

Student Visa tip sheet

Please find below some information we have found visa applicants often seek clarification on. Providing a complete application that contains all information required to process an application will allow us to process your application faster. We recommend you lodge your application two months prior to your intended course commencement date. This will ensure sufficient time to finalise your application and allow time for possible delays that may occur due to the health clearance process. More complete information on student visas can be found on DIAC's website at the below address:

<http://www.immi.gov.au/students/>

Funding Requirement

Q: What funds are acceptable for DIAC assessment purposes for a PNG or Solomon Island passport holder?

A: Funds are most often evidenced in the form of a recent bank deposit statement that identifies the account holders name on the statement. Any individual may provide evidence of funds to support a student visa application as long as the funds evidenced are intended for use by the student. Where the evidence of funds provided is not from an immediate family relative, you should include a statement from the account holder attesting to the purpose of funds being presented.

Evidence may also be provided in the form of:

- A loan from a financial institution.
- Government sponsorship
- Employer sponsorship (where study is related to your work and being supported by your employer)

Where a private business is providing funds to support a student, you must provide evidence of all registered owners of the business and statements from them attesting to the amount of company funds that will be put towards a particular student's education costs.

DIAC **cannot** accept the following for student visa assessment purposes:

- Payslips
- Employment contracts
- Statements from employers
- Assets, such as property or securities

Q: How much money must I demonstrate I have?

A: Student applying to attend **primary or secondary** school must evidence sufficient funds to cover the first 12 months of study in Australia. This amount is based on the course you intend to undertake, as well as assumed costs associated with living in Australia. Specific details on this amount can be found at the below address.

Those intending on studying at University at the **undergraduate or post graduate level** are only required to undertake that they have sufficient funds to complete their proposed course.

The Health Requirement

All student visa applicants's proposing to study in Australia for more than three months must undertake a medical examination. Soon after lodgement of your application, you will be issued with a letter providing you with details of where your check can be conducted. It is not possible to undertake your medical check prior to applying for your visa. Once your medical examination is conducted it will still take some time before your medical results are cleared.

Q: How long does the medical clearance process take?

A: There is no set answer to this question as the health of an individual will dictate how long this process will take. Generally however, where no follow up checks or testing is required a medical is cleared within two weeks of the test being conducted.

Delays occur where the results of the medical examination are referred to a Medical Officer of the Commonwealth in Australia for closer scrutiny, or where follow up testing is required. If follow up testing is required, the panel doctor who undertook your medical examination will contact you to arrange this. It is for this reason we encourage clients to apply for their visa two months prior to their proposed course commencement date.

Applicant's under the age of 18.

Applicant's under the age of 18 will be required to provide consent for their travel from **both parents**. This is evidenced by completing form 1229 and providing evidence of the link to the child (generally in the form of a birth certificate).

Where a child is no longer living with both natural parents, consent is still required from both parents.

Where a child has been adopted, evidence of this in the form of adoption papers certified by the national court or updated birth certificate is required.

Only the following is acceptable in lieu of consent from one parent:

- Death Certificate
- Court order giving sole custody to one parent.