

Southern School of Natural Therapies

Statement of Tuition Assurance

- *This is to state that the Southern School of Natural Therapies (SSNT) is a member of the **Australian Council for Private Education and Training (ACPET)** and it is using their established tuition scheme, **Australian Student Tuition Assurance Scheme (ASTAS)** to meet the tuition assurance requirements of the Higher Education Provider (HEP) Guidelines, under The Higher Education Support Act (HESA).*
- *This information is provided to ALL enrolled students and intending students, on the Southern School of Natural Therapies website, www.southernschool.com and at the school's Alf Jacka library.*

Under the provisions of the *Higher Education Support Act 2003 (HESA)* and the associated HEP Guidelines, the Southern School of Natural Therapies (the First Provider) is required to provide a tuition assurance arrangement for Australian citizens or holders of an Australian permanent humanitarian visa who are enrolled in higher education courses it offers. This requirement is to protect students in the event that the Southern School of Natural Therapies ceases to provide a course of study in which a student is enrolled. The meaning of 'ceasing to provide a course of study' is set out in the HEP Guidelines (http://www.backingaustraliasfuture.gov.au/guidelines/hep_guide.htm).

In the event that the Southern School of Natural Therapies ceases to provide a course of study in which a student is enrolled, the student is entitled to a choice of:

- a) 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 (this is known as the "**Course Assurance Option**");

OR

- b) a refund of his or her up-front payments for any unit of study that the student commences but does not complete because the Southern School of Natural Therapies ceases to provide the course of study of which the unit forms part (this is known as the "**Student Contribution/Tuition Fee Repayment Option**")

The Southern School of Natural Therapies has met the tuition assurance requirements of the Higher Education Support Act (HESA) through its current membership of the

Australian Council for Private Education and Training (ACPET) and their Australian Student Tuition Assurance Scheme (ASTAS).

Contact details for ACPET are as follows:

**Australian Council for Private Education and Training (ACPET)
Executive Officer, Victoria
PO Box 551
East Melbourne
Vic 8002
Tel: 9416 1355**

PROCEDURE

If the Southern School of Natural Therapies ceases to provide a course of study and has not refunded fees paid for units, ACPET will send a student enrolled in the course of study a Written Tuition Assurance Offer (the Offer) advising the student of the options available under the tuition assurance requirements. The Offer will include directions that the student must follow in order to notify ACPET of the choice they have made for each affected unit. ACPET will provide this Offer within twenty *Business Days* after it knows, or should know by reasonable enquiries, that the Southern School of Natural Therapies has ceased to provide the course or study.

The courses of study for which Southern School of Natural Therapies has ACPET ASTAS membership are:

Southern School of Natural Therapies (The First Provider) Course	Qualification to which Southern School of Natural Therapies' Course Leads
BACHELOR OF HEALTH SCIENCE – MYOTHERAPY, Course Code V005325	BACHELOR OF HEALTH SCIENCE – MYOTHERAPY
BACHELOR OF HEALTH SCIENCE – NATUROPATHY, Course Code V000515	BACHELOR OF HEALTH SCIENCE – NATUROPATHY
BACHELOR OF HEALTH SCIENCE – CHINESE MEDICINE, Course Code V12593	BACHELOR OF HEALTH SCIENCE – CHINESE MEDICINE

A student may choose either:

The Course Assurance Option:

If a student accepts a place in a course offered by ACPET as named above, ACPET will offer the student the option of ACPET making all necessary arrangements to ensure a student is able to enrol in a similar course of study with a Second Provider. This offered course will lead to the same or a comparable qualification without any requirement on the part of the student to pay that Second Provider any student contribution or tuition fee

for any replacement units. A student will receive full credit from the Second Provider for any units of study successfully completed at *the Southern School of Natural Therapies*.

The Second Provider nominated by ACPET may have different contribution amounts or tuition fees to the amounts or fees the student would have paid for units of study which were part of the course of study the Southern School of Natural Therapies ceased to provide. A student will receive full credit from the Second Provider for any units of study successfully completed at *the Southern School of Natural Therapies*.

A student is not obliged to enrol in a course of study with a Second Provider offered by ACPET under the Course Assurance Option. However, if he/she enrolls with any other provider there is no obligation on that provider to offer full credit transfer for the units of study completed with the Southern School of Natural Therapies or to offer a replacement/s unit free of charge.

OR

The Student Contribution/Tuition Fee Repayment Option

If a student chooses the Student Contribution/Tuition Fee Repayment Option, ACPET undertakes to pay the student the total of any up-front payments already paid by the student for any units of study the student has commenced but not completed. Students selecting this option will also get SLE or FEE-HELP balance/s re-credited for uncompleted units.

Queries

Please contact the Manager-Student Services at the Southern School of Natural Therapies, or ACPET.