**Transcript: 4 tips to get the most out of your ABSTUDY**

Do you get ABSTUDY?

Here are 4 tips to help you get the most from your payments.

Number 1

Check out ABSTUDY on our website.

We have everything you need to know about ABSTUDY for Aboriginal and Torress Strait Islander students of all ages.

Number 2

Tell us about changes so you don’t get a debt.

When you’re getting ABSTUDY it’s important to tell us about changes within 14 days.

Tell us if things change, like you stopped studying or you dropped to part-time.

You change to another school or change courses.

You or your parent or guardian, start working or getting income.

You go into someone else’s care.

Your contact details change.

You start living with a partner or have a baby, or your brother and sister’s circumstances change.

These changes could affect how much you get paid, if you don’t tell us about a change, you might get a debt and we’ll have to pay back the money.

Your money could also stop until you tell us about any changes.

Number 3

Students need a tax file number.

Students and apprentices aged 16 or older need a tax file number to get ABSTUDY.

It’s a good idea to get a tax file number of your own as soon as you start getting ABSTUDY.

You can get your own tax file number when you’re 13.

If you’re younger you can still get a tax file number, but your parents will need to sign the form for you.

It’s very important to know that if you turn 16 and you don’t have a tax file number, your payments will stop straight away, and you’ll need to ask for them to be restarted.

If you don’t have a tax file number, you can get a form from us or the Australian Taxation Office website.

Number 4

Call us with your questions.

If you have any questions about ABSTUDY or your payments or if something seems wrong, make sure you contact us.

We want to make sure you’re getting everything you should be.

We’re here to help Monday to Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm.

To find out more go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/ABSTUDY or call us on 1800 132 317.