

2016 Summary of SSAF Priorities, Grants and Benefits to Students

The University takes a formula approach to the allocation of SSAF funds and grants each year, which embodies flexible funding arrangements to ensure some fixed funds as well as the ability to access short-term funds to pilot initiatives and/or meet a short-term need. This approach accommodates both need and demand at the same time, allowing for greater flexibility in the delivery of SSAF-funded student services and activities.

This model is centrally governed, managed and administered by Student Services, in consultation with the SSAF Consultative Committee, on behalf of the University. It includes:

- base allocation funding for all services currently approved for SSAF; the amount related to activity/service based costings (the allocation and funding value reviewed annually via Funding Applications and in line with University budget forecasts and business planning)
- an allocation for initiatives grants
- capital allowance for the improvement of student amenities by Student Services
- funding to support student organisations; and
- contingency for unexpected growth in usage and/or emerging needs allocation for services not currently funded by SSAF.

The review of applications for funding and grants each year takes into consideration feedback from students provided through data collection, engagement and consultation as well as feedback from the University community, to ascertain the needs and demands for allocation priorities each year.

2016 Programs, activities and services delivered to students from SSAF

Student Life

(SSAF Funding \$1,835,302, Actual Spend \$2,006,178)

- Orientation: including support for academic advice and enrolment sessions, O-Fest activities, Step Up Day, Family Day, Incredible Race events, Mature-Age Welcome events
- International orientation events
- Free equipment hire for student run events
- Exam refresher stations
- Annual calendar of events across all campuses
- Student leadership program including annual Student Leadership Conference, Student Leadership Awards, Student Leadership Council and Lead2Change program
- Funding and support for VU Clubs, including event support, clubs training, festivals and networking and skill-sharing sessions
- Vollies program which includes social and networking events and major events such as V4U day
- Show Some Initiative grants with 37 student-led projects funded in 2016
- Students as Staff recruitment and training.

Student Welfare

(SSAF Funding \$733,993, Actual Spend \$717,900)

- Orientation, Semester 1, 2016
- Philip Island bus trip
- End-of-exam Pizza Evening/Celebration
- Coffee and Chat at Footscray Park and City Flinders
- Tree Surfing
- Visit to Vic Night Market
- Silent Disco.

Student Wellbeing

(SSAF Funding \$1,327,241, Actual Spend \$1,249,588)

- Student Counselling Services
- Free workshops to enhance students' skills in time management, mindfulness, exam anxiety management, cross cultural communication and emotional intelligence
- Student Advocacy Services.

VU Student Union

(SSAF Funding \$348,902, Actual Spend \$404,846)

- Maintenance of Student Union offices, student lounges, student spaces
- Production of student magazine
- Orientation activities including O-Night Party, after exam parties and the annual ball
- Delivery of student forums on cultural diversity, the ice epidemic, women's leadership and the student symposium
- Grants to each College Society to support their activities and provide merchandise
- Operational grants to the International Student Association and VU Postgraduate Association to support events and activities tailored to international and postgraduate students
- Textbook grant
- WIL grant.

Sport and Health

(SSAF Funding \$823,314, Actual Spend \$827,973)

- Sports stadium courts refurbishment at Footscray Park campus
- Hosting the Southern University Games event
- Delivery of VU Sport accredited Short Courses programs, including first aid, pool lifeguard, CPR, defibrillation, anaphylaxis, emergency asthma management
- Sport facilities discounted membership and access charges for students
- Support for sport programs and activity including individuals and teams in intervarsity, regional and national (Unigames) competition, sporting club come and try's, training and competition, participation in community and fitness events (VUnite) and volunteer and team management.

2016 SSAF Student Experience Initiative Grants

Since 2013, SSAF Student Experience Initiatives funding has helped students and staff provide student amenities, services and activities that contribute to a positive student experience of a non-academic nature.

2016 SSAF Student Experience Initiative Grant projects

Recipient	Project Title	Project Description
College of Arts and Education (Youth Work)	Youth Pop-Up Truck Service	Funds to support the next phase of the pop-up service to provide services to vulnerable or disadvantaged students, provide them peer-to-peer support, mentoring and so on.
College of Health and Biomedicine – Midwifery	Poster Presentation Day	Provide food and drinks for the students in a research presentation event.
Kindred Studios	The Victoria University Music Awards (VUMAS)	Develop and host an entertaining and engaging event that celebrates and recognises student achievement and talent.
VU Student Paramedic Association	Subsidising AUSLAN Course for Student Health Professionals	Provide AUSLAN course to students so they can communicate with Australia's deaf population.
Centre for Student Success – Student Transition Mentors	Women's Room Mural Competition and Working Bee	Mural competition for the women's room located in Footscray Park followed by a mural working bee to execute the chosen design.
Individual student recipient	<i>Terra Nullius</i>	Financial assistance required to create a short documentary film, <i>Terra Nullius</i> , aimed at the lives of individuals who continue to fight for Aboriginal independence and recognition.