

# International TPS Levy

## Calculation Guidelines

The International TPS Levy is comprised of four parts:

$$\text{International TPS Levy} = A + B + R + S$$

where:

- A = the Administrative Fee component;
- B = the Base Fee component;
- R = the Risk Rated Premium component; and
- S = the Special Tuition Protection component.

Legislative authority to collect the **International TPS Levy** is outlined in the [Education Services for Overseas Students \(TPS Levies\) Act 2012](#).<sup>1</sup>

All CRICOS registered providers at 1 January of the levy year are required to pay the annual International TPS Levy. The levy funds the student placement and refund activities of the TPS in the event of an international provider default, as well as TPS operational costs. The levy is paid into the Overseas Students Tuition Fund (OSTF), which is managed by the TPS Director.

### Administrative Fee component

The Administrative Fee component is intended to contribute to the ongoing administration costs of the international tuition protection arrangements. The two amounts for the Administrative Fee component are determined by the Minister for Education through a legislative instrument (or indexed annually if the Minister chooses not to make a new legislative instrument for a particular year).

The two amounts for the Administrative Fee component for 2026 are \$110 (per provider charge) and \$0.58 (per student charge).

The Administrative Fee component (A) is calculated as:

$$A = \$110 + (\$0.58 \times \text{International student enrolments})$$

where:

International student enrolments = 2025 Equivalent Full Time Study Load (EFTSL) count  
Source: Provider Registration and International Student Management System (PRISMS) – data submitted by CRICOS providers as a requirement under section 19 of the *Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000* (ESOS Act).

<sup>1</sup> [www.legislation.gov.au/C2012A00011/latest/text](http://www.legislation.gov.au/C2012A00011/latest/text)

## Base Fee component

The Base Fee component contributes to maintaining the balance of the OSTF at a sustainable level by ensuring there are sufficient funds available in the event of a large provider default, or multiple provider defaults. The two amounts for the Base Fee component are determined by the Minister for Education through a legislative instrument (or indexed annually if the Minister chooses not to make a new legislative instrument for a particular year).

The two amounts for the Base Fee component for 2026 are \$223 (per provider charge) and \$1.41 (per student charge).

The Base Fee component (B) is calculated as:

$$B = \$223 + (\$1.41 \times \text{International student enrolments})$$

where:

International students = 2025 EFTSL count

Source: PRISMS – data submitted by CRICOS providers as a requirement under section 19 of the ESOS Act.

Note: Schools providers with no international student enrolments in the previous year are exempt from the Base Fee component.

## Risk Rated Premium component

The Risk Rated Premium component is determined by the TPS Director through a legislative instrument each year.

Note: Table A providers, government schools, and state and territory VET institutions are exempt from the Risk Rated Premium component, outlined in the [Education Services for Overseas Students \(TPS Levies - Exemptions\) Instrument 2022](#).<sup>2</sup>

The Risk Rated Premium component (R) is calculated as:

$$R = \left( 0.05\% \times \frac{\text{Total risk factor value for the year}}{\text{value for the year}} \right) \times \frac{\text{2025 overseas student tuition fees}}{\text{student tuition fees}}$$

where:

2025 overseas student tuition fees = total amount of student tuition fees received for 2025 (calendar year)

Source: Request for Information (RFI) from the TPS Director.

There are five risk factors in the levy which comprise the 'total risk factor value for the year'. These risk factors apply to non-exempt providers.

### Total risk factor value for the year

=

$$\left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Base risk} \\ \text{factor} \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{Length of} \\ \text{operation} \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{Volatility in} \\ \text{overseas student} \\ \text{enrolments} \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{Maximum overseas} \\ \text{source country} \\ \text{concentration} \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{Non-compliance} \\ \text{history \&} \\ \text{registration renewal} \end{array} \right)$$

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<sup>2</sup> [www.legislation.gov.au/F2022L01727/asmade/text](https://www.legislation.gov.au/F2022L01727/asmade/text)

## Risk factor 1: Base risk factor

A risk factor value of 1.0 applies to all non-exempt providers for the base risk factor. See table 1 to determine the base risk factor value.

**Table 1: Application of base risk factor value**

| Base risk factor                    | 2026 risk factor value |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Applied to all non-exempt providers | 1.0                    |

## Risk factor 2: Length of operation

This risk factor reflects that providers with a shorter length of operation present a higher risk of default. See Table 2 to determine the length of operation risk factor value based on the length of CRICOS registration length on 1 January of the levy year.

**Table 2: Length of operation risk factor values**

| Length of operation         | 2026 risk factor values |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Less than 1 year            | 1.0                     |
| 1 year to less than 2 years | 0.5                     |
| 2 years or more             | 0.0                     |

## Risk factor 3: Volatility in overseas student enrolments

This risk factor applies to providers whose:

- proportion of international student enrolments was 20% or more of its total student enrolments in the previous year (2025) (using reported EFTSL), and
- length of operation is 2 years or more, and either or both of:
  - number of overseas students in 2025 was at least 20 (EFTSL), and/or
  - tuition fee income in 2025 was more than \$400,000.

$$\text{Volatility in overseas student enrolments} = \frac{\text{student enrolments}}{\text{risk factor value}} \times \frac{\text{risk factor}}{\text{discount}}$$

To calculate the volatility in overseas student enrolments risk factor value, follow these steps:

1. Calculate formula as seen in table 3.  
Note: If a provider did not have overseas student enrolments in 2025, the provider's risk factor will be 0.0.
2. Determine the volatility in overseas student enrolments risk factor value (X) as seen in table 4.
3. Identify length of operation and determine discount (Y) on the risk factor value as seen in Table 5.
4. Then, multiply  $X \times (100\% - Y\%)$  to calculate the volatility in overseas student enrolments risk factor value.

**Table 3: Volatility in overseas student enrolment risk factor formula**

$$\left( \frac{\text{Number of overseas student enrolments in 2025}}{\text{Number of overseas student enrolments in 2024}} - 1 \right) \times 100$$

**Table 4: Volatility in overseas student enrolments risk factor values**

| Volatility in overseas student enrolments | 2026 risk factor values (X) |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 120% or more                              | 3.5                         |
| 105% to less than 120%                    | 3.0                         |
| 90% to less than 105%                     | 2.5                         |
| 75% to less than 90%                      | 1.8                         |
| 60% to less than 75%                      | 1.2                         |
| 45% to less than 60%                      | 0.6                         |
| 30% to less than 45%                      | 0.4                         |
| -15% to less than 30%                     | 0.0                         |
| -30% to less than -15%                    | 1.5                         |
| -45% to less than -30%                    | 2.0                         |
| -60% to less than -45%                    | 3.0                         |
| Less than -60%                            | 3.5                         |

Note: If a provider did not have overseas student enrolments in 2025, the risk factor value will be 0.0.

This risk factor applies to providers whose:

- proportion of international student enrolments was 20% or more of its total student enrolments in the previous year (2025) (using reported EFTSL), and
- length of operation is 2 years or more, and
- number of overseas students in 2025 was at least 20 (EFTSL), and
- tuition fee income in 2025 was more than \$400,000.

**Table 5: Discount percentage**

| Length of operation          | 2026 discount (Y) |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| 0 to less than 2 years       | 0%                |
| 2 years to less than 3 years | 25%               |
| 3 years to less than 4 years | 50%               |
| 4 years to less than 5 years | 75%               |
| 5 years or more              | 100%              |

#### **Risk factor 4: Maximum overseas source country concentration**

To calculate the maximum overseas source country concentration risk factor value, follow these steps:

1. Calculate formula as seen in table 6.
2. Find the associated risk factor value in table 7.

**Table 6: Maximum overseas source country concentration formula**

$$\left( \frac{\text{Largest number of overseas student enrolments for a country}}{\text{Total number of overseas student enrolments}} \right) \times 100\%$$

where:

**Largest number of overseas student enrolments for a country** means the largest number of overseas student enrolments for any overseas source country in 2025 (EFTSL); and  
**Total number of overseas student enrolments** means the total number of overseas student enrolments in 2025 (EFTSL).

**Table 7: Maximum overseas source country concentration risk factor values**

| Source country concentration | 2026 risk factor values |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 80% or more                  | 3.1                     |
| 50% to less than 80%         | 0.7                     |
| 25% to less than 50%         | 0.3                     |
| Less than 25%                | 0.0                     |

## Risk factor 5: Non-compliance history and registration renewal

The non-compliance history and registration renewal risk factor creates an incentive for providers to adopt low-risk and compliant behaviours. This risk factor is based on:

1. a provider's weighted late payment for the TLP and/or CLP within the previous three years.
2. whether compliance action was taken against the provider under section 83 of the ESOS Act in 2025,
3. if a provider applied for registration renewal and, due to risk management reasons, the period of registration granted in 2025 was less than the maximum period allowed, and
4. if a provider has had at least one student default occur where the refund amount was paid out by the TPS in previous calendar year.

where:

**TLP** is the Tuition Protection Late Payment for the International TPS levy, for the year and **CLP** is the CRICOS Annual Registration Charge (CARC) Late Payment, for the year.

Note: A provider's weighted late payment measure calculation considers the number of days after the due date the payment was received.

To calculate the weighted late payment risk factor value, follow these steps:

1. Establish the number of days a payment was received after the due date for the 2023, 2024 and 2025 International TPS Levy and/or CLP. Apply these values to the formulas below.

### Non-compliance history category formula

**For 2025:**  $0.7 \times [\text{CLP} + \text{TLP}] = X$

**For 2024:**  $0.2 \times [\text{CLP} + \text{TLP}] = Y$

**For 2023:**  $0.1 \times [\text{CLP} + \text{TLP}] = Z$

2. Add  $X + Y + Z$  together to calculate the weighted late payment measure.
3. Identify the corresponding value in table 8.

**Table 8: Weighted late payment history risk factor values**

| Category   | 2026 risk factor value |
|--|------------------------|
| Weighted late payment measure of 30 days or more                       | 2.0                    |
| Weighted late payment measure of 15 days or more but less than 30 days | 0.9                    |
| Weighted late payment measure of 1 day or more but less than 15 days   | 0.7                    |
| Weighted late payment measure of less than 1 day                       | 0.0                    |

To calculate the registration renewal risk factor values, follow these steps:

1. Identify registration renewal risk factor as per table 9 below.

**Table 9: Registration renewal risk factor values**

| Category   | 2026 risk factor values |
|--|-------------------------|
| Registration renewed by regulator for shorter than maximum period due to risk management | 1.0                     |
| For registration periods equal to the maximum allowable                                  | 0.0                     |

Source: Informed by relevant regulator through PRISMS.

To calculate the compliance action taken risk factor value, follow this step:

1. Identify compliance action taken under section 83 of the ESOS Act as per table 10 below.

**Table 10: Compliance action taken under section 83 of the ESOS Act**

| Category  | 2026 risk factor value |
|---|------------------------|
| Had action mentioned in section 83 of the ESOS Act taken against it in 2024 | 1.0                    |

Source: Informed by relevant regulator through PRISMS.

To calculate the student default risk factor value, follow this step:

1. Identify if student default occurred where a refund amount was paid by the TPS Director in previous calendar year as per table 11 below.

**Table 11: Student default where a refund amount was paid out by the TPS Director in previous calendar year**

| Category  | 2026 risk factor value |
|---|------------------------|
| Provider has had at least one student default occur where the refund amount was paid out by the TPS in the previous calendar year (i.e. the payment by the TPS is in the previous calendar year, not necessarily the student default) | 1.0                    |

Source: PRISMS/TPS Online

To calculate the total risk factor value for the non-compliance history and registration risk factor, the following formula is used:

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{Non-compliance history and} \\
 \text{registration renewal} \\
 = \\
 \text{Weighted late payment} + \text{Registration renewal} + \text{Compliance action taken under section 83 of the ESOS Act} + \text{Student default refund amount paid by TPS}
 \end{array}$$

## Special Tuition Protection component

The Special Tuition Protection component is charged when the balance of the OSTF is below its target range to ensure there are sufficient funds available in the event of a large provider default, or multiple provider defaults.

The Special Tuition Protection component percentage is determined by the TPS Director through a legislative instrument each year.

The percentage for 2026 is 0%.

The Special Tuition Protection component (S) is calculated as:

$$S = 0\% \times \text{Overseas student tuition fees}$$

*where:*

Overseas student tuition fees = total 2025 overseas student tuition fees

Source: Declaration of overseas student tuition fee income by providers through RFI process

## International TPS Levy calculation examples

### Provider 1 example

- Provider 1 received **\$3,000,000 in overseas student tuition fees** in 2025.
- Provider 1 has been **operating for 12 years**.
- In 2025, Provider 1 had **400 overseas student enrolments (EFTSL)** and **150 domestic student enrolments (EFTSL)**. Therefore, Provider 1's **proportion of overseas student enrolments was 73% of its total student population** in 2025.
- In 2024, Provider 1 had 600 overseas student enrolments. Therefore, Provider 1's **volatility in overseas student enrolments is -33%**.
- Of its 2025 overseas student enrolments, the largest number of enrolments for a country was 50 students. Therefore, Provider 1's **maximum overseas source country concentration is 13%**.
- Provider 1's **2023 Levy payment was received 5 days after the due date** and its **2024 CARC was received 3 days after the due date**. Therefore, Provider 1 has a **weighted late payment measure** of  $[0.1 \times 5 \text{ days}] + [0.2 \times 3 \text{ days}] = 0.5 + 0.6 = \mathbf{1.1 \text{ days}}$ .
- Provider 1 **did not have action mentioned in section 83 of the ESOS Act taken against it** in 2025. Provider 1 **applied for registration renewal** under section 10D of the ESOS Act and, **due to risk management, the period of registration granted in 2025 was less than the maximum period allowed**.

| Levy component                           | Levy calculation   |
|--|--|
| <b>(A) Administrative Fee</b>            | $\$110 + (400 \times \$0.58) = \mathbf{\$342}$   |
| <b>(B) Base Fee</b>                      | $\$223 + (400 \times \$1.41) = \mathbf{\$787}$   |
| <b>(R) Risk Rated Premium</b>            | $R = \left( 0.05\% \times \frac{\text{Total risk factor}}{\text{value for the year}} \right) \times \text{2025 overseas student tuition fees}$ <p><b>Risk factor 1: Base risk factor</b><br/>Increase factor value: 1.0</p> <p><b>Risk factor 2: Length of operation</b><br/>Increase factor value: 0.0</p> <p><b>Rick factor 3: Volatility in overseas student enrolments</b><br/>Increase factor value: 2.0</p> <p><b>Risk factor 4: Maximum overseas source country concentration</b><br/>Increase factor value: 0.0</p> <p><b>Risk factor 5: Non-compliance and registration renewal</b><br/>factor value: <math>0.7 + 1.0</math></p> <p><b>Total Risk factor value</b><br/><math>1.0 + 0.0 + 2.0 + 0.0 + 0.7 + 1.0 = 4.7</math></p> <p><b>Risk Rated Premium component calculation</b><br/><math>(0.05\% \times 4.7) \times \\$3,000,000 = \mathbf{\\$7,050}</math></p> |
| <b>(S) Special Tuition Protection</b>    | $\$3,000,000 \times 0\% = \mathbf{\$0}$  |
| <b>Total 2026 Levy<br/>A + B + R + S</b> | $\$342 + \$787 + \$7,050 + \$0 = \mathbf{\$8,179}$   |



### Provider 2 example

- Provider 2 received **\$1,000,000 in overseas student tuition fees** in 2025.
- Provider 2 has been **operating for 4.5 years**.
- In 2025, Provider 2 had **120 overseas student enrolments (EFTSL)** and **0 domestic student enrolments (EFTSL)**. Therefore, Provider 2's **proportion of overseas student enrolments was 100% of its total student population** in 2024.
- In 2024, Provider 2 had 90 overseas student enrolments. Therefore, Provider 2's **volatility in overseas student enrolments is 33%**.
- Of its 2025 overseas student enrolments, the largest number of enrolments for a country was 80 students. Therefore, Provider 2's **maximum overseas source country concentration is 67%**.
- Provider 2's **2025 Levy payment was received 22 days after the due date**. Therefore, Provider 2 has a **weighted late payment measure** of  $[0.7 \times 22 \text{ days}] = 15.4 \text{ days}$ .
- Provider 2 **had action mentioned in section 83 of the ESOS Act taken against it** in 2025. Provider 2 **did not apply for registration renewal** under section 10D of the ESOS Act in 2025.

| Levy component                           | Levy calculation  |
|--|---|
| <b>(A) Administrative Fee</b>            | $\$110 + (120 \times \$0.58) = \text{\textcolor{red}{\$179.60}}$  |
| <b>(B) Base Fee</b>                      | $\$223 + (120 \times \$1.41) = \text{\textcolor{red}{\$392.20}}$  |
| <b>(R) Risk Rated Premium</b>            | $R = \left( 0.05\% \times \frac{\text{Total risk factor}}{\text{value for the year}} \right) \times \text{2025 overseas student tuition fees}$ <p><b>Risk Factor 1: Base risk factor</b><br/>Risk factor value: 1.0</p> <p><b>Risk Factor 2: Length of operation</b><br/>Risk factor value: 0.0</p> <p><b>Risk Factor 3: Volatility in overseas student enrolments</b><br/>Risk factor value: <math>[0.4 \times 75\%] = 0.3</math></p> <p><b>Risk Factor 4: Maximum overseas source country concentration</b><br/>Risk factor value: 0.7</p> <p><b>Risk Factor 5: Non-compliance and registration renewal</b><br/>Risk factor value: <math>0.9 + 1.0</math></p> <p><b>Total risk factor value</b><br/><math>1.0 + 0.0 + 0.3 + 0.7 + 0.9 + 1.0 = 3.9</math></p> <p><b>Risk Rated Premium component calculation</b><br/><math>(0.05\% \times 3.9) \times \\$1,000,000 = \text{\textcolor{red}{\\$1,950}}</math></p> |
| <b>(S) Special Tuition Protection</b>    | $\$1,000,000 \times 0\% = \text{\textcolor{red}{\$0}}$  |
| <b>Total 2026 Levy<br/>A + B + R + S</b> | $\$179.60 + \$392.20 + \$1,950 + \$0 = \text{\textcolor{red}{\$2,521.80}}$  |