



## NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Go to [www.studyassist.gov.au](http://www.studyassist.gov.au) to:

- get your copy of the *OS-HELP statement of terms and conditions* booklet
- check if you are eligible to receive any student income support payments while you are studying
- get a copy of the *Beyond school study guide*.



Visit

[www.studyassist.gov.au](http://www.studyassist.gov.au)



2020



Australian Government

# THINKING ABOUT STUDYING PART OF YOUR COURSE OVERSEAS?

You could get an OS-HELP loan.

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for up-to-date information.



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## WHAT IS OS-HELP?

OS-HELP is an Australian Government (Government) loan scheme that helps eligible students based in Australia and enrolled in a Commonwealth supported place to undertake some of their study overseas.

OS-HELP loans can be used for a range of expenses, such as airfares, accommodation and other travel or study costs.

**Note:** if you are undertaking your whole course outside Australia, or wanting to study at an overseas institution, you are not eligible for OS-HELP.



### AM I ELIGIBLE FOR AN OS-HELP LOAN?

To be eligible for OS-HELP, you must:

- have been selected by your university to receive an OS-HELP loan
- be enrolled in a CSP
- have completed one equivalent full-time student load (EFTSL) of study
- meet the OS-HELP citizenship requirements
- not have received an OS-HELP loan more than once before and will not receive a second OS-HELP loan for the same six-month period,
- be studying full-time overseas and have that study count towards your Australian course
- have study left to complete in Australia once you have finished your overseas study
- meet the tax file number (TFN) requirements
- submit a completed *OS-HELP debt confirmation* form (the form) with your university
- have read the [\*OS-HELP statement of terms and conditions\*](#) booklet.

## HOW DO I GET AN OS-HELP LOAN?

If you are eligible for an OS-HELP loan, you need to submit your correctly completed form to your university by the required date. You **MUST** give your TFN or submit a *Certificate of Application for a TFN* with the form. If you do not have a TFN you must apply for one. The fastest way to apply for a TFN is with Australia Post. Find out how at [www.ato.gov.au/TFN](http://www.ato.gov.au/TFN).

You can only receive an OS-HELP loan after completing one EFTSL of your course in Australia—usually this is one year of full-time study. You must also have at least 0.125 EFTSL of your course left to complete in Australia—usually this is one unit of study.

Each university sets their own application process, including the dates by which you need to submit your form. Contact your university to confirm their application and selection process.

### How much OS-HELP can I borrow?

In 2020, the maximum you can borrow for a six-month study period is:

- \$6,913 if you do not study in Asia
- \$8,295 if you study in Asia; plus an extra \$1,104 if you do approved Asian language study in preparation for your study in Asia (and meet the eligibility requirements).

You are limited to two OS-HELP loans over your lifetime and one OS-HELP loan per six-month period. Your overseas study must take place within the relevant six-month period.

## REPAYING MY OS-HELP LOAN

If you get an OS-HELP loan, you have a legal obligation to the Government to repay your debt. Your debt is repaid through the Australian tax system once you earn over a certain amount. In the 2019–20 income year, you must make a compulsory repayment once your income is \$45,881 or above. You are not charged interest on your debt, but your debt is indexed each year to maintain its real value.