Student fees

What are the changes to student fees?
Students will need to contribute more to the costs of training to ensure that government subsidised training remains sustainable in future years. Currently student tuition fees overall make up about 8% of the total cost of training and the State Government subsidises the other 92%.

While student fees will increase from 1 January 2014, the vast majority of training costs will continue to be subsidised by the State Government. In general, fees will be changing to reflect the relative priority of qualification, with high priority qualifications attracting the lower fees to encourage students into areas of training that meet State and industry need.

How much will I pay?
Indicative fee rates for non-concession students are outlined below. The fee rates reflect government policy determinations and will be finalised when the fees schedule is officially gazetted and published later in the year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification Category</th>
<th>Indicative Qualification Fees* (Course Fee per Student Curriculum Hour)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma and Above</td>
<td>$5.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apprenticeships, Traineeships, and Priority Industry Training (Certificate II to IV)</td>
<td>$2.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Industry Training (Certificate I to IV)</td>
<td>$3.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation Skills</td>
<td>$0.20</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Includes projected CPI adjustments

From 2014, the semester cap on tuition fees will no longer apply. For students undertaking Recognition of Prior Learning, course fees will be determined by individual training providers.

Based on current enrolments patterns, it is expected that the annual course fees for 92% of student enrolments will not exceed $2000 in 2014.
What assistance can I get?
Students in diploma and advanced diploma qualifications will be assisted through having access to a loan under the Commonwealth Government’s VET FEE-HELP scheme with an approved VET FEE-HELP provider. The VET FEE-HELP Fact Sheet can be found on the Future Skills WA section of the Department of Training and Workforce Development website.

Concessions will continue to be available for all other courses at certificate levels I through to IV. Eligible students include holders of either a health care or pensioner concession card, recipients of AUSTUDY, ABSTUDY, or Youth Allowance, and young people aged 15 to 17 years.

Providers will continue to have, at their discretion, the ability to grant students who experience financial hardship the option to pay their fees by instalment, or in cases of extreme financial hardship, the ability to waive fees altogether.

What if I am already studying?
To assist students who have already commenced training and intend to continue training in 2014, a fee maintenance scheme will be introduced for 2014. This will enable eligible students to elect to have their fees maintained under the current fee structure during 2014 only, with a minor adjustment to reflect the increase in the Consumer Price Index.

Students are eligible for the fee maintenance scheme if they undertook study in 2013 in a government subsidised qualification which they enrolled in prior to 22 August 2013, and enrol in the same qualification in 2014. To access fee maintenance, students will be required to provide evidence of their study in 2013 when enrolling in 2014.

All students will be required to pay fees in accordance with the new fee structure from 2015.