



Notice of debt removal

Notice for former students of Australian Institute of Professional Education Pty Ltd (AIPE)

New legislation commenced on 1 January 2019 allowing the removal of VET FEE-HELP debt incurred because of inappropriate conduct by a VET FEE-HELP provider or their agent.

This notice is for the purpose of clause 46AA(8) of Schedule 1A of the Higher Education Support Act 2003.

If you were enrolled into a course with Australian Institute of Professional Education Pty Ltd (AIPE) and commenced studies between 1 January 2013 and 1 December 2015 you may have had your VET FEE-HELP debt removed.

What does this Notice mean?

Using this new legislation, VET FEE-HELP debts have been removed (and FEE-HELP balances re-credited) for students:

- who were enrolled into and commenced in a VET course with AIPE between 1 January 2013 and 1 December 2015
- for whom there is evidence they did not complete the VET FEE-HELP units in the course and
- who had a VET FEE-HELP debt for those incomplete units of study in those courses.

This decision was made by a delegate of the Secretary of the Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business under sub-clause 46AA(1) of schedule 1A of the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* because it is considered reasonably likely that AIPE (or its agents) engaged in inappropriate conduct in relation to the person's unit of study or course.

The decision was made on the basis of findings against AIPE by the Federal Court of Australia in the case of *Australian Competition and Consumer Commission v Australian Institute of Professional Education Pty Ltd (in liq) (No 3) [2019] FCA 1982*, as well as existing data and information held by the department.

How can I check if I have a VET FEE-HELP debt with AIPE?

If you think you may have incurred a VET FEE-HELP debt for a course with AIPE, you can check whether you are affected by this decision by logging onto [myHELPbalance](#). You will need your Commonwealth Higher Education Student Support Number (CHESSN) to log in. Your CHESSN will be in documentation sent to you by AIPE.

If, in checking [myHELPbalance](#), you see that you have a VET FEE-HELP debt you believe you should not have, or if you are not able to find your CHESSN, please contact the VET Student Loans Ombudsman within the Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman using the [online complaint form](#). More information on seeking redress can be found on the [Commonwealth Ombudsman VET Student Loans](#) website.