



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT**

TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

23 May 2022

Dear

On 3 February 2022, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *I would like to request for the following information from MSD*
  1. *Student loans/ allowances/ accommodation supplements details including the number of recipients and total disbursements for Northland, with breakdown to district level and tertiary education providers in the past 10 years 2011-2021.*
  2. *Student loan repayment data per year for Northland with breakdown to district level and tertiary education providers (if available) in the past 10 years 2011-2021.*

I would like to extend my apologies for the delay in responding to your request for information.

On 11 May 2022, question two of your request was transferred to Inland Revenue, under section 14 of the Act, as the information you requested is not held by the Ministry and is believed to be more closely connected with the functions of Inland Revenue. Inland Revenue will respond to this part of your request directly.

The Student Loan and Student Allowances Schemes provide financial support to New Zealanders to undertake tertiary education. The Student Loan has three components, which provides finance for compulsory fees, course-related costs and living costs. Student Allowance is a weekly payment to help with living expenses, which does not have to be repaid.

Further information about these schemes is available at the following links:

[www.studylink.govt.nz/products/a-z-products/student-loan/index.html](http://www.studylink.govt.nz/products/a-z-products/student-loan/index.html)

[www.studylink.govt.nz/products/a-z-products/student-allowance/index.html](http://www.studylink.govt.nz/products/a-z-products/student-allowance/index.html)

Accommodation Benefit is a weekly payment that is paid to eligible students with their Student Allowance, to help with accommodation costs. You can find more information about this at the following link: [www.studylink.govt.nz/products/a-z-products/accommodation-benefit.html](http://www.studylink.govt.nz/products/a-z-products/accommodation-benefit.html).

In regard to question one of your request, please see the attached Excel Spreadsheet which contains the following two tables:

- **Table One:** The total number of recipients at Northland tertiary education providers, broken down by the total number of Student Loans, Student Allowances (fees, course related costs and Living costs) and Accommodation Benefits for the years 2012 to 2021.
- **Table Two:** Providers in 'Other' category by student count over the 10 years.

The principles and purposes of the Act under which you made your request are:

- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter and the attached appendix available to the wider public. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter on the Ministry of Social Development's website. Your personal details will be deleted and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact [OIA\\_Requests@msd.govt.nz](mailto:OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz).

If you are not satisfied with this response regarding Student Loans, Allowances and Accommodation Benefits, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



George Van Ooyen  
**Group General Manager**  
**Client Service Support**