



Fees Free info sheet: Carrying forward fees-free entitlement

This document sets out how the carrying forward (carryover) of remaining fees-free entitlements works.

No changes to carryover settings in 2020

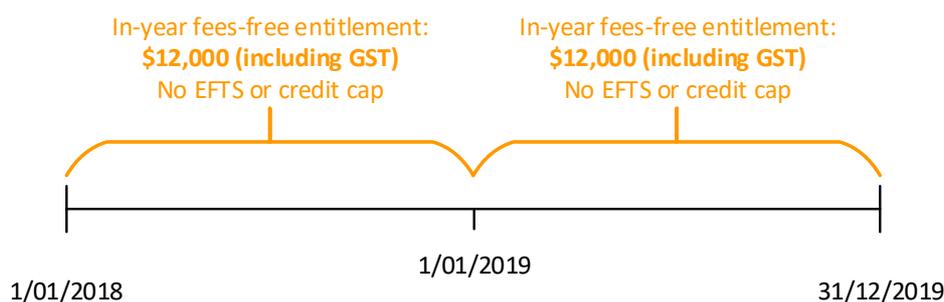
- › The carryover settings from 2019 apply.
- › Carryover settings apply to any fees-free eligible learner who has started fees-free eligible study or training in a previous year. So an eligible learner who started study in 2018 may still have some remaining fees-free entitlement to carry forward in 2020.

Provider-based study

Fees Free is capped at \$12,000 (including GST) per learner

- › There is no equivalent full-time student (EFTS) or credit cap in a learner's first calendar year of study.
- › So, a learner eligible for Fees Free can receive up to \$12,000 (including GST) of fees-free payments for any eligible provider-based study they undertake in the calendar year (see Figure 1).

Figure 1: In-year fees-free entitlement



Eligible learners cannot opt to pay fees and bank their fees-free entitlement for future use

If a learner is eligible for Fees Free and is undertaking eligible study, they automatically use their fees-free entitlement. You're required to report all these learners in your monthly *Fees Free All Enrolments and Costs* returns.

If a learner has an unknown eligibility status, but meets the eligibility criteria, they need to complete and submit a statutory declaration by **midnight 31 December** of their first calendar year of study.

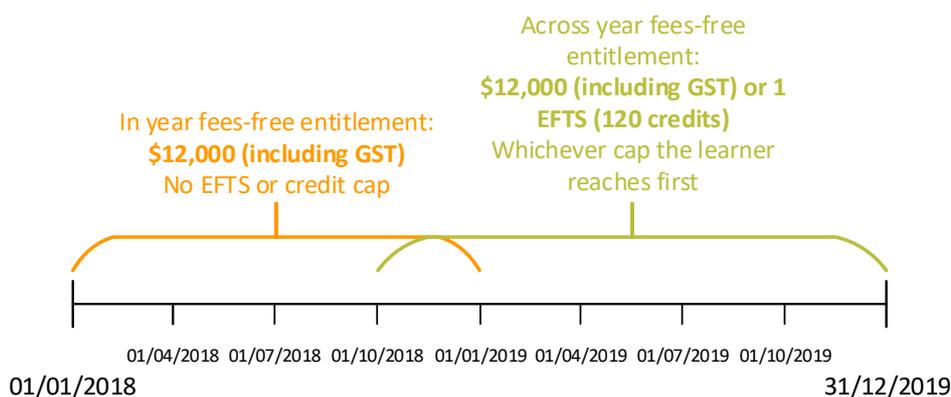
To access a statutory declaration, learners need to go to www.feesfree.govt.nz and enter their National Student Number (NSN).

Learners can carry forward remaining entitlement

Learners who **undertake less than 1 EFTS (120 credits)** and **use less than \$12,000 (including GST)** of fees-free payments in their first calendar year of study can carry forward their remaining fees-free entitlement (in dollars and EFTS).

Eligible learners are entitled to up to \$12,000 (including GST) of fees-free or fees-free support for up to 1 EFTS (120 credits) – whichever cap the learner hits first. A learner’s entitlement will stop when they reach either \$12,000 (including GST) or 1 EFTS.

Figure 2: Across year fees-free entitlement



Carryover is based on calendar years

Each year we’ll calculate how much fees-free entitlement eligible learners (who have undertaken eligible study in the year) have consumed (in EFTS and dollars). Because this is based on entitlement use to 31 December, carryover amounts aren’t confirmed until early the following year.

Provider-based carryover examples

Usually, 0.125 EFTS is equivalent to 15 credits or points.

Credits and EFTS used in 2019	Fees-free payments used in the 2019 calendar year	Does the learner have carryover?	How much carryover is the learner allowed in 2020 (or future years)?
30 credits (0.25 EFTS)	\$1,600	Yes	90 credits (0.75 EFTS) and up to \$10,400. The learner’s fees-free entitlement will stop when they use either 90 credits or \$10,400 – whichever is used up first.
60 credits (0.5 EFTS)	\$4,000	Yes	60 credits (0.5 EFTS) and up to \$8,000. The learner’s fees-free entitlement will stop when they use either 60 credits or \$8,000 –

			whichever is used up first.
105 credits (0.875 EFTS)	\$12,000	No – they have reached the dollar cap.	N/A
120 credits (1 EFTS)	\$8,000	No – they have reached the EFTS cap.	N/A
120 credits (1 EFTS)	\$0 – for example, because the learner undertook level 3 Youth Guarantee study.	No – they have reached the EFTS cap.	N/A
135 credits (1.125 EFTS)	\$12,000	No – they have reached the EFTS and dollar caps.	N/A

Industry training

Eligible learners and their employer's training costs are covered for the first 24 months of their training programme (up to the value of \$12,000).

The 24-month entitlement is calculated:

1. from the start date of the first programme in which the eligible learner is enrolled, and
2. by only including the months in which the learner received industry training in an eligible programme or programmes.

Learners who have undertaken both provider-based study and industry training

We'll check whether the learner has used:

1. 1 EFTS, and/or
2. \$12,000 (including GST), and/or
3. 24 months of industry training.

If a learner hasn't reached any of the above caps, they can carry forward their remaining fees-free entitlement.



We ensure New Zealand's future success.