



Fact sheet - tips to get your student visa application right first time

We are currently processing a high number of visa applications. Your visa application can take longer if it contains incorrect information or documents are missing. It may even be refused.

Below are some tips help you make sure that when you submit your visa application it is 'decision ready'. This will help us process your application faster.

Student visas and student guardian visas in Australia

To learn about student visas and student guardian visas visit:

- [Student Visa \(subclass 500\)](#)
- [Student Guardian Visa \(subclass 590\)](#)

How to apply

You can apply online for an Australian student visa through [ImmiAccount](#). We will also send requests for more information to your ImmiAccount.

Using ImmiAccount you can also:

- access information about your application
- track the processing of your application
- update your contact details and other information.

Give yourself plenty of time

Allow plenty of time to collect the necessary documents and information. It can take longer than you expect to get copies of official documents such as birth and marriage certificates, police checks, medical reports and translations of documents.

Check the spelling of your name

Visa applications are being submitted with incorrect names because auto-correct is changing applicants' names on smartphones or tablets. Make sure your name is spelt exactly as it appears on your passport – including your middle name.

Include all documents

You must submit **all** the documents we ask for with your application in your [ImmiAccount](#), including a clear copy of the personal details page of your passport.



Provide translated copies of all documents

If any of your required documentation is not in English, you will need to include a translation as well as a copy of the original. Each translated document must include in English the translator's:

- full name, address and telephone number
- qualifications and experience in the language they are translating.

If you use a translator in Australia they must be accredited by the [National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters](#).

Submit your application at least 4 months before you travel

We suggest you apply for a visa at least 4 months before you want to travel to Australia, and book your flight after your visa has been granted.

Make sure your Confirmation of Enrolment has the correct start date

If you want to apply for a student visa you need to attach a current Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE) with the date your course starts to your [ImmiAccount](#). If the course start date has passed, you must submit an updated CoE with the new course start date. The sooner you do this, the sooner you'll get a visa decision.

Get your health assessment done quickly

You may receive a message in your [ImmiAccount](#) asking you to get a health assessment to make sure you meet Australia's health requirements. If you complete your health assessment quickly you may get a faster decision on your visa application.

Submit one visa application for each person travelling to Australia, except for dependents

Submitting multiple visa applications for the same type of visa can slow the decision process.

For student visas, dependents can be included in their parent or guardian's application.

Submit additional information if you are under 18

If you are under 18, you will need to provide additional information with your visa application, including:

- details or documents showing your parent/s or guardian consent to you coming to Australia to study
- information about the arrangements that have been made for your welfare in Australia (such as living arrangements and guardianship)
- details and documents that identify your parents or legal guardians (such as your birth certificate or proof of guardianship).

If you are accompanying a student who is under 18

If you are applying for a visa to accompany and care for a student under 18 years old, you will need to prove that you have enough money to support both of you. You will need to attach a document such as a current bank statement to [ImmiAccount](#). For more information see [Student Guardian visa Step by Step](#).

To help us process your application as quickly as possible:

- make sure you consent to receive electronic communications from us by entering your email address.



Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs

- check your inbox regularly for emails from us, including your junk mail.
- if another person helps you apply for your visa, the application must include your personal contact details. If your contact details change, update them in ImmiAccount so we can get in touch with you.
- make sure you can access your own visa application. You can ask your family member, migration agent or lawyer to 'share' the application with you.
- keep your information secure, including your ImmiAccount password.
- after you submit your application check your ImmiAccount regularly. If you respond to our requests quickly, you will get a faster visa decision.

Visa processing times

Visa processing times are updated as new data becomes available. For an indication of how long your visa application may take to process see our [visa processing times guide](#).

Getting help with your visa application

You can find detailed information at <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au>.

You can also:

- use a registered migration agent, a practising lawyer or someone else [authorised to provide immigration assistance](#)
- use the online visa assist services available in some countries from the Australian Government's service delivery partners, [VFS Global](#) and [CSRA](#).

More information

Find out more about the *Check Twice, Submit Once* campaign at: immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/check-twice-submit-once

Student visa: For more information on the steps you need to take and the documents you need to supply, see our [Step by Step guide](#).

Student guardian visa: For more information on the steps you need to take and the documents you need to supply, see our [Step by Step guide](#).

You can also use our [Document Checklist Tool](#) to find out which documents you need to attach to your student visa application.