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## Public transport concessions for graduate students

### GSA Council Policy Statement

#### GSA Position

GSA believes that all full-time Victorian graduate students should have access to student public transport concessions.

#### Rationale

Victoria is out of step

- At present, full-time domestic graduate students in Victoria do not get public transport concessions, while their counterparts in every other state do
- ACT, SA, NT, TAS and WA offer concessions to international graduate students (and undergraduates). NSW and QLD offer limited concessions for international students, which is not based on the level of their study: only Victoria offers no concessions at all for international graduate students

Graduate students are struggling

- Full-time graduate students are in a similar financial situation to full-time undergraduate students, but are not given the same access to concessions
- Almost half of full-time graduate coursework students have incomes below the poverty line

Cost of public transport

- Public transport fares in Melbourne are on average the most expensive in Australia, making the cost even more difficult for graduate students to meet

#### Record of Review

Date	Reason for Review	Created/Revised by
September 2016	Adopted by GSA Council	
December 2018	Re-approved by GSA Council	