# 2020 VET Student Loans Timing Requirements

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Using this document

This document sets out the timing for data reporting for the 2020 reporting year.

All vocational education and training (VET) providers (‘providers’) approved under VET Student Loans Act 2016 (the Act) are required to provide the Secretary with information that relates to the provision of vocational education and training by the provider, or the provider’s compliance with the Act.

This document should be read alongside the VET Scope and Structure document that details how data is reported and how it is to be structured.

System capacity

Providers can report new and revised data as soon as the data is available.

The system can receive information about past events and events that are planned to occur (e.g. the establishment of a course in the following year).

Time based information is matched to the correct time period using either:
- Effective from dates and effective to dates
- Reporting year
- Reporting year and period.

More information

For more information about terms used in these guidelines see the glossary.

Contact HEIMS Client Support

If you need assistance with any reporting issues please contact us at HEIMS.datacollections@education.gov.au.
Event based reporting

Event based reporting is required for packets that are critical to understanding study behaviour that may have an impact on entitlements, claims processes and payment accuracy.

Due dates for reporting these packets are triggered when certain reportable events occur:
- Course Admissions
- Unit Enrolments

Provider reference data must be reported before relevant reportable events are due. They are:
- Courses
- Units of Study
- Students

Compliance with due dates

Event based reporting
Due dates for event reporting may not be achievable due to exceptional circumstances such as delays in receiving information from students or processes to acquire a Tax File Number. The department expects provider’s to make best efforts to meet due dates and will benchmark timeliness against the provider’s past performance and the performance of similar institutions.

The department will ask consistently underperforming providers to:
- outline their barriers to meeting due dates and
- develop a plan to overcome barriers.
Course Admissions

Due dates
The mandatory minimum elements for a Course Admission are due within five (5) working days of a reportable event.

All required elements for a Course Admission are due by the 7th day of the month following the earliest census date for a Unit Enrolment under that Course Admission. Elements that only become required when an event occurs are due by the 7th day of the month following when the event occurred.

See the Scope document for definition of mandatory minimum and required elements.

Provider reference data for Course Admissions
Provider reference data are required before a Course Admission can be reported. They must be reported and up to date before the due date for the Course Admission event.

Provider reference data for Course Admission events are:
- Course of Study
- Course
- Student

Providers are encouraged to maintain up-to-date provider reference data before Course Admission events are expected to occur. The system supports early reporting of provider reference data including future courses of study and courses.

Sequence of reporting Course Admissions
You need two packets before reporting a Course Admission.

They are:
- Course
- Student
Reportable events for Course Admissions
Listed below are the definitions of each reportable Course Admission event:

1. **Student is admitted to a Course**
   When a provider admitted the student to a course. This would usually be when a student accepts a course offer and provides information sufficient to prepare a Course Admission packet with mandatory minimum elements (see scope document).

   Reporting should not be delayed by:
   - gaps in information provided by the student (other than mandatory minimum elements)
   - a lack of Unit Enrolments for the student in that course

2. **Student withdraws from a course**
   When a student provided notice that they had withdrawn or intend to withdraw from a course. Providers can determine the form of notice required for the student to formally withdraw.

3. **Student formally defers a course**
   When the provider accepts a student’s application to formally defer their Course Admission.

4. **Student’s enrolment in a course is cancelled**
   When the provider formally decided to withdraw the student from the course due to the student’s lack of progress or other academic or disciplinary reasons.

5. **Student completes a course**
   When the provider has determined that the student has met all the academic requirements of the course in which the student is currently enrolled.

   Reporting should not be delayed by:
   - administrative requirements such as payment of fines
   - graduation ceremonies.

6. **Credit allocated or applied**
   When the provider allocated or applied credit towards the student’s course.

7. **Provider identifies an error in Course Admission details**
   When the provider became aware of an inaccuracy in reported data.
Unit Enrolments

Due dates
The mandatory minimum elements for a Unit Enrolment are due within five (5) working days of a reportable event.

All required elements for a Unit Enrolment are due by the 7th day of the month following the census date. Elements that only become required when an event occurs are due by the 7th day of the month following when the event occurred.

See the Scope document for definition of mandatory minimum and required elements.

Provider reference data for Unit Enrolments
Provider reference data are required before a Unit Enrolment can be reported. They must be reported and up to date before the due date for the Unit Enrolment event.

Provider reference data for Unit Enrolment events are:
- Course Admission (requires Course, and Student)
- Unit of Study
- Delivery Location

Providers are encouraged to maintain up-to-date provider reference data before Unit Enrolment events are expected to occur. The system supports early reporting of provider reference data including future units of study and delivery locations.

Sequence of reporting Unit Enrolments
You need two packets before reporting a Course Admission.
They are:
- Course
- Student

You need three packets before reporting a Unit Enrolment.
They are:
- Course Admission
- Unit of Study
- Delivery Location
Reportable events for Unit Enrolments
Listed below are the definitions of each reportable Unit Enrolment event:

1. Student enrolls in a unit
   When the student completed the providers’ process to enrol in the Unit of Study.

2. Student withdraws from a unit
   When the student informs the provider of their withdrawal from a unit of study in the form required by the provider. Providers may require their student to provide notice online, in written form or any other process communicated by the provider.

3. Student completed a unit
   When the provider determines that a student has completed a unit of study. This is likely to be after all exams, assessments and/or placements have been assessed by the provider.

4. Student failed a unit
   When the provider determines that a student has failed to complete a unit of study (other than formal withdrawals). This is after academic appeal avenues have lapsed or been exhausted.

5. Provider identifies an error in unit enrolment details
   When the provider became aware of an inaccuracy in reported data.