

Flinders University

Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF)

2023 Allocation Report

The *Higher Education Support (Student Services, Amenities, Representation and Advocacy) Guidelines 2022* require higher education providers to provide a publicly available report on student services and amenities fee (SSAF) allocations and actual expenditure for the year as part of their annual reporting and in the form approved by the Minister. This *SSAF Allocation Report* is the form approved by the Minister.

Additional reporting was introduced to allow for greater transparency and consistency in SSAF allocations and expenditure.

Please note, the information provided in this *SSAF Allocation Report* does **not** require auditing by a financial accountant. The SSAF expenditure reporting remains unchanged, more information can be found in the [Financial Statements Guidelines](#) for Table A and B providers, and in the [Financial Viability Instructions: Applicants and Providers of FEE-HELP \(FVI\)](#) for all other approved providers.

SSAF Consultation and Achievements

Each year a call is made to the University community for applications for Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) funds. Applications are considered by the University's SSAF Budget Advisory Committee, with the Committee making a recommendation to the Vice-Chancellor for SSAF funding allocations.

In October 2022, all students were invited to complete the 2022 SSAF Survey for the allocation of 2023 SSAF funds. The survey was held between 4-14 October. Approximately 19,800 survey invitations were sent out and 1,208 students participated in the survey (6.1% response rate).

Participating students ranked the applications for 2023 SSAF funds. In addition, respondents provided valuable feedback around SSAF service delivery.

The SSAF Budget Advisory Committee considered the results from the above survey when deliberating on how to allocate funds for 2023. The SSAF Budget Advisory Committee comprises the following:

- Director, Student Life (Chair), nominee of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students);
- President, Flinders University Student Association;
- General Secretary, Flinders University Student Association;
- Student member, nominated by the Student Council, Flinders University Student Association;
- Chief Financial Officer (or nominee);
- A senior academic or professional staff member at the College level, appointed by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students);
- Manager, Student Engagement (non-voting).

The Student Services and Amenities Fee funds a wide range of student services and amenities, including advocacy and welfare services, financial counselling and assistance, clubs and societies, sport and recreational activities, student media, student mental health and wellbeing programs and expanded services offered by the Student Learning Centre, Health Counselling and Disability Services, and Careers and Employability.

Following the end of year, a compliance process is undertaken where recipients of the year’s SSAF funds certify that the revenue from the SSAF fee was spent strictly in accordance with the Act and only on services and amenities specified in subsection 19-38(4) of the Act.

SSAF Revenue Summary

	2023 Allocation \$ ¹	2023 Actual \$
SSAF Revenue	\$4,903,200	\$4,611,554
SSAF revenue carried forward from 2022	-	\$1,130,143
Total SSAF funds available for 2023	\$4,903,200	\$5,741,697
SSAF revenue carried over into 2024	-	\$933,885

¹ Allocation refers to the SSAF funds expected to be received in the reported year (i.e., budgeted SSAF revenue).

SSAF Charge Summary

The student services and amenities fee (SSAF) charged to students must not be above the maximum fee for a calendar year. The maximum SSAF is indexed annually as required by the *Higher Education Support Act 2003*. In 2023 the maximum SSAF was \$326.

Student Status	2023 SSAF charged \$ ²	Number of students charged in 2023 ³
Full-time ¹ (> 0.75 EFTSL)	\$3,930,698	15,965
Part-time ¹ (< 0.75 EFTSL)	\$680,856	7,659
		Total: 23,624

¹ Note: As per Part 2 of the *Higher Education Support (Administration) Guidelines 2022* (Administration Guidelines), students studying on a part-time basis must not be charged more than 75 per cent of the maximum SSAF that a higher education provider determines for students studying on a full-time basis. The term “part-time basis” means a study load of less than 75 per cent of the normal full-time student load for the

period to which the fee relates. As per part 7 of the Administration Guidelines, the normal EFTSL value for a full-time student studying over a period of one year is 1.0.

² Note: As per Part 2 of the Administration Guidelines, a higher education provider may choose to determine a different SSAF for particular categories of persons, including a zero amount.

³ Note: Students are categorised as full-time or part-time students based on the total EFTSL value of the units of study they undertook in 2023. For example, a student undertook a full-time study load in Semester 1 which was equal to 0.5 EFTSL and undertook a part-time study load in Semester 2 which was equal to 0.375 EFTSL. This student would be categorised as a full-time student in 2023 as the total EFTSL they undertook in 2023 was equal to 0.875.

Student Status	2023 SSAF charged \$²	Approx. number of SSAF students remote learning 2023⁴
Remote learning/Online only	256,890	4,258

⁴ Note: The Department understands that not all higher education providers capture mode of study in their information systems and many students undertake a mixed mode of study such as face-to-face and remote learning. The data provided above is for students who undertook remote learning for 100% of their units of study. Please note, due to the limitations of our information systems, the above data may be approximate.

SSAF Allocation Summary

Subsection 19-38(4) of the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* (the Act) provides a list of 19 allowable expenditure items which higher education providers may allocate and spend SSAF revenue on.

Please note, under subsection 19-38 of the Act, SSAF revenue must not be spent to support a political party or the election of a person as a member of the legislature of the Commonwealth, State or a Territory, or a local government body.

In 2023 Flinders University's SSAF Budget Advisory Committee recommended an allocation 48% of SSAF revenue to its student-led organisation – Flinders University Student Association (FUSA), which was subsequently approved.

Key Area	2023 Total Allocation \$	2023 Total Actual Spend \$	Are services available online?	Estimated No. of students accessing services
1. Health Services	\$1,193,000	\$1,114,592	Yes	1,477
2. Clubs or other associations				
a. Sporting	\$190,000	\$190,000		
b. Internal student politics	-	-		
c. Gender, sexuality, ethnicity, race, or nationality-based	\$35,000	\$32,115		
d. Areas-of-study related e.g. law	\$80,000	\$78,554		
e. Other activities e.g. music, debate, chess	\$25,000	\$25,095		
f. Other	-	-		
3. Employment/career services	\$298,500	\$298,498	Yes	4,800
4. Legal aid	\$52,000	\$51,981	Yes	45
5. Other student amenities	\$2,075,228	\$2,144,973	Yes	5,815
6. Other - student wellbeing	\$954,472	\$872,003	Yes	54
Total	\$4,903,200	\$4,807,811		12,191

Organisations, bodies or third-party providers that received SSAF funding in 2023

Organisation Name ¹	Australian Business Number (ABN)	Supported Key Area	Total SSAF Funding Received \$	% of total SSAF Funding Received
Flinders University Sport & Fitness Inc	[53 390 033 434]	Clubs or other associations [2 a] Other – Student Wellbeing [6]	\$534,000	11%

¹ Note: Only organisations, bodies or third-party providers who receive over \$1,000 in SSAF funding are expected to be disclosed above.

Declaration by Person of Authority

I, [insert full name], [insert position title] of [insert full name of higher education provider], declare that the information provided in this Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) Allocation Report is to the best of my knowledge true, complete and correct.



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Signature of Person making Declaration

Professor Romy Lawson

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Full name of Person making Declaration

Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor

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Position of Person making Declaration

24 June 2024

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Date