

Proposed 2027 SSAF Expenditure Plan

The Student Consultation period is open from Monday, 28 September 2026 to Friday, 9 October 2026.

The estimated SSAF income for 2027 is forecast at \$4 million.

SSAF reserves will be utilised to account for additional expenditure.

Proposed by	Project title	Project / Activity	Lead unit / entity	Proposed 2027 Allocation
JCU	Enhancing HDR Student Experience	Engages HDR candidates across JCU through networking, research communication and cohort-building activities. Combats isolation, fosters psychosocial safety and supports academic success. Includes the HDR Ambassador Program, Research Training Network events and candidature experience support across campuses.	Graduate Research School	\$ 35,000.00
External	JCU Health - Student Health and Wellbeing	Contribution to bulk bill (no out of pocket costs) JCU students for all appointments associated with all aspects of their general health and overall well-being. To offer students a discount and low wait time for Psychological services within JCU Health General Practice and to direct bill to overseas health insurance providers to avoid further financial stressors and ensure this doesn't impact a student's ability to seek help.	JCU Health (Controlled Entity)	\$ 90,000.00
JCU	Regional Student Connection Program	A coordinated wellbeing, accommodation support and career engagement program for 300 JCU nursing, allied health and medical students undertaking placements and studying across Central, Western and Gulf communities in rural and remote Queensland. Activities include initial orientation support, providing information on local community facilities, attractions, groups, events; placement and accommodation support; wellbeing initiatives, community engagement opportunities and rural career networking; wellbeing support options, leading to a positive student placement experience. These key support activities assist supporting the key RHMT aim to improve the recruitment and retention of medical, nursing and allied health professionals in Rural and Remote Australia.	Murtupuni Centre for Rural and Remote Health	\$ 5,000.00
JCU	Indigenous Student Support Programs	The IERC supports JCU's commitment to diversity through programs that empower Indigenous students. Initiatives include community lunches, access to healthy food, hygiene support, ambassador leadership, external student engagement, study materials, and student association support. These programs build connection, wellbeing, and academic success across JCU's Indigenous student community.	Indigenous Education and Research Centre	\$ 50,000
External	Inter-College Music Competition	The Intercollege Music Competition (ICMC) is an annual celebration of talent and community spirit, bringing together residents from JCU Halls of Residence, John Flynn College, and Saints Catholic College. Students showcase their creativity across Band, Instrumental, Choir, Dance, and Theatre.	On Campus Accommodation	\$ 8,000
JCUB	JCU Brisbane Student Engagement	Fostering engagement, connection and support across the JCU Brisbane student community through a comprehensive program of events, activities and dedicated support services, including Student Counselling and Learning Support. Guided by the JCUB Student Board, which ensures student representation and alignment with the needs of the Brisbane cohort. The project delivers a year-round calendar of initiatives focused on Community and Culture (social engagement) and Professional Development (employability). Through orientation, wellbeing, health and welfare, recreational, study skills and international student support activities, the project enhances student belonging, wellbeing, engagement and academic success, contributing to a vibrant and inclusive campus experience.	JCU Brisbane	\$ 185,000
JCU	Mackay Clinical School	Enabling medical and pharmacy students to engage in orientation, welfare, and community-building activities that strengthen connections with peers, staff, and the Mackay Clinical School. Fostering a strong sense of belonging and connection supports student wellbeing, enhances the student experience, and builds a supportive learning community for academic and personal success.	Mackay Clinical School	\$ 5,563
JCU	Mackay Nursing - Connection and Wellbeing	This project will build social connection, peer support and wellbeing and a greater sense of belonging for Mackay nursing students through at least four resilience-focused events and a local social club, and will ensure 75% of new and commencing students engage in online or in-person orientation activities that support successful onboarding and retention.	Mackay Nursing School	\$ 9,000
JCU	Library Services	Consolidated Library Services initiative supporting study-skills development, recreational reading and student engagement/play activities across campuses — spanning skills-for-study support and non-academic reading spaces.	Library Services	\$ 50,000
JCU	International Orientation and Student Support	Year-round program of inclusive orientation events, activations and support resources for JCU's approximately 1,400 international students, connecting them with services and community across Townsville and Cairns. International-specific complement to the general orientation program.	Student Communications and Engagement	\$ 80,000
JCU	CQ Rural Student Connection	Coordinated wellbeing, accommodation support and career engagement program for 70 JCU nursing, allied health and medical students on placement across Central Queensland. Includes orientation resources, accommodation support, shared meals, wellbeing initiatives, community engagement and rural career networking.	Central Queensland Centre for Rural and Remote Health	\$ 7,000
JCU	Careers and Employability Support (pre-approved salaries from 2026)	1.4 FTE Career Development Advisors (CDAs) to provide high-quality career development support to prospective and current JCU students and recent graduates. CDAs deliver individual coaching, workshops, curriculum-embedded career development, and the Career Ready Award to optimise positive graduate employment outcomes.	Student Services and Support	\$ 222,000
JCU	Student Wellbeing and Accessibility Support (pre-approved salaries from 2026)	Counselling and Mental Health and AccessAbility Support as a single integrated programme. Together these services provide free, confidential, and timely mental health, counselling, crisis, disability assessment and adjustment support to JCU students across all campuses and modes.	Student Services and Support	\$ 424,000
JCU	Learning Centre 2027 (salary component pre-approved from 2026)	1.0 FTE continuing Learning Advisor supporting HDR candidates via the Graduate Research School and undergraduate students; JCU Student Village, weekly peer-led social and learning-support sessions in Townsville and Cairns; the Learning Centre "Breakfast and Buddies" pop-up, informal peer-to-peer breakfasts building help-seeking behaviour and belonging, continuing in Townsville and piloting a limited 8-month Cairns expansion; and delivery of F2F Mental Health First Aid (Standard Course) at Townsville, Cairns and Mackay campuses. All four initiatives build sustained student connection to peers, staff and support services, and directly respond to SSAF student survey priorities around health and wellbeing, social connection, skills development and food/drink on campus.	Education Design, Quality and Standards Learning Centre	\$ 247,000
JCU	Sonder Digital 24/7 Support Platform	Sonder provides international students with 24/7 multilingual safety and wellbeing support, connecting them instantly to health professionals and emergency services via app, chat or phone. Features such as journey tracking, wellbeing assessments, real-time safety alerts and access to resources ensure students remain safe, supported and informed wherever they are.	Student Services and Support	\$ 49,000
JCU	Student Communications and Engagement Team Salaries (pre-approved from 2026)	Year 2 (2027) of pre-approved two-year funding for Student Communications & Engagement Team salaries underpinning JCU's orientation and engagement program across Townsville and Cairns.	Student Communications and Engagement	\$ 463,437
JCU	DVCE Student Consultation and Responsive Fund	Establishes a resourced student consultation framework, including remuneration of student participants, to embed the Students as Partners framework at JCU. Also adds a responsive discretionary fund for one-off events and small projects that improve the student experience outside of the annual SSAF bid cycle.	Office of the Deputy Vice Chancellor Education	\$ 50,000
JCU	Orientation and Engagement Plan	Delivers inclusive orientation and engagement events, activations and resources connecting new and current students with support services, tools and resources. Events delivered mainly on the Townsville and Cairns-Smithfield campuses; one Student Services staff member travels to Mackay Clinical School and the Yeinie Building to deliver a single Orientation Week activity at key intakes.	Student Communications and Engagement	\$ 320,000
JCUSA	JCU Student Association	JCU Student Association's annual SSAF allocation funds student representation and advocacy, plus social, health, recreational and sporting programs, club administration, student media and facilities across all campuses.	Students Plus Pty Ltd (JCU Student Association)	\$ 2,000,000
TOTAL PROPOSED SSAF ALLOCATION				\$ 4,300,000