



FEE-FREE Uni Ready Courses

The Government will provide \$350.3 million in additional Commonwealth Grant Scheme funding over four years, commencing on 1 January 2025 to fully fund FEE-FREE Uni Ready courses to provide more students with an enabling pathway into higher education, with focus on students from underrepresented backgrounds.

Universities will also be supported to improve the quality and consistency of FEE-FREE Uni Ready courses.

This will result in 30,000 students studying in FEE-FREE Uni Ready courses each year by 2030, an increase of 40 per cent in student numbers, and doubling the number of students by 2040.

How will this initiative work?

The Government will deliver increased funding per place, replacing the current mixed funding system with consistent and sufficient funding to deliver high quality enabling courses.

Funding for additional student places will significantly expand the availability of enabling courses – to be known as FEE-FREE Uni Ready courses – across Australia, allowing more students to develop the academic skills they need to get into university.

FEE-FREE Uni Ready courses will help build the skills, experience and confidence that some students who aspire to university need in order to get into university and to succeed.

In addition, the Government will work with providers to professionalise and increase the quality and consistency of FEE-FREE Uni Ready courses, and seek to increase portability of credentials for students.

Why is it important?

The Australian Universities Accord makes it clear more people need to go to university in the future to deliver the large and skilled workforce that Australia needs.

The Australian Government has set an overall tertiary education attainment target of 80% cent of working aged people by 2050.

This is an ambitious, long-term goal and investing in FEE-FREE Uni Ready courses will help more students, particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds, gain the skills they need to get into university and to succeed – for free.

FEE-FREE Uni Ready courses will help students build the skills, experience and confidence needed to succeed at university-level courses.

Who will benefit?

The Government is committed to making tertiary education possible for Australians who did not qualify for direct entry to university.

The FEE-FREE Uni Ready courses will give more Australians the opportunity to gain the skills they need to get into university, without being out of pocket.

It will expand the pipeline of students wanting to go to university, particularly students from underrepresented backgrounds including low-SES, First Nations, regional and remote students, and students with disability.

How much will it cost?

The Australian Government will invest \$350.3 million in this initiative.