



Australian Government
Department of Immigration and Citizenship



HOW TO APPLY FOR YOUR STUDENT VISA

Dear Student,

Now that your Education Provider has given you an ECOE (confirmation of enrolment) you are eligible to apply for your new student visa. In order to prioritise your application, DIAC encourages students to lodge their visa applications as soon as this is received, preferably during January or early February.

PLEASE LODGE YOUR STUDENT VISA APPLICATIONS AS SOON AS YOU RECEIVE AN ECOE FROM YOUR EDUCATION PROVIDER.

APPOINTMENTS WITH DIAC DURING FEBRUARY AND MARCH ARE ALSO LIMITED AND MAY BE SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. EARLY BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL.

IMPORTANT: PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU MEET THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS PRIOR TO LODGING YOUR STUDENT VISA APPLICATION. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION REFER TO YOUR STUDENT CHECKLIST VIA OUR WEBSITE, CALL 131 881 OR VISIT OUR MELBOURNE OR DANDENONG OFFICES AND SPEAK TO AN IMMIGRATION OFFICER.

There are 3 ways of lodging your Student Visa application.

1. E-lodgement via the Internet. Priority is given to Web lodged applications.

To apply for your student visa go to www.immi.gov.au/e_visa/students.htm and follow the instructions.

You can pay the Visa fee by using a credit card or by Bpay. If you do not have a credit card you are able to use another person's card with their permission. If you use Bpay you must allow 7 days for your payment to be processed. **You MUST lodge your application at least 7 days before the end of your current visa.**

When you lodge your application over the internet you will be automatically granted a bridging visa. *The bridging visa allows you to stay in Australia and study while your application is being processed.*

Within seven days of lodging your application over the internet you will receive an e-mail or letter advising of any further documentation you may be required to lodge and your case manager's name and contact details. If there are no documents required you will receive a decision approving your application. **You do not need to visit the office.**

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You can check the status of your visa application at any time on the Internet through the Online Visa Enquiry Facility.

If you receive an error message or are having problems applying online, you can contact DIMIA on 131 881 for help.

2. Lodging a paper application at our office.

Fill out form 157A, prepare your documentation and make an appointment to see a DIAC officer by calling 131 881.

To download and print form 157A, go to: www.immi.gov.au/allforms/pdf/157a.pdf

You should bring all the requested documents to your appointment with DIAC. This includes your Electronic Confirmation of Enrolment (ECOE), previous Academic Results, Medical test results & other items listed on the checklist.

To access and print a checklist go to <http://www.immi.gov.au/students/checklists/index.htm> or call 131 881

Please make your appointment to see a DIAC officer in advance as appointments fill quickly by calling 131 881

3. Lodging your application By Mail.

If you can not make an application over the internet or make an appointment, please send your application with the completed form 157A, fee and eCOE to:

DIAC Client Services
GPO BOX 241
Melbourne, 3001

If required you will be contacted to attend an appointment. A letter will be sent to you advising of outstanding documents required within 7 working days. In most cases E-lodged and Mailed applications will NOT require you to come into our office.

Please ensure that you make an application for a student visa well before the end of your current visa. For any related Student Visa Inquiries please call 131 881. We hope you enjoy your studies in Australia.

Kind Regards,

Client Services Melbourne.