

**ACT NO. 25 OF 2026**

I assent.

RATU N. T. LALABALAVU  
President

[17 July 2026]

**AN ACT**

TO AMEND THE TERTIARY SCHOLARSHIPS AND LOANS SERVICE ACT 2014

ENACTED by the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji—

*Short title and commencement*

**1.**—(1) This Act may be cited as the Tertiary Scholarships and Loans Service (Budget Amendment) Act 2026.

(2) This Act comes into force on 1 August 2026.

(3) In this Act, the Tertiary Scholarships and Loans Service Act 2014 is referred to as the “Principal Act”.

*Section 2 amended*

**2.** Section 2 of the Principal Act is amended by—

(a) deleting the definition of “at-risk student” and substituting the following—

““at-risk student” means a student who—

(a) is a recipient of a scheme; and

- (b) has been identified by an eligible institution as requiring additional care, equitable consideration and appropriate support to successfully complete their course of study and obtain an academic qualification;”;
- (b) deleting the definition of “eligible institution” and substituting the following—
  - ““eligible institution” means an institution approved by the Minister and listed in the Service’s Scholarship Policies Handbook;”;
- (c) deleting the definition of “schemes” and substituting the following—
  - ““schemes” means the tertiary scholarship and loans schemes approved through Budget process and outlined in the Service’s Scholarship Policies Handbook;”;
- (d) deleting the definition of “student” and substituting the following—
  - ““student” means any person who has been awarded by the Service with a sponsorship to study at an eligible institution;”.

*Section 4 amended*

- 3.** Section 4 of the Principal Act is amended by deleting subsection (4).

*Section 5 amended*

- 4.** Section 5 of the Principal Act is amended by—

- (a) in paragraph (a), deleting “Schedule 2” and substituting “the Service’s Scholarship Policies Handbook”; and
- (b) deleting paragraphs (c) to (e) and substituting the following—
  - “(c) develop processes to determine the applicable criteria for eligible institutions to access funding from the Service;
  - (d) develop processes with the Immigration Department and other government agencies for the facilitation and enforcement of the schemes, loan repayments, bond monitoring and recoveries and any condition; and
  - (e) develop processes to carry out accountable administration of scholarships.”.

*Section 6A amended*

- 5.** Section 6A(1) of the Principal Act is amended by deleting “Chief Executive Officer” and substituting “Service”.

*Section 7 amended*

- 6.** Section 7 of the Principal Act is amended after “reappointment” by inserting “for a second term only”.

*Section 10 amended*

**7.** Section 10 of the Principal Act is amended by—

- (a) in subsection (4), deleting “4” and substituting “3”; and
- (b) after subsection (5), inserting the following new subsection—

“(5A) All members present in a meeting of the Board must make a decision or vote on matters presented during that meeting.”.

*Section 13 amended*

**8.** Section 13(1) of the Principal Act is amended by deleting “the Solicitor-General and 2 other members as appointed by the Solicitor-General” and substituting “independent members as determined by the Service”.

*Section 14 amended*

**9.** Section 14 of the Principal Act is amended after subsection (2) by inserting the following new subsection—

“(3) Where there is a vacancy in the position of Chief Executive Officer, the Board may, after consultation with the Minister, appoint one or more senior officers of the Service to act in the capacity of the Chief Executive Officer of the Service in accordance with the terms and conditions as may be determined by the Board.”.

*Section 15 amended*

**10.** Section 15(2) of the Principal Act is amended by deleting “, subject to the approval of the Board”.

*Section 18 amended*

**11.** Section 18(1) of the Principal Act is amended by—

- (a) in paragraph (a), after “thereof;” deleting “or”;
- (b) in paragraph (b), deleting “.” and substituting “; or”; and
- (c) after paragraph (b), inserting the following new paragraph—

“(c) fails to make bond repayment in accordance with the payment arrangement determined by the Service.”.

*Section 18B amended*

**12.** Section 18B of the Principal Act is amended by—

- (a) in subsection (1)—
  - (i) in paragraph (a), after “scheme;” deleting “or”;
  - (ii) in paragraph (b), deleting “.” and substituting “; or”; and
  - (iii) after paragraph (b), inserting the following new paragraph—

“(c) provides the Service with any false or misleading information on any scholarship processes.”; and

(b) in subsection (2)—

- (i) in paragraph (a), deleting “on a scholarship scheme; or” and substituting “or to the Service on any scholarship processes;”;
- (ii) in paragraph (b), deleting “.” and substituting “; or”; and
- (iii) after paragraph (b), inserting the following new paragraph—

“(c) issuance of a written notice and suspension of funding to an eligible institution if the Service determines that the eligible institution has failed to comply with the applicable requirements.”.

*Section 26 deleted*

**13.** The Principal Act is amended by deleting section 26.

*Schedule 1 deleted*

**14.** The Principal Act is amended by deleting Schedule 1.

*Schedule 2 deleted*

**15.** The Principal Act is amended by deleting Schedule 2.

Passed by the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji this 17th day of July 2026.