

Sample Student Budget 2009/2010



ITEMS	AVERAGE WEEKLY EXPENSES (sharing a house or flat) \$	AVERAGE ANNUAL EXPENSES \$	NOTES
Living Expenses			
Rent	180	9360	Rent in a shared house ranges from \$120 - \$200pw
Bond		780	once only expense
Establishment Costs		600	eg. desk, bed, etc.
Tel/utilities connections		150	once only expense
Gas, Electricity, Telephone Bills	35	1820	depends on usage
Mobile	12	624	depends on usage
Food			
Lunches & Kitty	100	5200	varies according to your needs cheaper if cook at home & bring lunches
Spending Money			
Haircuts, sport, entertainment, chemist, household insurance, etc.	40	2080	approximate only, depends on your needs
Travel			
Weekly fares	15	780 (Approx)	Zone 1, Concession Card
<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>\$382</u>	<u>\$21,394</u>	
University Expenses			
TAFE Fees	See note 2 overleaf	\$130 - \$1190	Minimum fee with HCC, not diplomas or adv diplomas
University Fees			Mostly deferred through HECS-HELP
Books, stationary, photocopying etc.		\$600 - \$2000	Turn over for more information

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**TO AVOID FINANCIAL PROBLEMS
PLAN AHEAD FOR THE ACADEMIC
YEAR**

NOTES:

1. Average weekly outlay is \$382, however, you will also need an extra \$2,000 approximately the first year to set yourself up, and then \$600 to \$1000 approximately each subsequent year to cover books, equipment, TAFE Fees etc. (excluding a computer).
2. Higher Education students usually have to pay a Student Contribution amount (not included in the budget on the previous page), but most will choose to delay payment by taking out a HECS-HELP Loan. TAFE students will usually have a Health Care Card (see note 5 below) which gives them a concession on their fees if they are doing a foundation, certificate, apprenticeship or traineeship course. In 2010, this will bring the fees down to between \$180 and \$250 without a materials levy. Some students doing a certificate III or IV may have fees as high as \$1,190 that they have to pay up front. For those doing a diploma or advanced diploma course where the fees are higher, they can choose to defer the payment of their fees through VET-HELP. For all course, a materials levy may be charged in addition to these fees.
3. This is for 52 weeks of the year. If you are renting for the academic year only your expenses will be less per annum.
4. If you run a car, as well as petrol costs, you will have additional expenses (maybe \$50 per week) for registration, insurance and maintenance.
5. Many students are Low Income Earners and therefore may be eligible for a Health Care Card (HCC) which offers a range of concessions that can reduce your expenditure. Application forms are available at Student Services or from Centrelink. A HCC entitles you to concession rates on public transport, utility bills, some TAFE Fees and car registration.
6. Living at home is usually the cheapest alternative (even if paying board to your family). Full board in a private home will cost you about the same as sharing a rented house or flat. On-Campus options start at around \$205 per week but you will not have utility bills or travel costs and so end up costing about the same as renting away from campus.
7. Students can, and do, live on less money. If you budget, it can assist you to avoid cash crises.
8. Many students need a computer and so would have to add this amount to your yearly expenses (\$500 to \$2,000).

Each campus has a Financial Adviser in Student Services, who can assist you with issues to do with money - budgeting, Youth Allowance, Austudy, (advice and advocacy in all Youth Allowance and Austudy and related matters), Centrelink benefits, taxation, loans and grants.