



15/12/2023

Jessica
VUWSA

fyi-request-24881-1be6ff8b@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Jessica,

OIA: 1319476 – Changes to the student allowance scheme since 2005

Thank you for your email of 27 November 2023 to the Ministry of Education (the Ministry) requesting the following information:

All changes to the student allowance scheme since 2005 including:

- 1. Changes to the level of the parental income threshold including when it was frozen and unfrozen and inflation-adjusted.*
- 2. Changes to the personal income threshold.*
- 3. Changes to postgraduate student allowance.*
- 4. The total amount of students who have received student allowance each year since 2005 and how many have received the full student allowance entitlement since 2005. If those who received any student allowance can also please be divided into undergraduate/postgraduate, under 24/above 24, with/without children, with a partner/without a partner.*
- 5. The total amount of students who have received a student allowance and accommodation benefit too and what region they live in, since 2005.*

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

I am refusing **parts one, two and three** of your request under section 18(d) of the Act, as the information requested is publicly available on the Education Counts website at the following link:

https://www.educationcounts.gov.nz/data/assets/pdf_file/0007/219058/Student-Support-Changes-2022.pdf.

The student allowance rates and thresholds page on the Work and Income website may also be of interest to you: <https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/deskfile/student-support-tables/student-allowance-rates-and-thresholds/index.html>.

As advised on 30 November 2023, **parts four and five** of your request are not held by the Ministry and have therefore been transferred to the Ministry of Social Development in accordance with section 14(b)(i) of the Act. You may expect a response from the Ministry of Social Development directly concerning these parts of your request.



Please note, we may publish this response on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed.

Thank you again for your email. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review my decision on your request, in accordance with section 28 of the Act. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or to Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Katrina Sutich', is positioned above the typed name.

Katrina Sutich
General Manager, Tertiary Policy
Te Pou Kaupapahere | Policy