



Western Australia

Vocational Education and Training Act 1996

**Vocational Education and Training (Colleges)  
Regulations 1996**



# Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Regulations 1996

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## Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Regulations 1996

### Part 1 — Preliminary

#### 1. Citation

These regulations may be cited as the *Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Regulations 1996*.

*[Regulation 1 amended: Gazette 22 May 2009 p. 1693.]*

#### 2. Commencement

These regulations come into operation on the day on which Part 5 of the Act comes into operation.

#### 3. Terms used

- (1) In these regulations, unless the contrary intention appears —
- category***, in relation to a course and a person, means the category into which the course is classified for the person under regulation 4;

***concessional or youth student*** means a person who —

- (a) is a concessional student; or
- (b) has reached 15 years of age but has not reached the end of the calendar year in which they reached 25 years of age;

**concessional student** means a person who is, under regulation 20(2) or 21, entitled to the concessional rate of course fee;

**concession-eligible course**, in relation to a person, means —

- (a) a category 1 course in relation to the person if it is specified under regulation 4(3B) that the course is eligible for course fee concessions or exemptions; or
- (b) a category 2, 3 or 5 course in relation to the person;

**course** means a VET course;

**course fee**, in relation to a person, means the fee to be paid under regulation 17 by the person when enrolling as a student at a college;

**existing worker trainee** means a person who —

- (a) is undertaking training; and
- (b) is a party to a training contract as defined in section 60A of the Act; and
- (c) under that contract, is regarded as an existing worker and is not referred to as an apprentice;

**hours** for a unit of a course, means the nominal hours for the unit determined under regulation 3AA;

**secondary school aged person** means a person who has reached 15 years of age but has not reached the end of the calendar year in which their compulsory education period expires, as defined in the *School Education Act 1999* section 4;

**unit** means a unit or module that is a component of a course and in which vocational education or training on a discrete subject is provided in accordance with the specifications of the unit or module to people enrolled in the course with the object that those who successfully complete the unit or module will have achieved a level of knowledge or competence in the subject concerned as specified in those specifications.



[(2) *deleted*]

[Regulation 3 amended: Gazette 23 Dec 2005 p. 6246-7; 9 Nov 2007 p. 5605-6; 22 May 2009 p. 1693-4; 26 Jun 2009 p. 2566; 18 Dec 2009 p. 5172; 17 Dec 2013 p. 6255-6; 12 Dec 2014 p. 4739; 3 Feb 2017 p. 1116; 22 Oct 2019 p. 3730; SL 2020/200 r. 4; SL 2021/143 r. 4.]

### 3AA. Nominal hours

- (1) The *nominal hours* for a unit of a course means —
  - (a) for a unit of a course accredited by the Council — the number of hours set out in the application to have the course accredited under section 58C of the Act as being the number of hours in which an average student could reasonably be expected to complete the unit; or
  - (b) for a listed unit of competency that forms part of a listed training package, as referred to in the *Vocational Education and Training (General) Regulations 2009* regulation 4 — the number of hours approved by the Minister as being the number of hours in which an average student could reasonably be expected to complete the unit; or
  - (c) for a unit of a course accredited under a corresponding law — the number of hours set out in the application to have the course accredited under the corresponding law as being the number of hours in which an average student could reasonably be expected to complete the unit.
- (2) The chief executive must give public notice of the nominal hours for each unit, in such manner and at such times as the chief executive decides is appropriate, which may include on a website approved by the chief executive.

[Regulation 3AA inserted: Gazette 17 Dec 2013 p. 6256-7.]

## **Part 2A — Management of colleges**

*[Heading inserted: Gazette 22 May 2009 p. 1694.]*

### **3A. Period prescribed for strategic plans (Act s. 43(1))**

For the purposes of section 43(1) of the Act, a college's draft strategic plan must be for a period of 3 years.

*[Regulation 3A inserted: Gazette 22 May 2009 p. 1694.]*

## Part 2 — Classification and reclassification of courses

*[Heading amended: Gazette 9 Nov 2007 p. 5606; 17 Dec 2013 p. 6257; SL 2020/109 r. 4.]*

### 4. Classification of courses

- (1) The chief executive is to issue to all colleges not later than the beginning of a calendar year an instrument setting out for that year the way in which courses provided by colleges are classified for the purposes of these regulations.
- (2) In the instrument referred to in subregulation (1) the courses provided by colleges are to be classified as follows —
  - (a) category 1 is to consist of courses that the chief executive determines are —
    - (i) priorities for industry training, apprenticeships or traineeships or are for general industry training; and
    - (ii) courses to which a higher fee should generally apply;
  - (b) category 2 is to consist of courses that the chief executive determines are —
    - (i) priorities for industry training, apprenticeships or traineeships; but
    - (ii) not courses to which a higher fee, targeted fee relief or no fee should generally apply;
  - (c) category 3 is to consist of courses that the chief executive determines are —
    - (i) for general industry training; but
    - (ii) not courses to which a higher fee, targeted fee relief or no fee should generally apply;
  - (d) category 4 is to consist of courses that the chief executive determines are —
    - (i) foundation skills training; or

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- (ii) intended to promote equality of opportunity in gaining access to vocational education and training or employment;
  - (e) category 5 is to consist of courses that the chief executive determines are courses to which targeted fee relief should generally apply;
  - (f) category 6 is to consist of courses that the chief executive determines are courses to which no fee should apply.
- (2A) In the instrument referred to in subregulation (1), the chief executive may classify a course into a single category or into different categories for different persons, depending on whether or not the persons are —
  - (a) parties to training contracts; or
  - (b) existing worker trainees.
- (2B) If a course is classified into a single category, it is classified into that category for all persons.
- (3A) In the instrument referred to in subregulation (1), the chief executive may specify that a category 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 course in relation to a concessional or youth student is a course for which no course fee is payable by the concessional or youth student.
- (3B) In the instrument referred to in subregulation (1), the chief executive may specify that a category 1 course in relation to a person is eligible for course fee concessions and exemptions.
- (3) The chief executive may by instrument issued to all colleges amend an instrument issued under subregulation (1).

*[Regulation 4 amended: Gazette 18 Dec 2009 p. 5172; 17 Dec 2013 p. 6257-9; 3 Feb 2017 p. 1116; 22 Dec 2017 p. 5995; 22 Oct 2019 p. 3730; SL 2020/84 r. 4; SL 2020/109 r. 5; SL 2020/200 r. 5; SL 2021/143 r. 5.]*

**4A.     Reclassification of courses**

- (1) Without limiting regulation 4(3), the chief executive may by instrument issued to all colleges amend an instrument issued under regulation 4(1) to reclassify courses provided by colleges into a different category.
- (2) Subregulations (3) to (7) apply if the chief executive amends an instrument under subregulation (1).
- (3) Subject to subregulation (5), the reclassification of a course does not affect the course fees payable for units of the course commenced before the day on which the amendment takes effect (*amendment day*).
- (4) If a course is reclassified as a category 5 course for all or any persons, the course fee caps in regulation 12(5) and (6) apply only in relation to the course fees payable for units of the course commenced by those persons on or after amendment day.
- (5) If a category 5 course is reclassified for all or any persons, the course fee caps in regulation 12(5) and (6) apply only in relation to the course fees payable for units of the course commenced by those persons before amendment day.
- (6) If, before amendment day, a person paid an amount of course fees that includes an amount for units commenced on or after amendment day and that, because of the reclassification of a course, exceeds the amount of course fees payable by the person, the person is entitled to a refund of the difference between the amount paid and the amount payable.
- (7) If, before amendment day, a person paid, or arranged to the satisfaction of a college for the payment of, an amount of course fees that includes an amount for units commenced on or after amendment day and that, because of the reclassification of a course, is less than the amount of course fees payable by the person, the person is not required to pay the difference between

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the amount paid, or arranged to be paid, and the amount payable.

*[Regulation 4A inserted: SL 2020/109 r. 6; amended: SL 2020/200 r. 6; SL 2021/143 r. 6.]*

**[4B.** *Deleted: Gazette 17 Dec 2013 p. 6259.]*

## Part 3 — Selection and fees

### Division 1 — Selection for certain courses, and fees

*[Heading amended: Gazette 17 Dec 2013 p. 6259.]*

#### 5. Term used: Admissions Manager

In this Division —

**Admissions Manager** means the officer designated under regulation 7.

*[Regulation 5 amended: Gazette 17 Dec 2013 p. 6259; 12 Dec 2014 p. 4739; 22 Oct 2019 p. 3730; SL 2020/84 r. 5; SL 2021/143 r. 7.]*

#### 6. Application of this Division

- (1) This Division does not apply to a course if —
  - (aa) the course is classified as a category 4 course for all persons; or
  - (a) the number of hours for the course does not exceed —
    - (i) an average of 13 hours in each week; or
    - (ii) a total of 221 hours in a semester;or
  - (b) the chief executive has determined that applications for selection for the course are to be made to the college concerned.
- (2) The description of a course in the handbook of courses published for prospective students of colleges is to indicate whether subregulation (1)(b) applies to the course.

*[Regulation 6 amended: Gazette 23 Dec 2005 p. 6247; 9 Nov 2007 p. 5607; SL 2021/143 r. 8.]*

**7. Admissions Manager, designation and functions of**

The chief executive is to designate an officer of the department as Admissions Manager with the function of undertaking, where this Division applies, the selection of persons for courses on behalf of colleges.

*[Regulation 7 amended: Gazette 9 Nov 2007 p. 5607; 17 Dec 2013 p. 6259.]*

**8. Application for selection for course at college**

A person who wishes to be selected for a course provided by a college must apply in writing to the Admissions Manager for selection.

*[Regulation 8 inserted: Gazette 9 Nov 2007 p. 5607.]*

**9. Late applications**

- (1) The Admissions Manager may for any course determine a day after which applications under regulation 8 are to be regarded as late applications.
- (2) A person who makes an application under regulation 8 that is a late application must pay the late application fee set out in Schedule 1 item 1.

*[Regulation 9 amended: Gazette 9 Nov 2007 p. 5607; 17 Dec 2013 p. 6259; 12 Dec 2014 p. 4739.]*

**10. Assessing applicant on basis of experience, fee for**

- (1) A person who wishes —
  - (a) to make an application under regulation 8 in respect of a course; and
  - (b) to be selected for the course on the basis of experience rather than previous vocational education,

must pay a fee determined by the Admissions Manager as representing the cost of dealing with the application.



- (2) The fee determined under subregulation (1) must not exceed \$70.

*[Regulation 10 amended: Gazette 9 Nov 2007 p. 5607.]*

### **Division 2 — Course fees**

*[Heading inserted: Gazette 23 Dec 2005 p. 6247.]*

*[Subdivision 1 (r. 11-13A) deleted: Gazette 12 Dec 2014 p. 4739.]*

*[Heading deleted: Gazette 12 Dec 2014 p. 4740.]*

#### **11. Course fees for 2021 to 2025: Schedule 1**

- (1) If a student commences a unit of a course in 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 or 2025, the course fee is determined as follows —
- (a) if only one unit is to be commenced — the relevant fee determined in accordance with Schedule 1 item 2, 2A, 3, 4, 5 or 6 (the *unit fee*);
  - (b) if more than one unit is to be commenced — the sum of the unit fees for each unit to be commenced.
- (2) Subregulation (1) —
- (a) is subject to the other provisions of this Division; and
  - (b) does not apply to a course or unit for which there is a determination in force under regulation 16A.

*[Regulation 11 inserted: Gazette 23 Dec 2016 p. 5907; amended: Gazette 3 Feb 2017 p. 1116; 22 Dec 2017 p. 5995; 27 Nov 2018 p. 4584; 22 Oct 2019 p. 3731; SL 2020/84 r. 6; SL 2020/190 r. 4; SL 2021/168 r. 4.]*

#### **12. Annual course fee caps**

- (1) In this regulation —
- final year secondary school student* means a person enrolled at a school to whom regulation 13(4) applies;

***specified course*** means a course that, if successfully completed, would result in the conferral of a prescribed VET qualification of a Diploma or Advanced Diploma;

***unenrolled secondary school aged person*** means a secondary school aged person who is not enrolled at school.

- (2) In this regulation, a student is ***enrolled*** in a course if the student enrolls in one, or more than one, unit of that course.

*[(3) deleted]*

- (4) For a student who is not a secondary school aged person, the maximum amount of course fee payable for a year referred to in regulation 11(1) for each specified course in which the student is enrolled is \$7 860.

- (5) For a student who is not a concessional or youth student, the maximum amount of course fee payable for a year referred to in regulation 11(1) for each category 5 course in which the student is enrolled is \$1 200.

- (6) Subject to subregulation (7) in the case of an unenrolled secondary school aged person or a final year secondary school student, for a student who is a concessional or youth student, the maximum amount of course fee payable for a year referred to in regulation 11(1) for each category 5 course in which the student is enrolled is \$400.

- (7) For a student who is an unenrolled secondary school aged person or a final year secondary school student, the maximum amount of course fee payable for a year referred to in regulation 11(1) is \$420 in total across all courses in which the student is enrolled in that calendar year.

*[Regulation 12 inserted: Gazette 22 Oct 2019 p. 3731-2;  
amended: SL 2020/84 r. 7; SL 2020/190 r. 5; SL 2020/200 r. 7;  
SL 2022/203 r. 4.]*

***[13B. Deleted: Gazette 11 Dec 2015 p. 4958.]***

**13. Courses exempt from course fees**

- (1) No course fee is payable by a concessional or youth student for a course specified under regulation 4(3A).

[(2) *deleted*]

- (3) No course fee is payable for a course undertaken by a person enrolled at a school.

- (4) Subregulation (3) does not apply if —

- (a) the person is in the final year of secondary school and will not, after the completion of that year, be enrolled at a secondary school; and
- (b) the person commences the course after the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of the final school term determined for government schools for that year under the *School Education Act 1999* section 117.

[Regulation 13 inserted: Gazette 31 Dec 2008 p. 5682; amended: Gazette 18 Dec 2009 p. 5173; 17 Dec 2013 p. 6263-4; 12 Dec 2014 p. 4740; 11 Dec 2015 p. 4958; 22 Oct 2019 p. 3732; SL 2020/84 r. 8; SL 2020/200 r. 8; SL 2022/132 r. 4; SL 2022/203 r. 5.]

**14. Students in State care**

- (1) This regulation applies to a student who is not enrolled in school but is in the care of the CEO within the meaning of the *Children and Community Services Act 2004* section 3 and in accordance with section 30 of that Act.

- (2) A course fee is not payable by a student to whom this regulation applies, in the following circumstances —

- (a) where the compulsory school education period for the student under the *School Education Act 1999* ends prior to the day that the student reaches 18 years of age — a course fee is not payable for a course undertaken by that student until that student reaches the age of 18 years;

- (b) where the compulsory school education period for the student under the *School Education Act 1999* ends on or after the day that the student reaches 18 years of age — a course fee is not payable for a course undertaken by that student for the remainder of the year in which that compulsory school education period applies.

[Regulation 14 inserted: Gazette 23 Dec 2016 p. 5907-8.]

[15. Deleted: SL 2021/143 r. 9.]

**15A. Course fees for overseas students**

- (1A) A student commencing a course is an ***Australian resident*** for the purposes of subregulation (1) if the student satisfies one of the following conditions —
- (a) the student is an Australian citizen (as defined in the *Australian Citizenship Act 2007* (Commonwealth) section 4(1));
  - (b) the student holds a permanent visa or a visa of Subclass 309, 444, 785, 790, 820 or 826;
  - (c) the student holds a visa of subclass 457 granted on the basis that the student satisfied the secondary criteria for that subclass;
  - (d) the student —
    - (i) holds a visa of subclass 050 or 051; and
    - (ii) has received a letter from the Department of State of the Commonwealth assisting in the administration of the *Migration Act 1958* (Commonwealth) acknowledging that the student has made a valid application for a visa of subclass 785 or 790;
  - (e) the student commences the course in 2023 or 2024 and —
    - (i) the student is a citizen of Afghanistan and holds a visa of subclass 449; or

- (ii) the student is a citizen of Ukraine and holds a visa of subclass 449 or 786; or
  - (iii) the student —
    - (I) holds a bridging visa that is not subject to condition 8101 set out in the *Migration Regulations 1994* (Commonwealth) Schedule 8; and
    - (II) has received a letter from the Department of State of the Commonwealth assisting in the administration of the *Migration Act 1958* (Commonwealth) acknowledging that the student has made a valid application for a visa of subclass 866;
- or
- (iv) the student holds a visa of subclass 482 granted on the basis that the student satisfied the secondary criteria for that subclass.

*[(f) deleted]*

- (1B) In subregulation (1A) a reference to a visa, or to a visa of a particular kind or subclass, is a reference to a visa, or to a visa of that kind or subclass, granted under the *Migration Act 1958* (Commonwealth).
- (1) The course fee for any course for a student who is not an Australian resident is —
  - (a) if there is a relevant determination in force under this regulation, the fee specified in that determination; or
  - (b) otherwise, the fee determined in accordance with regulation 11.

- (2) The Minister may by instrument issued to the relevant college or colleges determine the course fee for a course for students who are not Australian residents.
- (3) The Minister may determine different fees for different courses, different units or different students based on —
- (a) the categories of the course; or
  - (b) the subject matter of the course or unit; or
  - (c) which college provides the course or unit; or
  - (d) the country of origin of the student; or
  - (e) the level and extent of the student's previous vocational education, training and experience; or
  - (f) any other criteria the Minister considers relevant to the cost of providing the course,
- or any combination of those criteria.

[(4), (5) *deleted*]

*[Regulation 15A inserted: Gazette 13 Apr 1999 p. 1547-8; amended: Gazette 5 Nov 1999 p. 5635; 8 Oct 2002 p. 5097; 23 Dec 2005 p. 6248; 30 May 2008 p. 2068-9; 27 Oct 2011 p. 4558; 17 Dec 2013 p. 6264-5; 11 Dec 2015 p. 4958; 12 Jun 2018 p. 1898; 22 Oct 2019 p. 3732-3; SL 2022/203 r. 6; SL 2024/1 r. 4.]*

### **Division 3 — Other fees**

#### **16. Colleges may determine other fees**

- (1A) This regulation does not apply to vocational education or training or related services supplied by a college on a fee for service basis under section 37(1)(bb) of the Act.
- (1) A college may from time to time determine any fee or charge that is payable to the college for any particular vocational education or training or related service supplied by the college,

not being a service for which a fee is prescribed by these regulations.

- (2) The Minister is to direct each college under section 11 of the Act as to the manner in which a determination under subregulation (1) is to be published.
- (3) A determination under subregulation (1) does not have effect until it is published accordingly.

*[Regulation 16 amended: Gazette 11 Dec 2015 p. 4958.]*

**16A. Fee for service**

- (1) A college may from time to time determine the fee or charge that is payable to the college for the supply of a particular vocational education or training or related service, where that supply is to be provided on a fee for service basis under section 37(1)(bb) of the Act.
- (2) Subregulation (1) does not apply to students who are already subject to a determination under regulation 15A.

*[Regulation 16A inserted: Gazette 11 Dec 2015 p. 4959.]*

**[16B.] Deleted: Gazette 22 May 2009 p. 1694.]**

## Part 4 — Enrolment

### 17. Enrolment as student at college

- (1) A person cannot take a course or unit provided by a college unless he or she is enrolled as a student at the college.
- (2) A person is enrolled as a student at a college if —
  - (a) he or she has lodged a completed enrolment form for one, or more than one, unit of a course with the college; and
  - (b) subject to regulations 22 and 23, he or she pays, or has arranged to the satisfaction of the college for the payment of —
    - (i) the course fee for the unit or units provided for by Part 3 Division 2 as the payment becomes due; and
    - (ii) any other fee or charge properly payable in connection with the course under regulation 16.

*[Regulation 17 amended: Gazette 29 Nov 2002 p. 5667; 23 Dec 2005 p. 6248; 9 Nov 2007 p. 5608; 19 Jan 2010 p. 144; 17 Dec 2013 p. 6265; SL 2020/109 r. 7; SL 2020/200 r. 9.]*

### 18. When enrolment at college may be refused or cancelled

- (1) Despite regulation 17, a person is not enrolled at a college if, within 21 days after he or she has complied with that regulation, the governing council of the college —
  - (a) decides to refuse the enrolment; and
  - (b) gives notice in writing to the person of the decision and of the reasons for it.
- (2) The only grounds on which a governing council may refuse an enrolment under subregulation (1) are that the person —
  - (a) has committed —
    - (i) a breach of discipline at a college; or



- (ii) a breach of the by-laws of a college,  
and the governing council considers that there is a significant risk of a further breach by the person; or
  - (b) has failed to pay any fee or charge properly payable to a college; or
  - (c) has enrolled as a student at a college by satisfying regulation 17(2)(b) by undertaking to arrange for payment of fees by way of Commonwealth assistance, either VET FEE-HELP or a VET student loan, but has not had an eligible application for the VET FEE-HELP or the VET student loan to the college confirmed within the required period for that unit.
- (2A) A governing council may cancel the enrolment, for a particular course, or particular units, of a person who is enrolled at a college if it becomes apparent after the 21 days given in subregulation (1) that the student will not receive funding either by VET FEE-HELP or a VET student loan to undertake the particular course or those units.
- (3) It is sufficient compliance with subregulation (1)(b) if the notice is sent by post to a postal address given by the person in the enrolment form.
- (4) Nothing in this regulation affects the application of criteria in the selection of persons for a course.

*[Regulation 18 amended: Gazette 11 Dec 2015 p. 4959;  
23 Dec 2016 p. 5908-9.]*

*[19. Deleted: Gazette 9 Nov 2007 p. 5608.]*

## **Part 5 — Fee concessions, exemptions and refunds**

*[Heading inserted: Gazette 18 Dec 2009 p. 5174.]*

### **Division 1 — Concessional rates of fees**

#### **20. Persons entitled to concessional rate of course fee**

(1) In this regulation —

**Centrelink** means the Commonwealth agency known as Centrelink.

(2) The following persons are entitled to the concessional rate of course fee for a concession-eligible course —

- (a) persons holding a Health Care Card issued by Centrelink;
- (b) persons holding a Pensioner Concession Card issued by Centrelink;
- (c) persons holding a Repatriation Health Benefits Card issued by the Commonwealth Department of Veterans' Affairs;

*[(ca), (cb) deleted]*

- (cc) persons who are active participants in the employment services program provided by the Commonwealth known as Workforce Australia;
- (cd) parents or carers participating in the support program provided by the Commonwealth known as ParentsNext;
- (d) persons in receipt of a benefit under the AUSTUDY scheme described in the *Student Assistance Act 1973*<sup>2</sup> of the Commonwealth;
- (e) persons in receipt of a benefit under the ABSTUDY scheme of the Commonwealth;
- (ea) persons in receipt of the common youth allowance from the Commonwealth;
- (eb) secondary school aged person;

- (f) persons who are inmates of a custodial institution for adults or juveniles;
- (g) dependents of persons referred to in paragraphs (a) to (f).

*[(2a) Omitted under the Reprints Act 1984 s. 7(4)(e).]*

- (3) It is the responsibility of a person who claims an entitlement under this regulation in relation to a course provided by a college to establish that entitlement to the satisfaction of the governing council of the college.

*[Regulation 20 amended: Gazette 7 Nov 1997 p. 6150 (disallowed: Gazette 9 Jun 1998 p. 3098); 14 Aug 1998 p. 4434-5; 4 Dec 1998 p. 6535; 28 Nov 2003 p. 4774; 23 Dec 2005 p. 6248-9; 18 Dec 2009 p. 5174; 17 Dec 2013 p. 6266; 3 Feb 2017 p. 1116; SL 2020/200 r. 10; SL 2022/132 r. 5.]*

*[20A. Deleted: Gazette 23 Dec 2016 p. 5909.]*

**21. Concessional rate for concession-eligible course where there is financial hardship**

If the governing council of a college is satisfied, on application by a person who wishes to enrol at the college for a unit, or more than one unit, of a concession-eligible course, that payment of the course fee provided for by Part 3 Division 2 would cause financial hardship to the person, the council may determine that the concessional rate is to apply to that person for that unit, or those units, as if the person were a person to whom regulation 20(2) applies.

*[Regulation 21 amended: Gazette 7 Nov 1997 p. 6150 (disallowed: Gazette 9 Jun 1998 p. 3098); 23 Dec 2005 p. 6249; 17 Dec 2013 p. 6266; 3 Feb 2017 p. 1116; 22 Dec 2017 p. 5996.]*

**Division 2 — Payment by instalment and exemption for severe financial hardship**

*[Heading inserted: Gazette 17 Dec 2013 p. 6267.]*

**22. Payment of certain fees by instalments**

- (1) The governing council of a college may, on application by a person who wishes to enrol at the college, allow the person to pay a course fee by instalments of such amounts and at such times as it determines.
- (2) The governing council of a college may, on application by a person who would otherwise be liable for a fee imposed under regulation 16 for a service, allow the person to pay the fee by instalments of such amounts and at such times as it determines.
- (3) If a student fails to pay an instalment when it becomes due and payable the governing council of a college may —
  - (a) withdraw the allowance granted under subregulation (1) or (2) and require the student to pay the total unpaid portion of the fee by a date specified by the council; or
  - (b) cancel the enrolment of a student.
- (4) The governing council of a college may only exercise a power under subregulation (3) if —
  - (a) the council has given the student 21 days written notice of its intention to do so; and
  - (b) any instalment payable before the notice was given remains unpaid at the expiry of those 21 days.
- (5) If a student fails to pay an instalment, or an amount payable under subregulation (3)(a), when it becomes due and payable the governing council of a college may recover that amount in a court of competent jurisdiction as a debt due to the college.

*[Regulation 22 amended: Gazette 7 Nov 1997 p. 6151; 23 Dec 2005 p. 6249; 17 Dec 2013 p. 6267.]*

**23. Exemption from fees if severe financial hardship**

(1A) This regulation applies as follows —

- (a) subregulation (1) applies to a person undertaking or wishing to undertake a concession-eligible course or a category 4 course;
- (b) subregulation (2) applies to a person undertaking or wishing to undertake a concession-eligible course, a category 4 course or a category 6 course.

- (1) If the governing council of a college is satisfied, on application by a person to whom this subregulation applies who wishes to enrol at the college that payment of the course fee would cause severe financial hardship to the person, the council may determine that the person is not required to pay the course fee.
- (2) If the governing council of a college is satisfied, on application by a person to whom this subregulation applies who would otherwise be liable for a fee imposed under regulation 16 for a service, that payment of the fee would cause severe financial hardship to the person, the council may determine that the fee is not payable by the person for the service.

*[Regulation 23 amended: Gazette 23 Dec 2005 p. 6249; 17 Dec 2013 p. 6267-8; 23 Dec 2016 p. 5909; 3 Feb 2017 p. 1117; SL 2020/84 r. 9.]*

**Division 3 — Refund of fees**

*[Heading inserted: Gazette 19 Jan 2010 p. 144.]*

**24A. Terms used**

In this Division —

***payment period***, in relation to the payment of an instalment of a course fee under a determination by a governing council under regulation 22, means a period of 6 months commencing on the day the payment of the instalment was due, or a period of up to 12 months (if within the same calendar year);

*pro rata refund* means —

- (a) where the course fee is paid at enrolment — a refund of the same proportion of the fee paid by a person for the unit as the proportion of the unit that had not been delivered at the time the person withdrew from the unit;
- (b) where the course fee is paid by instalments — a refund of the same proportion of the payment made by a person for a payment period as the proportion of the course to be delivered in that payment period that had not been delivered at the time the person withdrew from the course;

*unforeseen circumstances* means a change of circumstances that a person could not reasonably have foreseen before the expiry of the allowed period under regulation 25(3).

*[Regulation 24A inserted: Gazette 19 Jan 2010 p. 144-5; amended: Gazette 17 Dec 2013 p. 6268; 12 Dec 2014 p. 4740-1.]*

**24B. Withdrawing from course or unit, manner of**

For the purposes of this Division, a person withdraws from a course or unit when he or she gives the college providing the course or unit a notice of withdrawal, in a form provided by the college, or if no form is provided, in writing.

*[Regulation 24B inserted: Gazette 19 Jan 2010 p. 145.]*

**24. Refund of fees on cancellation etc. of course or unit**

A person enrolled for a course or a unit is entitled to a full refund of all fees paid in respect of a semester or payment period for that course or unit —

- (a) if, after the commencement of the semester or payment period, the course or unit is cancelled; or

- (b) if, after the commencement of the semester or payment period —
  - (i) there is a change in the day or time scheduled for the course or unit; and
  - (ii) the person withdraws from the course or unit because the day or time as changed is not suitable for him or her.

*[Regulation 24 inserted: Gazette 19 Jan 2010 p. 145; amended: Gazette 17 Dec 2013 p. 6268.]*

**25. Full refund of certain fees if withdrawal within allowed period**

*[(1) deleted]*

- (2) A person enrolled for a unit is entitled to a full refund of all fees paid in respect of that unit or a payment period for that unit if within the allowed period the person withdraws from the unit.
- (3) For the purpose of subregulation (2), the allowed period for a unit is the period set by the college for that unit, ending no less than 20% of the way through the period during which that unit is undertaken.

*[Regulation 25 inserted: Gazette 12 Dec 2014 p. 4741; amended: Gazette 11 Dec 2015 p. 4960.]*

**26. Pro rata refund of fees if withdrawal after allowed period**

- (1) A person enrolled for a unit where the course fee was paid at enrolment is entitled to a pro rata refund of the fees paid for the unit if, after the expiry of the allowed period for that unit under regulation 25(3), he or she —
  - (a) withdraws from the unit; and
  - (b) provides evidence to the satisfaction of the governing council that the withdrawal is due to unforeseen circumstances.

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- (2) A person enrolled for a unit where the course fee is paid by instalments is entitled to a pro rata refund of the amount of the fee paid in respect of a payment period if after the expiry of the allowed period for that payment period under regulation 25(3), he or she —
- (a) withdraws from the unit; and
  - (b) provides evidence to the satisfaction of the governing council that the withdrawal is due to unforeseen circumstances.

*[Regulation 26 inserted: Gazette 19 Jan 2010 p. 146; amended: Gazette 17 Dec 2013 p. 6269; 12 Dec 2014 p. 4741.]*

*[26A. Deleted: Gazette 18 Dec 2009 p. 5174.]*



## Part 6 — Common seals of colleges

### 27. Form

The common seal of a college is to be circular in form and have —

- (a) the name of the college in its centre; and
- (b) the words “Common Seal” around its circumference.

### 28. Custody

The common seal of a college is to be kept in safe custody by the managing director of the college.

### 29. Use

The common seal of a college is not to be affixed to any document unless the governing council of the college has determined by resolution that it be so affixed.

### 30. Attestation

The common seal of a college is to be affixed to a document in the presence of —

- (a) the chairperson or deputy chairperson of the governing council of the college; and
- (b) at least one other member of the governing council,

and each of the persons so present is to sign the document to attest that the common seal was so affixed.

### 31. Seal book

- (1) A college is to have a book (the *seal book*) in which is to be entered a record of all documents to which the common seal has been affixed.
- (2) The managing director is responsible for —
  - (a) keeping the seal book in safe custody; and
  - (b) ensuring that the necessary entries are made in it.

## Part 7 — Transitional provision

*[Heading inserted: SL 2020/84 r. 10.]*

### 32. Transitional provision for Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Amendment Regulations 2020

- (1) In this regulation —  
**2020 instrument** means the instrument issued by the chief executive under regulation 4(1) for 2020.
- (2) Without limiting regulation 4(3), the chief executive may by instrument issued to all colleges amend the 2020 instrument to —
  - (a) classify courses provided by colleges as category 6 courses; and
  - (b) make any amendments necessary as a consequence of introducing that classification.

*[Regulation 32 inserted: SL 2020/84 r. 10.]*

**Schedule 1 — Fees**

[r. 9 and Pt. 3 Div. 2]

[Heading inserted: Gazette 23 Dec 2016 p. 5909.]

Item	Fee for	Fee
1.	Late application (r. 9(2)) .....	75.00
		<b>Fee in \$ per hour of unit</b>
2.	Category 1 course which is not a concession-eligible course — all students .....	5.79
2A.	Category 1 course which is a concession-eligible course —	
	(a) for a student who is not a concessional student .....	5.79
	(b) for a concessional student .....	1.74
3.	Category 2 course —	
	(a) for a student who is not a concessional student .....	3.25
	(b) for a concessional student .....	0.97
4.	Category 3 course —	
	(a) for a student who is not a concessional student .....	4.88
	(b) for a concessional student .....	1.47
5.	Category 4 course — all students .....	0.21

<b>Item</b>	<b>Fee for</b>	<b>Fee</b>
6.	Category 5 course —	
	(a) for a student who is not a concessional student .....	1.62
	(b) for a concessional student .....	0.48

*[Schedule 1 inserted: Gazette 23 Dec 2016 p. 5909; amended:  
Gazette 3 Feb 2017 p. 1117; 22 Oct 2019 p. 3733.]*

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## Notes

This is a compilation of the *Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Regulations 1996* and includes amendments made by other written laws. For provisions that have come into operation, and for information about any reprints, see the compilation table.

### Compilation table

Citation	Published	Commencement
<i>Vocational Education and Training Regulations 1996</i> <sup>3</sup>	27 Dec 1996 p. 7167-84	1 Jan 1997 (see r. 2 and <i>Gazette</i> 12 Nov 1996 p. 6301)
<i>Vocational Education and Training Amendment Regulations 1997</i> <sup>4</sup>	7 Nov 1997 p. 6149-51	7 Nov 1997
<i>Vocational Education and Training Amendment Regulations (No. 2) 1997</i>	7 Nov 1997 p. 6152	1 Jan 1997 (see r. 2 and <i>Gazette</i> 12 Nov 1996 p. 6301)
<i>Vocational Education and Training Amendment Regulations 1998</i>	14 Aug 1998 p. 4433-6	14 Aug 1998
<i>Vocational Education and Training Amendment Regulations (No. 2) 1998</i>	4 Dec 1998 p. 6534-5	4 Dec 1998
<i>Vocational Education and Training Amendment Regulations 1999</i>	13 Apr 1999 p. 1546-8	13 Apr 1999
<i>Vocational Education and Training Amendment Regulations (No. 2) 1999</i> r. 5 and 6	5 Nov 1999 p. 5634-5	5 Nov 1999 (see r. 2(1))
<b>Reprint of the <i>Vocational Education and Training Regulations 1996</i> as at 26 May 2000</b> (includes amendments listed above)		
<i>Vocational Education and Training Amendment Regulations 2001</i>	2 Nov 2001 p. 5795-6	2 Nov 2001
<i>Vocational Education and Training Amendment Regulations (No. 3) 2001</i>	14 Dec 2001 p. 6408-9	14 Dec 2001
<i>Vocational Education and Training Amendment Regulations 2002</i>	16 Aug 2002 p. 4209-10	16 Aug 2002
<i>Vocational Education and Training Amendment Regulations (No. 2) 2002</i>	8 Oct 2002 p. 5096-7	8 Oct 2002
<i>Vocational Education and Training Amendment Regulations (No. 3) 2002</i>	29 Nov 2002 p. 5667-8	29 Nov 2002
<i>Vocational Education and Training Amendment Regulations 2003</i>	28 Nov 2003 p. 4773-4	28 Nov 2003

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**Notes**                      Compilation table

<b>Citation</b>	<b>Published</b>	<b>Commencement</b>
<i>Vocational Education and Training Amendment Regulations 2004</i>	26 Nov 2004 p. 5310	26 Nov 2004
<b>Reprint 2: The Vocational Education and Training Regulations 1996 as at 17 Dec 2004</b> (includes amendments listed above)		
<i>Vocational Education and Training Amendment Regulations 2005</i> <sup>5</sup>	23 Dec 2005 p. 6246-50	23 Dec 2005
<i>Vocational Education and Training Amendment Regulations 2006</i>	20 Oct 2006 p. 4467-9	20 Oct 2006
<i>Vocational Education and Training Amendment Regulations (No. 2) 2006</i>	24 Nov 2006 p. 4813-14	24 Nov 2006
<i>Vocational Education and Training Amendment Regulations 2007</i>	9 Nov 2007 p. 5605-9	r. 1 and 2: 9 Nov 2007 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 10 Nov 2007 (see r. 2(b))
<b>Reprint 3: The Vocational Education and Training Regulations 1996 as at 4 Jan 2008</b> (includes amendments listed above)		
<i>Vocational Education and Training Amendment Regulations 2008</i>	30 May 2008 p. 2068-9	r. 1 and 2: 30 May 2008 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 31 May 2008 (see r. 2(b))
<i>Vocational Education and Training Amendment Regulations (No. 2) 2008</i>	21 Nov 2008 p. 4920-1	r. 1 and 2: 21 Nov 2008 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 22 Nov 2008 (see r. 2(b))
<i>Vocational Education and Training Amendment Regulations 2009</i>	31 Dec 2008 p. 5681-2	r. 1 and 2: 31 Dec 2008 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 1 Jan 2009 (see r. 2(b))
<i>Vocational Education and Training Amendment Regulations (No. 2) 2009</i>	22 May 2009 p. 1693-4	r. 1 and 2: 22 May 2009 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 23 May 2009 (see r. 2(b))
<i>Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Amendment Regulations 2009</i>	26 Jun 2009 p. 2565-8	r. 1 and 2: 26 Jun 2009 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 1 Jul 2009 (see r. 2(b))
<b>Reprint 4: The Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Regulations 1996 as at 7 Aug 2009</b> (includes amendments listed above)		

Citation	Published	Commencement
<i>Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Amendment Regulations (No. 2) 2009</i>	18 Dec 2009 p. 5172-5	r. 1 and 2: 18 Dec 2009 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 19 Dec 2009 (see r. 2(b))
<i>Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Amendment Regulations 2010</i>	19 Jan 2010 p. 141-7	r. 1 and 2: 19 Jan 2010 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 20 Jan 2010 (see r. 2(b))
<i>Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Amendment Regulations (No. 2) 2010</i>	26 Nov 2010 p. 5956-8	r. 1 and 2: 26 Nov 2010 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 27 Nov 2010 (see r. 2(b))
<i>Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Amendment Regulations 2011</i>	27 Oct 2011 p. 4557-9	r. 1 and 2: 27 Oct 2011 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 28 Oct 2011 (see r. 2(b))
<b>Reprint 5: The Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Regulations 1996 as at 9 Mar 2012</b> (includes amendments listed above)		
<i>Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Amendment Regulations (No. 2) 2012</i>	12 Oct 2012 p. 4852-4	r. 1 and 2: 12 Oct 2012 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 13 Oct 2012 (see r. 2(b))
<i>Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Amendment Regulations 2013</i>	17 Dec 2013 p. 6255-71	r. 1 and 2: 17 Dec 2013 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 1 Jan 2014 (see r. 2(b))
<b>Reprint 6: The Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Regulations 1996 as at 7 Mar 2014</b> (includes amendments listed above)		
<i>Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Amendment Regulations 2014</i>	12 Dec 2014 p. 4739-42	r. 1 and 2: 12 Dec 2014 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 13 Dec 2014 (see r. 2(b))
<i>Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Amendment Regulations 2015</i>	11 Dec 2015 p. 4957-60	r. 1 and 2: 11 Dec 2015 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 1 Jan 2016 (see r. 2(b))
<i>Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Amendment Regulations 2016</i>	23 Dec 2016 p. 5906-9	r. 1 and 2: 23 Dec 2016 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 1 Jan 2017 (see r. 2(b))

**Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Regulations 1996**  
**Notes**                      Compilation table

<b>Citation</b>	<b>Published</b>	<b>Commencement</b>
<i>Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Amendment Regulations 2017</i>	3 Feb 2017 p. 1115-17	r. 1 and 2: 3 Feb 2017 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 4 Feb 2017 (see r. 2(b))
<i>Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Amendment Regulations (No. 2) 2017</i>	22 Dec 2017 p. 5995-6	r. 1 and 2: 22 Dec 2017 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 23 Dec 2017 (see r. 2(b))
<i>Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Amendment Regulations 2018</i>	12 Jun 2018 p. 1897-8	r. 1 and 2: 12 Jun 2018 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 13 Jun 2018 (see r. 2(b))
<i>Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Amendment Regulations (No. 2) 2018</i>	27 Nov 2018 p. 4583-4	r. 1 and 2: 27 Nov 2018 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 28 Nov 2018 (see r. 2(b))
<i>Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Amendment Regulations 2019</i>	22 Oct 2019 p. 3729-33	r. 1 and 2: 22 Oct 2019 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 23 Oct 2019 (see r. 2(b))
<i>Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Amendment Regulations 2020</i>	SL 2020/84 19 Jun 2020	r. 1 and 2: 19 Jun 2020 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 20 Jun 2020 (see r. 2(b))
<i>Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Amendment Regulations (No. 2) 2020</i>	SL 2020/109 30 Jun 2020	r. 1 and 2: 30 Jun 2020 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 1 Jul 2020 (see r. 2(b))
<i>Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Amendment Regulations (No. 3) 2020</i>	SL 2020/190 9 Oct 2020	r. 1 and 2: 9 Oct 2020 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 10 Oct 2020 (see r. 2(b))
<i>Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Amendment Regulations (No. 4) 2020</i>	SL 2020/200 23 Oct 2020	r. 1 and 2: 23 Oct 2020 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 24 Oct 2020 (see r. 2(b))
<i>Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Amendment Regulations 2021</i>	SL 2021/143 13 Aug 2021	r. 1 and 2: 13 Aug 2021 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 14 Aug 2021 (see r. 2(b))



Citation	Published	Commencement
<i>Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Amendment Regulations (No. 2) 2021</i>	SL 2021/168 24 Sep 2021	r. 1 and 2: 24 Sep 2021 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 25 Sep 2021 (see r. 2(b))
<i>Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Amendment Regulations 2022</i>	SL 2022/132 5 Jul 2022	r. 1 and 2: 5 Jul 2022 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 6 Jul 2022 (see r. 2(b))
<i>Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Amendment Regulations (No. 2) 2022</i>	SL 2022/203 2 Dec 2022	r. 1 and 2: 2 Dec 2022 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 3 Dec 2022 (see r. 2(b))
<i>Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Amendment Regulations 2024</i>	SL 2024/1 10 Jan 2024	r. 1 and 2: 10 Jan 2024 (see r. 2(a)); Regulations other than r. 1 and 2: 11 Jan 2024 (see r. 2(b))

### Other notes

- <sup>1</sup> Footnote no longer applicable.
- <sup>2</sup> Formerly referred, incorrectly, to the *Student and Youth Allowances Act 1973* of the Commonwealth. The correct short title of the Act was the *Student and Youth Assistance Act 1973*. That short title was changed to the *Student Assistance Act 1973* by the *Social Security Legislation Amendment (Youth Allowance Consequential and Related Measures) Act 1998* of the Commonwealth. The reference was changed under the *Reprints Act 1984* s. 7(3)(h).
- <sup>3</sup> Now known as the *Vocational Education and Training (Colleges) Regulations 1996*; citation changed (see note under r. 1).
- <sup>4</sup> The *Vocational Education and Training Amendment Regulations 1997* r. 4 and 5 were disallowed on 21 May 1998 (see *Gazette* 9 Jun 1998 p. 3098).
- <sup>5</sup> The *Vocational Education and Training Amendment Regulations 2005* r. 6(3) reads as follows:

**6. Regulation 15A amended and savings**

- (3) A determination issued under regulation 15A that is in force immediately before these regulations commence and specifies a tuition fee for a course for a student, continues in force after these regulations commence and the

fee so specified is to be taken to be the course fee specified for that course for that student.

## Defined terms

*[This is a list of terms defined and the provisions where they are defined.  
The list is not part of the law.]*

<b>Defined term</b>	<b>Provision(s)</b>
2020 instrument .....	32(1)
Admissions Manager .....	5
amendment day .....	4A(3)
Australian resident .....	15A(1A)
category .....	3(1)
Centrelink .....	20(1)
concessional or youth student .....	3(1)
concessional student .....	3(1)
concession-eligible course .....	3(1)
course .....	3(1)
course fee .....	3(1)
enrolled .....	12(2)
existing worker trainee .....	3(1)
final year secondary school student .....	12(1)
hours .....	3(1)
nominal hours .....	3AA(1)
payment period .....	24A
pro rata refund .....	24A
seal book .....	31(1)
secondary school aged person .....	3(1)
specified course .....	12(1)
unenrolled secondary school aged person .....	12(1)
unforeseen circumstances .....	24A
unit .....	3(1)
unit fee .....	11(1)

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