



Australian Government

2023 SA-HELP INFORMATION



www.studyassist.gov.au

SA-HELP

SA-HELP is a loan from the Australian Government you can use to pay your [student services and amenities fee](#) (the fee).

What is the student services and amenities fee?

It is a fee that providers can charge students for non-academic student services and facilities. Providers can only spend the fee on specific services and amenities such as sporting and recreational activities, employment and career advice, childcare, financial advice and food services.

If you are a full-time student in 2023, your provider can not charge you more than \$326 for the year. Providers can charge different groups of students different fee amounts, for example part time students.

Both on-campus and online students can be charged the fee as services can be available to all students, for example career advice.

Where is the fee spent?

Providers must have a formal process of consultation with students (or student representatives) about the services or activities that the fee will pay for. Talk to your student representative council to find out how they use the proceeds of your student services and amenities fee.

Am I eligible for a SA-HELP loan?

You can only receive a SA-HELP loan if you are enrolled in a higher education course of study.

Eligibility criteria for SA-HELP states an individual must be:

- an Australian citizen
 - OR a permanent humanitarian visa holder resident (or eligible former)
 - OR an [eligible New Zealand Special Category Visa \(SCV\) holder](#)

You must also:

- have a tax file number (TFN) or have applied for one - you can start your application now at www.ato.gov.au/TFN
- have submitted a valid SA-HELP application form (also known as an eCAF) to your provider
- have read the [2023 SA-HELP information booklet](#) on or before the day on which the fee is payable.

The full list of eligibility criteria can be found in the 2023 SA-HELP information booklet.

How do I apply?

Your provider will give you instructions on how and when to submit your SA-HELP eCAF.

Do I need to re-apply for SA-HELP each year?

You only need to apply for SA-HELP once for your course.

If you change your course or transfer to a different provider, you will need to complete another eCAF.

Borrowing and repaying

SA-HELP does not form part of your HELP Loan Limit.

Your SA-HELP loan will only cover the amount you are charged, which is no more than \$326 in 2023.

Your SA-HELP loan amount will be added to your accumulated HELP debt at the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

You will start repaying your HELP debt through the tax system once you earn above the compulsory repayment threshold, which is \$48,361 in 2023. The more income you earn, the higher your repayment will be.

You are not charged interest on your debt, but your debt is indexed each year to maintain its real value.

THIS IS HOW IT WORKS:

Step 1

Enrol in your course

Step 2

Find out how much your student services and amenities fee is

Step 3

If eligible, apply for SA-HELP by the due date

Step 4

Start repaying your HELP debt when you earn above the threshold