

Statement of VET Tuition Assurance

Under the [Higher Education Support Act 2003](#) (*the Act*) Macquarie Employment Training Service (METS) must comply with the VET Tuition Assurance requirements. This is to protect students in the event that METS ceases to provide a VET course of study in which a student is enrolled.

Definitions:

ceases to provide a VET course of study:

a) the VET course of study does not start on:

- i) the date the VET course of study was scheduled to start and the person has not withdrawn before that day; or
- ii) a later date that has been agreed between the VET provider and the person enrolled in the VET course of study and the person has not withdrawn before that day;

and an arrangement has not been made between METS and the student to undertake a suitable alternative VET course of study

b) METS provides the VET course of study then before the student has completed it, METS ceases to provide that VET course of study for any of the following reasons:

- i) the Minister has revoked approval of METS as a VET provider
- ii) notice is served on METS to cancel its incorporation or registration
- iii) METS ceases to be an RTO as listed on the National register
- iv) METS is unable to pay its debts when they become due

VET Tuition Assurance Scheme: protects students in the event that METS ceases to provide a VET course of study

VET tuition fee: fees paid to a Registered Training Organisation covering tuition and resources for a unit of study

ACPET: a VET Tuition Scheme that meets the tuition fees of the student

Replacement unit: a VET unit of study that a VET student undertakes with a *second provider* to replace a VET unit of study in which the VET student was enrolled with the original VET provider

1. In the event that METS ceases to provide a VET course of study in which a student is enrolled, the student is entitled to choose to access either:
 - a) The Course Assurance option
 - b) The Tuition Fee Repayment option

2. For the purposes of VET FEE-HELP, all courses offered by METS, in accordance with the requirements of Clause 45 of Schedule 1A of the *Act*, are covered by ACPET as part of METS' membership of the Australian Student Tuition Assurance Scheme (ASTAS). **METS Membership Number:** 202276

3. In the event that METS is unable to continue to offer the course of study in which a student enrolled, the student may choose either:

a) The VET Course Assurance Option:

- Under the VET Course Assurance Option, a student will be sent a Written VET Assurance Offer advising the student of his options under the VET Tuition Assurance requirements. The student will be offered a direct offer of enrolment in a similar VET course of study with a second provider.
- If the student accepts this option, ACPET will make all necessary arrangements to ensure the student is able to enrol with the Second Provider in a similar VET course of study.
- This similar VET course will lead to the same or a comparable qualification without any requirement on the part of the student to pay the Second Provider any VET tuition fee for any replacement units (that is, those units that the student had commenced but not completed because the VET course ceased to be offered).
- The student will receive full credit towards the same or comparable qualification from the Second Provider for any VET units of study successfully completed at METS.
- The Second Provider nominated by ACPET may have different VET tuition fees to the fees the student would have paid for VET units of study which were part of the VET course of study that METS ceased to provide.
- The student must not pay the Second Provider a VET tuition fee for any replacement unit nor give the Second Provider a request for Commonwealth Assistance in relation to any replacement unit of study.

- A student is not obliged to enrol in a VET course of study with the Second Provider offered by ACPET under the VET Course Assurance Option. However, if the student enrolls with any other VET Provider, that has not been nominated as the Second Provider, there is no obligation on that VET Provider to offer full credit transfer for the VET units of study completed with METS or to offer replacement VET unit/s free of charge.

OR

b) The VET Tuition Fee Repayment Option

- Under the VET Tuition Fee Repayment Option, the student will receive a refund of the total of any up-front VET payments already paid by the student for any VET units of study in which the student was enrolled in at the time METS ceased to provide the VET course of study.
- Students selecting this option will also have their FEE-HELP balance re-credited for the uncompleted VET units.
- After receiving notification of this choice, and within twenty (20) business days, METS will:
 - re-credit the student's VET FEE HELP balance in respect of that VET unit of study as required under Clause 51 of Schedule 1A to the *Act*
 - immediately notify ASTAS to that effect and, within ten (10) business days after receiving notification from METS, ASTAS will:
 - pay the student the total of any up-front VET tuition fees made to METS for that VET unit of study
 - pay the Commonwealth any amounts paid for that VET unit of study by the Commonwealth to the VET provider in discharge of the students' VET tuition fee for that VET unit of study

4. Publication

This statement will be made available to students and those seeking to enrol with METS through publication on its website (www.mets.org.au) and in the Student Handbooks.

5. Contact details are:

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