

The Importance of Learning Support in Higher Education

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*Higher education offers students a wealth of opportunities and the chance to gain specialist knowledge and skills. However, the transition to higher education can be challenging, with students often facing academic, social, and even personal hurdles. In this context, **learning support** plays a crucial role in helping students not only survive - but thrive in higher education environments across Australia and beyond.*

So, what Is Learning Support?

Learning support refers to a broad range of resources, services, and strategies designed to help students overcome barriers to learning and reach their academic potential. This includes academic skills workshops, tutoring, writing support, mentoring, accessibility services for students with disabilities, and access to learning resources such as libraries and online tools.

Why Is Learning Support Important?

The importance of learning support should not be underestimated. Good learning support promotes academic success; equips students with essential skills such as critical thinking, time management, academic writing, and exam preparation; supports diverse student populations; ensures equity by providing tailored assistance to meet individual needs; reduces dropout rates; helps students overcome difficulties early, reducing stress and the likelihood of withdrawal; enhances student wellbeing; contributes positively to overall mental health and wellbeing; builds employability skills; and builds transferable skills such as communication, teamwork, and problem-solving which are highly valued in the Australian job market.

What form can ‘learning support’ take?

Learning Support in Higher Education can take on a range of forms including - *workshops* and one-on-one consultations focused on writing, referencing, research, and language skills; peer *tutoring and mentoring*; *accessibility services*; providing *flexible, self-paced support* through digital platform; and *counselling and wellbeing* services.

Challenges as well as and opportunities

Despite the clear benefits, some students may be unaware of available support or reluctant to seek help due to stigma. Higher education providers must continue to raise awareness, reduce barriers, and innovate to meet the changing needs of students - especially with the growth of online and blended learning.

Learning support is essential in higher education, providing students with the tools, confidence, and resilience needed to succeed academically and personally. By fostering inclusive and supportive learning environments, higher education providers help ensure all students achieve their goals and contribute meaningfully to Australian/international society.

Also worth reading –

Student Support - academic and non-academic (2024)

- [6113ad_526404439d84444ab36a3757d9d9bcaa.pdf](#)

Ensuring the welfare and support of international students (2024)

- [6113ad_f611f491633a496d86899719fef29c00.pdf](#)

Learning support online - help is only a click away (2025)

- [6113ad_27511f7cbb9945c0b53cf6bd39b65d27.pdf](#)

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