

## Statement of Tuition Assurance

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Under the provisions of the *Higher Education Support Act 2003 (HESA)* and the associated *Higher Education Provider Guidelines 2023*, the MIECAT Institute is required to meet tuition assurance arrangements in the unlikely event that the MIECAT Institute defaults in relation to a student.

The meaning of 'defaults in relation to a student' is set out in the *Higher Education Provider Guidelines 2023 (Chapter 2, point 12)*. Tuition assurance protects students in the event that a course in which a student is enrolled ceases to be provided after the course has started but before it is completed.

The MIECAT Institute is a financial member of the Australian Government's Tuition Protection Service (TPS).

### 2. SCOPE

This statement covers students enrolled in the accredited courses of study offered by the MIECAT Institute.

### 3. TUITION PROTECTION SERVICE (TPS)

The TPS is an initiative of the Australian Government to assist students whose education providers are unable to fully deliver their course of study. The TPS ensures that students are able to either:

- a. complete their studies in another course or with another education provider; or receive a refund of unspent tuition fees; or
- b. for students on FEE-HELP, receive a loan re-credit for the units they received a FEE-HELP loan for and were undertaking and were not able to complete because the provider defaulted.

#### 4. STUDENT OPTIONS IN THE EVENT OF A DEFAULT

In the event that the MIECAT Institute defaults in relation to a student who is enrolled in a course of study the student is entitled to a choice of the following options:

- a. The Course Assurance option: an offer of a place in a similar course of study with a Second Provider without any requirement to pay the Second Provider any student contribution or tuition fee for any replacement units, or
- b. The Student Contribution / Fee Repayment option: a refund of the student's up-front payments, or a re-credit of a FEE-HELP loan, for any unit of study that the student commences but does not complete because the MIECAT Institute ceases to provide the course of study of which the unit forms part.

In the unlikely event the MIECAT Institute is unable to deliver a course the student has paid for and does not meet its obligations to either offer an alternative course that the student accepts or pay a refund (or a FEE-HELP re-credit as applicable) of unspent prepaid tuition fees (this is called a provider's 'default obligations'), the TPS will assist the student in finding an alternative course or to get a refund if a suitable alternative is not found.

#### 5. Record keeping

It is suggested best practice for students to retain assessments, records of competencies or statements of attainment that they receive from their education provider.

#### 6. Publication

The Statement of Tuition Assurance will be made public to students on the MIECAT Institute's website: [www.miecat.edu.au](http://www.miecat.edu.au)

Students will be advised where the Statement of Tuition Assurance may be obtained as part of our enrolment information.

#### 7. TPS CONTACTS

Email: [support@tps.gov.au](mailto:support@tps.gov.au)

Phone: 1300 131 798

Website: <https://www.education.gov.au/tps/higher-education-students>