



*Australian Immigration
and Trade Services
Ltd Liability Co.*

Instructions to apply for an eStudent Visa

All applicants studying in Australia for more than 3 months must apply for an eStudent Visa unless they are holders of an Australian or New Zealand passport. Applicants who intend to study for less than 3 months are also eligible to apply for a tourist visa.

eStudent Visa applicants must be enrolled in a full-time course at an Australian school/educational institution that is registered with the Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS) and hold a Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE) for each registered course of study in Australia. Educational institutions generally issue a CoE upon receipt of payment of their tuition fee.

All eStudent Visa applicants are required to declare sufficient funds to cover travel expenses, living costs (note annual living costs are AUD\$21,041) and course fee/s available for the duration of their stay in Australia.

eStudent Visa applicants must hold compulsory Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) for the duration of the visa validity or the visa stay period may be limited to the OSHC end date. An eStudent Visa holder cannot arrive in Australia until the OSHC start date.

Applicants for this eStudent Visa must be outside of Australia at time of lodgment by our office.

eStudent Visa holders are generally permitted to:

- travel to, and enter Australia on multiple occasions from date of visa grant until date of visa expiry; and
- work in Australia for up to 40 hours per fortnight whilst their course is in session, and full-time during official course breaks.

The validity of an eStudent Visa is determined by the duration of the course. Generally, eStudent Visas are valid for at least one month following the completion of study (as stated on the CoE). For further information, please refer to our frequently asked questions - <http://www.aits.ch/frequently-asked-questions/>

An applicant's risk rating is determined by country of citizenship and education provider. An applicant's risk rating will determine the range of supporting documents required to apply for an eStudent Visa.

How to apply for an eStudent Visa

Please send the following documents to AITS, Postfach 457, CH-3800 Interlaken:

- 1. Completed and signed "Application for a student visa" (Form 157A) including additional questions**
- 2. Completed and signed "Advice by a migration agent" (Form 956)** Complete Q14 and sign declaration at Q24
- 3. Proof of payment:** Payment of the standard service fee of **CHF 820.-** per application may be made **in cash** or at your local **Swiss Post office** or by **ebanking to PostFinance account 60-357890-1, IBAN CH41 0900 0000 6035 7890 1** in favour of AITS clients' account, CH-3852 Ringgenberg BE. Proof of payment (Empfangsschein/ Récépissé/ Ricevuta) or e-banking debit receipt (Zahlungsbestätigung/ attestation de paiement/ conferma de pagamento) must be provided with your application



4. **Photocopy of your passport page(s) showing identity, validity, date and place of issue.** Your passport must be valid for the length of your intended stay in Australia. If you hold other passport/s, provide a photocopy of other passport page(s) showing identity, validity, date and place of issue
5. **Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE)** for each registered course issued by your Australian education provider/institution
6. **Bank account statement/s** that show sufficient funds to cover travel expenses, living costs (note annual living costs are AUD\$21,041) and course fee/s available for the duration of stay. Bank account statements should clearly identify name and address of the bank and account holder, show all transactions for the past 3 months and the final balance of the account/s
7. **Evidence of pre-paid fees** for your return flight, tuition fee, home-stay fee and/or letter of offer from travel/education agent identifying fees (if available)
8. **Your curriculum vitae/resume** (if available)
9. **Evidence of change of name** If you have changed your name, certified copy of document/s verifying the name change (marriage certificate, deed poll)
10. **Copy of your flight details** (if available) or a short note advising when you intend to leave your home country for Australia
11. **An envelope with your name, address and a postage stamp** for the return of your notification of visa decision

Additional documentation may be required in the following circumstances:

- **Low risk rating applicants based upon citizenship and education provider.** Streamlined evidentiary requirements will generally apply to low risk rating applicants. Additional information about your identity, education/work history, financial capacity, travel history and/or English language proficiency level may be required to meet visa criteria. An additional service fee will apply.
- **Higher risk rating applicants based upon citizenship and education provider.** Higher risk rating applicants will generally be required to submit evidence of identity, education/work history, financial capacity, travel history and/or English language proficiency level. Character/Biometric/Health testing may be required. Please note that it may take longer to finalize visa applications of higher risk rating applicants and an additional service fee will apply.
- **Applications for applicants under 18 years of age** require additional supporting documents and an additional service fee will apply. Please refer to the **eStudent Visa (Under 18)** tab on www.aits.ch.
- **Applications including dependent family unit members.** It may be possible for an eStudent Visa applicant to include family unit members (married partner, de-facto partner and/or minor children) in a combined eStudent visa application. Additional documents are required and an additional service fee will apply.
- **Character testing / Biometric/ Health testing with a panel doctor** may be required. Should the Department of Home Affairs (Home Affairs) require you to complete character testing / biometric / health testing, we shall provide you with further instructions on how to proceed. It may take longer to finalise visa applications where character/biometric/health testing is required and an additional service fee will apply.
- **Genuine Temporary Entrant requirement** Home Affairs will assess the individual circumstances of your visa application to determine whether a temporary stay in Australia is intended and whether your proposed course of study is relevant to past education/employment and future career prospects in your home country. eStudent Visa applicants may be required to submit additional documents / statement to demonstrate personal circumstances in your home country, potential circumstances in Australia, the value of the course to your future and your immigration history. Should you require our assistance to prepare satisfactory and consistent supporting documents/statement, an additional service fee will apply. If Home Affairs request additional documents and/or in the event of non-routine



processing by Home Affairs, an additional service fee will apply. Please note that it may take longer to finalize visa applications where additional information is required.

Home Affairs's global visa processing times indicates that 90% of eStudent visa applications are finalized within 50 days of receipt of a complete eVisa application by Home Affairs. It is our experience that complete eStudent visa applications of low risk rating applicants prepared and lodged by our office are generally finalized more promptly.

Actual processing times of your application may vary depending on a range of factors including whether your application is complete, checking by external parties if required (health, character, national security), how promptly you submit additional information (if requested), surges in demand and peak periods. An application for an eStudent Visa can be lodged 4 months prior to commencement of a course. Please apply well before your proposed travel date. You should not finalise your flight arrangements until your visa has been approved.

An additional service fee will apply if you request our office to liaise with Home Affairs to request priority/urgent finalization of your visa application.

An eStudent Visa will be linked electronically to the passport that you provide with your application. You must use the same passport to travel to Australia. Once an eStudent Visa is granted, it is generally not possible to enroll in a new course with a different duration and/or level of qualification or to change your education provider.

Should your eStudent Visa application be approved by Home Affairs, you will receive a written notification of visa grant from our office. We incur no liability for financial loss or otherwise if eStudent Visa processing is delayed or your visa application is refused.

Please visit our website, www.aits.ch, for our Terms of Service and Privacy Policy. Your use of our website or payment of the standard service fee for AITS service/s will mean you accept the Terms of Service, which together with our Privacy Policy govern AITS's relationship with you. By using our website or paying the standard service fee, you are confirming that you understand and agree to these Terms of Service and have engaged the services of AITS. Links to the Consumer Guide of the Office of the Migration Agents Registration Authority (OMARA) are also available on the website. You acknowledge that you have had access to and the opportunity to read the Consumer Guide prior to making any payment to AITS.

