

Australia Visa and Immigration-related Information for Students

As you prepare for your upcoming exchange placement in your Australian host university, here is some useful information and links to help you apply for your student visa (subclass 500). For every immigration document you send and receive, make sure to check that the spelling of your name and your date of birth are exactly the same as listed on your passport. For additional information on the visa and immigration process for students, please visit <http://www.border.gov.au/Trav/Stud>.

1. Receiving a Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE) from your Australian host university

Working in cooperation with staff in the International Education Division in UL, you can apply for a semester's study in a host university in Australia. If you are successful in your application to study in Australia, you will receive a CoE from your host university. You are not eligible to apply for an Australian student visa until you receive the CoE.

2. Booking Health Insurance

You will need to book health insurance for the duration of your stay. Your health insurance must be Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) and will need to be in place at least one week before your departure for Australia. When applying for your visa online through ImmiAccount, you will need the name of your health insurance provider, the date your policy starts and finishes, and your policy number.

3. Gathering Other Necessary Documentation

Before you can submit your online visa application, you will first need to gather a number of documents that are required for your application. You will need a copy of your passport, birth certificate, your CoE, evidence that you can financially support yourself for the duration of your stay and proof of health insurance (as outlined above). You may also be asked for a copy of your résumé, proof of current employment or your driver's licence.

4. Applying for your Student Visa

Once you have received your CoE, you will need to set up an ImmiAccount by logging on to <https://online.immi.gov.au> and clicking on 'Create ImmiAccount'. Once your account is set up, simply follow the instructions on screen to submit your application. You must add as much information as possible before you submit your application. Applications with missing information might take longer to finalise or might be refused.

5. Receiving your Student Visa

If you successfully complete the online application system, you will be issued with your Australian visa electronically. You will also be issued a visa grant notification letter that explains the conditions of your visa, including the period of validity and entry requirements. You should retain this for your own reference and you may wish to carry it with you when you travel as it contains important information about your visa.

6. Travelling to Australia

Before boarding your flight and upon arrival in Australia, you will be asked for proof that you have permission to enter the country. Your passport, which is linked electronically to your visa, is proof of this permission. However, you should also carry on your person your grant notification letter, evidence of your health insurance, proof that you can financially support yourself and your CoE as you may be asked to show these upon entry to Australia.

7. Working in Australia

As part of your Student Visa, you are entitled to work 20 hours a week in Australia. However, you must ensure you have sufficient funds to support yourself, without having to rely on earnings from work while in Australia.