



Provider Update – Student Visa Program

COVID-19

The Australian Government has announced that travel restrictions will be maintained for travellers arriving from any part of mainland China.

On 29 February 2020, the Australian Government announced that foreign nationals who are in Iran on or after 1 March 2020, will not be able to enter Australia for 14 days from the time they have left or transited through Iran.

The Australian Government has also announced limited exemptions for international students from any part of mainland China in Year 11 and 12 (and their accompanying guardians) who hold a valid student visa, permitting them to enter Australia to commence the school year—where they can meet public health requirements. For more information visit the Department of Education, Skills and Employment’s [website](#).

The Department regularly updates fact sheets containing further information for education providers and students which can be found on the Department’s [website](#).

Student visas continue to be processed by the Department of Home Affairs. Normal lodgement processes continue. Those wanting to apply for a further student visa should lodge online via ImmiAccount. More information can be found on the Department’s [website](#).

VEVO access

Student visa holders who are outside Australia and currently subject to the travel restrictions, may be unable to use VEVO. Visa holders can continue to access their visa grant letter and visa conditions, online, via their personal ImmiAccount. Further information is available on the Department’s [website](#).

Evidence Level Update – March 2020

Evidence Levels will be updated at the end of this month. The Document Checklist Tool on the Department’s [website](#) will be refreshed to coincide with these changes.

Education providers can check their official evidence level by referring to their December 2019 report in ImmiAccount.

Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) – reminder

If a provider is arranging OSHC, remember to cover the students’ entire period of stay. Student visas are granted in accordance with the expiry date of the applicant’s OSHC and if relevant, welfare arrangements, up to the maximum periods as outlined below:

Duration of course	Duration of visa
10 months or longer and finishing at the end of the Australian academic year (November-December)	The visa will usually be granted to March 15 of the following year.
10 months or longer (finishing January-October)	The visa will usually be granted for two months longer than the duration of your course.

Duration of course

Duration of visa

Less than 10 months

The visa will usually be granted for one month longer than the duration of your course.

Entering the incorrect OSHC dates in the application form may result in the visa being granted for a shorter period of time.

Visa condition 8501 requires student visa holders to maintain adequate health insurance while they are in Australia. Students who are found to be in breach of this visa condition may have their visa considered for cancellation.