



ACT
Government

Our Canberra August 2026

Easy Read version



About this newsletter



This newsletter is from the ACT Government.



A newsletter tells you about lots of things that

- you should know
- you can do.



This newsletter is for August 2026.

Get more support to use less energy



You might be able to borrow more money through the Sustainable Household Scheme (SHS).



You can use an SHS loan to make your home more energy efficient.

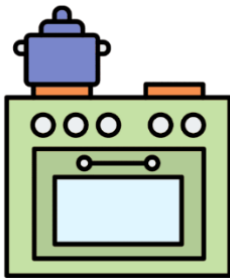


This can help you save money on energy bills.



You can borrow up to \$20,000, if

- your application is approved
- you do not already have an SHS loan.



You can use the loan to

- change over to electric heating or cooling
- install electric stove tops
- buy a home battery.



You can also use it to buy other products that help save energy, like

- an electric car or motorbike
- an electric cargo bike (from September 2026)
- electric vehicle charging equipment.



SHS loans

- have low interest rates
- have no upfront costs or fees
- can be repaid over 10 years (conditions apply).



You can read more about SHS loans on the Climate Choices website.

act.gov.au/our-canberra/shs

Learn about UNSW Canberra City



The University of New South Wales (UNSW) will open a new campus in Reid.



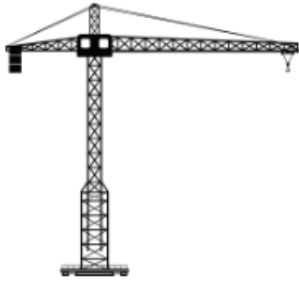
It will be called UNSW Canberra City.



It will be built on the old CIT Reid site.



Work has started to get the area ready for construction.



A large tower crane will be put on the site in the next few months.

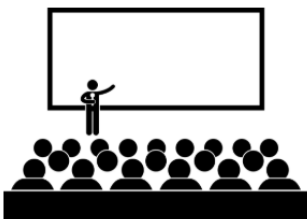


The first stage of the project should be finished in 2028.



This stage includes 2 new buildings for

- teaching
- research.



UNSW is already using the old CIT Reid buildings while the new campus is being built.



When the new campus is finished, it will have space for

- 5,000 students
- 1,000 staff.



Website

act.gov.au/our-canberra/unsw

Free period products in all ACT public schools

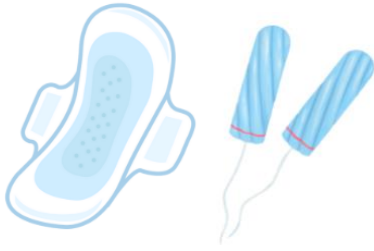


Units filled with free period products will be added to all ACT public schools.

This will happen during term 3 this year.



This means students can get period products when they need them, in a private way.

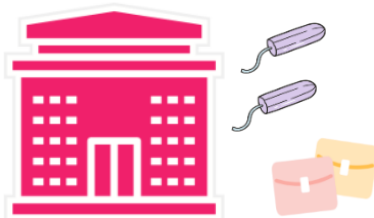


The units will have

- pads and tampons – in high schools and colleges
- pads – in primary schools.



Students can also get free period products from their school's front office.



Free period products for the community

Free period products are also available across Canberra at

- libraries
- some health and community services
- some government buildings.



You can see a list of places on our website.

act.gov.au/our-canberra/period-products

Know where to go when you are sick or hurt



You can use a free online tool to find the right health service when you need it.



The tool will ask a few easy questions about your health problem.



It will then tell you the best place to get help.



This could be

- your local doctor
- a Walk-in Centre
- a community health service
- a hospital emergency department
- a chemist.



The tool can help you find the right care for many health problems.



You do not need a referral to use any of these health services.



You can use the tool on our website.

act.gov.au/our-canberra/health-tool

Get NightFest tickets



You can now buy tickets for Floriade NightFest.



NightFest is on in the evenings from Thursday
1 October to Sunday 4 October 2026.



There will be

- colourful lights
- music
- entertainment.



You can walk through gardens with light displays.



You can see some well-known singers at NightFest this year.



These include

- The Temper Trap
- Tim Finn
- Pacific Avenue
- Busby Marou
- Christine Anu.



You can buy tickets on our website.



Website

act.gov.au/our-canberra/nightfest

Find out about stamp duty changes



People buying their first home no longer have to pay stamp duty.

\$0

More people will also get help through stamp duty exemptions.



This will make it easier for people to buy a home.



You can find out more about these stamp duty changes on our website.



Website

act.gov.au/our-canberra/stamp-duty

More information



Read about Sustainable Household Scheme (SHS) loans

act.gov.au/our-canberra/shs



Learn more about what is next for UNSW Canberra City

act.gov.au/our-canberra/unsw



Find out more about free period products in schools

act.gov.au/our-canberra/period-products



Use the online tool for health care services

act.gov.au/our-canberra/health-tool



Buy tickets to Floriade NightFest

act.gov.au/our-canberra/nightfest



Read more about stamp duty changes

act.gov.au/our-canberra/stamp-duty



The next newsletter will be in September 2026.

Contact us for more information



Use the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS)

Call 131 450. Give the TIS officer the phone number you want to call.



Use the National Relay Service (NRS)

Visit the National Relay Service website.

Acknowledgement of Country



We acknowledge the Ngunnawal people as traditional custodians of the region and recognise any other people or families with connection to the lands of the ACT and region.



We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.