**What’s happening with the changes to OS-HELP?**


Under the new arrangements, eligibility for the OS-HELP scheme has been expanded to:

- allow postgraduate Commonwealth supported students to access OS-HELP assistance;
- remove the requirement that students be enrolled with an overseas higher education institution or an overseas campus of a higher education institution, so that students can receive OS-HELP assistance for study travel and clinical and professional placements undertaken outside of a university setting; and
- reduce the amount of study that a student must have remaining to complete after their overseas study from 0.5 EFTSL to 0.125 EFTSL to allow more students approaching the end of their course to access OS-HELP.

Students undertaking overseas study in Asia may also be eligible for:

- an increased maximum loan amount of $7,500, which is $1,250 more than for other destinations; and
- a supplementary loan amount of up to $1,000 to assist with the cost of language study undertaken in preparation for overseas study in Asia.

The enhanced OS-HELP is available from 1 January 2014.

The Government will amend the OS-HELP Guidelines to reflect the changes to the scheme and higher education providers will then be able to update their OS-HELP policies. We will advise higher education providers once the Guidelines have been amended.

Further information regarding the changes to the OS-HELP scheme will soon be made available on the Study Assist website.

If you have any questions about the changes, please email cgs@innovation.gov.au