

Summary of Legislative Changes to Enabling

1 SCHEDULE 2

1.1 CHANGES TO FUNDING AND ALLOCATION OF ENABLING PLACES

The Bill abolishes the enabling loading and removes several references to this loading throughout the Act (especially from sections dealing with funding agreements (s.30-25(3)(ca)&(da)) and calculation of basic grant amounts (s.33-1(1)(b)(ii)).

The provision specifying that the student contribution amount for enabling courses is zero (s.93-5(3)) is repealed.

The Bill repeals the current definition of 'enabling course' and replaces it with a new definition to exclude secondary school qualifications, and courses that the Minister has determined by legislative instrument are not enabling courses.

The Bill adds Enabling Courses to the list of 'designated courses' (i.e. those that are not demand-driven, but for which numbers are set in funding agreements; item 24 amending s.30-12(1)).

Item 19 amends s.30-1 such that CGS payments can be made to non-Table A providers for places in enabling courses and non-medical non-research postgraduate courses, in addition to national priorities.

Item 51 of the Bill states that the changes to funding and allocation of enabling places will apply to any unit of study with a census date that is on or after 1 January 2018, regardless whether the unit of study is part of a course that commenced before or after 1 January 2018.

UA expects the process of allocating enabling places through a three-year competitive process from 1 January 2019 will be drafted in CGS Guidelines.

Item 8 of Schedule 3 amends s.90-1(aa) such that students studying an enabling course can access HECS-HELP.