



Dear The Secretary, (Senate Employment, Workplace Relations)

I have a really interesting point to bring up. I am currently doing 15 credit points this semester, whilst before I was a full time student and getting Youth Allowance. However as I'm doing only 15 credit points instead of 16 minimum, I don't entitle myself to Youth Allowance, however centrelink and the university failed to see that even though I am only doing 15 credit points, the workload of some subjects vary depending on what they are and essentially I'm coming to uni almost every day. I am basically doing I.T and engineering subjects which do involve a lot of contact and non-contact time.

As a result, I am not qualified for Youth Allowance, and I am not really qualified for Youth Start as I am required to look for full-time work. Obviously that is not a possibility for me. Hence, I am a struggling student who doesn't belong to either category, and thus I believe it is unfair. Either centrelink has to recognise contact hours and non-contact hours required for a subject based on the university's policy for expected work formula and/or the university has to set standards for work required as to conform equally with other subjects across other faculties, as to allow students who are part-time to have enough time for full time work.

Also I believe centrelink could be more flexible in my case as I am doing a 0.313 credit load instead of 0.333, because of the contact hours that I have to do. Essentially, because of a 1/16 of a credit, I'm missing out on youth allowance.

I thank you for your time,

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Doron Katz".

Doron Katz
University of Wollongong