

My current HECs debt is at approximately nearly \$60k and has barely moved in the last couple of years

In 2022. My HECs debt moved \$30.00, even after making an additional payment of \$300:

9 Aug 2022	9 Aug 2022	2022 HELP Compulsory repayment credit		\$2,282.94	\$57,725.99 DR
1 Jun 2022	1 Jun 2022	Indexation applied on HELP debt of \$57756.00 @ 3.90 %	\$2,252.48		\$60,008.93 DR
16 May 2022	13 May 2022	Payment received		\$300.00	\$57,756.45 DR

High schools are being run like businesses now as opposed to schools. They do not have the student's best interest at heart, they are run by profits. Not every student is academic and there are many ways people can become successful without going to university.

The high school I attended made it seem like going to university when we finished was our only choice. If the school is saying this, then the parents agree and encourage their kids to do so. Schools these days only think about how they can look the best, which means they want as many kids as possible to go into university, so they can advertise this percentage to look better.

Without knowing what to do with my life, after school I went straight to university and ended up dropping out after the first term as I didn't enjoy it and wasn't ready. I then was 'scammed' into a design course through a private college. An extra \$20k on the HECs debt. At this private college, after the census date during the final trimester, they advised '95% of you will never work in this industry'. This is after all the open days making it seem like it is the best industry and there are lots of jobs available. Again, another education institution run by profits.

As there were no jobs in this particular design industry, I thought I needed to do something safe where there will always be jobs. I did a degree in business/accounting.

After finishing my degree, I worked in a law firm doing accounts payable. An entry requirement for this role was a degree. My degree did barely any practical subjects so I would have had no idea what I was doing. Luckily, for year 11 and 12, I did an accounting subject via TAFE which taught me some of this. This was not a subject offered by my highschool.

I now work for a bank and do not use my degree at all. We just needed to have a degree to get the role. I don't think it even matters what the degree is which seems to be quite common when I am looking at jobs.

It now leaves me with a \$60k HECs debt that moved \$30 the last financial year. It makes me feel hopeless and dumb for signing up for courses I never use. They suck you in making you think this is the best thing for you, but you just end up with a massive debt.

There is absolutely no incentive to pay it back. Obviously, it would be ideal to have the whole thing waived but at the very least, we should be given discounts for additional payments and be able to pay via salary sacrifice so we aren't paying it with our taxed money.