Statement of Tuition Assurance

Under the provisions of the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* (HESA) and the associated Higher Education Standards Framework 2015 (Threshold Standards) the Technical and Further Education Commission (TAFE NSW) (the First Provider) is required to provide a tuition assurance arrangement for persons, other than overseas students\(^1\), who are enrolled in higher education courses it offers. This requirement is to protect students in the event that TAFE NSW ceases to provide a course of study in which a student is enrolled. The meaning of ‘ceasing to provide a course of study’ is set out in the Higher Education Standards Framework 2015 (Threshold Standards) at: [https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2015L01639/Html/Text](https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2015L01639/Html/Text)

In the event that the TAFE NSW Higher Education ceases to provide a course of study in which a student is enrolled, the student is entitled to a choice of:

a) an offer of a place in a similar course of study with a Second Provider without any requirement to pay the Second Provider any student contribution or tuition fee for any replacement subjects: N.B. a subject is equivalent to a Unit of Study as defined in the HESA (this is known as the “Course Assurance Option”);

OR

b) a refund of his or her up-front payments for any subject that the student commences but does not complete because the TAFE NSW ceases to provide the course of study of which the subject forms part (this is known as the “Student Contribution/Tuition Fee Repayment Option”)

TAFE NSW meets the tuition assurance requirements of the HESA through a Course Assurance Deed of Guarantee and a Tuition Fee Repayment Deed of Guarantee from the New South Wales Government (NSW Government).

Contact details for Tuition Assurance arrangements are:
NSW Technical and Further Education Commission
Level 2, Building C, Ultimo TAFE
Mary Ann St
ULTIMO NSW 2007
Ph: (02) 9212 8601

In the event that TAFE NSW ceases to provide a course of study, students can call Director, TAFE NSW Higher Education on 02 9217 4381.

If TAFE NSW Higher Education ceases to provide a course of study, the NSW Government will send each eligible student enrolled in the course of study a Written Tuition Assurance Offer (the Offer) advising the student of the options available under the tuition assurance requirements. The Offer will include directions that the student must follow in order to notify the NSW Government of the choice they have made for each affected subject. The NSW Government will provide this Offer within twenty Business Days after it knows, or should know by reasonable enquiries that TAFE NSW Higher Education has ceased to provide the course of study.

A student may choose either:

**The Course Assurance Option:**

Under the course assurance option, a student will be offered a place in a similar course of study by the NSW Government. If the student accepts this option, the NSW Government will make all necessary arrangements to ensure the student is able to enrol with a Second Provider in a similar course of study. This offered course will lead to the same or a comparable qualification without any requirement on the part of the student to pay the Second Provider any student contribution or tuition

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\(^1\) See Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) Act 2002 for the definition of overseas student.

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fee for any replacement subjects (that is, subjects that the student had commenced but not completed because the course ceased to be offered). A student will receive full credit from the Second Provider for any subjects successfully completed at TAFE NSW.

The Second Provider nominated by the NSW Government may have different contribution amounts or tuition fees to the amounts or fees the student would have paid for subjects which were part of the course of study TAFE NSW ceased to provide but which the student had not yet started studying.

A student is not obliged to enrol in a course of study with a Second Provider offered by the NSW Government under the Course Assurance Option. However, if he/she enrols with any other provider there is no obligation on that provider to offer full credit transfer for the subjects completed with TAFE NSW or to offer replacement/s subject free of charge.

OR

The Student Contribution/Tuition Fee Repayment Option

Under the Student Contribution/Tuition Fee Repayment Option, the NSW Government undertakes to pay the student the total of any up-front payments already paid by the student for any subjects the student has commenced but not completed because the course ceased to be offered. Students selecting this option will also have their SLE or FEE-HELP balance/s re-credited for the uncompleted subjects.

The courses of study for which TAFE NSW Higher Education has legally binding agreements (deeds of guarantee) with the NSW Government are:

- Diploma of 3D Art and Animation
- Diploma of Accounting
- Diploma of Adult Education
- Diploma of Applied Commerce
- Diploma of Business
- Diploma of Information Technology
- Diploma of Sustainable Indigenous Communities
- Diploma of Sustainable Practice
- Associate Degree of 3D Art and Animation
- Associate Degree of Accounting
- Associate Degree of Applied Engineering (Renewable Energy Technologies)
- Associate Degree of Business
- Associate Degree of Fashion Design
- Bachelor of 3D Art and Animation
- Bachelor of Applied Finance (Financial Planning)
- Bachelor of Applied Commerce
- Bachelor of Business
- Bachelor of Community Services
- Bachelor of Design (Interior Design)
- Bachelor of Early Childhood Education & Care (Birth-5)
- Bachelor of Fashion Design
- Bachelor of Information Technology (Network Security)
- Bachelor of Information Technology (Data Infrastructure Engineering)
- Bachelor of Property Valuation
- Graduate Certificate in Leadership
- Graduate Diploma of Leadership (VET Sector)