Textbook and study costs

Aside from actual university fees, there are other studying costs which you may need to prepare for each session. Costs can depend on the course, your travel options and course materials.

Textbooks and readers

Different types of reading material may be required for a unit. If you are studying on a budget, you should find out if the reading material for a unit is considered ‘required reading’ (as some books are only ‘recommended’ and may not need to be purchased). For required texts make sure that you have the prescribed edition or check if it is possible to use an older edition. For information check your unit outline or consult your unit coordinator.

Some options for accessing your unit’s required texts:

• Purchase new textbooks and readers from uwsconnect Books www.connectbooks.com.au or from an online source. As an enrolled student you can become a member of uwsconnect Books and this entitles you to a 10% discount on your textbooks

• Borrow from the library. Most textbooks are in the general and reference sections. If they are not, speak to your unit coordinator about organising for the book to be available in the library

• Borrow textbooks from another student within your course, from a previous year or share textbooks within a group

• Photocopy selected chapters. Due to copyright laws you may only photocopy one chapter or 10% of a book, whichever is greater

• Buy second-hand books by looking at campus public spaces (e.g. notice boards), the vUWS page or at websites like Textbook Exchange www.textbookexchange.com.au or eBay www.ebay.com.au

• Rent textbooks using websites like Textbook Rentals www.textbookrentals.com.au or Amazon www.amazon.com

Other study costs

Uniforms, lab coats, first aid courses, medical equipment, kits, photocopying, stationary, laptops, computer equipment, software, student professional registration, other relevant reading material and travel are all costs that may be associated with certain units and courses. These are costs that may be required and need to be taken into account when budgeting for the semester. Seek help with the costs if needed and contact your Welfare Officer on campus to discuss options and financial support.
Textbook and study costs

Travel costs

All UWS campuses are serviced by both public transport and major roads. Not all courses are offered on each campus, so students must take this into account when budgeting for their travel expenses. Students enrolled in a single degree are generally based at one campus but may have to travel to attend some components of their course or for particular units.

Public transport

Full-time students (not engaged in employment) attending day classes are entitled to rail and bus student concessions. Application forms are available from the Student Central on your campus. See 131500 for public transport timetables, fares and point to point directions in NSW. www.131500.com.au.

UWS provides a free shuttle bus service for students and staff on most campuses. For shuttle bus routes and timetables see www.uwsconnect.com.au/shuttlebus.html.

Commuting via car

Remember there are various costs associated with using a car to commute to campus. These include:

• parking fees on all campuses for staff, students and visitors. One-off, half-yearly or yearly permits can be purchased. Fines apply and can cost more than the annual parking permit itself. Permits can be purchased with a credit card online from the UWS iPay system. www.uws.edu.au/parking

• fuel

• insurance

• loan repayments if you cannot pay for the car outright

• regular services, spare parts and repairs

• membership for any association or club for road assistance

• registration costs

Getting help

The Student Welfare Service is here to offer financial support with textbooks and study expenses for eligible students.

Students can apply for a textbook voucher (in week 0 and week 1 of each session) or for other financial support, anytime of the year. www.uws.edu.au/welfareservice