

AN INTRODUCTION TO FEE-HELP



What is FEE-HELP?

FEE-HELP is a loan provided to eligible students to assist them in paying part of or all of their tuition fees.

Over their lifetime, eligible students may borrow up to the FEE-HELP limit. This limit currently stands at \$83,313 for 2009 and is indexed each year. There is also a one-off loan fee of 20%, which is imposed by the Commonwealth Government, for FEE-HELP loans for undergraduate courses of study. The FEE-HELP limit, however, does not include the loan fee.

The Australian Government will then pay directly to the JMC Academy the amount of the loan. Students will repay their loans through the Australian taxation system upon reaching the minimum repayment threshold. The minimum repayment threshold for 2008/09 stands at \$41,595 and \$43,151 for 2009/10.

No interest is charged on FEE-HELP, however there is a CPI increase applied on June 1, every year for amounts that remain unpaid for 11 months or more.

Who is Eligible for FEE-HELP?

You are eligible to apply for FEE-HELP if you are either: -

- an Australian citizen; or
- hold a permanent humanitarian visa

What courses are covered at the JMC Academy?

The following courses are eligible for FEE-HELP: -

Diploma of Audio Engineering and Sound Production
Diploma of Digital Animation
Diploma of Digital Television Production
Diploma of Entertainment Business Management
Diploma of Popular Music and Performance
Associate Degree of Audio Engineering and Sound Production
Associate Degree of Digital Animation
Associate Degree of Digital Television Production
Associate Degree of Entertainment Business Management
Associate Degree of Popular Music and Performance
Bachelor of Creative Technology (Audio Engineering and Sound Production)
Bachelor of Creative Technology (Digital Animation)
Bachelor of Creative Technology (Digital Television Production)
Bachelor of Entertainment (Business Management)
Bachelor of Entertainment (Popular Music and Performance)

How do Apply for FEE-HELP?

Eligible students can apply for FEE-HELP by completing a *Request for FEE-HELP Assistance* form, which you would have received in your information pack. If you do not have one please contact the JMC Academy and one will be sent to you immediately. This form must be completed and returned prior to the JMC Academy's census date.

When is a FEE-HELP Debt incurred?

You incur a FEE-HELP debt immediately after the census date for each unit of study for which you received FEE-HELP assistance.

If you have requested a FEE-HELP loan, but change your mind about studying, you must either cancel your *Request for FEE-HELP Assistance* form or withdraw your enrolment in each unit of study on or before its census date or you will incur a debt.

Census Dates

The census date is the last day you can withdraw without incurring financial penalty. The JMC Academy publishes its census dates on its website www.jmccademy.edu.au

What is a CHESSN?

As a Commonwealth assisted student, you will be allocated a Commonwealth Higher Education Student Support Number (CHESSN).

This unique identifier will help higher education providers, such as the JMC Academy, provide information to you about your FEE-HELP assistance.

You will be notified of your CHESSN in your Commonwealth Assistance Notice (CAN).

The JMC Academy will allocate you a CHESSN as part of your application process, when you request FEE-HELP assistance.

Further Information

If you would like further information about FEE-HELP, you can download a FEE-HELP Information Booklet from our website or contact the JMC Academy directly.
