

The Hon Andrew Giles MP
Minister for Skills and Training
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

The Hon Jason Clare MP
Minister for Education
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ministers

Student Identifiers Registrar's Statement of Intent

This Statement of Intent responds to your Statement of Expectations of 1 April 2026 relating to the Student Identifiers Registrar's delivery of functions under the *Student Identifiers Act 2014* (SI Act).

As Acting Registrar, I will meet your expectations as outlined below.

Student Identifiers Registrar's role

The Registrar is a statutory office holder established under section 31 of the SI Act.

In this role, I am committed to my delivery and the operations of the Office of the Student Identifiers Registrar (OSIR) being efficient, effective, economical and ethical.

As part of this commitment, I will:

- deliver functions and exercise powers in accordance with the SI Act and relevant legislation and instruments such as the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act) and *Privacy Act 1988*.
- manage the Student Identifiers Special Account in a way that represents the proper use and management of public resources.
- administer the Unique Student Identifier (USI) initiative in a way that is not inconsistent with Australian Government policies (supporting compliance with section 21 of the PGPA Act).
- direct OSIR staff to assist me in a way that upholds the Australian Public Service Values and Code of Conduct, as well as departmental requirements.
- embed a culture of integrity, accountability and continuous improvement in OSIR, including transparency in decision-making and recordkeeping.

I note my regulatory function under the SI Act relating to civil penalties is only one aspect of my legislative powers. Where it may be appropriate to take regulatory action, I will have regard to best practice principles in Resource Management Guide 128 *Regulator Performance*, particularly consideration of risks, cost effectiveness and the impact of such action.

I will report on my operations and performance through my annual report to you, published in the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR) Annual Report and presented to the Parliament. A copy of the report will be provided to you at the same time as the report is presented to the Parliament.

Australian Government policy priorities

The USI is an important linkage key, providing a foundation for understanding and improving skills, training and education in Australia. My administration of the USI initiative will take into account the government's focus on:

- improving productivity and achieving regulatory objectives at the lowest cost to citizens and businesses, including through my collaboration with other regulators.
- supporting learners, creating a skilled workforce and streamlining processes to deliver outcomes for Australians and the economy.
- enabling the value of the USI to be realised through appropriate use of data such as government research, consistent with government policy and ministerial requirements, and supported by robust governance and privacy arrangements.

I will continue to support the needs of diverse USI stakeholders and users, including schools, higher education and training providers, Vocational Education Training (VET) admission bodies and students from the relevant sectors.

The USI operating environment is dynamic, needing to respond to social and economic drivers as well as rapid technology change. I will regularly review and, where necessary, adjust OSIR policies and procedures so that these continue to address contemporary privacy, security and technological opportunities and risks.

In this context, the privacy and security of the USI Registry is my priority. I will in turn prioritise robust sustainment of the USI Registry system. Where possible through careful year-on-year budgeting, I will invest in enhanced system features that are user focused and support data and cyber security maturity.

I will also prioritise OSIR engagement with the Department of Education-led Schools USI initiative, working closely and collaboratively to achieve the introduction and management of schools identifiers in Australia under the Better and Fairer Schools Agreement 2025-2034. Upon delivery of the technical and business solution and rollout across jurisdictions, I expect my day-to-day role and that of OSIR to expand, reflecting my obligations for both schools identifiers and student identifiers under the SI Act.

Relationship with stakeholders

I will establish productive working relationships with stakeholders across VET, higher education and schools. This includes portfolio entities such as the Australian Skills Quality Authority and Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency, as well as independent entities such as the National Centre for Vocational Education Research.

In maintaining these relationships, I will:

- coordinate my operations with others where appropriate to promote voluntary compliance and awareness and avoid duplication.
- provide information about the USI and the Registrar's role, and receive feedback through a range of communications channels.
- engage in interdepartmental and interjurisdictional governance forums and discussions. This includes where my role is relevant to other important government policies, programs and services such as myGov delivered by Services Australia.
- meet regularly with your departmental officials to discuss VET, higher education and schools matters relating to USI.

Ministerial and portfolio responsibilities

I acknowledge the ministerial and departmental arrangements outlined in the Statement of Expectations. I will keep you and your offices and your departments aware of any emerging issues on the SI Act, USI or OSIR should they arise over the course of my appointment, as appropriate. I will manage and govern USI data in line with policy protocols agreed by ministers.

I appreciate my policy partnerships with your portfolio departments, particularly DEWR Skills and Training Group on the overarching operation of the SI Act and OSIR, and Department of Education's Schools and Youth Group on the Schools USI initiative.

I will continue to work closely and collaboratively with both departments so that their advice to government on VET, higher education and schools reforms relevant to the USI takes into account my views. This includes actively contributing to government proposals that may have legal, business and resourcing implications for the USI or OSIR.

Organisational matters

There are aspects of my role where I operate as part of DEWR, particularly given OSIR is a DEWR business area and staff are DEWR employees. I will support the DEWR Secretary in their capacity as accountable authority. I will also maintain appropriate delegations to OSIR staff for the exercise of my SI Act functions and powers.

This Statement of Intent, along with your Statement of Expectations, will be published on the USI website at usi.gov.au. I look forward to working with you to administer the USI initiative and deliver on the Australian Government agenda.

Kind regards



Vivianne Johnson
Acting Student Identifiers Registrar

29 April 2026