



BACHELOR

Education Assistance Program



YOUR DEGREE IS ON US!

Do your Bachelor of Early Childhood and Education at a university near you and Guardian will pay your course fees!

Professional Learning

Bachelor Degree – Guardian Early Learning

EDUCATION ASSISTANCE- DEGREE

Guardian is dedicated to supporting the professional development of Educators and Staff as we understand that learning is a lifelong journey.

Committing to our Guardian degree program, in a Bachelor of Education in Early Childhood, will allow you to strengthen your practices in providing quality educational experiences for our children. We promise to help support you by offering: paid study, flexible work hours, guardian mentors and finance assistance, because we want to see you succeed.

Below is our Bachelor degree education assistance policy – to help you understand the key principles of our degree program.

We are excited to offer this opportunity and support, so you can take the next step in your career.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR THIS ASSISTANCE?

You must be:

- o employed full time or part time (over 15 hours per week).
- o an Australian Citizen or have permanent residency.
- o have been employed by Guardian for more than 12 months.

You will need to discuss this opportunity with your Centre Manager as your application will need to be endorsed by your Centre Manager and the Operations Manager. Please note: – the Education Assistance is subject to approval by Guardian.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE- GUARDIAN

Guardian is offering Financial Assistance to students to cover 100% of the “Student Contribution Amount”, by way of reimbursement* at the successful completion of your degree, which means, your degree is on us! *Please note the reimbursement is paid in instalments over 3 -4 years, not in one lump sum- refer to reimbursement schedule below for further details.

Administration fees, amenities fees, text books and resources are not covered by financial assistance, but they may be tax deductible. Please note, you are responsible for your degree, if you do not complete your degree, any course fees paid direct to the university by the student or by HELP will be the student’s responsibility.

This initiative is only available to Commonwealth Supported Places (CSP) at the nominated universities listed below. Please note: -If you are a postgraduate, you will need to check with your nominated university if postgraduate CSP is offered as this is a requirement of the program.

The reimbursement will be paid as outlined below at the successful completion of your degree, you will need to email your request for reimbursement with evidence (e.g. transcript) and course unit fees/HELP statement to Jennifer Del Medico at learninganddevelopment@guardian.edu.au.

Reimbursement Schedule

For course fees that total under \$15,000, your reimbursement will be paid in 3 equal instalments commencing first payment on the 1st June after you successfully complete your degree and subsequent instalments will be paid on the anniversary of 1st June each year until paid.

For course fees that total over \$15,000+, your reimbursement will be paid in 4 equal instalments commencing first payment on the 1st June after you successfully complete your degree and subsequent instalments will be paid on the anniversary of 1st June each year until paid.

The reimbursement will be paid as outlined above whilst Guardian still employs you. Please note: - If you resign from Guardian or your employment is terminated by Guardian, no further reimbursements will be made to you towards your degree costs/HELP.

If you have completed your studies and then go on approved leave (i.e.: parental, carers, unpaid etc.) at some point before we have paid off your HELP debt, then we will suspend any payments during your period of leave and resume them when you return to work. If you choose not to return to work, then you will be responsible for any remaining HELP debt.

GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

For information about Government Assistance that is available to students to assist them with the "Student Contribution Amount" whilst studying their degree, please see link below.

www.studyassist.gov.au/

PRACTICAL ASSISTANCE

Paid Study

You will be entitled to paid study leave of 1 x half day per month to assist you with your studies. You will need to arrange this directly with your Centre Manager.

Flexible Work Hours

Whilst studying you can request flexible hours at work to assist with juggling your work, family, and university priorities. Flexible work hours can be discussed with your Centre Manager and they may be different for each person and each centre. Some examples might include: Working a 4-day week or moving to a permanent part time role while studying (min 15 hours per week apply) - and is subject to approval.

Guardian Mentoring

Students will be able to access mentoring to assist them throughout their university studies. The Guardian mentoring assistance will consist of Bachelor qualified educators – (i.e. Curriculum mentors, Centre Managers, ECTs) and will be able to provide you with support, whether that is guidance with assignments or course content, juggling study and home life or just to point you in the right direction.

University Practicums

All Bachelor of Education – Early Childhood programs will require you to complete a practicum in an Early Learning Centre. The overall duration and weekly hours of practicums vary but in general are from 20 to 38 hours weekly over 4 – 6 weeks and generally commence in your second year of the degree. Where possible, we will arrange for you to complete a paid practicum in a Guardian centre. Please note ; the educator understands that if we cannot accommodate the above, the practicum will be as unpaid leave or annual leave.

BEFORE YOU OPEN A BOOK – UNIVERSITY PREP COURSES

Before you start looking at courses or which university is best for you, we strongly encourage you to enrol in a university prep course. Studying can be a daunting prospect, but a university preparation course will upskill you with some basic academic principles and help you understand if you are ready for the commitments of university study.

Most universities offer Study preparation courses, so if it's been a while since you picked up a textbook or you're a bit unsure about how to study online/on campus, a short course in study skills will help get you ready for uni. Some subjects may be counted as an elective towards your degree and you may also be able to get government support with these fees. Please note: - these costs are not included in the Education Assistance program.

Below, is the link for Open University that offer online courses that cover topics like the basics of online learning, essential academic skills, academic writing, and math. Some are paid subjects while others are free short courses, however you can also check if your selected university has prep courses too.

Open University Preparation Course Link

<https://www.open.edu.au/your-studies/support-services/study-preparation>

PREFERRED UNIVERSITIES LIST

Below are the universities that have a reputation that Guardian recognises for excellence in Early Education programs.

Guardian is pleased to advise that those students who have completed their Diploma@Guardian of Early Childhood Education and Care will also be eligible to receive credits towards their degree.

University	Campus locations	Course Name & Link to Apply	Credit for Diploma Graduates
Victoria University- Melbourne Australia	Footscray Park	Bachelor of Early Childhood Education https://www.vu.edu.au/courses/bachelor-of-early-childhood-education-ebec#credit-for-skills-past-study=1&pathways-to-this-course=1&units-and-electives-structure=1	Yes
Swinburne University	Hawthorn Campus	Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood) https://www.swinburne.edu.au/study/course/bachelor-of-education-early-childhood/ - On Campus course https://www.swinburne.edu.au/study/course/Bachelor-of-Education-(Early-Childhood)-%5bOnline-delivery%5d-BA-EDUEC2/local - Online course	Yes
Macquarie University	Macquarie Park, Sydney	Bachelor of Teaching (Early Childhood Education) https://courses.mq.edu.au/2018/domestic/undergraduate/bachelor-of-teaching-early-childhood-education	Yes

Australian Catholic University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Banyo, Brisbane • Collingwood, Melbourne • Canberra • North Sydney & Strathfield 	Bachelor of Early Childhood Education (Birth to Five Years) http://www.acu.edu.au/courses/undergraduate/education/early_childhood_education/bachelor_of_early_childhood_education_birth_to_five_years	On Application
Queensland University of Technology	Kelvin Grove	Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood) https://www.qut.edu.au/study/courses/bachelor-of-education-early-childhood	Yes
University of Southern Queensland	Springfield & Toowoomba	Bachelor of Early Childhood https://www.usq.edu.au/study/degrees/bachelor-of-early-childhood	Yes
University of South Australia	Mawson Lakes & Magill	Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood) http://study.unisa.edu.au/degrees/921-3177	Yes
University of Canberra	Bruce	Bachelor of Early Education & Primary Education http://www.canberra.edu.au/coursesandunits/course?course_cd=326JA	Yes

All the listed universities offer both online/distance and on campus part time study. Some universities will also grant you a credit if you have an accredited Diploma in Early Childhood Education & Care – this can shorten your course by up to a year. RPL can also be considered in some universities.

We recommend that you contact the universities to discuss course outlines, fees, practicums and start dates as this information will be required to assess your application.

Once you have gained approval for the Education Assistance program, you can apply to your chosen university directly. Generally, you will need a form of identification and a transcript of your diploma course to complete the application process.

If you would like further information or assistance, please contact Jennifer Del Medico at learninganddevelopment@guardian.edu.au