

MODERN SLAVERY RISK TO UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

What is the risk to students?

Australia's international education sector is a cornerstone of our economy and cultural exchange. Unfortunately, a segment of international students face heightened vulnerability to modern slavery. This includes through:

- Being promised a university place, but being trafficked into another industry.
- Being charged high recruitment fees, leaving them in debt and forced to work to repay it.

What makes risk higher?

Certain characteristics can increase the risk of modern slavery for international students. These include:

- Using third-party student recruiters.
- Suppliers passing work to subcontractors.
- Performance-based pay or incentives for recruitment agents.
- Students having a high reliance on recruiters in their home country.
- Students unaware of their rights in Australia.

How can universities build and enhance their modern slavery response?

Understand where the most significant and likely risk is for your university.

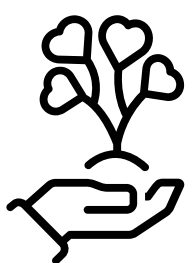
Assessment of the current modern slavery-related processes you have in place.

Develop and improve your processes across university functions.

Monitor the effectiveness of your modern slavery response with outcome-based metrics.

Incorporate lived-experience expertise.

Fair Futures collaboration with universities



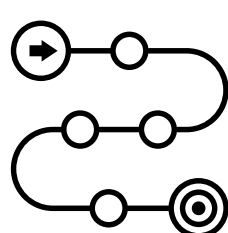
Embedding Lived Experience: Integrating modern slavery lived-experience insights into university practices and processes.



Global Benchmarking: Assessing a university's modern slavery response against international human rights standards.



Targeted Risk Analysis: Identifying and understanding a university's highest-risk areas.



Actionable Roadmaps: Co-developing a clear, practical plan that reflects a whole-of-university approach and places student welfare at the center.

'You don't need to be a modern slavery expert. You just need to care enough to ask: "Are you okay?" And universities need to make sure there's a system behind you that can act when the answer is "No."'

Sherry, Fair Futures Lived Experience Advisor.