



STUDENT LEVIES

The Student Services Levy and a separate Student Assistance Levy are paid by all students to contribute to the development of a healthy and inclusive learning community. The Student Services Levy also improves services that can facilitate academic success and a positive student experience. A few services are fully funded by the Levy so they can be provided without individual user charge. Services that are partially funded by the Levy are provided to students at a heavily subsidised rate. Others are funded entirely from other sources.

Victoria University of Wellington staff work in partnership with the Advisory Committee on the Student Services Levy (ACSSL), an oversight body with student representatives from the Victoria University of Wellington Students' Association (VUWSA) and Ngāi Taura executives who consult with other representation groups including PGSA, Pasifika Student's Council, and other representative student bodies. They run a consultation process before a recommendation on the Levy is made to ACSSL. It should be noted that the Student Assembly, whose administration is supported by the Levy, met for the first time this year. This is a forum led by students for students and includes representation from a diverse range of student communities. The University works in partnership with students to ensure they have a strong voice in how the Student Services Levy is spent. In 2020, VUWSA consulted on a proposed increase to the Levy with the VUWSA and Ngāi Taura Executives, several VUWSA committees, and with other student representative groups.

As a result of Hardship Fund for Learners unbudgeted contributions from TEC, in total, student levies made a net surplus of \$324,940. This surplus will be ring fenced and used to offset any future deficits, and will be actively managed during the 2022 levy budgeting and planning process.

In 2020, an internal student studying 25 points or more was charged \$822 for the Student Services Levy. A Student Assistance Levy of \$27.60 was paid by all students. The total Compulsory Student Service Fee per student in 2020 was \$849.60, which translates to \$911 per equivalent full-time student.

The revenue from the levies can be used only for those services that fall within the following government-specified categories:

Advocacy and legal advice

Advocacy services delivered by the University manage a range of resolution activities in relation to student complaints, disputes, appeals, pastoral (including accommodation) issues, and academic disputes. VUWSA is also contracted to deliver an independent advocacy

service and train and support class representatives and faculty delegates to ensure that students have a meaningful and independent voice at Victoria University of Wellington.

Careers information, advice, and guidance

Careers and Employment aims to increase the employability of the University's students by providing career and course advice and assessments, and helping students prepare job applications, CVs, and develop interview skills.

Counselling services and pastoral care

Support services include Student Counselling, Āwhina and Pasifika Student for Māori and Pasifika students, peer mentoring, and student support coordinators based in halls of residence. A range of welfare services, such as food bank delivery, are delivered by VUWSA.

Employment information

The University provides information on jobs through publications, career expos, employer and industry presentations, and through an online service, CareerHub, which features study-related job vacancies.

Financial support and advice

The University's student finance advisers provide financial advice to students, administer the Hardship Fund, and teach financial literacy. The Student Assistance Levy contributes to the Hardship Fund (which has had a separate bank account since it was set up in 1991) and is available to assist students if they experience a short-term emergency or one-off immediate need.

Health services

The University's Student Health and Wellbeing services operate from the Kelburn and Pipitea campuses and include Student Health and Student Counselling. Counselling services are also available at Te Aro. Disability Services works alongside students with temporary and ongoing impairments to ensure they are able to engage

fully and achieve in their studies. Wellbeing services operate from the Student Union building on Kelburn campus along with Rainbow and Refugee student advisory services.

Media

VUWSA publishes the weekly magazine *Salient* and operates its website and podcasts. *Salient* provides paid work opportunities and skills development for its contributors, who are all students.

Childcare services

Victoria Kids provides childcare facilities for children of Victoria University of Wellington students.

Clubs and societies

The University has more than 150 clubs across political, cultural, sports, faith-based, and academic interests. Assistance is provided to clubs and societies through the provision of meeting rooms, activity spaces and resources, training programmes, and advice on club financial management.

Sports, recreation, and cultural activities

Victoria Recreation provides space and equipment for students to keep active. Sports leagues, tailored fitness and other programmes, recreational facilities, and venues for student events and activities are offered.

SERVICE CATEGORY	2020 STUDENT SERVICES LEVY (SSL) REVENUE \$'000	2020 STUDENT ASSISTANCE LEVY (SAL) REVENUE \$'000	2020 REVENUE FROM OTHER SOURCES \$'000	TOTAL REVENUE \$'000	TOTAL COST (SSL RELATED AND SAL GRANTS) \$'000	NET SURPLUS/ (COST) \$'000
Advocacy and legal advice	934	–	40	974	941	33
Careers information, advice, and guidance	1,218	–	18	1,236	1,048	188
Counselling services and pastoral care	2,651	–	505	3,156	3,026	130
Employment information	1,074	–	7	1,081	1,072	9
Financial support and advice	552	499	1,105 ¹³	2,156	1,903	253
Health services	3,871	–	2,477	6,348	6,042	306
Media	249	–	–	249	249	–
Childcare services	208	–	–	208	208	–
Clubs and societies	1,218	–	–	1,218	1,108	110
Sports, recreation, and cultural activities	1,655	–	401	2,056	2,760	(704)
Total	13,630	499	4,553	18,682	18,357	325

¹³ Includes \$912,173 received via the Hardship Fund for Learners (HAFL) which was established by TEC to help tertiary education organisations (TEOs) in 2020 provide temporary financial assistance for currently enrolled tertiary learners who were facing hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic.