

2 March 2016

Mr Peter Haven
fyi-request-3592-59767b2c@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Haven

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act 1982, received on 2 February 2016. You asked for information regarding:

The total monetary value of student loan debts written off by the department through bankruptcy:

For each year, for the last five financial years, what is the total amount written off due to a student loan borrower being discharged from bankruptcy?

For each year over the last five years, how many such loans were written off?

What is the range of values of the amounts written off?

Has the department undertaken any policy analysis or investigation into removing the capacity to include student loan debt as part of a bankrupt estate? If so, what was the nature of the policy analysis of investigation?

For the last five financial years, the total amount written off due to bankruptcy and the number of these loans written off

The information you have requested is publicly available on the Education Counts website at <http://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/publications/80898/2555>.

Information for the years 2010/11, 2011/12 and 2012/13 is on page 36 of the *Student Loan Scheme Annual Report 2013*.

Information for the years 2013/14 and 2014/15 is on page 33 of the *Student Loan Scheme Annual Report 2015*.

For the last five financial years, the range of the amounts written off

The information is set out in the table below:

Range of amounts written off					
Year	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Total min*	<\$1	<\$1	<\$1	<\$1	<\$1
Total max**	>\$150,000	>\$150,000	>\$150,000	>\$150,000	>\$200,000

* < means "less than"

** > means "greater than"

Policy analysis or investigation into removing the student loan debt as part of a bankrupt estate, and the nature of the analysis or investigation

If a borrower is declared bankrupt or is deceased, their student loan is written off. Inland Revenue has not undertaken any policy analysis or investigation to reverse this policy.

This fully covers the information you requested.

Thank you for your request. I hope that the information provided is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Maurice Lawlor', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Maurice Lawlor
Business Owner