

VET Student Loans

An Australian Government Initiative

Australian Airline Pilot Academy (AAPA) is approved by the Department of Education and Training (DET) to offer VET Student Loans to eligible students that are enrolled in:

- AVI50215 Diploma of Aviation (Commercial Pilot Licence – Aeroplane)
- AVI50415 Diploma of Aviation (Instrument Rating)

VET Student Loans is not available for students who are not eligible.

What is VET Student Loans?

VET Student Loans is an Australian Government loan scheme that helps eligible students enrolled in approved higher level vocational educational and training (VET) at approved training providers to have all or part of their tuition fees paid for by the Australian Government in the form of a loan up to the available course loan cap that are determined and set by the Government.

The loan gives rise to a HELP debt that continues to be a debt due to the Commonwealth until it is repaid.

Eligible students can borrow funds over their lifetime up to the FEE-HELP limit. For 2018 the FEE-HELP limit is \$102,392. There is a loan fee of 20% for full fee-paying students accessing VET Student Loans. This fee will be included in the VET STUDENT LOANS debt.

The loan is re-paid gradually through the pay-as-you-earn (PAYE) tax system once your income is above the minimum repayment threshold, which is set by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). For the financial year 2018-2019, this has been set at \$51,957.

Visit www.ato.gov.au for more details.

Where Vet Student Loans are approved for a unit of study, the Australian Government pays the amount of the loan for that unit direct to AAPA. As Vet Student Loans provides loans for tuition fees only, you will be responsible for any gap amount in the tuition fees that are not covered by your loan such as such as accommodation, meals, uniforms, manuals, etc.

On 1st January 2017, VET Student Loans replaced VET Fee Help. All students enrolling in a new course from 1st January 2017 access Vet Student Loans, while students who were part way through a course on the 1st January 2017 continue to access VET Fee Help.

Please read the links below for more details and to understand your obligations under the Vet Student Loans:

<https://www.education.gov.au/vet-student-loans>

https://docs.education.gov.au/system/files/doc/other/180818-vsl_information_booklet_2018-fin_0.pdf

Who is eligible for a Vet Student Loan?

You are eligible for VET STUDENT LOAN if:

- Meet citizenship requirements;
- Meet academic requirements;
- Meet course AAPA and course requirements;
- Are full fee-paying student;
- Your course must be listed on the VET Student Loan eligible courses list;
- Your total loan for the course must be within the stated course loan cap;
- You have not exceeded your FEE-HELP lifetime limit;
- You are able to provide Tax File Number (If you have applied for but not yet issued with a tax file number, you need to present a certificate from the Commissioner); and
- You enrol on or before first census date of your course and remain enrol in the unit of study until the end of the census date.

Citizenship requirements:

- An Australian citizen; or
- Permanent humanitarian visa holder; or

- A qualifying New Zealand citizen (New Zealand Special Category Visa holder who meets long-term residency requirements)

Please note that permanent residents are not eligible for a Vet Student Loan.

Academic requirements:

- Have successfully completed Year 12 or equivalent; or
- Be at Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF) Exit Level 3 in both literary and numeracy skills assessments; or
- Have completed Certificate IV or higher level qualification; or

Please note that you will need to provide documentary evidence of the citizenship and academic requirements.

Course requirements:

- Age 18 and above;
- A pass in Mathematics or Physics;
- Able to obtain CASA Aviation Medical Certificate Class 1 and 2;
- Able to obtain CASA Australian Airport Security Pass

What if I am not eligible for a Vet Student Loan or my course is not eligible for Vet Student Loan or I am eligible but my tuition fees exceed the Vet Student Loan course cap?

If either you or your course are not eligible for a Vet Student Loan or if the cost of your tuition fees exceed the Vet Student Loan course cap, you would need to pay any fees/excess fees not covered by the Vet Student Loan upfront.

How do I enrol and apply for a Vet Student Loan?

- Enrol with AAPA for the course you wish to study. Please contact AAPA at rto@apa.net.au on your interest.

VET Student Loans Information

- You will be issued an Enrolment Kit which contains an Enrolment Form, AAPA Student Agreement, Student Handbook, essential policies and procedures (see below) for your reading and understanding before you make a decision to enrol, etc.
- You need to attach supporting documents with the application form which include proof of Australian Citizenship (passport or birth certificate) or residency (humanitarian visa or qualifying New Zealand citizen) and a copy of High School Certificate (with grades) or other academic evidence as outlined above.
- You need to indicate in the Enrolment Form that you wish to apply for a Vet Student Loan.
- AAPA will contact you to confirm that the application has been received and information on when the course starts and the next steps in the enrolment process.
- You will be notified if you are successful in your application based on your meeting the academic and course requirements.

Please note that the number of full time Vet Student Loan students accepted by AAPA at each intake is subject to its Vet Student Loan provider cap and can change on short notice.

- You will be sent via email a Vet Student Loan Letter of Offer outlining the course details including the VSL Schedule of Fees (see below). Included in this email a link to apply for your Vet Student Loan, an Aviation Reference Number (ARN), and Aviation Security Identification Card (ASIC). You will also be given a list of DAME for a Class 1 Aviation Medical.

Please note that an ASIC and Class 1 Aviation Medical are an entry requirement and failure to obtain either one will result in cancellation of your enrolment.

- You are required to confirm your enrolment by forwarding your completed AAPA Student Agreement and Vet Student Loan approval along with your ASIC and medical before the induction.

Additional Information

Vet Student Loans - <https://www.education.gov.au/vet-student-loans>

HELP Debts and Repayments - <https://www.studyassist.gov.au/paying-back-your-loan/loan-repayment>

Australian Taxation Office - <https://www.ato.gov.au/Individuals/Study-and-training-support-loans/>

Study Assist - <https://www.studyassist.gov.au/>

Centrelink - <https://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/centrelink>

VET Tuition Fee Schedule

The VET Tuition Fee Schedule can be found [here](#).

Policies and Procedures

Our current policies and procedures can be found [here](#).