2021 Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) Report

Supported by your SSA Fee
Building a better *student experience*

1. What is SSAF?

In October 2011, the Government passed legislation (Guidelines) allowing universities to charge a student services and amenities fee from January 2012.

The Student Services and Amenities Fee legislation sets out the categories of services that the collected fees can be spent on, as follows:

1. providing food or drink to students on a campus of the higher education provider;
2. supporting a sporting or other recreational activity by students;
3. supporting the administration of a club most of whose members are students;
4. caring for children of students;
5. providing legal services to students;
6. promoting the health or welfare of students;
7. helping students secure accommodation;
8. helping students obtain employment or advice on careers;
9. helping students with their financial affairs;
10. helping students obtain insurance against personal accidents;
11. supporting debating by students;
12. providing libraries and reading rooms (other than those provided for academic purposes) for students;
13. supporting an artistic activity by students;
14. supporting the production and dissemination to students of media whose content is provided by students;
15. helping students develop skills for study, by means other than undertaking courses of study in which they are enrolled;
16. advising on matters arising under the higher education provider's rules (however described);
17. advocating students' interests in matters arising under the higher education provider's rules (however described);
18. giving students information to help them in their orientation;
19. helping meet the specific needs of overseas students relating to their welfare, accommodation and employment.

The funding must not be spent on supporting a political party or the election of a person as a member of a political party at any level of government.

2. How much SSAF was collected in 2021?

In 2021, JCU students paid a Student Services and Amenities Fee amount of $46.95 per 3 credit points, or $93.90 for a 6-credit-point subject until you reach $313 in one calendar year.

The estimated JCU SSAF Allocation in 2021 was $2,955,672.

The actual SSAF income received in 2021 was $3,111,955.

How was SSAF spent in 2021?

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A summary of the 2021 actual expenditure against the approved 2021 SSAF Expenditure Plan is provided in the following table

Service category	Project	2021 Allocation	2021 Actual
Student Spaces	**Estate SSAF Projects** Improvements to student spaces • Eddi Koiki Mabo Library - refurbishment indoor space • Cairns Library - refurb indoor peer to peer space • Cairns A2-001B - refurb indoor peer to peer space **Note: Proposed projects did not progress due to COVID-19 pandemic. Funding was reallocated for projects in 2022.*	$536,000	$0
Sporting or Recreational Activity Supporting debating by students	**Inter-College Music Competition and other Inter-Residential Activities** • Inter-College Music Competition	$14,000	$14,000
Career Counselling and Student Employment Services	**Career Development Learning Officer (1 FTE)** The Career Development Learning Officer supports the embedding of career development learning within curriculum across all Colleges, courses and year levels at JCU.	$141,786	$108,420
Providing food or drink to students on campus; Health and Welfare Services, helping overseas students	**International Student Support - Free Lunch Friday** An event held three times every semester on both Cairns and Townsville campuses to facilitate socialisation of international and domestic students, and promote interaction between students and staff. **Note: Additional allocation approved to support International students impacted by COVID-19 pandemic.*	$4,800	$5,524

Advisory mechanisms across a range of categories including helping with health and welfare, orientation, study skills, financial affairs, accommodation and employment and career advice	**Building HDR Cohort Support** Activities to support cohort activities for HDR candidates organised by the Colleges and the Postgraduate Centre in Cairns to improve the social and intellectual climate of HDR candidates. • Peer-2-Peer Ambassador Casual staff • Cairns Postgrad Centre (furniture/consumables) • College based cohort activities	$117,500	$88,486
Study Skills Assistance	**Academic Language and Learning Advisors (2 FTE)** Learning Advisors support student learning across multiple physical campuses, study centres and within the virtual environment. The core focus is to deliver expert literacy and numeracy academic support to the diverse student cohort at JCU	$305,310	$210,881
	InfoHelp Rovers - Cairns and Townsville Campuses InfoHelp Rovers assist students with personalised, peer-to-peer, point-of need assistance with digital and assistive technologies, along with providing support at student-focused events such as O'Week, Market Day and JCU Open Day. **Note: Program impacted by COVID-19 pandemic.*	$53,075	$30,931
	Study Centre Academic Skills Boot camp A series of interactive workshops and activities leading students through the process of determining an information need (assignment question), finding and evaluating information, effective reading, essay planning and writing, referencing and learning skills at Mount Isa, Mackay and Thursday Island. **Note: Thursday Island Boot camp did not proceed in 2021.*	$19,197	$7,592

Health and Welfare Services	**Mental Health First Aid Training** This project aims to facilitate the implementation of preventative and early intervention mental health support systems across the institution through the provision of Mental Health First Aid training to students and staff. The grant will provide for one Counsellor in Cairns to be trained as Standard MHFA facilitator to provide a coordinated training program at a reduced cost to students. It will also allow for Student Equity and Wellbeing to provide free MHFA (Standard) training to up to 150 students in leadership positions over 2020/2021. **Note: Carry forward of 2020 unspent funding.* **Student Wellbeing Counsellor (1 FTE)** The Student Wellbeing Counsellor is critical in providing "just in time and just for me" access to services. The Counsellor assists students to resolve problems, link students to existing University and community support networks and to build students' capacity and strategies to manage personal circumstances that may impact on their studies. The service is free, confidential and is available to all enrolled students.	$5,909 $121,802	$346 $120,116
Health and Welfare Services; Study Skills Assistance	**Indigenous Education and Research Centre Student Support Programs** Events and programs that enhance the student experience through the celebration of their achievements with both the JCU and the wider community. Events and activities include: • Student lunches x 6 per year • *Awards night • Health and Welfare Program • Student Ambassadors • Support for external students (post packs) • USBs for commencing students **Note: Awards night moved to another fund source.*	$114,000	$51,431

A range of categories including providing/helping with health or welfare, orientation, sport or other recreational activity, study skills, financial affairs, providing food and drink and employment and career advice	**Student Transitions and Engagement (STE) Salaries and Operating (2.6 FTE)** STE is responsible for facilitating and delivering a suite of student focused events, including: • GetReady4Uni • Orientation Program delivered to over 3,200 students each year on the Townsville and Cairns campuses, as well as off-campus students (study centres and external) STE is also responsible for 28 student events each year focused on wellbeing, cultural and academic preparation activities for all year levels including: • Student Success Week (SP1 & SP2) • Harmony Day • RU OK? Day • Exam Plan (SP1 & SP2) • Monthly Live@Lunch events • Casual wages **Note: A number of programs were impacted due to COVID-19 pandemic.*	$471,286	$254,835
A range of categories including health and welfare, orientation, financial affairs, food and drink on campus, advocating students' interests, advising on matters arising under the HE provider's rules, media, supporting the administration of a club most of whose members are students	**JCUSA Bid** • Representation - Student Council • Advocacy • Sport and Recreation, Clubs and Societies • Student Media Communication • General Manager and Finance Officer • Elections • Orientation Week • Free Breakfasts • Capital **Note: A number of social programs and activities were impacted due to COVID-19 pandemic.*	$1,455,245	$1,316,050

Sports Facilities	**Sporting Field Maintenance** Includes associated costs for sporting field maintenance on Townsville and Cairns campuses. The expenditure is allocated to cleaning costs for change rooms and toilets (not part of gym), sporting field maintenance and water irrigation.	$212,500	$212,500
Health and Welfare of Students	**JCU Health - Bulk Billing Students for Health and Wellbeing** This contribution allows JCU Health to contribute to offer bulk billing allowing no out of pocket costs to JCU students on the Townsville Campus.	$100,000	$100,000
A range of categories including health and welfare, orientation, financial affairs, food and drink on campus, advocating students' interests, advising on matters arising under the HE provider's rules, media, supporting the administration of a club most of whose members are students, helping meet specific needs of overseas students relating to their welfare, accommodation and employment	**JCUB SSAF Bid** Conducted as separate process. Forecast allocation will be revised.	$100,000	$100,000