

Background

1. Under the provisions of *Schedule 1A of the Higher Education Support Act 2003* (HESA), Chapter 3 of the VET Guidelines Unity College Australia Inc., and the VET Student Loans Act and Rules 2016, ABN 16467783979 must comply with the VET Tuition Assurance requirements. This is to protect students in the event that Unity College Australia (UCA) ceases to provide a VET course of study in which a student is enrolled. The meaning of ‘ceasing to provide a VET course of study’ is set out at paragraph 3.5.3 of the *VET Guidelines*. A copy of these is available from: <http://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2015L02124> and <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2016L02030>

2. In the event that UCA ceases to provide a VET course of study in which a student is enrolled the student is entitled to a choice of:

- a) an offer of a place in a similar VET course of study with a Second Provider without any requirement to pay the Second Provider any VET tuition fee for any replacement VET units (this is known as the “**VET Course Assurance Option**”);

OR

- b) a refund of his or her up-front VET payments and/or a re-crediting of any FEE-HELP balance for any VET unit of study that the student commences but does not complete because UCA ceases to provide the VET course of study of which the VET unit forms part (this is known as the “**VET Tuition Fee Repayment Option**”)

3. UCA has met the VET tuition assurance requirements as specified in the VET Guidelines through its current membership of the ACPET Australian Students Tuition Assurance Scheme (ACPET ASTAS-VET). Contact details for ACPET are:

ACPET
PO Box 551
East Melbourne VIC 8002

4. If UCA ceases to provide a VET course of study, ACPET will send a student enrolled in the VET course of study a Written VET Tuition Assurance Offer (the Offer) advising the student of the options available under the VET tuition assurance requirements. The Offer will include directions that the student must follow in order to notify ACPET of the choice they have made for each affected VET unit. ACPET will provide this Offer within twenty *Business Days* after it knows, or should know by reasonable enquiries that the Unity College Australia has ceased to provide the VET course of study.

5. For the purposes of VET FEE-HELP and VET Student Loans, all courses offered by UCA in accordance with the course requirements of clause 45 of Schedule 1A of the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* are covered by the ACPET ASTAS-VET (‘the Scheme’) as part of the UCA membership of the Scheme.

Statement of VET Tuition Assurance (cont)

6. A student may choose either:

The VET Course Assurance Option:

7. Under the VET course assurance option, a student will be offered a place in a similar VET course of study by ACPET. If the student accepts this option, ACPET will make all necessary arrangements to ensure a student is able to enrol with the Second Provider in the similar VET course of study. This offered 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 VET units (that is, units that the student had commenced but not completed because the VET course ceased to be offered). A student will receive full credit from the Second Provider for any VET units of study successfully completed at UCA.

8. 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 the UCA ceased to provide but which the student had not yet started studying.

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

OR

The VET Tuition Fee Repayment Option

10. Under the VET Tuition Fee Repayment Option, ACPET undertakes to pay the student the total of any up-front VET payments already paid by the student for any VET units of study the student has commenced but not completed because the VET course ceased to be offered. Students selecting this option will also have their FEE-HELP balance re-credited for the uncompleted VET units.

Publication

This *Statement of VET Tuition Assurance* is also noted in the following Unity College Australia documents:

- Handbook (publically available at www.unity.edu.au)
- Staff Handbook
- Student Application