



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research

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# **Interim Agreement for Mission-Based Compacts**

Between:

- Murdoch University
- The Australian Government

For the period:

1 January 2010 - 31 December 2010



**Murdoch**  
UNIVERSITY

# SECTION ONE

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## Preamble

### Compacts

In 2010, the Australian Government and Murdoch University will agree a mission-based compact commencing in 2011. Compacts will be agreements between universities and the Australian Government detailing public funding commitments and reciprocal institutional commitments. They will support universities to pursue their distinctive missions and to contribute to the Australian Government's aspirations for the higher education sector as whole.

This 2009 Interim Agreement is a transitional arrangement, pending finalisation of the first compact in 2010.

Compacts and Interim Agreements will be based on mutual respect, trust and shared goals to improve students' educational experiences and outcomes and to build research capacity and international competitiveness. As noted by the Prime Minister, compacts herald a new era for the operation and funding of Australian higher education. They will play a key role in implementing the Australian Government's reforms and in ensuring improved outcomes from increased Australian Government investment in higher education. Compacts will be underpinned by information and data provided through the Interim Agreement discussions and by other means in order to support the programs and priorities of the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations and the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research.

The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations and the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research will also look to discuss underpinning activities which might inform mission-based compacts, including those supported through the Education Investment Fund and other programs. This will enable a comprehensive analysis of the University's activities in order to drive a reformed university system that promotes excellence, sustainability, transparency, performance, collaboration, international engagement and innovation.

Compacts will facilitate:

- a focus on excellence within the mission of each university irrespective of its distinctive strategic direction;
- transparency in decision making with respect to compact agreements and provision of public funding being open to external scrutiny, and based on a fair application of consistent rules;
- accountability for outcomes, with universities and the Australian Government sharing responsibility to report publicly on performance against clear and measurable goals; and
- a strengthened funding and accountability framework, supported by appropriate and reasonable reporting requirements.

### **The Australian Government's ambitions for higher education and innovation**

The Australian Government's vision for the higher education sector is set out in *Transforming Australia's Higher Education System*. Higher education is central to achieving the key objectives for the nation's future, including:

- **A stronger Australia** – boosting Australia's share of high skilled jobs and productivity growth will require a highly skilled workforce that can rapidly adapt to meet future challenges; and
- **A fairer Australia** – all Australians will benefit from widespread equitable access to a diverse tertiary education sector that allows each individual to develop and reach their potential. Society as a whole will benefit from the widespread application of cutting-edge research.

In supporting these objectives, the Australian Government's ambitions for higher education include:

- producing graduates with the knowledge, skills and understandings for full participation in society and the economy;
- providing opportunities for people from all backgrounds to participate to their full potential and be supported to do so;
- providing students with a stimulating and rewarding higher education experience;
- playing a pivotal role in the national research and innovation system through generation and dissemination of new knowledge and through the education, training and development of world class researchers across a wide range of intellectual disciplines;
- being amongst the leading OECD countries in terms of participation and performance.

The higher education system also plays a crucial role in supporting innovation. The Australian Government's policy statement, *Powering Ideas - An Innovation Agenda for the 21st Century* outlines its aspirations for innovation over the next decade which include:

- progressively increasing the number of research groups performing at world-class levels, as measured by international performance benchmarks;
- progressively addressing the gap in funding for indirect costs related to Australian competitive grants;
- promoting collaboration by encouraging universities to organise themselves into hubs and spokes and to pursue opportunities to undertake industry-driven research more vigorously;
- helping smaller and regional universities develop their research capacity by teaming up with other institutions; and
- significantly increasing the number of students completing higher degrees by research over the next decade.

### **Principles**

The principles under which Australian Government funding for higher education is provided are:

- opportunity for all, especially for those students from groups under-represented in higher education;
- access to university based on merit;
- world-class teaching and learning that advances the international standing of Australian education;

- world class research and research training that advances knowledge, critical thinking and Australia's international standing;
- responsiveness to the economic and social needs of the community, region, state, nation and the international community;
- a sustainable higher-education sector; and
- academic freedom and institutional autonomy.

**Australian Government support for higher education**

The Australian Government announced a 10-year reform agenda for higher education and research in *Transforming Australia's Higher Education System*. An outline of the new initiatives announced as part of that package is included at Attachment A.

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## University mission

Murdoch University is a high teaching quality, research focused university and intends to continue to strengthen its position as a comprehensive university in the higher education sector. The University's broader mission statement is:

"To extend knowledge, stimulate learning and promote understanding, for the benefit of the community."

### What the University is doing at present

Murdoch University is well placed, both in the West Australian and Australian context, as a "niche" provider of high quality, contemporary education, and as an internationally acclaimed research university performing high quality research, focused in the University's identified areas of research strength.

Murdoch University's Strategic Plan 2007–2010 underpins the present focus of the university. The Plan's four main goals are Education, Research, Student Profile and Resource Management.

Murdoch University has seen continued growth in student demand for course offerings, with enrolment numbers showing a consistent increase in the last few years across all aspects of the student cohort, including Commonwealth supported places. Growth in international enrolments, both onshore and offshore (through strategic partnerships), has enabled Murdoch to further develop its international presence and reputation. Postgraduate enrolments have steadily increased from a relatively low base.

With the Australian Government's policy direction focused on increased participation in, and equitable access to, higher education, Murdoch is well positioned to support this policy imperative. With three campuses located in the southern corridor of Perth, Western Australia, the University is well placed to provide opportunities for a variety of students, including school leavers and mature age students, with equity access one of the key aspects of the student profile. The University has long been committed to supporting access to higher education for all sectors of the population, and has built capacity in this area of importance.

Murdoch University's quality in teaching and learning continues to be recognised by students. The University is a consistently high performer in this area, and maintains a primary focus of ensuring students have the best possible university experience at Murdoch.

The course profile of the University is subject to ongoing review, to ensure

- quality outcomes for students and employers;
- an excellent learning experience for students;
- relevance to student and market demand; and
- financial sustainability.

The ongoing review of the course profile will enable Murdoch to target its resources into areas of strength supported by student demand, in preparation for the student centred funding model.

Research and research training have long been one of Murdoch's strengths, particularly when measured relative to the University's size and overall position in the higher education sector. Murdoch has now established seven Research Institutes which will drive strategic research directions and outcomes and aid in focussing research and facilitating research collaboration. The Institutes include the Centres and particular areas of strength as follows:

**Resource Technology:** National Centre of Excellence in Desalination, chemical mineralogy, novel photovoltaic development, small wind turbines, biomass conversion, wastewater treatment and renewable energy systems (Research Institute for Sustainable Energy – RISE).

**Sustainable Ecosystems:** State Centre for Climate Change and Woodland and Forest Health, fish and fisheries research, Phytophthora science and management, plant biosecurity, ecosystem management and restoration.

**Crop and Plant Science:** State Agricultural Biotechnology Centre, Centre for Comparative Genomics, Centre for Rhizobium Studies, crop protection sciences.

**Sustainable Societies, Education & Politics (Social Sciences):** Asia Research Centre, Centre for Social and Community Research, Institute for Sustainability and Technology Policy, Centre for Learning Change and Development.

**Integrated Health Research:** Health and wellbeing (child health, obesity, adolescent sexuality, physical and mental wellbeing, social and public health interactions), biomedical sciences (understanding of disease, animal models, cellular immunology, neurobiology, skeletal disorders).

**Animal Research:** Biosecurity and health (infectious and non-infectious disease), companion animal research (growth and development, disease, behaviour, nutrition and physiology), production animal research (nutrition, welfare, growth and development, meat science and reproduction, product optimisation for the consumer), wildlife biology and systems (maintenance of biodiversity).

**Media, Creative Arts & Information Technology:** Interactive Television Research Institute, Centre for Everyday Life, Academy of Screen and Sound, new and traditional media, communications, cultural and literary studies, games research, mobile technologies, health and wellbeing.

The University has a long standing reputation for excellence in environmental science and alternate energy research. This has recently led to the establishment of the Centre for Research into Energy for Sustainable Transport, a State Government Centre of Excellence, which provides a hub for research in alternative transport fuels and technologies. Murdoch is also leading a national biofuel project that is working successfully on all steps in the process of microalgal biofuels production, with a pilot plant to be built in Karratha.

Murdoch's mission has always been outwardly focused, with its stakeholders including students, staff and the communities which embrace the University's campuses. Community engagement is intrinsic to many University activities – from community research partnerships, sharing of facilities, internships, articulation pathways, through to specific strategies for the development of aspirations in non traditional higher education cohorts. Chair sponsorships exemplify our relationships with industry and the professions.

Murdoch is particularly engaged with the communities in Rockingham, Peel and Kwinana districts which are areas of traditionally low participation in higher education. Our engagement success in these regions has resulted in a strong increase in student participation, especially through the University's enabling programs.

The research profile of our regional campuses remains an important aspect of engagement. The NCED is located at our Rockingham Campus, building on industry links in the Kwinana Industrial strip. A multidisciplinary study examining the psychological, social, educational, physical and economic conditions that maximise opportunities for children to reach their full developmental potential is hosted through our Peel Campus, with contributions from government and industry partners (including the Peel Development Commission).

Murdoch maintains active educational partnerships in Singapore, Malaysia and Dubai, and these partnerships are reviewed on a regular basis to ensure the arrangements continue to meet the University's requirements in all aspects, including teaching quality, academic outcomes, alignment to the "Murdoch" experience for students, and financial performance.

Effective resource management has been an important enabler of Murdoch's achievements in teaching and learning and research. The brand positioning of the University and the related investment in marketing has enabled the University to engage with the community more clearly about its strengths and value proposition.

Proactive management of the University's physical infrastructure has been necessary to ensure optimal use of facilities and physical assets, to support the diverse teaching and research activities undertaken. Investment in facilities is prioritised through a capital planning process, and managed within the funding constraints of the University.

Murdoch University also recognises that financial sustainability underpins the success of the organisation, and the University continues to identify opportunities to improve its financial position. Diversification of income has been a key strategy, and this has been achieved partly through initiatives including the establishment of endowment funds, and increased philanthropic activity.

In addition, a major review of efficiency and effectiveness of University resources has been undertaken, as part of the *Murdoch 2010* program, which has been supported by the Australian Government through Workplace Productivity Program funding. The outcomes of this program have been the implementation of appropriate processes, structures and technology, to ensure staff have the support and skills required to succeed in realising the University's goals. In addition, a suite of management reports will be developed and made available to facilitate decision making processes with respect to the mix of funding options available to meet the costs of delivery of academic courses and research activity.

### **What the University aspires to be**

The University Senate, together with the University community, is now looking to the next phase of the University's direction and planning, with the development of the Strategic Plan 2010–2015. The University Senate has identified four key areas to provide the basic framework on which to build the strategy. These areas are: Academic Profile, Internationalisation, Quality and Reputation, and Strategic Investment Capacity.

As part of its new strategic plan, being developed in 2009, Murdoch will identify and further focus its strengths in teaching and research, to further define the future shape of academic and research offerings. It is our expectation that the University's research profile will be focused on a small number of broad but fundamental thematic areas around which ancillary areas add depth and feed into the core area of expertise. Institutional flexibility and responsiveness to market demands will ensure we are in a sustainable position to meet our future mission.

The University's vision, as proposed in the 2010–2015 strategic plan is:

"Murdoch University will be an exceptional global, socially responsible teaching and research university with vitality and influence in distinctive areas of knowledge."

The Murdoch University community has embraced the "Discoverers Welcome" theme but also recognises that the current economic climate requires the University to be adaptable, flexible, responsive and decisive. As a result the University continues to pursue a distinctive path as an institution that embraces a modern and forward thinking approach to teaching and scholarship, to research and to community engagement, which gathers students from diverse backgrounds.

In an increasingly competitive sector the University aims to achieve a level of organic growth while preserving our core values of equity and social justice, sustainability, global responsibility, and innovation and entrepreneurship. Murdoch intends to continue to position itself as a comprehensive university, which will require a renewed focus on areas of strength as they relate to teaching and learning and research.

In support of the Government's objectives for increased participation and equitable access to higher education, Murdoch intends to continue building on its strength in this area, with our current numbers of low SES students one of the highest in Western Australia. It will also be important to ensure we provide the supporting framework to not only allow access, but to enable retention of low SES students and the achievement of completion rate targets for this cohort going forward.

Murdoch University has long been recognised for its high quality teaching, and the multidisciplinary approach to course offerings. These teaching and learning strengths are distinctive to Murdoch in a number of ways, and the University will further develop its capability and investment in these areas, to be key points of differentiation in the sector.

As a research active university, Murdoch will build on the areas of research strength mentioned previously, and ensure that future investment, activity and outcomes are directed to these areas as a priority. Research training will continue to be fundamental to the research effort at Murdoch University, with a greater focus on this effort being aligned to areas of research strength, and ensuring completion rates and outcomes of research training are relevant and productive.

### **The University's plans for supporting its aspirations**

Murdoch University expects growth in enrolments for 2010, across all student cohorts, including Commonwealth supported places. Anticipated growth in future years will, however, require a balance with elements that support it, including physical infrastructure, mode of delivery and timetabling capacity.

Future growth in enrolments will also be impacted by the resources-based economic recovery in Western Australia, our planning for the student centred funding model, and the half year cohort of students in Western Australia, who are due to commence university in 2015. Murdoch will continue to invest in course offerings that reflect market demand and Australian Government priorities around increased participation and equitable access, at the same time ensuring the balance of these objectives supports Murdoch's reputation for excellence in teaching quality and student outcomes. This will require an increased focus on course offerings in existing and emerging areas of strength. The course profile will also be sufficiently financially viable to maintain high quality outcomes.

The allocation and funding of scholarships for domestic undergraduate students is under review to enhance the support we are able to provide to students, with a view to promoting increased participation from all student cohorts. In addition to scholarships based on individual circumstances, Murdoch offers support based on course or study area and on location to encourage participation of students who might not otherwise attend university.

The teaching and learning environment will continue to evolve, with a stronger focus on internationalisation and cross cultural competencies, work integrated learning opportunities, interdisciplinarity and flexible learning environments. These elements, together with the offering of a vibrant campus life and attention to the First Year Experience to improve retention, will ensure excellent student outcomes continue to be achieved.

Implementation of the recommendations of the *Strategic Planning Review of Indigenous Higher Education at Murdoch University* conducted by an external consultant will position Murdoch to embrace indigenous research, teaching and learning, and support to meet its equity and social justice goals. The strengthening of indigenous research (both by indigenous staff and in areas impacting on indigenous peoples), support for indigenous students and indigenous education for non-indigenous students will take the notion of indigenesness to a broader community. Initiatives such as the inclusion of indigenous content in all Foundation Units will ensure that all students receive an introduction to indigenous ways of thinking.

Murdoch recognises that to continue to be competitive in the areas of research and research training, research activity must be focused in areas of strength, with particular attention given to world class research. In addition, increased research investment capacity will be made available through strategic research funding to support areas of strength and opportunity. Succession planning and effective structuring of research teams will encourage collaboration and innovation.

The University's Research Institutes will continue to drive strategic research directions and help build effective internal and external engagement with a broad range of stakeholders including business, industry, alumni and the wider community. These research institutes reflect the University's research strengths and multi-disciplinary skills with a focus on issues of international significance.

Research training is a core activity at Murdoch. In order to provide better research supervision practices, a comprehensive, flexible, on-line training program for Higher Degree by Research (HDR) supervisors is available - promoting responsible conduct of research and research training. Particular emphasis is given to ethics, good research practice and mentoring (each staff member is required to work with three mentors). This program promotes collaboration and interaction between participants and mentors and is a two-way learning process.

Staff and HDR training programs are currently being reviewed as part of an overall workforce development strategy, while ongoing training for research students is conducted by our GREAT (Graduate Research Education and Training) program. Further to the workforce development strategy, a current review of research policies and practice is evaluating past practice, with the aim of clearly identifying future needs for growth and student and staff retention.

A recently implemented comprehensive Research Management System will assist the research effort and provide more timely and accurate data for research management across all levels of the University.

Murdoch will build its strategic investment capacity, through further development of commercial revenue streams, and targeted philanthropic activities. In addition, the University's investment portfolio will be more actively managed to improve returns available for re-investment into core University activities. These initiatives all contribute towards a diversified revenue base, which is essential for Murdoch to remain financially sustainable.

The State Government is in the process of creating a strategic activity centre at Murdoch. Predicated on using a highly networked public transport system, its success also depends on harnessing the intellectual capital and economic multiplier effect of several important institutions, including Murdoch University, the existing St John of God Private Hospital, and the newest and largest hospital to be constructed in WA, the Fiona Stanley Hospital.

While expansion of student teaching capacity is a priority, investment of capital at Murdoch considers the broader context for the precinct. Murdoch is looking to build a balanced portfolio on its campus, incorporating teaching, research and commercial buildings with mixed use facilities expected. Within that framework, Murdoch continues to invest capital to:

- develop areas of research strength;
- provide for a range of students demanding high level amenity to enhance their University academic, pastoral and social experience;
- emphasize that education is a fundamental contributor to weaving a sustainable social fabric for future generations; and
- build infrastructure linked to creating a vital, exciting, accessible, and safe campus.

Murdoch remains committed to developing its research infrastructure and has demonstrated capacity to strongly leverage relevant capital grants.

An improved culture of innovation has been identified as an area for development, to encourage creativity, new ideas and “free thinking”, which is central to Murdoch’s brand identity. Resources will be allocated to develop a framework to support innovation, and to provide the opportunity and environment for engagement of the University community in this key initiative.

Efficiency and effectiveness of resources will continue to be an important enabler to teaching and learning and research outcomes for Murdoch. The University’s aim in this area is to maximise operational performance through improved automation and streamlining of processes that support academic activity, and to maximise the use of existing and new technology, to facilitate these objectives. The *Murdoch 2010* program has assisted with this, and has been the catalyst to ensure the ongoing review of enabling and administrative support areas of the University.

Murdoch’s staff are integral to the successful delivery of the plans outlined above. The University is committed to investing in its people, and ensuring the staff profile supports the academic footprint, in both teaching and learning and research. The ability to meet the future aspirations of the University will require a flexible workforce, with reward, recognition and promotion directly attributable to outcomes and achievements, as they align to the Strategic Plan.

The Office of Organisational Capability has been established to reinvigorate staff development processes and programs across the university. It will provide professional and personal development for both academic and general staff and assist in leadership and career development.

By implementing and achieving the plans and outcomes outlined above, Murdoch University will be able to consolidate its intent to remain a research focused University, with high levels of scholarship informing quality teaching.

## **SECTION TWO**

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### **Teaching and Learning**

The Commonwealth Grant Scheme funding agreement of December 2009 will remain in effect throughout the period of this Interim Agreement. Where eligible, other funding for 2010 will be delivered through a range of new and existing Australian Government teaching and learning programs.

The University and the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations agree to work co-operatively to enable the Department to:

- finalise the framework for mission-based compacts during 2010; and
- develop a framework for performance funding, including appropriate teaching and learning performance indicators, which will be used to set targets for performance funding in the 2011 compact.

No funding is contingent on the teaching and learning component of this Interim Agreement.

## **SECTION THREE**

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### **Research and Research Training**

#### **Funding under the Higher Education Support Act 2003**

In 2010, the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research (Department of Innovation) will provide the University with funding from a suite of research block grant programs including the Research Training Scheme (RTS), Australian Postgraduate Awards (APA), International Postgraduate Research Scholarships (IPRS), Research Infrastructure Block Grants (RIBG) and Joint Research Engagement (JRE). These grants form the basis of this agreement. The Department of Innovation will also look to discuss how research collaboration, participation, engagement and excellence, supported by a broader range of the portfolio's programs, might inform mission-based compacts – see Attachment B.

The University and the Department of Innovation agree to work co-operatively to enable the Department to:

- finalise the framework for mission-based compacts during 2010; and
- develop performance indicators and targets to be used within the 2011 compact.

As part of this agreement, the Department may identify priority areas of research which align with the University's strengths and mission.

#### **Sustainable Research Excellence in Australia (SRE)**

The Department of Innovation has established the Sustainable Research Excellence in Universities (SRE) program, which supports excellence and contributes to a more sustainable University research sector, by ensuring that adequate funding is available to allow competitive grants for research to be effectively utilised.

The program will have three funding components:

- a Base component whereby 20 per cent of the funding provided will be allocated on the basis of the existing Research Infrastructure Block Grants (RIBG) formula, i.e. on the basis of the relative success of the institutions in attracting competitive research funds as calculated from schemes in the Australia Competitive Grants Register;
- A Threshold One funding component whereby up to 13 per cent of available SRE funding in any one year will be available to those universities participating in Transparent Costing and the Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) initiative; and
- A Threshold Two component whereby 67 per cent of available SRE funding in any one year will be available for those universities participating in Transparent Costing and ERA and who meet specified performance targets.

The University acknowledges that its participation in SRE will be governed by this agreement and by processes administered by the Department of Innovation as part of this agreement. The University acknowledges that participation in both Transparent Costing and ERA is a prerequisite for receipt of funding under the Threshold 1 and Threshold 2 elements of SRE.

The University commits in this Agreement to working cooperatively with the Department of Innovation to finalise its Transparent Costing and ERA participation status based on the SRE framework set out in the SRE Guidance Paper, Transparent Costing Specification, SRE Conditions of Grant and any other related documents or processes published by DIISR.

### **Collaborative Research Networks program**


The Collaborative Research Networks (CRN) program will assist smaller and regional universities to adapt to a research system driven more strongly by performance outcomes. From 1 July 2010 regional and smaller universities will be invited to make submissions which support areas of national importance. Funding will be made available to successful universities from 1 January 2011. CRN funding and the research activity it will support are therefore outside the scope of this Interim Agreement, but will be addressed in the compacts to be negotiated with universities in 2010.

The University agrees to work with the Department of Innovation on developing the framework for the CRN program.

# Interim Agreement

This interim agreement covers the period from 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2010. It may be amended, if agreed in writing by all the parties

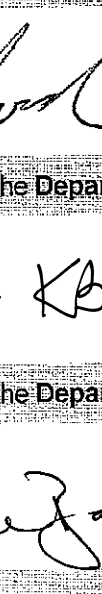
Signed on behalf of Murdoch University

Signature 

Professor John Yovich AM  
Vice Chancellor

Name and position

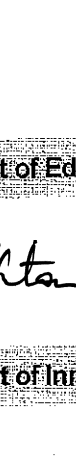
Signed on behalf of the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

Signature 

Fiona Buffinton  
Group Manager,  
Higher Education Group

Name and position

Signed on behalf of the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research

Signature 

Anne Baly  
Head of Division  
Research Division

Name and position

## Summary of budget initiatives

Initiative	Description	Funding 2009-10 to 2012-13 \$m
Funding to support the low SES participation targets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Partnerships</li> <li>▪ Student loading</li> </ul>	In 2010 funding to support the low SES participation targets will be about 2 per cent of teaching and learning grants, and will increase to about 3 per cent in 2011. By 2012, equity funding will be broadly in line with the recommendation of the Bradley Review to increase it to 4 per cent of teaching and learning grants. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Partnerships activities</li> <li>▪ Student loading</li> </ul> The funding will support the government's ambition to increase higher education enrolments of students from a low socio economic background to 20 per cent by 2020. This includes \$394 million new funds, plus existing Equity Support Program funding.	108 325
Demand driven entitlement system for domestic higher education students	Public funding will be provided for each undergraduate student eligible for a university place. Universities will continue to set their own entry standards, including entry requirements such as pre-requisite subjects, and make strategic decisions about course provision and their ultimate size.	491
Higher Education Loan Program (HELP) repayment reduction for education and nursing	Repayments for the Higher Education Loan Program (HELP) for eligible education and nursing graduates will be reduced if they work in a teaching or nursing profession. This proposal is aimed at addressing the skills shortages in both professions.	83
Increase in the maximum annual student contribution amount for education and nursing	The maximum annual student contribution amount for education and nursing will be increased, providing a direct increase in revenue to institutions offering these vital courses.	33
Indexation	Revised indexation for higher education funding will be introduced from 2012, with transitional arrangements for teaching and learning in 2011. The increase in indexation will provide funding security and certainty for institutions to support improved student-to-staff ratios and greater student engagement.	578
Sustainable Research Excellence in Universities	Increase in funding for the indirect costs of research, currently funded through the Research Infrastructure Block Grants (RIBGs). This will ensure resources are allocated rationally and used efficiently.	512
Joint Research Engagement	Replaces the Institutional Grants Scheme to encourage and support engagement with the end users of research.	-
Collaborative Research Networks	Networks to encourage institutions, particularly those in regional Australia, to form partnerships with universities with already established research strengths,	52

	relevant to their mission and profile.	
Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA)	Funding will be provided for establishment of a framework for Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA).	36
Education Investment Fund	Australia's tertiary education and research sectors will benefit from a capital injection from the Education Investment Fund (EIF).	2,985
National body for regulation and quality assurance	The national agency will be established from 2010 to underpin a robust quality assurance framework for Australian higher education, and to drive improved standards of teaching and learning for students.	57
Performance funding	From 2012, new performance funding will reward institutions that meet agreed targets in key areas such as improving the quality of teaching and learning and the outcomes for students from low socio economic backgrounds.	206
New arrangements for student income support	Provides comprehensive changes to the student income support system to remove the financial barriers to the participation of students from low socio economic backgrounds and Indigenous students. This supports the Government's ambition to increase higher education enrolments of students from a low socio economic background to 20 per cent by 2020.	-
Postgraduate Research Student Support	Raises the stipend in the Australian Postgraduate Award to \$22,500 from 2010.	52
Removal of the OS-HELP loan fee	The loan fee on OS-HELP Loans will be removed in 2010. This will encourage Australian students to study overseas during their higher education courses, enhancing their student experience and learning outcomes.	17
Structural Adjustment Fund	Funding will be provided to support significant structural change across the sector, which could include the creation of new models of higher education institutions and collaborations between higher education and vocational education and training providers.  Total funding of \$400m includes \$64 million from the existing Diversity and Structural Adjustment Fund, and \$200 million for the capital components of structural adjustment to be funded from the EIF.	402
<b>Savings measures</b>		
Learning and Teaching Performance Fund	This program will be discontinued. Performance funding will provide incentives for institutions to improve learning and teaching quality.	-324
Workplace Productivity Program	This program will be discontinued.	-78

PACKAGE ELEMENTS	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014 and beyond
	Transition period		New student centred funding system		
Student centred funding	Transition to student centred funding model		Student centred funding model		
Increased innovation		Conditional funding (equivalent to improved indexation on T&L grants)	Increased indexation of teaching and learning and research HESA grants		
Rationalised funding			New performance funding of 2.5% of current teaching and learning grants		
Quality and excellence	Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency				
Funding to support course participation	2% of T&L funding in 2010	3% of T&L funding in 2011	4% T&L funding from 2012 onwards		
	Improved targeting of income support New student scholarships Australian Postgraduate Awards stipend increase				
Student income support	Independence age reduced to 24 years	Independence age reduced to 23 years	Independence age reduced to 22 years		
	Personal Income Threshold increased to \$400 per fortnight				
	Income support for all Masters by Coursework programs				
Structural adjustment funding	Structural Adjustment Funding				
Higher Education Loan Program	Higher Education Loan Program reforms: Reduction in HELP repayments for nursing and teaching; increase to student contribution for nursing and teaching; removal of OS-HELP loan fee				
Education Investment Fund	Rounds 1, 2 & 3 and Sustainability Round				
	Sustainable Research Excellence (incremental increase to 2013)				
Research and innovation	Joint Research Engagement				
	Collaborative Research Networks				

## Enhanced Research Funding System

<p><b>Collaboration</b></p> <p>Collaborative Research Networks Program</p> <p>Co-operative Research Centres</p> <p>Infrastructure Collaboration</p>	<p><b>Participation</b></p> <p>Increased Aust. Postgraduate Awards</p> <p>Super science fellowships and other ARC Research Council Fellowships</p> <p>Research Training Scheme</p>
<p><b>Engagement</b></p> <p>Joint Research Engagement</p> <p>Co-operative Research Centres</p> <p>ARC Linkage program</p>	<p><b>Excellence</b></p> <p>Sustainable Research Excellence</p> <p>Excellence in Research for Australia</p> <p>Imposed limitation of Block Grants</p>

Compacts with universities will provide a framework for the Government's reform agenda

**Dual system of core funding:**  
Existing formula-based Research Block Grants and Competitive Research Grants (ARC, NHMRC etc)

Infrastructure funding programs	National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy	Education Investment Fund - SuperScience Package
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Reformed university research system that:

- Drives Excellence
- Builds Sustainability
- Provides transparency
- Improves performance
- Promotes collaboration & responsiveness
- Engages internationally
- Promotes innovation