

2022 Domestic tution protection levies

Principles, risk factors and examples fact sheet

# Levy principles

The Tuition Protection Service (TPS) Advisory Board has agreed to the following principles when providing advice to the TPS Director on levysettings, specifically the risk rated premium component:

1. Advice should reflect the overall risk environment and ensure that revenue matches what is needed to sustain the relevant fund, while also being sustainable for the industry;
2. The model for each Levy should reflect gradual change and assist the industry with business planning by providing a stable regulatory environment;
3. The model should be as simple and transparent as possible, preferably based on a small number of risk factors;
4. Risk premiums imposed should provide incentives for providers to adopt positive behaviours; and
5. Additional imposts on industry, such as data collection, should be minimised where possible, consistent with the ability to set sound risk-based levies.

# Legislative authority for the domestic tuition protection levies

*VET Student Loans (VSL Tuition Protection Levy) Act 2020*, referred to as the **VSL levy**  
<https://www.legislation.gov.au/Series/C2020A00005>

*Higher Education Support (HELP Tuition Protection Levy) Act 2020*, referred to as the **HELP levy**  
<https://www.legislation.gov.au/Series/C2020A00004>

*Higher Education (Up-front Payments Tuition Protection Levy) ACT 2020*, referred to as the **up-front levy** <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2020A00102>

# 2022 Domestic tuition protection levy settings

The administration fees and base risk rating are set by the relevant Minister and the risk rated premium and the special tuition components are set by the TPS Director with the advice of the TPS Advisory Board for each of the three domestic tuition protection levies.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Levy | Admin fee per provider | Admin fee per student | Base risk rate | % Risk rate | Special tuition protection component |
| VSL | $111 | $9.33 | $6.00 | 0.17% | 0.10% |
| HELP | $111 | $9.33 | $6.00 | 0.06% | 0.10% |
| Up-front | $111 | $9.33 | $2.00 | 0.04% | 0.10% |

Note: In 2021 Admin per provider was $108 and per student $9.06.

# Provider risk rating: risk rated premium component and risk factors

A key aspect of the risk rated premium component (RRP) component is the **risk factors**. The formula for the risk rated premium component differs slightly across the levies, but they all include a total **risk factor value** which is based on an individual provider’s risk score against the risk factors, determined by the TPS Director.

## Domestic RRP formula

The risk rated premium component is intended to cover the risk of each provider defaulting, that is where the provider fails to start, or ceases to provide, a unit of study for a student.

The special tuition protection component is intended to build the value of the funds when they are below their target size and help meet seed capital repayments. It is calculated as a percentage of a provider’s income (loans or up-front fees).

## Financial strength risk factor

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Risk Factor | Category | Risk Factor Weight |
| Financial Strength  score of: | 8 or 9 (Above Average)  6 or 7 (Average)  1 to 5 (Below Average)  Provider did not submit financial statements | 0.0  1.0  2.0  2.5 |

A provider’s financial strength score is the sum of the net profit ratio, return on assets, and debt to   
equity scores

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Ratio | Formula | Below Average | Average | Above Average |
| **Net profit ratio** | |  | less than or equal to 0.1 | greater than 0.1 but less than or equal to 0.2 | greater than 0.2 |
| **Return on assets** | |  | less than or equal to 0.0 | greater than 0.0 but less than or equal to 0.1 | greater than 0.1 |
| **Debt to equity** | |  | greater than or equal to 2.5; or if total equity is less than or equal to 0.0 | less than 2.5 but greater than or equal to 1.5 | less than 1.5 but greater than or equal to 0.0 |
| **Score** | |  | **1** | **2** | **3** |

## Completion rate risk factor

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Draft Risk Factor | Category | Risk Factor Weight |
| Completion rate | 85% or higher  60% to <85%  35% to <60%  0% to <35% | 0.0  0.0  1.7  2.7 |
|  | **Completion rate percentage formula:** |  |

## Non-compliance history and registration renewal risk factor

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Risk Factor | Category | Risk Factor Weight |
| Non-compliance history and registration renewal | **A weighted late payment measure of:**  30 days or more  15 days or more but less than 30 days  1 day or more but less than 15 days  1 day (payment made on time)  **Plus**  For Higher Education registration periods:  less than the maximum allowable  equal to the maximum allowable  **Plus**  For RTO registration periods:  less than the maximum allowable  equal to the maximum allowable | 2.0  0.9  0.7  0.0  1.0  0.0  1.0  0.0 |

# Education and training provider examples

## VSL provider example

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Components | Average sized *VSL provider with 75 students, with a total loan amount value of $250,000* |
| **Administration component** | $111 + (75 x $9.33) = **$810.75** |
| **Risk component** | Step 1: 75 x **$6** = $450  Step 2: $250,000k x **0.17%** = $425  Step 3: $450 + $425 = $875  Step 4: Financial strength: 6 = 1  Completion rate: 50% = 1.7  Non-compliance & registration renewal: 0.9  Step 5: (1 + 1.7 + 0.9) + 1 = 4.6  Step 6: $875 x 4.6 = **$4,025** |
| **Special component** | $250,000k x 0.10% = **$250** |
| **Total TPS levy** | $810.75 + $4,025 + $250 = **$5,085.75** |

## HELP provider example

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Components | Average sized *HELP provider with 650 students, with a total loan amount value of $10m* |
| **Administration component** | $111 + (650 x $9.33) = $6,175.50 |
| **Risk component** | Step 1: 650 x **$6** = $3,900  Step 2: $10m x **0.06%** = $6,000  Step 3: $3,900 + $6,000 = $9,900  Step 4: Financial strength: 6 = 1  Completion rate: 50% - 1.7  Non-compliance & registration renewal: 0  Step 5: (1 + 1.7 + 0) + 1 = 3.7  Step 6: $9,900 x 1.7 = $16,830 |
| **Special component** | $10m x 0.10% = $10,000 |
| **Total TPS levy** | $6,175.50 + $16,830 + $10,000 = $33,005.50 |

## Up-front provider example

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Components | Average sized *Up Front provider with 350 students, with total upfront payments received of $400,000* |
| **Administration component** | $111 + (350 x $9.33) = **$3,376.50** |
| **Risk component** | Step 1: 350 x **$2** = $700  Step 2: $400,000 x **0.04%** = $160  Step 3: $700 + $160 = $860  Step 4: Financial strength: 6 = 1  Completion rate: 50% - 1.7  Non-compliance & registration renewal: 0  Step 5: (1 + 1.7 + 0) + 1 = 3.7  Step 6: $860 x 3.7 = **$3,182** |
| **Special component** | $400,000m x 0.10% = **$400** |
| **Total TPS levy** | $3,376.50 + $3,182 + $400 = $6,958.50 |