

# Wireless Computer Access in ANZTLA and COPHE Tertiary Institutions

by Marilyn Gane, Head Librarian,  
Avondale College of Higher Education

In September 2012, a survey was conducted by Avondale Libraries, relating to wireless computer access in ANZTLA and COPHE institutions in Australia and New Zealand. View the survey by downloading the supplementary file (on the right-hand-side under Reading Tools).

The survey was emailed to the librarians on the ANZTLA and COPHE membership lists and sought to ascertain:

- the extent of wireless computer access within each institution;
- the cost, if any, to the student; and
- the limitations, if any, placed upon them.



## Results

Thirty librarians responded on behalf of their institutions. All those institutions who responded, and currently provide wireless access to their students, do so for free. Seven place limitations on that usage – from signing a usage agreement, to restricting downloads, access via username and password, and restrictions during class times.

The two largest institutions do not provide residential accommodation for their students. Of the seven that do, only one does not have wireless or internet access in the residences.

Q1 Does your institution provide wireless computer access for students?

Yes	27
No	2
Other	1 – plans to offer wireless in 2013

Q2 If Yes, is it free to students?

Yes	27
N/A	2
Other	1 – wireless in 2013 will be free to students

Q3 If it's free, are any limitations put on what, when or how much they can use it? (eg downloads, time of day etc)

Yes	7
No	20
N/A	2
Other	1- Not planned

If yes, please explain (see tabulated results at end of summary)

Download limits/data cap	3
Usage agreement	4
Login required	2
Only study related	1
Blocked during class time	1

Q4 If students pay for it, are any limitations put on what, when or how much they can use it?

No responses

Q5 If you don't currently provide wireless computer access, are you considering it for the future?

Yes	1 - In 2013
No	1- too expensive given age and layout of buildings 1 - No

Q6 Does your institution provide student accommodation on campus?

Yes	5 2 – limited 1 – planned for 2013
No	12
No response	10

Q7 If yes, does the wireless access extend to the residences?

Yes	5
No	1
Other	1- Partial 1 – Internet but not wireless

Q8 How many FTE in your institution?

0-99	4
100-499	10
500-999	5
1000+	2
No response	9

## Results

	Q1 Does your institution provide wireless computer access for students?	Q2 Is it free?	Q3 Free with any limitations? (downloads, time of day)	Q4 Paid with any limitations? (downloads, time of day)	Q5 Wireless in the future?	Q6 Residential students?	Q7 Wireless in residences?	Q8 FTE
1	Yes	Yes	No			Yes	Yes	500
2	Yes	Yes	No			No	No	147
3	Yes	Yes	No			Yes	Yes	283
4	Yes	Yes	No, however students must abide by IT policy & usage monitored by IT					
5	Yes	Yes	No			limited	Internet but not wireless	137
6	Yes	Yes	No			Yes	Part	81
7	Yes	Yes	No	No		No	No	418
8	Yes	Yes	Yes. Some user accounts have a data cap, additional downloads can be purchased					
9	Yes, from 2013	Yes	Not planned.					
10	Yes	Yes	No			No	N/A	122
11	Yes	Yes	No, although students sign a usage agreement					
12	No					No	No	100
13	Yes	Yes	Yes. Internet usage agreement			Yes	Yes	300
14	Yes.	Yes	Yes. Login required					
15	No				Not at this stage	No	N/A	290
16	Yes	Yes	No					
17	Yes	Yes	No			Yes 2013	No	66
18	Yes	Yes	No					
19	Yes	Yes	No					
20	Yes	Yes	No			some	Yes	90
21	Yes	Yes	No			No	N/A	500+
22	Yes	Yes	No			No	N/A	150
23	Yes	Yes	Yes. Only study related			No	N/A	48
24	Yes	Yes	Yes. Internet blocked during classtime.			Yes	Yes	150
25	Yes	Yes	Yes. Download limits apply			No	No	1200
26	Yes	Yes	No.					700
27	Yes	Yes	No			No	N/A	1000
28	Yes	Yes	Yes. Download limits apply					
29	Yes	Yes	No			No	N/A	506
30	Yes	Yes	No.			No	N/A	910