

TIME TO END THE

**STUDENT LOAN TAX**



## Time To Permanently End The Student Loan Tax

Australians of all ages have a strong commitment to invest in their own career and life goals. What's great is that more than half elect to do so with independent tertiary education providers. But in Australia we penalise students for making a choice to invest their own time and money in their personal and professional futures.

This penalty is applied to the great many students in Australia's tertiary education system who elect to study diplomas, advanced diplomas, bachelor's degrees and other higher degrees with independent providers. They are taxed for taking out one of Australia's Government-backed income-contingent loans to pay for their tuition fees. That's right, the government taxes students for investing in their own future.

The [Student Loan Tax](#) is levied on two types of loans that students access, these being:

- FEE-HELP Loans in higher education; and
- VET Student Loans in the vocational education and training sector.

For many students with higher education providers, the [Student Loan Tax](#) is particularly egregious as it is only levied on students studying with an independent higher education provider.†

The [Student Loan Tax](#) acts as a disincentive to people acquiring the education and skills required to support economic growth once the Covid-19 crisis has passed. Recognising the ludicrous nature of the [Student Loan Tax](#) the Australian Government has suspended it for six months, but that's not enough.

The Independent Tertiary Education Council Australia (ITECA) is the peak business organisation representing independent providers in the higher education, vocational education, training and skills sectors. ITECA, its members and the students they support are calling on the Australian government to end the [Student Loan Tax](#) permanently.

Now is the time to act.

† Except Bond University, The University of Notre Dame Australia, University of Divinity, and Torrens University Australia.