
Griffith University	335,686
James Cook University	433,533
Queensland University of Technology	540,096
The University of Queensland	630,914
University of Southern Queensland	761,603
University of the Sunshine Coast	264,935
Western Australia	
Curtin University of Technology	332,063
Edith Cowan University	391,713

State/Higher Education Provider	\$
Murdoch University	235,507
The University of Western Australia	161,779
South Australia	
Flinders University of South Australia	221,947
The University of Adelaide	177,529
University of South Australia	477,215
Tasmania	
Australian Maritime College	58,962
University of Tasmania	651,787
Northern Territory	
Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education	23,829
Charles Darwin University	52,730
Australian Capital Territory	
The Australian National University	46,493
University of Canberra	32,278
Multi-state	
Australian Catholic University	103,719
TOTAL	11,028,000

Source: Formula-derived result based on the Higher Education Student Statistics Collection, 2004 (DEST).

1.3.2 Productivity

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

Workplace Productivity Programme

The WPP is a competitive grants programme that encourages higher education institutions listed in Table A of the HESA to pursue broader workplace reform and to enhance their capability to manage and implement workplace change. Announced as part of the *Our Universities: Backing Australia's Future* reform package in 2003, the programme commenced in 2006, with the aim of improving the efficiency, productivity and performance of universities, through strengthened management, leadership and governance, the review or reform of financial systems and human resource practices, and the development of flexible working relationships with employees.

Following a national consultation process, programme guidelines were finalised in early 2006 as Chapter 2 (Grants to Foster Workplace Productivity in Higher Education) of the Other Grants Guidelines.

On 10 March 2006, applications were invited for WPP funding. The priority for round 1 of the WPP, for project funding from 2006 to 2008, was the review or reform of the efficiency of universities, including financial arrangements and operational management. The department received 94 applications, and on 6 September 2006 funding was announced for the projects listed in Table 10.

The WPP guidelines also provide for the allocation of grants in response to proposals outside the submission-based rounds. On 15 November 2006, \$190,000 in WPP funding was announced for *The Second Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee (AVCC) Action Plan for Women Employed in Australian Universities 2006 – 2010*, a project designed to significantly improve the representation of women in senior roles in universities.

Table 10: Workplace Productivity Programme Allocations, 2006

Grant Recipient	Project Title	Funding provided in 2006 \$
New South Wales		
Charles Sturt University	Electronic Information Management Programme	458,029
	Workplace Productivity Renewal and Reform	331,450
Southern Cross University	Integrated Workforce Strategy Project	260,606
University of Newcastle	Australian National Higher Education Benchmarking Programme	1,551,410
	Understanding Our Business	1,330,000
University of New England	Academic Renewal Project	434,341
	Strategic Business Development	155,000
University of New South Wales	Finance Productivity and Performance Programme	2,381,000
The University of Sydney	Performance Management and Balanced Scorecard Project	298,500
	Strategic Plan into Commercial Options for University Sport	45,000
University of Western Sydney	An Agenda for Reform and Sustainability	261,730
University of Wollongong	Performance Measured Scorecard	695,500
Victoria		
Deakin University	Financial Management Improvement Project	890,000
La Trobe University	La Trobe Breaking Through	875,455
Monash University	Centralised Strategic Sourcing	500,000
	Restructuring Support Service Delivery - Shared Services Model	79,383
	Senior Management Development Programme	163,920
Swinburne University of Technology	Business Process Management for Student Operations	435,000
	Structural Reform of Swinburne's Degrees and Academic Calendar	150,282
University of Ballarat	Financial Management Systems	167,275
	Human Resource Management Systems	202,479
	Reviewing Key Student Association Services	80,000
	Workplace Relations, Operational and Structural Reforms	2,240,165
The University of Melbourne	Curriculum Reform under the Melbourne Model	750,000
	Transforming University Programmes	750,000
Victoria University	Budget Framework Review	200,000
Queensland		
James Cook University	Restructuring and Re-profiling of JCU Courses, Schools and Divisions	2,300,000
Griffith University	Maximising University Value via Targeted Reform Initiatives	1,600,000
Queensland University of Technology	Financial Management Improvement Initiative	600,000
	Mobile Workplace Productivity	300,000
University of Southern Queensland	Activity Based Costing Project	377,000

Grant Recipient	Project Title	Funding provided in 2006 \$
Western Australia		
Curtin University of Technology	Business Improvement Programme	1,718,186
Edith Cowan University	Centralisation of the Procurement Function	462,000
	Enterprise Records Solutions	158,300
	Finance Training for Academic Leadership	120,315
	Improving Efficiency and Effectiveness	119,000
	Unit and Course Improvement Toolset	375,000
Murdoch University	Workload Management System	299,923
The University of Western Australia	Enhancing Financial Management Capabilities in UWA Leaders and Managers	212,500
South Australia		
The University of Adelaide	Performance Management Framework	111,750
Flinders University	Proven Technology to Enhance Financial Management	363,244
University of South Australia	Accounts Payable Electronic Scanning Project	294,000
	Cash Flow Forecasting and Management	118,100
Tasmania		
Australian Maritime College	Rationalisation of Beauty Point Campus	108,000
University of Tasmania	Electronic Administrative Services for Students Improvement	750,000
Northern Territory		
Charles Darwin University	Improved Budget, Planning and Financial Reporting Systems	556,157
Australian Capital Territory		
The Australian National University	Group of Eight Future Research Leaders Financial Management Programme	588,000
University of Canberra	Rationalisation of Subjects at UC	30,000
TOTAL		27,248,000

Source: DEST internal administrative data, 2006

Workplace Reform Programme

The WRP commenced in 2000 and offered higher education institutions additional funding equivalent to 2 per cent of the salary component of the operating grant, conditional on reforms being implemented in management, administration and workplace practices.

In December 2003, the programme was discontinued. Universities whose application for second round funding was received by DEST before 31 December 2003, and which were subsequently successful in obtaining that funding, received the funding on a permanent basis. This removed the potential need for universities to reapply for funding under WRP in future years, as previously envisaged under the programme. Part of the WRP funding was rolled into the CGS from 2005. The remainder is paid as a supplement to the CGS funding.

Through the WRP, higher education providers received \$45.5 million in 2006.

Higher Education Workplace Relations Requirements

The Higher Education Workplace Relations Requirements (HEWRRs) were introduced in 2005.

Under the HEWRRs, universities are required to offer staff the choice of an Australian Workplace Agreement (AWA). Third party involvement, including union involvement in workplace relations and human resource matters, can only be at the express invitation of an effected university employee. Universities that meet the requirements, as well as the National Governance Protocols, receive a conditional funding component (5% in 2006 and 7.5% in 2007 and later years) through the CGS. Forty-two (42) institutions met the HEWRRs as at 30 November 2005, and the sector received \$151 million in 2006 as a result.

1.3.3 Learning and teaching

Grants to enhance learning and teaching in higher education are paid through the Learning and Teaching Performance Fund (LTPF).

Learning and Teaching Performance Fund

The LTPF was introduced to reward universities that best demonstrate excellence in learning and teaching for domestic undergraduate students. The fund provides \$250 million over three years to 2008.

The allocation process for the fund was decided following extensive consultation with the sector. To be eligible to participate in the fund, universities must meet certain participation requirements which allow them to demonstrate their commitment to learning and teaching. Each participating university's learning and teaching outcomes are then assessed using a quantitative model.

The quantitative model uses three groups of performance indicators:

- student satisfaction;
- student outcomes; and
- success.

The data for these indicators are derived from responses to the Course Experience Questionnaire, the Graduate Destination Survey and the department's Student Statistical Collections, respectively.

The quantitative model includes an adjustment process to remove identifiable external influences that may affect comparisons of university performance.

The results of the model are reviewed by an expert panel, which makes recommendations to the Minister on those universities that should receive funding.

The allocation for 2007 was finalised in 2006, with universities' performance being measured in broad discipline areas instead of at the level of the institution:

- Science, Computing, Engineering, Architecture and Agriculture
- Business, Law and Economics
- Humanities, Arts and Education
- Health

\$83 million was shared among thirty universities (Table 11).

Table 11: Learning and Teaching Performance Fund Allocations, 2007

University (in alphabetical order)	University Grant	Science, computing, engineering, architecture and agriculture	Business, law and economics	Humanities, arts and education	Health	TOTAL
Australian Catholic University	\$500,000					\$500,000
Charles Sturt University	\$1,000,000				\$461,601	\$1,461,601
Curtin University of Technology	\$500,000					\$500,000
Deakin University	\$500,000					\$500,000
Griffith University	\$500,000					\$500,000
James Cook University	\$500,000					\$500,000
La Trobe University	\$1,000,000			\$1,422,052		\$2,422,052
Macquarie University	\$1,000,000			\$1,994,432		\$2,994,432
Monash University	\$1,000,000			\$2,211,161	\$1,042,534	\$4,253,696
Murdoch University	\$1,000,000	\$837,669		\$1,352,936	\$139,335	\$3,329,942
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology	\$500,000					\$500,000
Southern Cross University	\$500,000					\$500,000
Swinburne University of Technology	\$1,000,000		\$926,651	\$592,935		\$2,519,587
The Australian National University	\$1,000,000	\$820,701	\$954,380	\$1,192,355		\$3,967,437
The Flinders University of South Australia	\$1,000,000			\$926,237		\$1,926,237
The University of Adelaide	\$1,000,000				\$342,131	\$1,342,131
The University of Melbourne	\$1,000,000	\$2,581,987	\$2,352,842	\$2,098,313	\$875,331	\$8,908,476
The University of Newcastle	\$500,000					\$500,000
The University of New England	\$1,000,000	\$506,575				\$1,506,575
The University of New South Wales	\$1,000,000	\$2,066,583	\$1,972,497	\$1,611,052		\$6,650,133
The University of Queensland	\$1,000,000	\$1,885,309	\$1,427,294	\$2,719,530	\$1,018,116	\$8,050,250
The University of Sydney	\$1,000,000		\$1,382,872	\$3,904,849		\$6,287,722
The University of Western Australia	\$1,000,000	\$1,878,135	\$836,014		\$511,955	\$4,226,105
University of Ballarat	\$1,000,000			\$387,656	\$245,010	\$1,632,667
University of Canberra	\$1,000,000		\$658,602		\$76,979	\$1,735,582
University of the Sunshine Coast	\$500,000					\$500,000
University of Tasmania	\$1,000,000	\$1,434,054				\$2,434,054
University of Technology, Sydney	\$1,000,000	\$2,183,156	\$2,372,294			\$5,555,451
University of Wollongong	\$1,000,000	\$1,557,387	\$1,482,477	\$1,377,768		\$5,417,632
Victoria University	\$1,000,000			\$878,229		\$1,878,229

1.3.4 National Institutes

The programme provides funding to the Australian National University, the Australian Maritime College and Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education in recognition of their national role in particular areas of higher education.

For the Australian National University, National Institute funding reflects the University's special position as a higher education provider established under Commonwealth legislation with a focus on undertaking research. For Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education, National Institute funding helps to support the Institute's operations in serving Indigenous communities. For the Australian Maritime College, National Institute funding reflects the College's special position as an institute established under Commonwealth legislation with a mission to provide qualifications for the maritime industry.

In 2006, the Australian Government provided \$170.1 million in funding for National Institutes (\$163.6 million to the Australian National University, \$4.4 million to the Australian Maritime College and \$2.1 million to Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education).

1.3.5 Capital development

Grants to support the capital development projects of higher education providers are funded under the CDP programme. Some additional capital projects are funded under the Annual Appropriations Act.

Capital Development Pool

The 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.

Following a decision by the Australian Government to increase CDP funding, an additional amount of \$22.9 million for 2007 and \$23.3 million for 2008 was available for allocation. Proposals for CDP grant funding for 2007, 2008 and 2009 were considered in the competitive bidding process held in 2006. The Australian Government approved the allocation of \$22.9 million in 2007 and \$70.9 million in 2008 and 2009 following the competitive bidding process held in 2006. The CDP programme primarily supports four types of projects:

- development of, or on, new campuses in suburban growth corridors and regional centres. Priority is given to projects which support greater collaboration between higher education providers, between higher education providers and Vocational Education and Training (VET) providers, and between higher education providers, other organisations and the private sector;

- capital developments that assist higher education providers to establish or expand provision of courses identified by the government as discipline areas of national importance;
- information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure projects which improve the cost-effectiveness and quality of educational delivery, for example, by improving the efficiency of the higher education provider's infrastructure, or by providing access to education and research networks; and
- the rebuilding or restoration of campus facilities in circumstances which are, in the view of the Minister, special and extraordinary.

The new campus developments approved for funding in 2008 and 2009 include the extension of facilities at the Cradle Coast Campus of the University of Tasmania, development of the Shepparton campus of La Trobe University, the extension of the Caboolture Campus of the Queensland University of Technology, the expansion of the teaching facilities at the Ourimbah and Port Macquarie campuses of the University of Newcastle and the establishment of a Gold Coast campus of Southern Cross University.

The approved ICT projects will enable campuses to communicate more rapidly and reliably with other higher education providers and provide for greater access to online resources.

In 2007, 2008 and 2009, the CDP will support the Australian Government's efforts to increase the supply of health workforce professionals by funding the establishment of health facilities, such as the Podiatric Medicine Training Centre at the University of Western Australia, the provision of nursing facilities at Edith Cowan University, University of Technology, Sydney, University of Wollongong and the University of Western Sydney, clinical science and nursing teaching facilities at the Orange Campus of Charles Sturt University, a Clinical Science and Medical Building at the University of Newcastle, dental training facilities for the University of Sydney at Westmead and Sydney Dental Hospitals, pharmacy teaching facilities at James Cook University, a centre for medicine and oral health at Griffith University and allied health infrastructure at Charles Darwin University's Casuarina Campus.

Table 12 sets out CDP funding allocations by higher education provider for the years 2007 to 2009 resulting from competitive funding rounds held in years 2004 to 2006.

Table 12: GDP allocations by institution 2007–2009

Higher Education Provider	Project	2007 \$m	2008 \$m	2009 \$m
Charles Sturt University	Connection of Wagga Wagga Campus to AREN	1.061		
Charles Sturt University	Nursing laboratory and lecture theatre, Orange Campus	1.210		
Charles Sturt University	Clinical Science Teaching Facilities at Orange Campus to support Rural Pathways Programme		1.300	2.200
Charles Sturt University	Veterinary Science Facilities, Wagga Wagga Campus		2.497	2.000
Southern Cross University	Building 2, Tweed Gold Coast Campus	4.122		
The University of New England	Robb College Accommodation		0.600	1.900
The University of New England	E-Learning Commons, Dixon Library refurbishment	2.122		
University of New South Wales	Interactive Mining Engineering teaching/learning space	0.652		
The University of Newcastle	Ourimbah Campus development		2.081	2.000
The University of Newcastle	ICT infrastructure	0.902		
The University of Newcastle	New Clinical Science and Medical building		1.300	2.200
The University of Newcastle	Teaching and Learning Centre, Port Macquarie Campus		3.610	
The University of Sydney	Rebuild & expansion of facilities, Camden Campus	2.122		
The University of Sydney	Dental training facilities, Westmead & Sydney Dental Hospitals	2.000		
University of Technology, Sydney	Nursing and Midwifery Facility	2.122		
University of Technology, Sydney	Anatomy Laboratory		0.900	
University of Western Sydney	Nursing Development Hubs		1.300	2.200
University of Western Sydney	Network Interconnect with the Sydney Southwest Area Health Service	0.363		
University of Wollongong	Nursing & Ancillary Programmes Building, Shoalhaven Campus	2.500		
Deakin University	Development of e-campus facilities			
Deakin University	Renovation, Dennys Lascelles Building	2.122	1.300	2.200
La Trobe University	Fit out, New Central ICT Building, Bundoora	1.717		
La Trobe University	New Campus Development, Shepparton	1.592		
Monash University	Lecture theatre, Gippsland Education Precinct	2.122		
Monash University	Frankston Regional Aquatic Health and Wellness Centre		3.001	2.100
Monash University	Student residences redevelopment - Gippsland campus			2.000
Monash University (with Uni of Melb)	Northern Victorian Regional Medical Education Network	4.000	3.000	2.770
RMIT University	ICT and Teaching Space Infrastructure, Bundoora Campus	1.159		
Swinburne University of Technology	Advanced Technology Building - Hawthorn Campus		1.300	2.200
Swinburne University of Technology	ICT infrastructure, Wantira, Croydon & Lilydale campuses	2.122		
University of Ballarat	Building integrated library and information services		2.965	
University of Ballarat	Communication Centre Redevelopment	0.714		
University of Melbourne	extension to VERN at Shepparton and Epping campuses	0.683		
Victoria University	Footscray Park Campus Redevelopment		2.601	
Victoria University	Health Precinct - St Albans campus		1.300	2.200
Victoria University	Stage 2, Problem Based Learning refurbishment	0.885		
Bond University	Clinical Education and Research Centre		0.500	2.000
Central Queensland University	Technology and Information Resource Centre, Mackay Campus	2.122		
Griffith University	Centre for Medicine & Oral Health	2.122		
Griffith University	Science Building - Gold Coast Campus		1.300	2.200
James Cook University	Pharmacy teaching facility	3.000	2.000	1.000

Higher Education Provider	Project	2007 \$m	2008 \$m	2009 \$m
Queensland University of Technology	Caboolture Campus development	2.000	2.601	
University of Southern Queensland	Wide Bay development	2.122		
University of Southern Queensland	Building 2 - Springfield Campus		1.300	2.200
University of Southern Queensland	Wine Science Laboratory, Stanthorpe		1.737	
University of the Sunshine Coast	Campus development (including ICT and a Science Building)	2.122	2.081	
University of the Sunshine Coast	Health Building - Stage 7 of campus development		1.300	2.200
Curtin University of Technology	Re-location of the Department of Applied Chemistry to the Minerals and Chemistry Research and Education Precinct		5.202	2.000
Edith Cowan University	Indigenous Centre, Mt Lawley			
Edith Cowan University	Nursing facilities, Joondalup Campus		2.601	1.230
Murdoch University	Building 2, Peel campus	3.622		
Murdoch University	Science and Engineering Building		1.300	2.200
The University of Notre Dame Australia	Building for education, nursing and medicine programs, Fremantle Campus		1.040	
The University of Western Australia	Podiatric Medicine Training Centre building		2.601	
University of Western Australia/ Curtin/EQU	Geraldton Universities Centre	2.122		
Flinders University	Science Innovation Learning Centre	1.061	2.181	
Flinders University	Facility of Health Sciences Building - Bedford Park Campus		0.300	2.200
University of Adelaide	Bio Skills Teaching Laboratory	2.000		
University of Adelaide	Faculty of Engineering, Computing and Mathematical Sciences building - North Terrace Campus		1.300	2.200
University of South Australia	Access Grids at City West, City East, Magill and Mawson Lakes	0.318		
University of South Australia	Building 3A, City West Campus		2.601	
University of South Australia	Redevelopment of facilities at Mt Gambier Campus		1.658	
Australian Maritime College	ICT infrastructure upgrade	0.568		
Australian Maritime College	Upgrade the Integrated Marine Simulator		3.912	
University of Tasmania	Community Learning Centre, Cradle Coast Campus		2.081	
University of Tasmania	Collocation of School of Fine Furniture/Architecture, Inveresk Campus	2.000		
Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education	New Facility to house ICT infrastructure	2.122		
Charles Darwin University/University of Canberra	Extension of the Institute of Advanced Studies for the Research School of Environmental Studies	2.122		
Charles Darwin University	Allied Health Infrastructure - Casuarina Campus		1.300	2.200
Australian National University/UC	Integrated Regional Health Teaching Facilities	2.122		
Australian Catholic University	Provision of disability access & ICT upgrade at Signadou Campus	0.851		
Sub Total CDP (excl Special Projects)		68.688	69.951	47.600

Source: DEST

Notes: Discrepancies in column totals are due to rounding.

2008 and 2009 allocations adjusted to 2008 dollars.

Remaining 2009 CDP funds to be allocated as part of the 2007 CDP funding process.

Additional capital projects

In addition to the capital works funded through the competitive CDP process, the Australian Government allocated:

- \$12 million over 2 years, from 2005, for the medical school at the University of Tasmania;
- \$12 million over 2 years, from 2005, to James Cook University for the development of a new School of Veterinary Science and Tropical Agricultural Science;
- \$2 million over 3 years, from 2005, to Charles Darwin University for upgrades to ICT infrastructure;
- \$25 million over 3 years, from 2006, for a new medical school at the University of Western Sydney.
- \$18 million over 3 years, from 2006, to the University of Western Sydney for the upgrading of facilities, including a new teaching building, a library and laboratories;
- \$15 million, in 2007, to James Cook University for an anatomy laboratory and clinical skills laboratories;
- \$7.5 million, in 2007, to the University of Queensland for additional facilities for medical training; and
- \$3 million, in 2007, to the University of New England to establish a new rural medical programme with the University of Newcastle.

Table 13: Additional capital projects funded under the HESA, 2005-2008

Higher Education Provider	Project	2005 \$m	2006 \$m	2007 \$m	2008 \$m
Charles Darwin University	IT Infrastructure upgrading	1	0.5	0.5	
James Cook University	Veterinary School	6	6		
James Cook University	Medical School			15	
University of Tasmania	Medical School	6	6		
University of New England	Medical School			3	
University of Queensland	Medical School			7.5	
University of Western Sydney	Medical School		6	13	6
University of Western Sydney	Infrastructure projects		11	3	4
TOTAL		13	29.5	42	10

Source: DEST

By the end of 2006, a further \$186.5 million had been provided for special infrastructure projects between 2005 and 2008, to be funded under the Annual Appropriations Act, including:

- \$10 million over two years, commencing in 2005-06, for capital works for a new medical school at the University of Wollongong;
- \$2 million, in 2005-06, and a further \$2 million in 2007-08, for the University of Notre Dame Australia's Broadway and Darlinghurst (Sydney) campuses to help meet the costs of refurbishment and development;
- \$12 million, in 2005-06, for a Global Centre for Transnational Crime Prevention at the University of Wollongong.

- \$125 million, in 2005-06, to the Australian National University. Of this funding, \$75 million was for general capital works with the refurbishment of science laboratories as a first priority. The University provided \$50 million of its own funds for the capital works. \$50 million of the funding is for the Stage 2 redevelopment of the John Curtin School of Medical Research;
- \$4.5 million, in 2005-06, to Bond University for the construction of the Faculty of Health Sciences and Medicine building;
- \$5 million, in 2005-06, to Monash University for a new Medical School at its Gippsland campus;
- \$18 million, in 2005-06, to Deakin University to establish a Medical School with a rural and regional focus;
- \$4 million, in 2006-07, towards the establishment of an Alfred Deakin Institute at Deakin University in Geelong; and
- \$4 million over three years, commencing in 2006-07, for infrastructure funding to establish a National Centre of Excellence for Islamic Studies hosted by one or more Australian universities.

Table 14: Capital projects funded under the Annual Appropriations Act

Higher Education Provider	Project	2005-06 \$m	2006-07 \$m	2007-08 \$m	2008-09 \$m
Australian National University	John Curtin School of Medical Research refurbishment and other capital works	125			
Bond University	Health Sciences and Medical building	4.5			
Deakin University	Medical School	18			
Deakin University	Alfred Deakin Institute		4		
Monash University	Medical School	5			
To be announced in 2007	National Centre for Excellence for Islamic Studies		1.5	2	0.5
University of Notre Dame Australia	Broadway & Darlinghurst campuses	2		2	
University of Wollongong	Medical School	5	5		
University of Wollongong	Centre for Transnational Crime Prevention	12			
TOTAL		171.5	10.5	4	0.5

Source: DEST

1.3.6 Superannuation Supplementation Programme

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 2006, \$107.3 million was expended through the programme. The recovery from the states was \$27.1 million.

1.3.7 Research

Grants to support research by, and the research capability of, higher education providers are paid through the Research Infrastructure Block Grants (RIBG) and the Institutional Grants Scheme (IGS).

Research Infrastructure Block Grants

RIBGs provide block research funding on a calendar year basis to enhance the development and maintenance of research infrastructure. RIBG funds are allocated to eligible higher education providers based on their relative share of Australian competitive grant income. In 2006, \$200 million was allocated to eligible higher education providers under this scheme (Table 15).

Table 15: Research Infrastructure Block Grants allocations, 2006

State/Higher Education Provider	2006 RIBG Allocation ^(a) \$
New South Wales	
Charles Sturt University	947,725
Macquarie University	3,016,892
Southern Cross University	498,334
The University of New England	2,095,373
The University of New South Wales	17,028,054
The University of Newcastle	5,079,830
The University of Sydney	23,727,428
University of Technology, Sydney	2,455,496
University of Western Sydney	1,257,071
University of Wollongong	3,475,186
Victoria	
Deakin University	2,294,488
La Trobe University	2,906,865
Melbourne College of Divinity	0
Monash University	14,184,850
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology	1,620,975
Swinburne University of Technology	1,217,567
University of Ballarat	230,664
The University of Melbourne	26,050,735
Victoria University	827,267
Queensland	
Bond University	17,171
Central Queensland University	243,545
Griffith University	2,814,995
James Cook University	1,853,044
Queensland University of Technology	2,372,759
The University of Queensland	19,709,820
University of Southern Queensland	316,899
University of the Sunshine Coast	61,116

State/Higher Education Provider	2006 RIBG Allocation ^(a) \$
Western Australia	
Curtin University of Technology	2,021,009
Edith Cowan University	545,259
Murdoch University	2,876,607
The University of Notre Dame Australia	0
The University of Western Australia	14,806,590
South Australia	
The Flinders University of South Australia	2,964,274
The University of Adelaide	14,247,813
University of South Australia	1,655,230
Tasmania	
Australian Maritime College	59,029
University of Tasmania	5,531,944
Northern Territory	
Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education	0
Charles Darwin University	1,045,099
ACT	
The Australian National University	17,248,705
University of Canberra	435,379
Other	
Australian Catholic University	166,914
TOTAL	199,908,000

Source: DEST Research Block Grants Allocation System, data 2006

Data underlying each scheme's allocation is sourced from the Higher Education Research Data Collection from DEST's Research Policy & Programmes Unit.

(a) Columns may not sum due to rounding.

Institutional Grants Scheme

The IGS provides block research funding, on a calendar year basis, to eligible higher education providers to support research and research training activities. Higher education providers have discretion in the way they spend their IGS funds. The IGS may be used to fund any activity related to research.

The IGS allocation mechanism reflects providers' relative success in a performance index comprising research income (60%), Commonwealth funded research student load (30%) and research publications (10%). The safety net prevents providers from losing more than 5 per cent of their IGS allocation from year to year. In 2006, \$296 million was allocated to eligible higher education providers under this scheme (Table 16).

Table 16: Institutional Grants Scheme allocations, 2006

State/Higher Education Provider	2006 IGS Allocation ^(a) \$
New South Wales	
Charles Sturt University	1,564,008
Macquarie University	5,652,318
Southern Cross University	1,416,122
The University of New England	3,477,596
The University of New South Wales	23,022,144
The University of Newcastle	7,023,467
The University of Sydney	30,523,273
University of Technology, Sydney	4,216,129
University of Western Sydney	3,327,780
University of Wollongong	5,751,693
Victoria	
Deakin University	4,257,525
La Trobe University	5,677,045
Melbourne College of Divinity	200,499
Monash University	21,370,274
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology	5,477,147
Swinburne University of Technology	2,413,714
University of Ballarat	778,796
The University of Melbourne	33,985,085
Victoria University	2,039,400
Queensland	
Bond University	92,360
Central Queensland University	1,290,817
Griffith University	6,358,935
James Cook University	3,938,026
Queensland University of Technology	5,385,164
The University of Queensland	28,731,438
University of Southern Queensland	1,060,694
University of the Sunshine Coast	207,477
Western Australia	
Curtin University of Technology	6,071,462
Edith Cowan University	1,824,577
Murdoch University	5,430,749
The University of Notre Dame Australia	95,342
The University of Western Australia	16,821,078
South Australia	
The Flinders University of South Australia	6,364,289
The University of Adelaide	16,371,441
University of South Australia	4,773,046
Tasmania	
Australian Maritime College	240,010
University of Tasmania	7,234,878
Northern Territory	
Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education	116,254

State/Higher Education Provider	2006 IGS Allocation ^(a) \$
Charles Darwin University	1,452,511
ACT	
The Australian National University	17,664,169
University of Canberra	1,709,364
Other	
Australian Catholic University	704,901
TOTAL	296,113,000

Source: DEST Research Block Grants Allocation system, data, 2006

Data underlying each scheme's allocation, is sourced from the Higher Education Research Data Collection from DEST's Research Policy & Programmes Unit.

(a) Columns may not sum due to rounding.

1.3.8 Research training

Grants to support the training of research students are paid through the Research Training Scheme (RTS) and the Regional Protection Scheme (RPS).

Research Training Scheme

The RTS provides block research funding, on a calendar year basis, to eligible higher education providers to support research training for students undertaking doctorate and masters degrees by research.

The RTS allocation mechanism returns 75 per cent of higher education providers' previous years' allocations and allocates the remaining 25 per cent according to providers' relative success in a performance index comprising research income (40%), higher degree by research student completions (50%) and research publications (10%). The safety net prevents providers from losing more than 5 per cent of their RTS allocation from year to year). In 2006, \$563 million was allocated to eligible higher education providers under this scheme (Table 17).

Table 17: Research Training Scheme allocations, 2006

State/Higher Education Provider	2006 RTS Allocation ^(a) \$
New South Wales	
Charles Sturt University	3,236,474
Macquarie University	11,482,124
Southern Cross University	3,315,101
The University of New England	8,200,666
The University of New South Wales	42,568,321
The University of Newcastle	12,881,514
The University of Sydney	56,985,729
University of Technology, Sydney	9,483,873
University of Western Sydney	8,098,539
University of Wollongong	12,714,281
Victoria	
Deakin University	8,919,599
La Trobe University	12,921,803

State/Higher Education Provider	2006 RTS Allocation ^(a) \$
Melbourne College of Divinity*	371,826
Monash University	40,211,886
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology	13,262,882
Swinburne University of Technology	5,364,654
University of Ballarat	1,416,962
The University of Melbourne	59,906,570
Victoria University	5,237,842
Queensland	
Bond University*	247,151
Central Queensland University	2,627,752
Griffith University	12,763,635
James Cook University	8,501,733
Queensland University of Technology	11,091,437
The University of Queensland	53,922,836
University of Southern Queensland	2,244,417
University of the Sunshine Coast*	673,735
Western Australia	
Curtin University of Technology	12,363,662
Edith Cowan University	4,074,060
Murdoch University	9,480,536
The University of Notre Dame Australia*	257,327
The University of Western Australia	29,579,096
South Australia	
The Flinders University of South Australia	10,823,476
The University of Adelaide	29,757,358
University of South Australia	8,544,162
Tasmania	
Australian Maritime College*	187,544
University of Tasmania	15,179,363
Northern Territory	
Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education*	106,697
Charles Darwin University	2,352,358
ACT	
The Australian National University	27,393,976
University of Canberra	2,740,383
Other	
Australian Catholic University	1,150,660
TOTAL	562,644,000

Source: DEST internal administrative data, 2006

Data underlying each scheme's allocation (except the Regional Protection Scheme) is sourced from the Higher Education Research Data Collection from DEST's Research Policy & Programmes Unit.

(a) Columns may not sum due to rounding.

* Denotes a designated 'small' higher education provider. The RTS previously designated six HEPS as "small" (in terms of their position on the RTS performance index). The "small" universities received additional RTS funding to assist them to grow their research training profiles. The "small" funding has been discontinued from 2006 because the formula did not guarantee pipeline funding for students and thereby undermined their ability to grow their research training profiles. The additional "small" funding they received in 2005 has been locked in to their 2006 RTS bases to maintain an enhanced funding position. Their RTS funding is now driven entirely by the RTS formula and, where necessary, protected by the 5 per cent RTS safety net.

Regional Protection Scheme

The RPS helps to protect designated regional higher education providers from losses they incur in total RTS and IGS funds against a baseline established in 2001. From 2005, RPS was limited to \$3 million annually (indexed) (Table 18).

Designated regional higher education providers are: Charles Sturt University; Southern Cross University; University of New England; University of Newcastle; University of Wollongong; Deakin University; La Trobe University; University of Ballarat; Central Queensland University; James Cook University; University of Southern Queensland; University of Tasmania; and Charles Darwin University.

Table 18: Regional Protection Scheme allocations, 2006

State/Higher Education Provider	2006 RPS Allocation ^{(a) (b)} \$
New South Wales	
The University of New England	510,453
The University of Newcastle	839,198
University of Wollongong	265,425
Victoria	
La Trobe University	1,066,874
Queensland	
Central Queensland University	33,591
James Cook University	370,459

Source: DEST Research Block Grants Allocation System data, 2006

(a) Columns may not sum due to rounding.

(b) Due to the change in funding available through the Regional Protection Scheme a direct comparison, based on dollar figures from 2002 to 2006 should not be used as a reflection of a Regional HEPS need for RPS support.

1.3.9 Collaboration

Grants to foster collaboration and reform in higher education are paid through the Collaboration and Structural Reform Fund (CASR).

Collaboration and Structural Reform Fund

The CASR commenced operation on 1 January 2005, with the aim of achieving better higher education outcomes in teaching, learning, research and innovation by promoting structural reform and collaboration in the higher education sector.

During 2006, CASR funds were used to foster collaboration between higher education providers and business, schools, the VET sector, professional associations and community groups.

\$46.797 million was allocated to CASR over the 2005-2009 calendar years. On 1 January 2008, CASR will be subsumed by the new *Diversity and Structural Adjustment Fund* (Diversity Fund), which will provide over \$200 million over the years 2008-2011 to promote structural reform by universities that supports greater specialisation, diversity and responsiveness to local labour market needs. The Diversity Fund will honour CASR commitments that extend beyond 2007.

Table 19: Collaboration and Structural Reform Fund (CASR) - actual expenditure by project, 2006

No.	Grant Recipient	Project Title	Funding provided in 2006 (\$)
New South Wales			
1	Macquarie University	Academic Leadership and Management: Developing Strategies for Support, Enhancement and Succession Planning.	43,094
2	University of New England	The Regional Universities' Indonesian Language Initiative: The collaborative provision of Indonesian at the University of New England, the University of the Sunshine Coast, the University of Tasmania and Charles Darwin University.	275,406
3		Cross-institutional collaboration in the teaching of earth and environmental sciences in regional New South Wales.	100,000
4	University of New South Wales	Implementation of Mining Education Australia: To provide a single undergraduate degree programme in mining engineering across Australia	955,000
5		Addressing and identifying skills gaps in the pharmaceuticals and biopharmaceuticals industries.	160,000
6	University of Western Sydney	To formalise and disseminate the work of the Australian Universities Community Engagement Alliance (AUCEA).	50,000
7	University of Wollongong	Applied Statistics Education and Research Collaboration: Improving education in statistics at undergraduate and post graduate levels.	600,000
Victoria			
8	Monash University	Introduction of the Diploma of Foundation Studies at Leongatha.	70,000
9	RMIT University	International Partnership for the Collaborative Development and Delivery of a Post-Graduate Program in Automotive Engineering.	82,000
10		The Helen & Geoff Handbury Fellowship Program – to support projects that benefit the sustainability of the Southern Grampians region and surrounds.	83,000
11		The development of new Associate Degrees to assist the development of accelerated industry pathways in engineering and technology.	300,000
12	The University of Melbourne	Integration of the Victorian College of the Arts and the University of Melbourne.	208,140
13	Victoria University	Re-engineering Engineering - an industry-led approach to new courses and pathways in Victoria by 2007.	75,000
14		Making Victoria University a new school of thought: an industry and community focused multi sector course network.	940,000
Queensland			
15	Griffith University	Development of new curriculum and pathways in electronic and computer engineering through the establishment of an industry-education cluster on the Gold Coast.	150,000
16	Queensland University of Technology	e-Grad School (AUSTRALIA) – the collaborative development of virtual graduate school services.	110,000
17		Indigenous Pathways @ Caboolture – a collaborative project to extend educational opportunities for the Indigenous community.	45,000
18		A National Postgraduate Curriculum in Plant Biosecurity: A consortium of five Australian universities will develop a nationally-based postgraduate curriculum in Plant Biosecurity.	363,584
19	The University of Queensland	Advanced Engineering Capability Network (AECN) – improving outcomes in higher engineering education, training and innovation through new patterns of collaboration between industry and universities.	150,000
20		A feasibility study on innovative approaches to the provision of languages other than English in Australian higher education, under the auspices of the Australian Council of the Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (DASSH).	262,000
21	University of Southern Queensland	Establishment of the Australian Graduate School of Engineering – A collaborative venture involving four universities.	42,000
22		Beyond education: graduates into the workforce – to identify the skills necessary for the effective transition of graduates to the workforce and to assess whether universities are effectively meeting corporate/business needs	58,200

No.	Grant Recipient	Project Title	Funding provided in 2006 (\$)
23		Joint degree in Wine Science –developed and delivered in collaboration with Charles Sturt University.	145,400
South Australia			
24	University of Adelaide	Collaborative Associate Degree in Electronic Engineering, with TAFE SA.	20,000
25	University of South Australia	Australian Technology Network – AteNergy: Provision of graduate and post-graduate energy education and energy R&D.	146,758
26		Australian Technology Network - Engineering Tomorrow's Engineers: This project will help address the national skills shortage in engineering.	568,020
Tasmania			
27	University of Tasmania	Amalgamation with Australian School of Fine Furniture.	200,000
28		Renewing the Region – the establishment of a collaborative Institute for Enterprise and Regional Development in the Cradle Coast region.	445,738
29		Project Unity - The amalgamation of the Australian Maritime College and the University of Tasmania.	2,500,000
Northern Territory			
30	Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education	Academic pathways identification: A project under the Memorandum of Understanding between Charles Darwin University and Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education to Enrich Indigenous Tertiary Education in the Northern Territory.	247,582
31		Education Course Accreditation and Cross-Reference: A project under the Memorandum of Understanding between Charles Darwin University and Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education to Enrich Indigenous Tertiary Education in the Northern Territory.	174,000
32	Charles Darwin University	Access to Capital Infrastructure: A project under the Memorandum of Understanding between Charles Darwin University and Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education to Enrich Indigenous Tertiary Education in the Northern Territory.	240,000
33		Systems Alignment: A project under the Memorandum of Understanding between Charles Darwin University and Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education to Enrich Indigenous Tertiary Education in the Northern Territory.	800,000
Australian Capital Territory			
34	Australian National University	Australia-Netherlands Research Collaboration: Providing a new forum within which Australian and Dutch researchers can undertake collaborative research projects.	350,000
35		National Professional Forestry Coursework Masters Programme: Jointly offered by the Australian National University, Southern Cross University, the University of Melbourne and the University of Tasmania.	971,708
36	University of Canberra	Beyond Articulation - the establishment of an Office of Cross Sectoral Collaboration at the University of Canberra to facilitate resource sharing and flexible pathways with the Canberra Institute of Technology	132,900
Other Incorporated Bodies			
37	Council for Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences	Operational funding.	200,000
38	Gippsland Education Precinct	Development of a Collaborative Institutional Model for the Gippsland Education Precinct.	14,770
39	General Sir John Monash Foundation	General Sir John Monash Foundation Awards (Contributions to Endowment Fund)	4,220,700
40		General Sir John Monash Foundation Awards (Scholarships)	2,400,000
41	Trish Multiple Sclerosis Research Foundation	Postdoctoral Fellowship	20,000
TOTAL			18,920,000

1.3.10 Systemic infrastructure

Grants to support the development of systemic infrastructure used by higher education providers are paid through the Systemic Infrastructure Initiative (SII).

Critical to Australia's research capacity and future growth is a robust research infrastructure. Through the SII, part of *Backing Australia's Ability*, funding of \$246 million, from 2002 to 2006, was directed towards projects that strengthen infrastructure resources to support high quality research and research training at Australian universities.

The SII provides funding for innovative approaches that link or expand access to shared facilities or high priority investments that will bring sector-wide strategic benefits.

Systemic Infrastructure Initiative

SII funds are directed to key areas including the provision of high-speed communications links and facilitating discovery, access and dissemination of scholarly and scientific information. Funds are allocated on the advice of the Australian Research and Education Network Advisory Committee (ARENAC) and the Australian Research Information Infrastructure Committee (ARIIC).

Through the SII, over \$88 million has been provided from 2002 to 2006 to enhance the provision of high speed telecommunications bandwidth to universities and research agencies.

On 14 September 2006, AARNet3 was launched – the physical representation of the Australian Research and Education Network (AREN). The achievement of the AREN vision has relied also on successful collaboration between the Australian Government, AARNet Pty Ltd, the universities, CSIRO, and state governments as joint stakeholders and investors in the network. The AREN now connects universities and research institutes in all Australian capital cities and most regional centres, as well as isolated research facilities such as radio telescopes and provides access to resources and means for collaboration for researchers and higher education providers across Australia. Its international footprint is significant, connecting the east coast of Australia to multiple points of presence on the west coast of the USA and the west to Singapore, Frankfurt and on to European networks.

Over \$56 million has been provided for 23 projects to improve research information infrastructure during the course of the SII programme. The projects will provide improved access to information; develop software solutions for storing and organising digital information in institutional repositories; and provide solutions which help to support other national policy objectives such as the National Collaborative Research Information Strategy (NCRIS) and the Research Quality Framework (RQF).

The SII has provided \$31.8 million to the Australian Partnership for Advanced Computing (APAC) over 2004 to 2006. The APAC partnership model was a successful example of national cooperation and commitment to Australia's advanced computing infrastructure. The partnership provided access to essential research tools for the targeted Australian academic research community in many fields such as engineering, pharmacology and astronomy. It also benefited business as complex financial simulations could be done in a fraction of the time it used to take.

In September 2006, an external panel was appointed to review APAC. The recommendations of the Review Report were taken into account in the development of the Platforms for Collaboration (PfC) Investment Plan as part of the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS). The NCRIS Committee approved the Plan establishing the National Computational Infrastructure (NCI) Project and the Interoperation and Collaboration (ICI) Project to provide the continuity to the APAC partnership.

Funding of \$4.8 million in 2006 was approved to establish an Australian Access Federation (AAF) to provide a national framework that will allow researchers and individuals across many different organisations to use only one name and password (or its equivalent) to gain access to facilities online and to share and analyse data securely within a trusted environment. The framework will also be developed so that it can be extended to the schools and vocational and training sectors over time should that be desired.

Table 20: Systemic Infrastructure Initiative allocations, 2006

Institution	Project	2006 Funding \$
New South Wales		
Charles Sturt University	Mitchell Link	1,000,000
Macquarie University	IMS Australia - Core Funding	800,000
Macquarie University	Meta Access Management System Project	1,197,285
Macquarie University	Australian Service for Knowledge of Open Source Software	138,879
Macquarie University	Research Activityflow and Middleware Priorities Project	2,900,000
The University of New England	Wiring for the Net Generation: Wireless Network Infrastructure	2,570,000
The University of New South Wales	TimeSync: Mapping the Global Financial System	1,008,500
The University of Sydney	Administrative Support and Project Management for Information Infrastructure	200,000
The University of Sydney	National Broadband Adviser for Education	425,000
Victoria		
University of Ballarat	Identity & Access Management and Web Services Infrastructure	550,000
The University of Melbourne	Molecular Medicine Informatics Model: A Multi-institutional, Multi-disciplinary Research and Training Platform for Clinical Research	2,016,140
Monash University	Australian Research Repositories Online to the World	1,045,000
Monash University	Dataset Acquisition, Accessibility and Annotation e-Research Project	1,618,500
Monash University	Australian Research Enabling Environment	4,545,000
Monash University	Australian Research Repositories Online to the World – Stage 2	4,355,000

Institution	Project	2006 Funding \$
Queensland		
Griffith University	Connection of Logan & Gold Coast Campuses to AREN	1,100,000
James Cook University	Queensland Research and Education Network - Sunshine Backbone Interim Stage 2	500,000
Queensland University of Technology	Legal Protocols for Copyright Management: Facilitating Open Access to Research at the National and International Levels	665,000
Queensland University of Technology	Legal Frameworks for e-Research	1,055,000
The University of Queensland	e-Security Framework for Researchers	443,000
The University of Queensland	Middleware Action Plan and Strategy	417,978
The University of Queensland	Australian Access Federation	4,796,518
University of Southern Queensland	Regional Universities Building Research Infrastructure Collaboratively	3,116,700
University of Southern Queensland	Integrated Content Environment for Research and Scholarship	196,000
Tasmania		
University of Tasmania	BlueNet: The Australian Marine Science Data Network	2,660,000
Northern Territory		
Charles Darwin University	155Mbps Link Between AARNet PoP at Adelaide and Charles Darwin University	800,000
Australian Capital Territory		
The Australian National University	Australian Partnership for Advanced Computing 2004-2006	2,800,000
The Australian National University	Access for the Higher Education and Research Sectors to the Nextgen Network	9,000,000
The Australian National University	Towards an Australian Partnership for Sustainable Repositories	883,500
The Australian National University	Australian Partnership for Sustainable Repositories – Stage 2	1,870,000
TOTAL		54,673,000

1.3.11 Quality

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

The Carrick Institute for Learning and Teaching in Higher Education

The Carrick Institute for Learning and Teaching in Higher Education provides a national focus for the enhancement of learning and teaching in Australian higher education.

The Carrick Institute board consists of the following members:

- Professor John Hay AC (Chair)
- Mr Tim Besley
- Professor Margaret Gardner
- Professor Elizabeth Harman
- Professor Daryl Le Grew
- Professor David Ian O'Connor

- Professor Belinda Probert
- Professor Lynne Hunt
- Dr Kenneth Rowe
- Dr Brian Millis
- Mrs Judith Wheeldon

Under the stewardship of Professor Richard Johnstone, 2006 saw the Carrick Institute continuing the implementation of programmes and support of a wide range of activities throughout the sector. Work centred on five strategic priority areas:

1. A Grants Scheme - encompassing three major programmes: a Priority Projects Programme; a Competitive Grants Programme; and a Leadership Capacity-Building Programme.
2. Discipline-Based Activities - to provide for discipline-specific development, dissemination and application of good practice.
3. A Resource Identification Network - to provide a repository service which facilitates the sharing and adoption of good practice in learning and teaching.
4. The Carrick Fellowship Scheme - designed to support national and international fellows.
5. A scheme for the Carrick Awards for Australian University Teaching - designed both to reward excellence and to provide for maximum benefit to the system as a whole.

In 2006, funding of \$23.875 million was provided to the Carrick Institute for its programmes and activities.

The Carrick Institute's 2005/2006 annual report was tabled in Parliament in October 2006.

[Australian Awards for University Teaching](#)

The Carrick Institute for Learning and Teaching in Higher Education managed the 2006 Carrick Awards for Australian University Teaching. Tables 21 and 22 list the individual and institutional winners of the 2006 awards, which were announced at a ceremony at Parliament House on 28 November 2006.

Table 21: Carrick Awards for Australian University Teaching, individual awards, 2006

Award category	Award recipient	Institution	\$
Prime Minister's Award for University Teacher of the Year	Professor Iain Hay	Flinders University	50,000
Biological Sciences, Health and Related Studies	Associate Professor Andrew Hoey	University of Southern Queensland	25,000
	Dr Barbara Van Leeuwen	The Australian National University	25,000
	Associate Professor Richard Baker	The Australian National University	25,000
Early Career Academics	Dr J Charles Schencking	The University of Melbourne	25,000
	Dr Gigi Goode	The Australian National University	25,000
	Dr Philip Morgan	The University of Newcastle	25,000
Humanities and the Arts	Mr Salvatore Di Mauro	Griffith University	25,000
	Dr Susan Ash	Edith Cowan University	25,000
	Dr Kim Vincs	Deakin University	25,000
Law, Economics, Business and Related Studies	Associate Professor John Shepherd	Macquarie University	25,000
	Professor Des Butler	Queensland University of Technology	25,000
	Dr Mary Heath	Flinders University	25,000
Indigenous Education	Mr Phillip Rodgers-Falk	Griffith University	25,000
	Professor Judy Atkinson	Southern Cross University	25,000
Physical Sciences and Related Studies	Associate Professor Brian Yates	University of Tasmania	25,000
	Associate Professor Holger Maier	The University of Adelaide	25,000
	Dr Sylvia L Edwards	Queensland University of Technology	25,000
Social Sciences	Dr Lorelle Burton	University of Southern Queensland	25,000
	Professor Iain Hay	Flinders University	25,000
	Dr Bill Leadbetter	Edith Cowan University	25,000
	Dr Rod Chadbourne		
	Dr Terry De Jong		
Team Teaching	Dr Lesley Newhouse-Maiden		
	Associate Professor Anne Game	The University of New South Wales	25,000
	Associate Professor Andrew Metcalfe	Flinders University	25,000
	Associate Professor Claire Smith		
	Dr Heather Burke		
TOTAL			625,000

Source: Carrick Institute for Learning and Teaching in Higher Education, 2006

Table 22: Carrick Awards for Australian University Teaching, institutional awards, 2006

Award category	Institution	\$
Assessment and Feedback	The Australian National University	25,000
	The University of Melbourne	25,000
Educational Partnerships and Collaborations with other Organisations	Central Queensland University	25,000
Flexible Learning and Teaching	Murdoch University	25,000
Innovation in Curricula, Learning and Teaching	University of Wollongong	25,000
	The University of Queensland	25,000
The First-Year Experience	Curtin University of Technology	25,000
Postgraduate Education	The University of Queensland	25,000
	The University of Western Australia	25,000
Services Supporting Student Learning	The Australian National University	25,000
	University of Tasmania	25,000
TOTAL		275,000

Source: Carrick Institute for Learning and Teaching in Higher Education, 2006

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. AUQA is responsible for the following:

- conducting periodic quality audits of self-accrediting higher education providers, Australian universities and other higher education institutions, and state and territory accreditation authorities, on a five yearly cycle;
- 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;
- reporting on the relative standards and international standing of the Australian higher education system and its quality assurance processes obtained during the audit process; and
- developing partnerships with other quality agencies to facilitate efficient cross border quality assurance processes and the international transfer of knowledge about those processes.

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, ten higher education providers/accreditation authorities have been audited per year. The AUQA website lists all higher education providers audited in 2006 (<http://www.auqa.edu.au/>) and makes available their respective audit reports.

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.

An external review of AUQA took place in 2006. The report of the review was released on 8 June 2006. The review was commissioned by the AUQA Board and was conducted by a panel of independent national and international members who sought the views of stakeholders. The review found AUQA to be a sound and efficient organisation which has delivered well on its objectives.

In light of the external review and in anticipation of the end of the first cycle of audits in 2007, AUQA consulted with the sector in 2006 on the nature and content of the second round of audits. It was agreed that the cycle 2 audits will have a stronger focus on academic risk, outcomes and standards.

AUQA hosts a national forum on quality annually. The Australian Universities Quality Forum (AUQF) was held in Perth from 5 - 7 July 2006 with the theme 'Quality Outcomes and Diversity' attended by nearly 180 delegates.

AUQA – offshore auditing

In 2006, the Australian Government provided additional funds totalling \$490,000 to increase AUQA's offshore auditing activities and to assist AUQA in the development of bilateral relationships with overseas quality agencies. This additional funding has enabled AUQA to strengthen its focus on the quality of transnational education through activities such as increasing the number of overseas visits and enhancing training activities to support audit directors in this area.

Graduate Destination Survey & Course Experience Questionnaire Australian Graduate Survey

Funding for Graduate Careers Australia (GCA), formerly the Graduate Careers Council of Australia, totalled \$598,000 in 2006. This funding was provided to GCA to conduct the annual Australian Graduate Survey (AGS) comprising the Course Experience Questionnaire (CEQ), the Graduate Destinations Survey (GDS) and the Postgraduate Research Experience Questionnaire. During 2004, DEST also provided additional funds of \$350,000 to conduct a project during 2005 designed to enhance the Australian Graduate Survey. The aim of the project was to facilitate an examination of the critical factors leading to enhancements to the survey instrument, methodology and processes. The project was completed on 31 March 2006 and the report, Enhancing the Graduate Careers Australia (GCA) National Surveys, can be found at the department's website at: http://www.dest.gov.au/sectors/higher_education/publications_resources/profiles/enhancing_gca_national_surveys.htm.

DEST is now working with GCA and the sector to further the recommendations from the report.

Graduate skills assessment

Since 1999, the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) has been developing and administering a test of generic skills that can be assessed at university entry and exit level. This tool provides an objective measure of the generic skills of graduates in the areas of critical thinking, problem solving, interpersonal understanding and written communication.

The funding allocated for the Graduate Skills Assessment in 2007 was \$625,000. In 2006, there were 279 students who sat the test bringing the total number since the test commenced to just over 8000 students from 30 different universities.

1.3.12 Promotion of research and scholarship

Grants for activities that promote research and scholarship in science, social science or the humanities in Australia are paid through the Learned Academies programme, the Grants to the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science programme and the Chair in Child Protection.

Learned Academies

Grants under this programme provide funds to support the operation of the National Academies Forum and the four Learned Academies: the Australian Academy of Science; the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia; the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering; and the Australian Academy of the Humanities. These grants assist the academies, notably in promoting research and scholarship in their fields of expertise and providing a source of advice to the Australian Government regarding research related issues.

The Learned Academies received a total of \$1.983 million in 2006 under this programme

Table 23: Learned academies, funding allocations, 2006

Academy	\$
Australian Academy of Science	872,641
Australian Academy of the Humanities	339,958
Academy of Social Sciences in Australia	339,576
Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering	367,409
National Academies Forum (paid to Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering)	63,416
TOTAL	1,983,000

Source: DEST internal administrative data, 2006

Grants to the Australia and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science

Grants under this programme provide funding to support the participation of students from each Australian state and territory to attend an annual Australia and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science (ANZAAS) Youth Conference. ANZAAS aims to promote communication between scientists in different disciplines and foster public interest in science and technology.

The Australia and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science received \$18,000 in 2006 under this programme.

Chair in Child Protection

The Australian Government is providing \$10 million over ten years from 2004, to support a Chair in Child Protection at the University of South Australia.

The funding is being used to undertake collaborative research and facilitate its translation into policy, programme development, professional education and service delivery, in order to enhance the life opportunities of children at risk of abuse or neglect in Australia.

1.3.13 Open access

Grants for activities that support open access to higher education are paid through the Open Learning Initiative and the Framework for Open Learning Programme (FOLP).

Opening Learning Initiative – Administrative payment to Open Universities Australia

In 2006, the Government provided \$179,279 in financial assistance to Open Universities Australia for administration costs relating to FEE-HELP.

Framework for Open Learning Programme

FOLP supports projects which catalyse information and communication technology (ICT) developments for the whole of the education and training sector, fostering collaboration and innovation in the educational use of ICT, and promoting national and international engagement in such innovation. Priorities are in accordance with the Joint Ministerial Statement for ICT in Australian Education.

1.4 Scholarships

1.4.1 Commonwealth Learning Scholarships

The CLS consists of the Commonwealth Education Costs Scholarships (CECS) and Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarships (CAS). The programme provides financial assistance to students from low socio-economic backgrounds, particularly those from rural and regional areas and Indigenous students. Students may receive the scholarships for up to four years. The value of the scholarships is indexed annually. In 2006, the value of the CECS was \$2,080 and the value of the CAS was \$4,161. The CECS are provided to assist with the general costs of education, while the CAS are provided to assist students from rural and regional areas, who have had to move away from home in order to pursue their studies, with the costs of accommodation.

Table 24 sets out the number of CLS allocated to higher education providers for 2006.

Table 24: Number of new scholarships allocated under the CLS, 2006

Higher Education Provider	CECS	CAS
New South Wales		
Avondale College	7	5
Charles Sturt University	128	105
Macquarie University	68	31
Southern Cross University	78	67
University of New England	95	63
University of New South Wales	115	74
University of Newcastle	213	100
The University of Sydney	180	123
University of Technology, Sydney	124	77
University of Western Sydney	191	79

Higher Education Provider	CECS	CAS
University of Wollongong	85	62
Victoria		
Deakin University	160	59
La Trobe University	154	112
Monash University	198	115
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology	128	59
Swinburne University of Technology	48	25
The University of Melbourne	146	95
University of Ballarat	41	51
Victoria University	127	33
Queensland		
Christian Heritage College	1	1
Central Queensland University	153	167
Griffith University	236	150
James Cook University	150	168
Queensland University of Technology	272	195
The University of Queensland	272	243
University of Southern Queensland	140	141
University of the Sunshine Coast	60	81
Western Australia		
Curtin University of Technology	212	143
Edith Cowan University	179	110
Murdoch University	94	57
The University of Notre Dame Australia	9	7
The University of Western Australia	99	74
South Australia		
Tabor College, Adelaide	1	1
Flinders University of South Australia	99	69
The University of Adelaide	107	68
University of South Australia	220	115
Tasmania		
Australian Maritime College	10	12
University of Tasmania	180	205
Northern Territory		
Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education	56	52
Charles Darwin University	37	25
Australian Capital Territory		
The Australian National University	43	38
University of Canberra	34	30
Multi-state		
Australian Catholic University	97	44
TOTAL	5,047	3,531

Source: Formula-derived result based on the Selected Higher Education Student Statistics, various years (DEST)

Table 25 sets out the funding provided to higher education providers for CLS in 2006. The grant amount includes funding for scholarships allocated in previous years.

Table 25: Total Commonwealth Learning Scholarships funding for 2006

Higher Education Provider	\$
New South Wales	
Avondale College	62,409
Charles Sturt University	1,695,445
Macquarie University	854,992
Southern Cross University	1,071,361
University of New England	1,027,650
University of New South Wales	1,601,840
University of Newcastle	2,606,611
The University of Sydney	2,585,829
University of Technology, Sydney	1,658,003
University of Western Sydney	2,381,935
University of Wollongong	1,200,343
Victoria	
Deakin University	1,747,416
La Trobe University	2,346,610
Monash University	2,706,481
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology	1,710,012
Swinburne University of Technology	659,458
The University of Melbourne	2,151,048
University of Ballarat	759,331
Victoria University	1,587,259
Queensland	
Christian Heritage College	6,241
Central Queensland University	2,069,906
Griffith University	3,045,569
James Cook University	2,277,967
Queensland University of Technology	3,729,999
The University of Queensland	4,044,151
University of Southern Queensland	1,757,857
University of the Sunshine Coast	988,169
Western Australia	
Curtin University of Technology	2,777,204
Edith Cowan University	2,259,199
Murdoch University	1,192,010
University of Notre Dame Australia	126,898
The University of Western Australia	1,377,170
South Australia	
Tabor College Adelaide	6,241
Flinders University of South Australia	1,320,999
The University of Adelaide	1,429,173
University of South Australia	2,596,194

Higher Education Provider	\$
Tasmania	
Australian Maritime College	114,419
University of Tasmania	2,949,914
Northern Territory	
Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education	755,146
Charles Darwin University	436,858
Australian Capital Territory	
The Australian National University	671,947
University of Canberra	530,484
Multi-state	
Australian Catholic University	1,094,221
TOTAL	67,971,969

Source: Formula-derived result based on the value of CECS and CAS in 2006.

1.4.2 Indigenous Staff Scholarships

The Indigenous Staff Scholarships Programme assists Indigenous staff (academic or general) to participate in higher education and complete their courses. The scholarships enable 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.

In 2006, five national scholarships were awarded for study in 2007 (Table 26). Each scholarship provides funds to cover tuition fees and/or student contribution amounts for that year, and a stipend for each student.

Applicants for Indigenous Staff Scholarships are considered by the Indigenous Higher Education Advisory Council (IHEAC), which provides advice to the Minister for Education Science and Training on who should receive a scholarship under this programme.

Table 26: Indigenous Staff Scholarships allocations, for study in 2007

	\$ per person	No.	Total \$
Scholarships	22,300	5	111,500
Course Fees	11,100	5	55,500
TOTAL	33,400	5	167,000

1.4.3 Australian Postgraduate Awards

The Australian Postgraduate Awards (APA) programme provides financial support to Australian postgraduate students of exceptional research promise who undertake their higher degree by research at an Australian higher education provider. Masters students may receive an award for a maximum of two years and Doctoral students for three years with a possible extension of six months. Students in receipt of an APA receive an annual stipend and may qualify for other allowances.

APAs are allocated to higher education providers on the basis of a performance-based formula which takes into account higher degree research completions, publications and research income. In 2006, \$93 million was allocated to eligible higher education providers under this scheme to support a notional 1,561 new awards and to continue to support students who were awarded APAs in previous years (Table 27).

Table 27: Australian Postgraduate Awards allocations, 2006

Higher Education Provider	2006 APAs Allocations ^(b) \$
New South Wales	
Charles Sturt University	507,824
Macquarie University	1,660,343
Southern Cross University	710,770
The University of New England	1,258,717
The University of New South Wales	6,937,380
The University of Newcastle	2,164,643
The University of Sydney	8,901,571
University of Technology, Sydney	1,458,779
University of Western Sydney	1,316,358
University of Wollongong	1,787,164
Victoria	
Deakin University	1,601,147
La Trobe University	2,190,445
Melbourne College of Divinity	174,634
Monash University	6,810,756
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology	2,509,420
Swinburne University of Technology	907,686
University of Ballarat	296,276
The University of Melbourne	10,560,034
Victoria University	813,235
Queensland	
Bond University	79,545
Central Queensland University	399,966
Griffith University	2,197,118
James Cook University	1,321,971
Queensland University of Technology	2,051,812
The University of Queensland	8,528,635
University of Southern Queensland	359,634
University of the Sunshine Coast	59,939
Western Australia	
Curtin University of Technology	2,229,974
Edith Cowan University	873,656
Murdoch University	1,571,819
The University of Notre Dame Australia	59,939

Higher Education Provider	2006 APAs Allocations ^(b) \$
The University of Western Australia	4,737,369
South Australia	
The Flinders University of South Australia	1,696,028
The University of Adelaide	4,381,363
University of South Australia	1,660,448
Tasmania	
Australian Maritime College	59,939
University of Tasmania	2,161,220
Northern Territory	
Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education	36,914
Charles Darwin University	381,538
ACT	
The Australian National University	4,901,641
University of Canberra	563,596
Other	
Australian Catholic University	239,756
TOTAL	93,121,000

Source: DEST Research Block Grants Allocation System data, 2006

(a) Data underlying each scheme's allocation is sourced from the Higher Education Research Data Collection from DEST's Research Policy & Programmes Unit.

(b) Columns may not sum due to rounding.

1.4.4 International Scholarships

Australian Scholarships

Australian Scholarships represent a whole-of-government approach to education cooperation between Australia and the countries of the Asia-Pacific region. This initiative brings together Australian Government programmes which provide international scholarships: the Endeavour Programme, administered by DEST; and Australian Development Scholarships and Australian Leadership Awards, both of which are administered by AusAID. Australian Scholarships will provide funding of \$1.4 billion dollars over five years until 2011.

Endeavour Programme

The Endeavour Programme has been greatly expanded under the Australian Scholarships initiative. There will be approximately 9,700 awards, at a total cost of \$270 million, in the five years from July 2006. The goal of the Endeavour Programme is to bring high-achieving international students, researchers and professionals to Australia to undertake short or long term study, research and professional development in a broad range of disciplines. The programme also enables high-achieving Australians to do the same abroad.

The Programme aims to:

- strengthen bilateral ties between Australia and countries in the Asia-Pacific region;
- create linkages between Australian and international academic institutions;
- strengthen mutual understanding, at an individual level, between Australians and the people of the region;
- further develop the capabilities of high-achieving award holders in their field of study/research/ profession through an international education experience; and
- showcase excellence in Australia's education sector.

Table 28: Endeavour Research Awards offered for 2007

Award Category	Awards for international researchers for in-Australia research	Awards for Australians to conduct research overseas	Value of individual awards in A\$
Endeavour Research Fellowships	61	22	Up to \$25,000
Endeavour India Research Fellowships	5	4	Up to \$25,000
Endeavour Indonesia Research Fellowships	9	-	Up to \$25,000
Endeavour Iraq Research Fellowships	6	-	Up to \$25,000
Endeavour AusAID Iraq Research Fellowships	3	-	Up to \$25,000
Endeavour Australia Cheung Kong Awards	12	7	Up to \$25,000
Endeavour Malaysia Research Fellowships	4	1	Up to \$25,000
Endeavour Pakistan Research Fellowships	8	-	Up to \$25,000
Endeavour Turkey Research Fellowships	1	1	Up to \$25,000
Endeavour Research Fellowships for Indigenous Australians	-	4	Up to \$25,000
International Postgraduate Research Scholarships (IPRS) ¹	330	-	\$18,459,000. total funding in 2006
Total	439	39	

Source: DEST internal administrative data, 2007

1. Universities will manage their IPRS allocation: the number of awards they are able to offer will depend on their tuition fees.

Table 29: Endeavour Study Awards offered for 2007

Award Category	Awards for international students for in-Australia study	Awards for Australian students for overseas study	Value of individual award in A\$
Endeavour Postgraduate Awards	71	-	Up to \$195,000
Endeavour Asia Awards	30	-	Up to \$50,000
Endeavour Malaysia Awards			
Endeavour Awards for Turkey	5	1	Up to \$50,000
Endeavour Awards for Europe	1	1	Up to \$50,000
Endeavour VET Awards	15	-	Up to \$50,000
Endeavour VET Awards for Pakistan	16	-	Up to \$95,000
Endeavour VET Awards for Turkey	7	-	Up to \$95,000
Total	145	2	

Source: DEST internal administrative data, 2007

Table 30: Endeavour Study Exchange Subsidies offered for 2007

Award Category	Subsidies for international students for in-Australia study	Subsidies for Australian students for overseas study	Value of individual subsidy in A\$
Endeavour Student Exchange Programme	239	81	\$5,500
Australian University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific (UMAP) Programme	-	345	\$4,500
Endeavour Cheung Kong Student Exchange Programme	100	100	\$5,000
Endeavour Duyfken Student Exchange Programme	-	20	\$5,000
Endeavour Greece Student Exchange Programme	-	20	\$5,000
Endeavour Norway Student Exchange Programme	-	20	\$5,000
Total	339	586	

Source: DEST internal administrative data, 2007

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 programmes. DEST will contribute around \$610,000 to the Fulbright Commission's core funding in 2006/07.

1.5 Support for Students

1.5.1 Overview

Since 1989, Australian higher education students have contributed to the cost of their education. Since this time, the Australian Government has provided eligible students with an interest free, income contingent loan, repayable through the taxation system.

Data at 30 June 2006 indicated that since 1989, over 2 million students had been able to access higher education opportunities through Australian Government funded loans and around \$17.4 billion had been loaned to those students. Around 830,000 people had repaid their debt. The average repayment time was 7.3 years .¹

Table 31: Accumulated HECS HELP debts 1989-90 to 2006-07^(a)

Year	Voluntary repayments by students \$m	Repayments through tax system \$m	Accumulated HECS HELP debt as at 30 June \$m
1988-1989	1	9	216
1989-1990	2	28	673
1990-1991	6	49	1,190
1991-1992	12	57	1,749
1992-1993	11	72	2,321
1993-1994	19	133	2,932

¹ Data in this paragraph has been provided by the Australian Taxation Office.

Year	Voluntary repayments by students \$m	Repayments through tax system \$m	Accumulated HECS HELP debt as at 30 June \$m
1994-1995	16	169	3,354
1995-1996	32	218	3,958
1996-1997	58	262	4,504
1997-1998	67	472	4,922
1998-1999	72	497	5,526
1999-2000	80	532	6,229
2000-2001	97	586	7,162
2001-2002	134	612	8,104
2002-2003	137	638	9,164
2003-2004	156	701	10,185
2004-2005	193	666	11,371
2005-2006 ^(b)	137	800	12,779
2006-2007 ^(c)	158	847	14,468

Source: Australian Taxation Office

(a) This table displays a record of repayments and debt, on an accrual basis so that figures presented are comparable from year to year.

(b) Before 2005, debts were incurred under the HEFA. From 1 January 2005, debts are incurred under the HESA and are known as HELP debts. All previous HECS debts became HELP debts on 1 June 2006. Debts incurred under HEFA include HECS, Postgraduate Education Loans Scheme (PELS), Bridging for Overseas-Trained Professionals Loan Scheme (BOTPLS) and Open Learning Deferred Payment Scheme (OLDPS) debts. HELP debts incurred since 1 January 2005 include HECS-HELP, FEE-HELP and OS-HELP debts.

(c) DEST estimates.

Commonwealth supported students

Commonwealth supported students pay a contribution towards the cost of their education, called a student contribution amount. Generally, the Australian Government pays a Commonwealth contribution to higher education providers for each Commonwealth supported place through the CGS.

In 2006, over 418,000 students (expressed in EFTSL) were in Commonwealth supported places. Of that number, over 14,000 were students in postgraduate Commonwealth supported places (see Table 35).

Only Australian citizens, New Zealand citizens and holders of a permanent visa are eligible for a Commonwealth supported place. It is the responsibility of higher education providers to allocate Commonwealth supported places but this must be done on merit.

Student contributions

From 2005, higher education providers were given the flexibility to set student contributions for Commonwealth supported students within a range from zero to a maximum set by the Australian Government. The maximum student contribution for the 'national priority' category of student contributions for units of study in nursing and education has been maintained at the 2004 HECS rates (indexed). For all other units of study, providers have the flexibility to set a maximum student contribution up to 25 per cent higher than the 2004 HECS rates (indexed).

Some students continuing a course of study they began prior to 2005 are regarded as pre-2005 students. Pre-2005 students have access to HECS-HELP assistance under the previous HECS arrangements. This includes a maximum student contribution set at the 2004 HECS rates (indexed).

The arrangements for pre-2005 students cease at the end of 2008.

Table 32 sets out the student contribution bands and ranges for students commencing a new course from 2006 and the ranges for students who continued a course they commenced prior to 2005.

Table 32: Student contribution bands and ranges for 2006

Student contribution band	Students commencing on or after 1 January 2005	Pre-2005 HECS students who began their course:	
		on or after 1 January 1997	before 1 January 1997
Band 3 (law, dentistry, medicine, veterinary science)	\$0 – \$8,170	\$0 – \$6,535	\$0 - \$2,943
Band 2 (accounting, administration, economics, commerce, mathematics, statistics, computing, built environment, health, engineering, science, surveying, agriculture)	\$0 – \$6,979	\$0 – \$5,583	\$0 - \$2,943
Band 1 (humanities, behavioural science, social studies, foreign languages, visual and performing arts)	\$0 – \$4,899	\$0 – \$3,920	\$0 - \$2,943
National priorities (education, nursing)	\$0 – \$3,920	\$0 – \$3,920	\$0 - \$2,943

Source: HESA

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.

Domestic fee-paying students

Higher education providers may charge tuition fees to domestic students who are not studying in a Commonwealth supported place for their course, or who are undertaking units on a fee-paying basis or who undertake study at a fee-paying summer school. Providers may determine their own tuition fees 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 charged to Commonwealth supported students for that unit. In 2006, providers were able to offer fee-paying places for domestic students once all of its allocated Commonwealth supported places had been filled in the relevant funding cluster. Table 34 shows the number of domestic full fee-paying students by course level for Table A providers.

Domestic undergraduate fee-paying students

In 2005, universities were able to charge domestic students tuition fees for undergraduate courses, provided that the number of domestic students being charged tuition fees for a particular course did not exceed 25 per cent of the total number of places available for domestic students in that course. From 1 January 2006, the maximum number of fee-paying domestic places in all courses was increased to 35 per cent, except for medicine, which was capped at 25 per cent.

The limits on the number of domestic fee-paying places in an undergraduate course of study applied to providers listed on Table A of the HESA. It did not apply to providers listed on Table B of the Act or to approved private providers.

In 2006, thirty two Table A providers enrolled 13,757 domestic undergraduate full fee-paying students (including in employer reserved places).

Domestic postgraduate fee-paying students

Domestic postgraduate coursework students usually pay tuition fees. Most domestic postgraduate research students study in a place provided under the 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 2006, thirty eight Table A providers enrolled 107,631 postgraduate full fee-paying domestic students in research and coursework degrees.

Table 33: Domestic full fee-paying students by course level, Table A providers, 2006

Undergraduate students	Postgraduate research students	Other postgraduate students	Enabling, non-award students	Total students
13,757	7,647	99,984	9,311	130,296

Prior to June 2006, data on the total number of places offered by private providers was not available as private providers were required to provide data only on students who took out a FEE-HELP loan. However, from 12 July 2006, private providers are required to provide data on all domestic and overseas students enrolled from 1 January 2007 onwards.

1.5.2 Higher Education Loan Programme

HELP consists of HECS-HELP for eligible Commonwealth supported students, FEE-HELP for eligible domestic fee-paying students and OS-HELP for eligible Commonwealth supported students who wish to undertake some of their course overseas.

People who have taken out a HELP loan are not required to make repayments of their HELP debt until their income reaches the minimum threshold for compulsory repayment, which was \$38,149 in 2006-07 (Table 34). 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 10 per cent bonus.

Table 34: HELP 2006-07 income thresholds and repayment rates

For repayment income in the range:	Percentage rate to be applied to repayment income:
Below \$38,149	Nil
\$38,149 - \$42,494	4%
\$42,495 - \$46,838	4.5%
\$46,839 - \$49,300	5%
\$49,301 - \$52,994	5.5%
\$52,995 - \$57,394	6%
\$57,395 - \$60,414	6.5%
\$60,415 - \$66,485	7%
\$66,486 - \$70,846	7.5%
\$70,847 and above	8%

Source: HESA

Table 35: Actual Student Load (EFTSL) for All Students by Liability Status, Full Year 2006

Liability Status	Total Postgraduate	Bachelor	Other Undergraduate	Sub-total Other Undergraduate ^(a)	Total Undergraduate	Cross Institution Programmes	Enabling and non-award courses	Total
Commonwealth supported students								
Student Contribution liable								
Pre-2005 HECS student - liability deferred	886	138,071	401	590	139,161	505	3	140,051
Pre-2005 HECS student - paid up-front with discount	670	36,250	127	239	36,601	115	0	37,271
Pre-2005 HECS student - paid up-front without discount	31	1,197	3	4	1,202	1	0	1,233
2005 onwards student - deferred all or part through HECS-HELP	8,387	172,880	936	1,542	174,695	483	9	183,091
2005 onwards student - paid full contribution up-front with HECS-HELP discount	3,639	40,145	343	549	40,799	109	2	44,440
2005 onwards student - paid up-front without HECS-HELP discount	656	6,110	26	38	6,157	10	0	6,814
Sub-total	14,268	394,453	1,836	2,961	398,617	1,222	15	412,900
Student Contribution exempt								
Pre-2005 merit-based equity scholarship holder	0	18	0	0	18	0	0	18
Exemption scholarship holder	25	1,064	3	3	1,068	1	0	1,093
Enrolled in an enabling course	2	0	0	0	0	0	3,788	3,789
Work Experience in Industry, student contribution cannot be charged ^(a)	84	578	1	6	584	0	0	668
Sub-total	111	1,660	4	9	1,670	1	3,788	5,568
Total Commonwealth supported	14,379	396,113	1,840	2,970	400,287	1,223	3,803	418,468
Domestic fee-paying students^(b)								
FEE-HELP								
Pre-2005 PELS	3,800	0	0	0	0	11	0	3,800
Deferred all or part of award or enabling course tuition fee	17,303	9,737	1,247	1,263	11,040	89	70	28,413
Deferred all or part of employer reserved place tuition fee	5	1	3	1,673	1,674	0	0	1,679
Deferred all or part of BOTP tuition fee	0	0	0	0	0	0	99	99
Sub-total	21,107	9,738	1,250	2,936	12,714	100	169	33,991

Liability Status	Total Postgraduate	Bachelor	Other Undergraduate	Sub-total Other Undergraduate ^(a)	Total Undergraduate	Cross Institution Programmes	Enabling and non-award courses	Total
Paid tuition fee up-front with no FEE-HELP assistance								
Paid full award or enabling course tuition fee	20,101	8,277	211	226	8,541	111	108	28,750
Paid full tuition fee for Employer reserved place	1,072	1,312	153	691	2,003	0	94	3,169
Paid full BOTP tuition fee	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4
Sub-total	21,173	9,589	365	918	10,544	111	206	31,923
Tuition fee exempt								
Exemption scholarship holder	2,550	19	0	0	20	0	0	2,570
Work Experience in Industry, tuition fee cannot be charged	26	21	0	0	21	0	0	47
Sub-total	2,576	40	0	0	41	0	0	2,617
Total Domestic fee-paying	44,857	19,368	1,615	3,854	23,299	212	375	68,530
Other domestic students								
Non-award students	5	3	8	9	11	0	2,038	2,055
RTS students	22,916	0	0	0	0	0	0	22,916
AMC Special course	0	0	147	147	147	0	0	147
Total Other Domestic	22,921	3	155	155	159	0	2,038	25,118
Overseas								
Total Overseas fee-paying students	61,327	110,233	1,393	1,503	112,212	538	6,274	179,812
TOTAL EFTSL	143,483	525,717	5,003	8,482	535,955	1,973	12,490	691,928

(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).

(c) Includes Other Undergraduate and Associate Degree.

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

HECS-HELP

HECS-HELP assistance helps eligible Commonwealth supported students pay their student contribution. HECS-HELP provides an interest free, income contingent loan from the Australian Government or a 20 per cent discount if a student pays all, or at least \$500, of their student contribution up-front.

In 2006, of students required to pay student contributions, approximately 78.3 per cent (in EFTSL terms) took out a HECS-HELP loan for all or part of their student contribution. 19.8 per cent paid their student contribution up-front (with HECS-HELP discount). The remaining 1.9 per cent paid their student contribution up-front with no HECS-HELP assistance.

In terms of EFTSL, the number of students receiving HECS-HELP assistance increased by around 0.8 per cent to 404,853 between 2005 and 2006.

Table 36 provides a breakdown of student contribution liabilities for Commonwealth supported students and the type of HECS-HELP assistance accessed by students.

Table 36: 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 ^(b) \$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 ^(a)	2,042	1,563	390	89
2006 ^(a)	2,245	1,726	424	94

Source: Selected Higher Education Student Statistics, various years (DEST)

(a) The figures represent advance payments to providers including adjustments determined before 1 December 2007.

(b) The up-front discount represents the amount paid by the Australian Government to higher education providers on behalf of students paying up-front. The up-front discount was reduced in 2005 from 25% to 20%.

FEE-HELP

Prior to 2005, there were three different loan schemes for domestic fee-paying students to cover tuition fees. Postgraduate coursework students could access the Postgraduate Education Loans Scheme (PELS), undergraduate students at (formerly) Open Learning Australia (now called Open Universities Australia) could access the Open Learning Deferred Payment Scheme (OLDPS), and overseas-trained professionals undertaking study to meet the requirements for entry into professional occupations in Australia could access the Bridging for Overseas-Trained Professionals Loan Scheme (BOTPLS).

From 1 January 2005, the Australian Government introduced a new loan programme called FEE-HELP to replace the PELS, OLDPS and BOTPLS schemes. FEE-HELP expanded the availability of Australian Government loans to higher education students. It also enabled domestic undergraduate fee-paying students and students at approved private providers to take out loans for their tuition fees.

In 2006, eligible undergraduate and postgraduate fee-paying students, studying at an approved higher education provider, were able to access a FEE-HELP loan up to the maximum limit of \$50,950 for all courses. From 1 January 2007, the general FEE-HELP limit increased to \$80,000 for all courses except medicine, dentistry and veterinary science which increased to \$100,000.

There is a loan fee of 20 per cent for FEE-HELP loans 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 2006, approximately 52.8 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 2006, approximately 43.6 per cent of domestic postgraduate full fee-paying students² at Table A and Table B providers took out a FEE-HELP loan for all or part of their tuition fees.

Table 37 shows FEE-HELP liability data for 2006 by level of course for all providers. For 2006, based on data submitted by providers (subject to revisions), the Australian Government's FEE-HELP loan payments totalled \$430.796 million to providers on behalf of students who had elected to take out a FEE-HELP loan for all or part of their tuition fees. This benefited 80,392 students.

² Students enrolled in postgraduate research and postgraduate coursework degrees in the same year are counted twice.

Table 37: FEE-HELP liability by course level, 2006

	FEE-HELP students ^(a)	FEE-HELP liability
Undergraduate	18,340	\$136,311,548
Postgraduate	50,292	\$273,385,404
Enabling	143	\$346,345
Bridging Training for Overseas-Trained Professionals	426	\$1,934,290
Open Universities Australia Units	11,191	\$18,818,820
TOTAL	80,392	\$430,796,407

Source: Selected Higher Education Student Statistics (DEST)

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 was introduced in 2005 and provides loans to eligible undergraduate Commonwealth supported students who wish to undertake some of their Australian course of study overseas. The loan assists students with travel, accommodation and other overseas expenses. 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. In 2006, eligible students who were selected by their higher education provider to receive a loan were able to borrow up to \$5,095 per six month study period for one or two study periods. OS HELP loans attract a 20 per cent loan fee, which is included in the OS-HELP debt incurred.

Table 38 shows the number and amount of loans distributed to eligible students in 2006.

Table 38: OS-HELP loan allocation by higher education provider, 2006 ^(a)

Higher education provider	OS-HELP loans	\$
New South Wales		
Avondale College	1	\$5,000
Charles Sturt University	14	\$65,000
Macquarie University	34	\$161,000
Southern Cross University	15	\$72,000
The University of Sydney	29	\$145,665
University of Newcastle	34	\$168,760
University of New England	34	\$165,500
University of New South Wales	43	\$204,165
University of Technology, Sydney	101	\$502,595
University of Western Sydney	12	\$60,000
University of Wollongong	65	\$310,000
Victoria		
Deakin University	136	\$679,565

Higher education provider	OS-HELP loans	\$
La Trobe University	51	\$253,570
Monash University	141	\$677,985
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology	75	\$366,690
Swinburne University of Technology	24	\$119,685
The University of Melbourne	68	\$322,000
University of Ballarat	1	\$5,000
Victoria University	37	\$163,650
Queensland		
Christian Heritage College ^(c)	0	\$0
Central Queensland University ^(b)	0	\$0
Griffith University	66	\$327,095
James Cook University	9	\$45,285
Queensland University of Technology	51	\$254,095
The University of Queensland	111	\$542,000
University of Southern Queensland	14	\$70,000
University of the Sunshine Coast	23	\$112,045
Western Australia		
Curtin University of Technology	28	\$141,800
Edith Cowan University	16	\$80,000
Murdoch University	19	\$97,760
The University of Notre Dame Australia	1	\$5,095
The University of Western Australia	6	\$30,285
South Australia		
Tabor College ^(c)	0	\$0
The Flinders University of South Australia	34	\$168,000
The University of Adelaide	70	\$345,770
University of South Australia	36	\$166,639
Tasmania		
Australian Maritime College ^(b)	0	\$0
University of Tasmania	15	\$72,400
Northern Territory		
Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education ^(c)	0	\$0
Charles Darwin University ^(c)	0	\$0
Australian Capital Territory		
The Australian National University	54	\$268,785
University of Canberra	52	\$258,690
Multi-state		
Australian Catholic University	7	\$40,570
TOTAL	1527	\$7,474,144

(a) Amounts in this table include any adjustments up to 31 December 2007.

(b) These higher education providers requested OS-HELP loans in 2006 but did not allocate any loans to students.

(c) These higher education providers did not request an allocation of OS-HELP loans in 2005 or 2006.

HELP debts³

As at 30 June 2006, there were around 1.19 million persons with a HELP debt, totalling around \$12.4 billion with the average debt being around \$10,500.

Table 39 shows the breakdown of the outstanding HELP debt by size and Table 40 shows the breakdown of the outstanding HELP debt by state and territory⁴.

Table 39: Breakdown of outstanding HELP debt as at 30 June 2006

Range of loan balances	Number of persons
\$1,000 and under	55,117
\$1,000.01 to \$2,000	73,238
\$2,000.01 to \$4,000	146,683
\$4,000.01 to \$6,000	144,053
\$6,000.01 to \$8,000	123,537
\$8,000.01 to \$10,000	106,727
\$10,000.01 to \$12,000	110,403
\$12,000.01 to \$14,000	92,038
\$14,000.01 to \$16,000	77,689
\$16,000.01 to \$18,000	74,598
\$18,000.01 to \$20,000	46,466
\$20,000.01 to \$30,000	111,094
\$30,000.01 to \$40,000	21,504
\$40,000.01 to \$50,000	4,106
Over \$50,000	1,084

Source: Australian Taxation Office

Table 44 in the Higher Education Report 2005 included a figure of "570,006" for balances of "1,000 and under". The figures should have been "57,006" Due to a change in reporting requirements, this information does not include debts incurred in the first half of 2006. This amount excludes compulsory repayments relating to the 2005-06 income year.

Table 40: State and Territory breakdown of outstanding HELP debt as at 30 June 2006

State/Territory	HELP debt amount	Persons with a debt
Australian Capital Territory	\$307,851,548	27,127
New South Wales	\$3,293,151,071	311,083
Northern Territory	\$81,463,662	9,421
Queensland	\$2,254,337,120	214,018
South Australia	\$836,803,781	77,709
Tasmania	\$246,746,601	23,580
Victoria	\$3,165,452,007	286,430
Western Australia	\$1,096,596,425	104,670
Other	\$1,159,222,306	133,215
Total	\$12,441,624,521	1,187,253

Source: Australian Taxation Office

Due to a change in reporting requirement, this information does not include debts incurred in the first half of 2006. Data does not include unmatched records. This data is based on the residential address postcode of each client. If the residential address postcode is blank or invalid, then the postal address postcode is used. 'Other' clients include those overseas or where the postal address postcode is invalid or incomplete. Address data is based on the latest information provided to the Australian Tax Office by the taxpayer or their agent and may no longer be current and may differ from where a client once resided.

³ On 1 June 2006, all HECS debts (including debts incurred under HECS, PELS, BOTPLS, and OLDPS) became, along with any new HECS-HELP, FEE-HELP and OS-HELP debts, accumulated HELP debts.

⁴ Data provided by the Australian Taxation Office.

The amount of outstanding debt, repayments and debt not expected to be repaid for each financial year 1988-89 to 2006-07 are set out below. Figures for 2006-07 are DEST estimates.

Table 41: Accumulated HECS/HELP debts and debt expected not to be repaid 1989-90 to 2006-07

Year	Voluntary repayments by students	Compulsory repayments through tax system \$m	Accumulated HECS/HELP debt ^(a) \$m	Debt expected not to be repaid \$m ^(d)	Proportion of total HECS/HELP debt
1988-1989	1	9	216	N/A	N/A
1989-1990	2	28	673	N/A	N/A
1990-1991	6	49	1,190	N/A	N/A
1991-1992	12	57	1,749	N/A	N/A
1992-1993	11	72	2,321	386	16.6%
1993-1994	19	133	2,932	438	14.9%
1994-1995	16	169	3,354	541	16.1%
1995-1996	32	218	3,958	687	17.4%
1996-1997	58	262	4,504	607	13.5%
1997-1998	67	472	4,922	700	14.2%
1998-1999	72	497	5,526	953	17.2%
1999-2000	80	532	6,229	1,124	18.0%
2000-2001	97	586	7,162	1,397	19.5%
2001-2002	134	612	8,104	1,723	21.3%
2002-2003	137	638	9,164	2,018	22.2%
2003-2004	156	701	10,185	2,055	20.2%
2004-2005	193	666	11,371	2,166	19.0%
2005-2006 ^(b)	137	800	12,779	2,496	19.5%
2006-2007 ^(c)	158	847	14,468	2,889	20.0%

Source: Australian Taxation Office / DEST

- (a) The total accumulated HELP debt includes the compulsory repayments made in relation to that income year. This table shows repayments and debt on an accrual basis, so that figures presented are comparable from year to year.
- (b) Before 2005, debts were incurred under the HEFA. From 1 January 2005, debts are incurred under the HESA and are known as HELP debts. Debts incurred under HEFA include HECS, PELS, BOTPLS and OLDPS debts. All previous HECS debts became HELP debts on 1 June 2006. HELP debts incurred since 1 January 2005 include HECS-HELP, FEE-HELP and OS-HELP debts.
- (c) DEST estimates.
- (d) '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 income repayment threshold was \$36,185 in 2006-07.

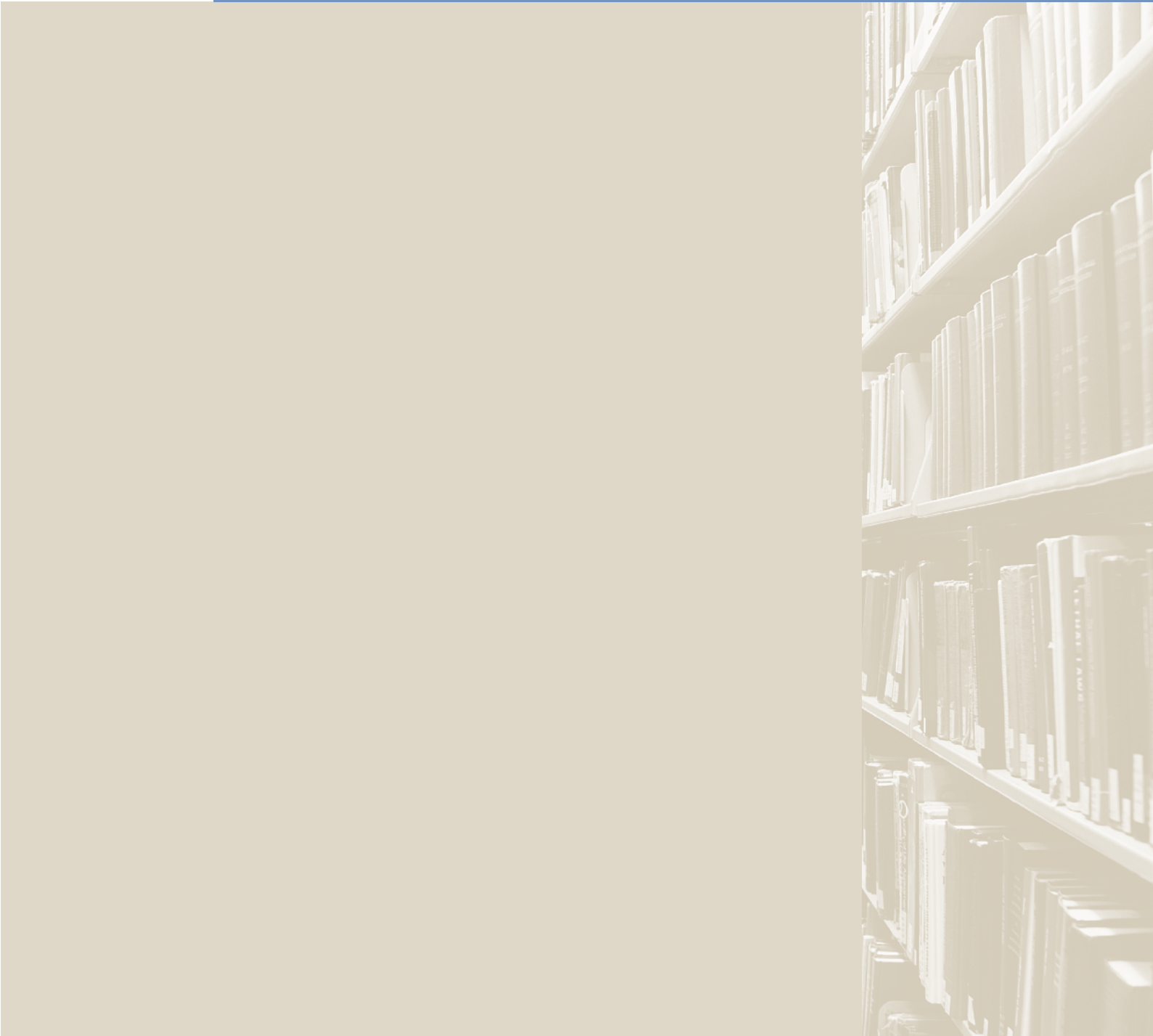
1.5.3 Going to Uni website and Course Information System

The Going to Uni website (www.goingtouni.gov.au) was launched in November 2004 and was developed as part of the *Our Universities: Backing Australia's Future* reforms. The site provides a range of material about undertaking higher education study in Australia and includes links to the Course Finder system and *myUniAssist*.

The Course Finder (www.goingtouni.gov.au/CourseFinder.htm) 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 site was developed in close consultation

with the higher education sector and further enhancements have seen the search facility and user interface improved in 2006. Since the site's launch in December 2004 over half a million visitors have made use of this information to help inform themselves about higher education choices.

From 2005, students receiving Australian Government assistance, such as a Student Learning Entitlement, 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 now access their entitlement usage through *myUniAssist* (<https://www.goingtouni.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 2006, 289,659 CHESSNs were allocated, bringing the total number of CHESSNs allocated to 1,245,568.



2.1 Private Higher Education Providers

2.1.1 Approval of private higher education providers

In 2006, DEST continued to assess applications from non self-accrediting higher education institutions wishing to become approved higher education providers under the HESA in order to offer students FEE-HELP. These providers are often referred to generically as 'private providers' although four state government-supported Technical and Further Education (TAFE) institutions were approved to offer FEE-HELP in 2006. Two providers supported by the Australian Government, the Australian Film, Television and Radio School (a self-accrediting institution) and the National Institute of Dramatic Art (a non self-accrediting institution) have also previously been approved to offer FEE-HELP.

Higher education providers listed on Table A or B of the HESA are already approved to offer FEE-HELP.

Approved higher education providers, including private 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 (nursing and teaching).

In 2006, a total of 21 applications from non-self accrediting higher education institutions seeking to offer FEE-HELP were assessed and given final approval (Table 42).

In 2006, three 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 (currently teaching and nursing). These providers were Avondale College, Christian Heritage College and Tabor College Adelaide.

Non self-accrediting providers approved under the HESA offer a variety of higher education courses, including education, theological training, design, arts management, dramatic arts, business, architecture, youth work, counselling, information technology, viticulture, applied aquaculture and equine studies.

A list of approved higher education providers, including non self-accrediting providers approved under the HESA, can be found at www.goingtouni.gov.au.

More information on FEE–HELP is provided in Section 1.5 of this report. National Priority Places have also been described under *Allocation of New Places* in Section 1.2.4 of this report.

More information on becoming an approved higher education provider is available at http://www.dest.gov.au/sectors/higher_education/programmes_funding/forms_guidelines/higher_education_providers.htm.

Table 42: Higher Education Providers approved under the HESA during 2006^(a)

Australian Guild of Music Education Inc.
Billy Blue College Pty Limited
Box Hill Institute of Technical and Further Education
Bradford College
Brisbane College of Theology
Campion Institute Limited
Gordon Institute of TAFE
Holmesglen Institute of TAFE
Insearch Ltd
International College of Management
ITC Education
Jansen Newman Institute
JMC Academy
Dixon Elliot
Melbourne Institute of Technology
Nature Care College
Raffles KvB Institute
SAE College
Shafston Institute of Technology
Swan TAFE
Tabor College Tasmania

Source: DEST internal administrative data, 2006

(a) Includes higher education providers for which instruments of approval were tabled in 2005 and 2006 and had the 15 day joint Parliamentary disallowance period expire in 2006. For a list of instruments of approval tabled in 2006 only, see Appendix D.

2.1.2 Auditing of non self-accrediting higher education providers

In 2006, DEST began implementing the requirement for quality audit of non self-accrediting higher education providers approved under the HESA. Under a model agreed after extensive consultation, these providers have a quality audit conducted by either AUQA or by a state or territory higher education accrediting authority as a concurrent part of the provider's re-approval process. Accrediting agencies must be added to the list of quality auditing bodies contained in the Higher Education Provider Guidelines to be able to conduct an integrated quality audit. In late 2006, higher education accrediting agencies in both Queensland and Victoria began pilot observed quality audits for this purpose.

In late 2006, AUQA also began its first audit of a non self-accrediting provider, the Australian College of Theology. The results of this audit can be found on www.AUQA.edu.au.

2.2 Quality

2.2.1 National Protocols for Higher Education Approval Processes

MCEETYA agreed on revised *National Protocols for Higher Education Approval Processes* (the National Protocols) in July 2006. This followed extensive consultation during 2005. The National Protocols can be found at: <http://www.mceetya.edu.au/mceetya/default.asp?id=15212>.

The revisions to the National Protocols make four main changes. They allow for the establishment of specialised universities, which will undertake high quality teaching and research in one or two fields. They also allow for non self-accrediting institutions with a strong track record of reaccreditation to become self-accrediting. The title 'university college' will be reserved for use by new universities working towards full university status. The revisions also clarify the requirements for overseas institutions seeking to operate in Australia. The revised National Protocols will come into effect by 31 December 2007, subject to the passage of legislation by the Commonwealth, states and territories.

MCEETYA has asked the Joint Committee on Higher Education (JCHE) to develop National Guidelines to support the National Protocols. These will promote greater national consistency in the implementation of the National Protocols. The JCHE has consulted with key stakeholders in developing the National Guidelines. They will be finalised in 2007.

2.2.2 Articulation and credit transfer

MCEETYA agreed in May 2005 to a series of initiatives to improve credit transfer and articulation between vocational education and training (VET) and higher education. Collaboration between these sectors is critical in responding to the skills needs of individuals, industry and the community.

As part of these MCEETYA initiatives, the National Study on Credit Transfer and Articulation was undertaken in 2006. This study involved extensive consultation with the VET and higher education sectors. The study identified gaps in current practice and made recommendations to drive further improvement. The study produced three reports, which have been released: the Stage 1 Report – which provides an overview of the field; the Stage 2 Report – which has case studies of credit transfer arrangements; and the final report, *Giving Credit Where Credit is Due*, which includes recommendations to improve credit transfer from VET to higher education. MCEETYA has also endorsed responses to the recommendations of the final report. The first progress report on implementing MCEETYA's decisions will be provided to MCEETYA in November 2007. The reports are available at <http://www.mceetya.edu.au/mceetya/>.

Another element of the MCEETYA initiatives is to improve data collection to better measure credit transfer. Following extensive consultation, this came to fruition with a Ministerial Determination in December 2006. The Determination notified providers of changes to the requirements for data collection from 2008 onwards. Better data will improve the development and assessment of credit transfer policies for institutions and governments.

More information on the MCEETYA credit transfer and articulation initiatives is available at:
<http://www.mceetya.edu.au/mceetya/default.asp?id=11910>.

2.3 Collaboration

2.3.1 Business, Industry and Higher Education Collaboration Council

The Business, Industry and Higher Education Collaboration Council (BIHECC) was established in 2004. BIHECC's role is to advise the Minister for Education on ways to increase collaboration between the higher education sector and other public and private business, industry, community and educational organisations.

In 2006, BIHECC engaged a consultant to conduct economic analysis to identify market inefficiencies in knowledge transfer and identify opportunities for government intervention. BIHECC was also asked to examine how universities integrate, develop, and teach employability skills to undergraduates and how graduate employability skills might be assessed and reported on. This initiative was aimed at ensuring high quality educational standards and preparing graduates for life beyond university.

2.4 Indigenous Education

2.4.1 Indigenous Higher Education Advisory Council

The IHEAC provides policy advice to the Minister for Education, Science and Training on improving outcomes in higher education for Indigenous students and staff relating to their participation, progression and retention both in study and employment.

The inaugural IHEAC was chaired by Professor Marcia Langton AM of the University of Melbourne.

The Council held its second annual conference at the University of Western Australia, Perth on 18-19 September. The theme of the conference, which was opened by the Minister for Education, Science and Training, was Partnership, Pathways and Policies – Improving Indigenous Education Outcomes.

Discussion at the conference centred on the identification and development of key partnerships to advance Indigenous higher education, the need to consider the current government policy settings and the role of senior leadership within universities.

The Council's report on the outcomes of the conference has been published.

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

2.5 Research

2.5.1 Overview of higher education research and research training

Australia operates a 'dual support system' for the public funding of research and research training in its higher education sector. In a dual support system, core public funding for research and research training is allocated independently of funding for specific research projects, programmes or fellowships.

The former is typically distributed through a specific system of often performance-based block grants; the latter through some form of merit-based, peer determined competitive process.

The dual support system offers governments a range of levers to influence the direction and performance of publicly funded research and research training. It also supports diversity and system robustness by allowing a focus on national priorities linked to economic and social aspirations, or a focus on research excellence, to be balanced with the ability to support and maintain strategic research capabilities over the long-term or develop emerging research areas, irrespective of the availability of competitive funding.

The project or programme oriented competitive element of Australia's dual support system is represented by approximately \$1 billion a year administered by the Australian Research Council (ARC) and the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). This funding takes the form of research grants and fellowships (awarded mainly to universities), on the basis of advice from expert assessors. While national research priorities have an important role, funding decisions are largely based on the relative scientific merits of the proposed research, the track record of the researcher or research team, or the extent of collaborative linkages with industry and other end users, depending on the specific scheme.

In comparison, approximately \$1.15 billion a year is provided to higher education providers as block grants for research and research training, through a variety of performance-based schemes administered by DEST. Higher education providers have considerable autonomy in deciding what research projects, teams and students, and what equipment and infrastructure, this funding should support. In this way, the system recognises that these sorts of decisions are often best made by those with the information advantage: the higher education provider and its researchers and stakeholder communities.

2.6 International Higher Education

2.6.1 Key achievements

- International education contributed an estimated \$10.7 billion to the Australian economy in 2006;
- The international education industry is Australia's second largest service export industry and fourth largest export industry behind coal, iron ore and tourism in 2006;
- A taskforce is working cooperatively with industry to reform the Education Services for Overseas Students legislation governing the sector toward introducing a revised National Code, effective from July 1, 2007; and
- MCEETYA noted progress toward a Transnational Quality Strategy (TQS) to protect and promote Australia's international reputation for the quality of the education and training delivered in other countries. This builds on the Transnational Quality Framework (TQF), agreed to in 2005.

2.6.2 Australian Education International and its focus on higher education

Australian Education International (AEI) is the international arm of DEST. AEI provides its services through the International Education Group based at DEST's National Office and through the DEST International Network, extending to 18 economies across the world. AEI has 24 offices and is also represented in a further eight European and two Latin American locations.

The aim of AEI is to encourage and facilitate Australia's international education and training engagement in line with the national interest to realise the intellectual, social, cultural, economic and security benefits from internationalisation.

This is achieved by:

- creating the environment for a successful sector through government-to-government cooperation, underpinning the quality of education and training services delivered to international students, increasing market access for Australian providers, and assisting systemic reform;
- achieving greater diversity of students from a broad range of countries and in the modes of education delivery and range of subjects being offered; and
- coordination of government support in partnership with the Australian education and training industry.

2.6.3 Funding of international higher education

During 2006-07, the Government provided \$32.625 million for programmes administered by AEI to promote and support Australia's international education sector⁵.

⁵ Includes: funding for international awards and scholarships; 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.

2.6.4 Education services for overseas students

AEI continues to work closely with the international education industry - including the higher education sector - to implement a revised framework more responsive to the needs of education providers serving international students studying in Australia.

The changes will maintain Australia's reputation for high quality education and training services, protect overseas students and the integrity of the student visa programme.

A continued programme of visits and other support was provided to universities and other higher education providers during the year to monitor and strengthen the quality of their educational and support services to overseas students.

2.6.5 Transnational Quality Strategy

The TQF, agreed by Australian, state and territory government education ministers, is designed to promote quality in the transnational provision of Australian education and training. With the growth in offshore delivery, overseas governments and students have increasingly sought assurance that the quality of Australian education and training delivered offshore is comparable to that delivered in Australia.

The TQS focuses action on three key areas:

- a strengthened national quality framework to ensure the quality of Australian education and training delivered transnationally;
- increased access to data and information about Australia's transnational education and training; and
- better communication and promotion of Australia's quality arrangements to all stakeholders, within Australia and internationally.

The communication and promotion element of the TQS will include a searchable database of Australian institutions and courses in other countries.

2.6.6 Country Education Profiles

The Country Education Profiles (CEP) Online is an authoritative overseas qualifications recognition tool used widely in Australia and overseas to support mobility, through quality and consistent decision-making.

CEP Online provides practical assessment guidelines, recognised lists of educational institutions and key points of comparative analysis for over 100 countries. Stakeholders, including Australian educational institutions and other organisations which support the higher education industry, use it as an essential resource for comparing overseas qualifications to Australian qualifications for admissions purposes, as well as employment and migration. By December 2007, it is anticipated that CEP Online will have attracted 2,500 subscriptions and approximately 7,500 users.

2.7 Higher Education Information Management System

The *Our Universities: Backing Australia's Future* reforms introduced a fundamental change to the way the higher education sector was funded and to the entitlements and loans available to students from January 2005. There was a requirement to build a new and sophisticated Higher Education Information Management System (HEIMS) to enable the implementation and ongoing management of the reforms.

The HEIMS system underwent regular development throughout 2006 to improve the quality, timeliness and management of information collected from providers. HEIMS now enables students accessing the myUniAssist portal, on Going to Uni (<https://www.goingtouni.gov.au/myuniassist/forms/logon.aspx>) to view more detailed entitlement information, including Commonwealth scholarships, FEE-HELP and OS-HELP information.

2.8 Voluntary student unionism

The Parliament of Australia passed voluntary student unionism (VSU) legislation (*Higher Education Support Amendment (Abolition of Compulsory Up-front Student Union Fees) Act 2005*) in December 2005.

The VSU legislation ensures that higher education providers cannot require a student to become a member of a student organisation, or to pay compulsory fees for non-academic student services.

In 2006, VSU applied to students who commenced studies on or after 1 July 2006 and were not enrolled with their higher education provider for an earlier period in 2006.

In 2006, to assist higher education providers adjust to the introduction of VSU, the Australian Government provided funding through the VSU Transition Fund and the Support for Small Businesses on Regional University Campuses Programme.

2.9 VSU Transition Fund

Voluntary Student Unionism (VSU) Transition fund for Sporting and Recreational Facilities

The Australian Government has committed \$80 million to the Voluntary Student Unionism (VSU) Transition Fund for Sporting and Recreational Facilities. The fund was introduced to assist higher education institutions listed in Tables A and B of the HESA to adjust to the changed funding environment brought about through VSU by facilitating a shift from reliance on compulsory fees for the construction and maintenance of infrastructure for sporting and recreational facilities to other mechanisms, including: partnerships with the community; working with local businesses; and fee for service arrangements.

In April 2006, a discussion paper was released to initiate consultation with universities, relevant organisations, and local communities on the priorities for the VSU Transition Fund and 52 submissions were received. Following consideration of these submissions, the department conducted a second round of consultations with universities and interested organisations through a series of workshops in Canberra, Melbourne, Adelaide, Sydney, Armidale, Brisbane, Rockhampton, and Perth in June and July 2006. Draft guidelines for the fund were released to the sector for comment on 1 September 2006. The final version of the guidelines and invited applications for the first round of the fund were announced on 25 October 2006.

Applications were received from 40 of 42 eligible higher education institutions for a combined total of 96 projects.

Table 43: Voluntary Student Unionism (VSU) Transition Fund for Sporting and Recreational Facilities – First Round Funding

Grant Recipient	Project Title	Total Project Funding \$
New South Wales		
Charles Sturt University	All Weather Running Track (Bathurst Campus)	2,600,000
	Soccer Field and Gymnasium (Orange Campus)	374,000
Southern Cross University	Sports Hall and Fitness Centre (Coffs Harbour Campus)	1,000,000
	Student Leisure Centre (Lismore Campus)	2,000,000
University of Newcastle	Sports and Aquatic Centre (Newcastle Campus)	2,600,000
University of New England	Multi-purpose Hall and Refurbished Gymnasium (Armidale Campus)	2,300,000
	Upgrade of Gymnasium Equipment (Armidale Campus)	300,000
	Upgrade of Swimming Pool (Armidale Campus)	2,400,000
University of Wollongong	Multi-purpose Indoor Sports Facility (Wollongong Campus)	4,600,000
University of Western Sydney	Sports Precinct (Penrith Campus)	4,050,000
Victoria		
La Trobe University	Upgrade Gymnasium (Bendigo Campus)	96,486
	Develop a Fitness Centre (Wodonga Campus)	164,950
The University of Melbourne	Upgrade of Recreational Facilities (Dookie and Creswick Campuses)	1,850,000
Queensland		
University of the Sunshine Coast	Multi-purpose Indoor Stadium (Sippy Downs Campus)	5,000,000
James Cook University	Fitness Facility (Townsville Campus)	4,560,000
University of Southern Queensland	Outdoor Multi-use Court (Wide Bay Campus)	313,750
	Outdoor Practise Facilities (Springfield Campus)	564,750
	Sportsfield Masterplan (Toowoomba Campus)	4,121,500
Griffith University	Multi-purpose Sports Precinct (Mt Gravatt Campus)	3,582,074
Western Australia		
Edith Cowan University	Outdoor Court Facility (Bunbury Campus)	360,000
South Australia		
Flinders University	Expand Fitness Centre (Adelaide Campus)	2,665,000
University of South Australia	Provision of a Student Lounge (Whyalla Campus)	100,000

Grant Recipient	Project Title	Total Project Funding \$
Tasmania		
University of Tasmania	Refurbishment of Sport and Recreation Facility (Hobart Campus)	2,320,748
	Expansion of Sports Facility (Launceston Campus)	1,889,495
	Development of Gymnasium and Courts (Cradle Coast Campus)	789,757
Northern Territory		
Charles Darwin University	Sport and Recreation Precinct (Casuarina Campus)	5,000,000
TOTAL		55,602,510

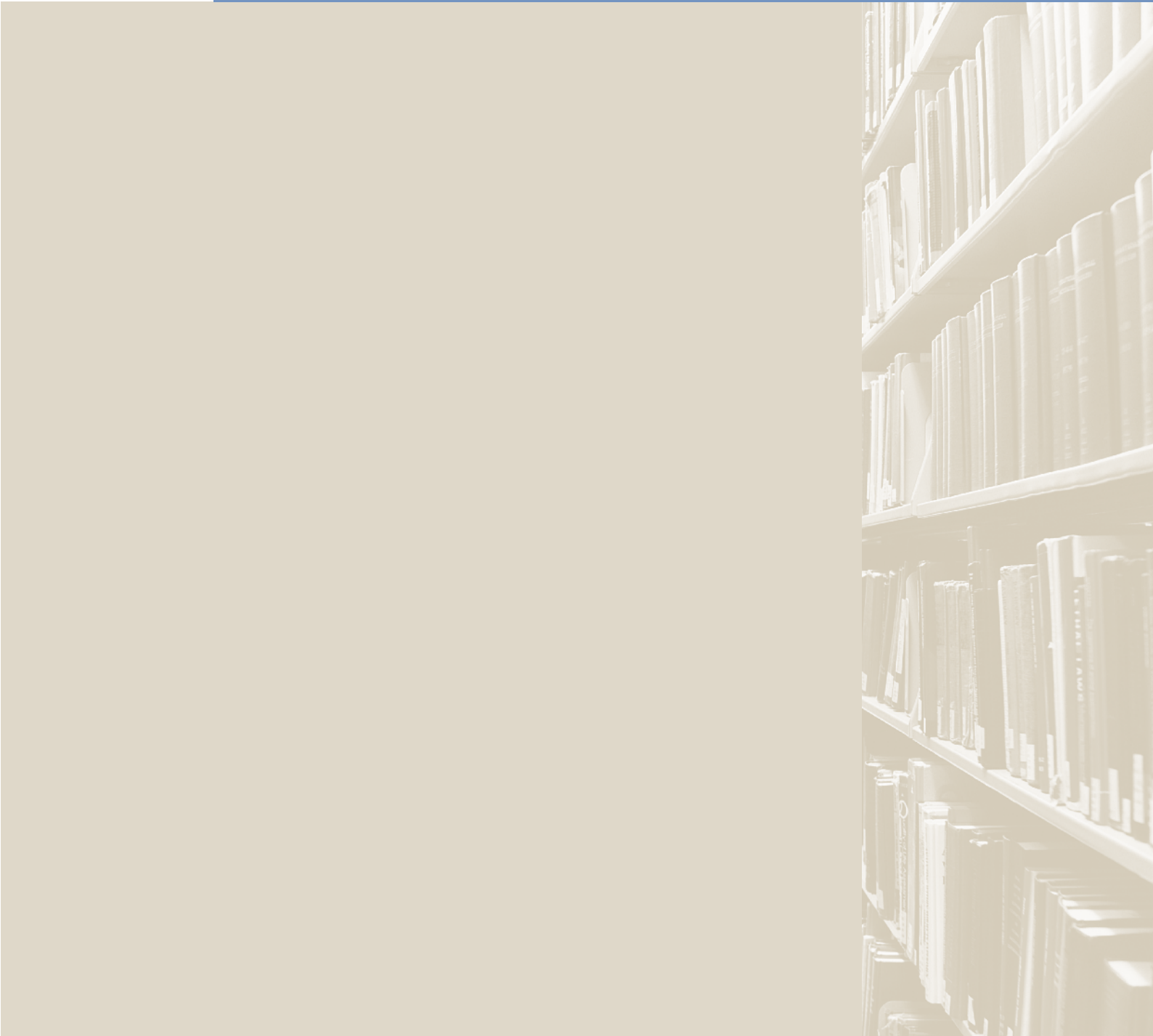
Source: DEST internal administrative data, 2007

2.10 Small Businesses on Regional University Campuses Programme

The Support for Small Businesses on Regional University Campuses Programme was announced in the 2006-07 Budget to complement the VSU Transition Fund. \$10 million (including departmental expenses) was allocated to this programme over four years from 2006-07 to 2009-10. The programme assists higher education providers to encourage and support small businesses to establish operations on regional campuses to provide services for students.

Table 44: Allocation of funding under the Support for Small Businesses on Regional University Campuses Programme – First Round Funding (commencing in 2006-07)

University	Project	Funding
University of New England	Several Businesses, Armidale	\$491,000
University of Wollongong	Medical Services Hub, Wollongong	\$405,000
University of Wollongong	Restaurant/Cafe, Shoalhaven	\$95,000
Charles Darwin University	Childcare, Alice Springs	\$100,000
Charles Darwin University	Medical Centre, Casuarina	\$400,000
University of South Australia	Café, Whyalla	\$230,000
Deakin University	Medical services, Warrnambool/Geelong	\$30,000
Deakin University	Accommodation services, Geelong	\$166,000
La Trobe University	Café, Albury/Wodonga	\$500,000
University of Ballarat	Mini Mart, Mt Helen	\$104,086
University of Ballarat	Italian Café, Mt Helen	\$114,131
TOTAL		\$2,635,217



3.1 Institution Assessment Framework

The Institution Assessment Framework (IAF) is the Australian Government's primary accountability mechanism for universities and other higher education institutions listed on Table A of the HESA.

Much of the information for the IAF process is collected by DEST from public sources such as annual reports, audited financial statements and university websites, and from data routinely supplied to DEST through student and staff statistical collections and research data collection. Some information on planning, capital management, Indigenous education and equity issues was collected from universities specifically for the IAF assessments.

A number of indicators and measures were derived from this information and used in assessing higher education providers' performance in four key areas:

- organisational sustainability – to verify that the provider is in a sound financial situation and is well governed and managed, so that it will be able to continue delivering programmes for the Australian Government;
- achievements in higher education provision – to measure the extent to which it has contributed to meeting the Australian Government's higher education objectives;
- quality – to gain assurance that its educational provision is of a high standard; and
- meeting legislative requirements – to confirm that the provider has met its obligations under legislation and guidelines.

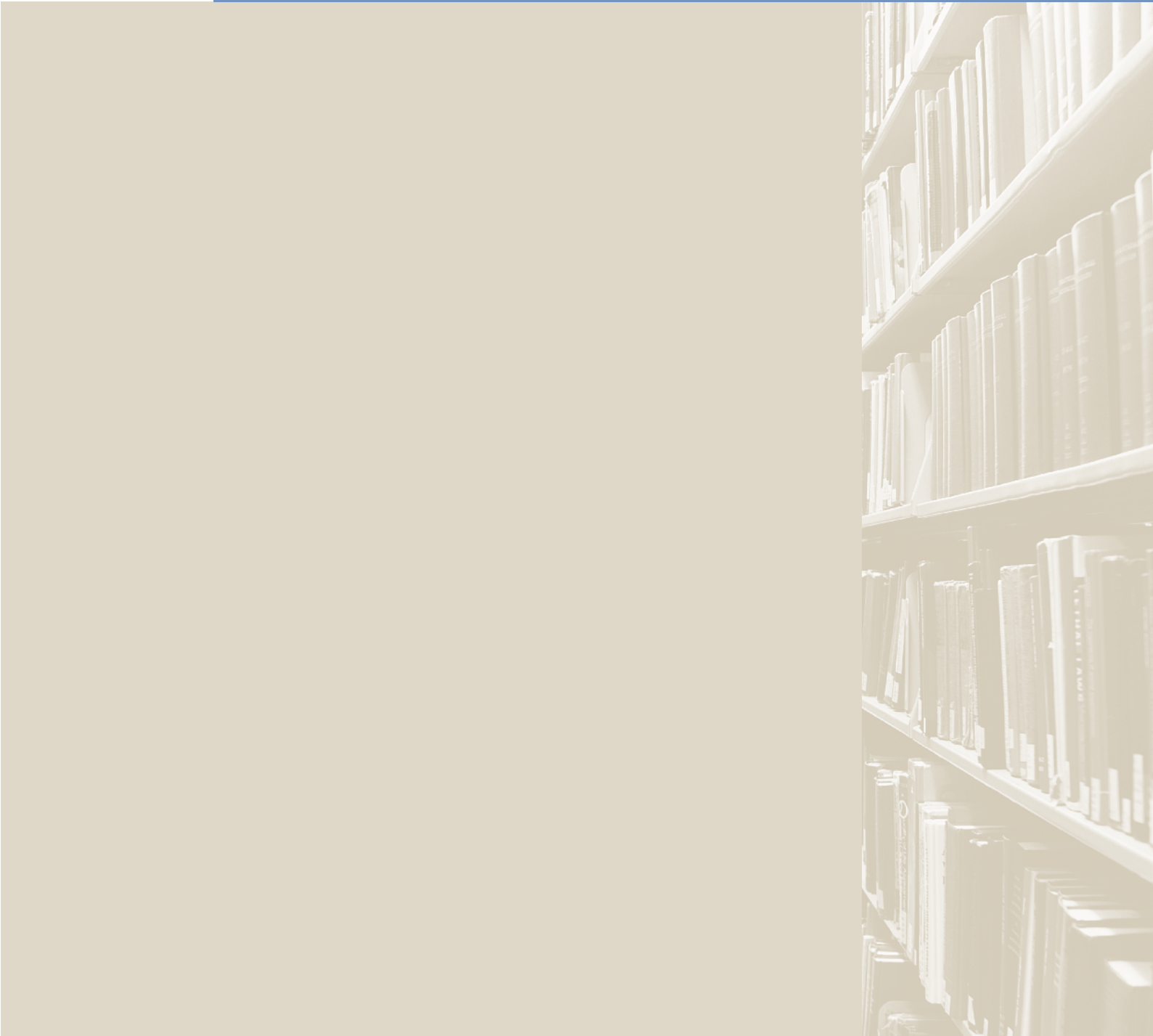
An assessment portfolio was produced for each provider, showing the institutions' performance over a period of time, as well as comparisons with the sector average and with a cohort of higher education institutions.

Senior officers of DEST visited 21 Table A providers for bilateral discussions centred on the assessment portfolio. DEST officers normally visit every Table A provider every two years.

More information on the IAF can be found at: http://www.dest.gov.au/sectors/higher_education/policy_issues_reviews/key_issues/institution_assessment_framework.htm.

A

Appendix A - Abbreviations



Appendix A - Abbreviations

AARNet	Australian Academic and Research Network
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACER	Australian Council for Educational Research
ADT	Australian Digital Theses
AEI	Australian Education International
AICTEC	Australian Information and Communications Technology in Education Committee
ANZAAS	Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science
APA	Australian Postgraduate Awards
APAC	Australian Partnership for Advanced Computing
ARC	Australian Research Council
ARCA	<i>Australian Research Council Act 2001</i>
AREN	Australian Research and Education Network
ARENAC	Australian Research and Education Network Advisory Committee
ARIIC	Australian Research Information Infrastructure Committee
ASSD	Additional Support for Students with Disabilities
AUQA	Australian Universities Quality Agency
AUQF	Australian Universities Quality Forum

AWA	Australian Workplace Agreements
AWE	Average weekly earnings
AVCC	Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee
BAF	<i>Our Universities: Backing Australia's Future</i>
BIHECC	Business, Industry and Higher Education Collaboration Council
BOTP	Bridging Courses for Overseas Trained Professionals
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
CLS	Commonwealth Learning Scholarships
CPI	Consumer Price Index
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
DEST	Department of Education, Science and Training
DSP	Education Disability Support Programme
EESP	Education Equity Support Programme
EFTSL	Equivalent Full-time Student Load
ESOS	Education Services for Overseas Students

ESP	Higher Education Equity Support Programme
FOLP	Framework for Open Learning Programme
FRLI	Federal Register of Legislative Instruments
GCA	Graduate Careers Australia
GDS	Graduate Destination Survey
HECS	Higher Education Contribution Scheme (replaced by HELP in 2005)
HEFA	<i>Higher Education Funding Act 1988</i>
HEIF	Higher Education Indexation Factor
HEIMS	Higher Education Information Management System
HELP	Higher Education Loan Programme
HEP	Higher Education Provider
HESA	<i>Higher Education Support Act 2003</i>
HEWRRS	Higher Education Workplace Relations Requirements
IAF	Institution Assessment Framework
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IGS	Institutional Grants Scheme
IHEAC	Indigenous Higher Education Advisory Council
IPRS	International Postgraduate Research Scheme
ISP	Indigenous Support Programme
ISSP	Indigenous Staff Scholarship Programme
JCHE	Joint Committee on Higher Education
LTPF	Learning and Teaching Performance Fund

MCEETYA	Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs
NHMRC	National Health and Medical Research Council
RDLO	Regional Disability Liaison Officer
RIBG	Research Infrastructure Block Grants
RPS	Regional Protection Scheme
RRMA	Rural, remote and metropolitan areas classification
RTS	Research Training Scheme
SES	Socio-economic status
SII	Systemic Infrastructure Initiative
SLE	Student Learning Entitlement
SNA	Safety Net Adjustment
TAFE	Technical and Further Education
TAR	Tuition Assurance Requirement
TREN	Tasmanian Research and Education Network
UA	Universities Australia (formerly the AVCC)
UMAP	Australian University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific Programme
VET	Vocational Education and Training
WEI	Work Experience in Industry
WPP	Workplace Productivity Programme
WRP	Workplace Reform Programme

B

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Appendix B - Programme Index

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Research Quality Framework (RQF) http://www.dest.gov.au/sectors/research_sector/policies_issues _reviews/key_issues/research_quality_framework/asher_and_iap.htm	39
Research Training Scheme (RTS) http://www.innovation.gov.au/Section/ScienceandResearch/Pages/ ProgramsandFunding.aspx	34
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Support for Small Businesses on Regional University Campuses Programme http://www.dest.gov.au/sectors/higher_education/programmes _funding/programme_categories/small_business_regional_uni/default.htm	80
Student Learning Entitlement (SLE) http://www.dest.gov.au/sectors/higher_education/programmes_funding/forms_ guidelines/hesa_guidelines/student_learning_entitlement_guidelines.htm	56
Superannuation Supplementation Programme http://www.dest.gov.au/sectors/higher_education/programmes _funding/general_funding/operating_grants/superannuation.htm	30
Systemic Infrastructure Initiative (SII) http://www.dest.gov.au/sectors/higher_education/programmes _funding/programme_categories/research_related_opportunities/systemic_ infrastructure_initiative/	39
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Transnational Quality Strategy (TQS) http://www.transnational.deewr.gov.au/	77

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VSU Transition Fund	78
http://www.dest.gov.au/sectors/higher_education/programmes_funding/vsuf.htm	

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Workplace Productivity Programme (WPP)	
http://www.dest.gov.au/sectors/higher_education/programmes_funding/programme_categories/professional_skills/workplace_productivity_programme.htm	20
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Appendix C - Legislation Enacted in 2006



Appendix C - Legislation Enacted in 2006

Higher Education Legislation Amendment (2006 Budget and Other Measures) Act 2006 (received Royal Assent on 4 November 2006)

The *Higher Education Legislation Amendment (2006 Budget and Other Measures) Act 2006* (the Act) amended the HESA to revise funding and grant levels for a range of purposes, including the Australian Government's commitments to the Council of Australian Governments' Health Workforce and Mental Health packages, and to increase funding available under Commonwealth Scholarships, the CGS and the GDP programme. The amendments also reflected indexation increases.

The Act also amended HESA to include an increase in the FEE-HELP limit and an extension of summer school provisions to winter schools. It also provided for further flexibility in setting student contribution amounts and tuition fees; rounding in the calculation of HELP debts; electronic communications; and regulation of higher education in external territories.

The Act also amended the HEFA and the *Australian Research Council Act 2001* (ARC Act).

HEFA was amended in relation to transition funding for 2007 and the repeal of the Higher Education (HECS) Account.

The ARC Act was amended to reflect updated annual caps on funding.

D

Appendix D - Legislative Instruments Tabled in Parliament in 2006



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Higher Education Support Act 2003 Guidelines

- Commonwealth Grant Scheme Guidelines (repealed/ceased):
 - Amendment No. 6 (July 2006)
 - Amendment No. 7 (August 2006)
- Commonwealth Grant Scheme Guidelines No. 1 – revocation and re-make (8 December 2006)
- Commonwealth Scholarships Guidelines:
 - Amendment No. 1 (October 2006)
 - Amendment No. 2 (December 2006)
- Higher Education Provider Guidelines:
 - Amendment No. 1 (November 2006)
- Other Grants Guidelines 2006 (November 2006):
 - Amendment Number 1 (December 2006)
 - Amendment Number 2 (December 2006)

Higher Education Provider Approvals Tabled in 2006

Instruments approving the following institutions as higher education providers under the *Higher Education Support Act 2003*:

- Shafston Institute of Technology Pty Ltd
- Tabor College Tasmania Inc
- SAE Investments (Aust) Pty Ltd
- Gordon Institute of TAFE
- Jansen Newman Institute Pty Limited
- Billy Blue Schools Pty Ltd (trading as Think: Colleges Pty Ltd in 2008)
- Nature Care College Pty Ltd
- ITC Education Ltd
- JMC Pty Limited
- Brisbane College of Theology
- Insearch Ltd
- International College of Management, Sydney Pty. Limited as Trustee for the ICTHM Trust
- Australian Guild of Music Education Inc
- Holmesglen Institute of TAFE
- Bradford College Pty Ltd
- Raffles KvB Institute Pty Ltd
- Dixon Elliot Pty Ltd (trading as Macleay College Pty Ltd in 2008)
- Swan TAFE

E

Appendix E - Determinations Registered in 2006



Appendix E - Determinations Registered in 2006

Determinations under the *Higher Education Support Act 2003*

Title	Section	Date Registered on FRLI (commenced on following day)
List of programmes and funding under Division 41	S41	11 September 2006; and 11 December 2006
Declaration of percentage of Commonwealth supported places to be provided by Table A providers for a course of study in medicine.	S36-35	24 February 2006
Provision of statistical higher education information	S19-70(2)	2 February 2006

Determinations under the *Higher Education Funding Act 1988*

Title	Section	Date Registered on FRLI (commenced on following day)
Determination under Section 36-35(1)(b) in relation to fee-paying medical places	S36-35(1)(b)	24 February 2006
Determination under Section 4(2) in relation to additional higher education providers	S4(2)	18 January 2006; 1 March 2006; and 19 October 2006

