



## Disability Support Fund: increased funding

The Australian Government will quadruple the Disability Support Fund to assist more students with disability to access, participate and succeed in higher education.

### How will this initiative work?

The Australian Government will increase the Disability Support Fund by approximately \$40 million per year (indexed) – quadrupling current funding levels. Increasing participation from underrepresented groups and meeting the 80 per cent participation target requires continuing focus on inclusion for students and staff with disability, and continuing improvements in university performance in support for the disability community.

Table A public universities will receive this increase in funding in 2025. This change responds to consistent advice from disability stakeholders that universities need additional funding to deliver more programs and services that empower students with disability to access, participate and succeed in higher education, and higher expectations about their performance in creating inclusive communities for staff and students.

This increase in funding will help support more students with disability to complete their degrees and gain the skills needed for the jobs of the future.

### How will this funding be used?

The funding will enable greater support for students with disability in the areas of technical assistance, education resources and equipment, and staffing, and will drive higher levels of inclusion in university activities.

### When will universities be advised of their revised 2024 funding and 2025 indicative funding?

Universities will receive notifications of the changes in allocations to funding in January 2025. The Department will hold webinars with universities during January and February 2025 to answer any questions about the funding announcement and reporting.

## Will the reporting template change?

Universities will be required to continue their annual reporting of activities. The current reporting template, as provided in November 2024, will not change.

The department will work with universities to ensure the reporting template for 2025 is updated to reflect the increased levels of funding, and increasing performance obligations over time to support students with disability.

## Who will benefit?

The increase in funding and expanding the activities will ensure more university students with disability can access, participate and succeed in higher education.