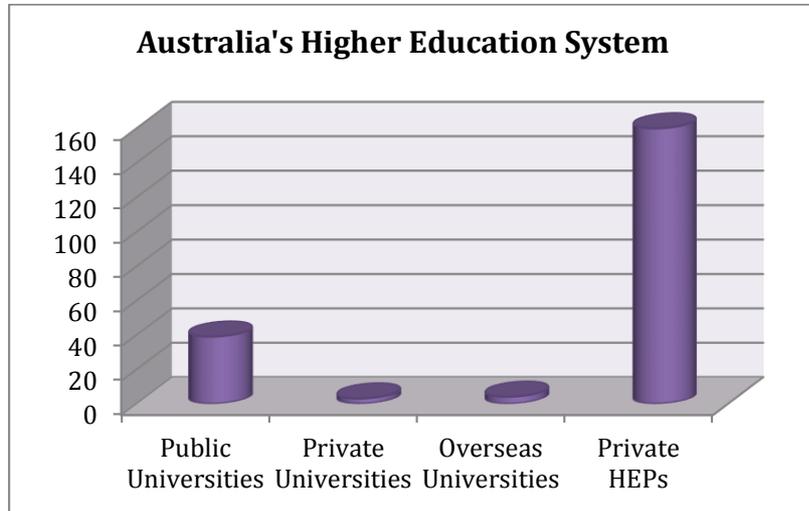


Private Higher Education for a Smarter Australia

Almost 10% of higher education (HE) students are choosing to study at one of Australia's 160 private providers. Just like universities, private HE providers offer degrees and are regulated by TEQSA.

Many assume that higher education degrees only come from a university. For more than 100 years, degrees have been awarded by different types of Higher Education providers, including private HEPs. Universities are one type of Higher Education Provider, but there are others:



Course accreditation in private HEPs and universities is to the same standard. The regulation, auditing, type of academic teachers and international student rules are identical. Regulation of the sector since 2012 has been the responsibility of TEQSA, the Federal Government's new Tertiary Education and Quality Standards Agency. Having a single national regulator ensures quality and consistency.

There are approximately 1.2 million students studying at public universities and 120,000 students studying at private HEPs. The value of private sector HEPs investment has increased by more than \$2 billion over the past decade – funding to meet students' needs that has not needed to come from the Australian taxpayer.

For public institutions, approximately half of the funding is provided by the Government, with the remainder contributed by the students, upfront or via HECS-HELP (Higher Education Contribution Scheme). At Private HEPs, the student pays full tuition fees. There is NO government funding, however the Government makes a loan scheme available, called FEE-HELP (Higher Education Loan Program). Undergraduate students paying through FEE-HELP pay an ADDITIONAL 25% administration fee to the Government. However, there is no such fee on HECS.

