



Youth Allowance

FACTSHEET

MARCH 2011

STUDENT INCOME SUPPORT MASTERS BY COURSEWORK PROGRAMS

The Australian Government will extend income support provided through Youth Allowance (student) and Austudy to students enrolled in Masters by coursework programs, effective from 1 January 2012. Other eligibility requirements will remain the same as for students enrolled in lower level courses.

Benefits

This initiative is part of the reforms to the student income support system which aim to ensure that financial barriers to the participation of students from low socio-economic backgrounds are removed. It ensures more equitable access to student income support.

The measure recognises the value of masters-level study and will help to boost overall skill levels in Australia by encouraging people to undertake Masters by coursework degrees, including those degrees required for professional entry.

The support provided will enable students to complete masters qualifications, and also take advantage of restructured university course arrangements, a process which is accelerating in the higher education sector.

Students undertaking Masters by coursework degrees will be able to test their eligibility for student income support.