

## **Pre-Budget Submissions**

### **Re: The VET Student Loans (Courses and Loan Caps) Determination 2016**

Youth Allowance (student), Austudy, ABSTUDY and Pensioner Education Supplement are now limited to VSL approved awards - Diploma and higher. (As per: Budget 2017-18 Better Alignment of Student Payments).

This decision is unfair and doesn't apply to University courses where freedom to choose a course by the student and not by the Minister.

ASQA states there are approximately 5,000 RTO providers. Yet in 2017\* there were only 211 VSL approved RTO's and only 155 RTO's had students who accessed a VET student loan. There are only 384 VSL approved courses out of a total of **4138 registered courses**.

Students enrolled in full-time in any of the remaining 3,754 non-VSL courses are UNABLE to receive **-Youth Allowance (student), Austudy, ABSTUDY and Pensioner Education Supplement**.

These students have to pay for the full award costs while at the same time receive no living allowances.

This is unfair and Un-Australian.

I salute this governments decision to increase student payment but it was at the cost of others students.

This is unfair and Un-Australian

This essentially makes all non-VSL awards of lesser value and places courses outside of the financial reach of ordinary Australians.

At minimum all Non-VSL courses should have student payments attached.

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