



## Queue No More- Save Time, Lodge ONLINE! Information for Students



### **Tips for you on how to get you Student Visa decision FASTER!**

At DIAC in Queensland we know that you want a decision on your student visa application as quickly as possible. We also want to be able to finalise your application quickly. Read this information as it will assist you to lodge a complete application and have a decision made on your application faster!

#### **TIP 1- Do your visa homework before you lodge your application- this will make things much faster!**

##### **When does your current visa expire?**

Ensure that you are applying for your new visa before your current visa expires. Don't wait until the last day before your visa expires to lodge a new one. **Plan ahead!!!** Start collecting your documents 4-6 weeks before your visa expires!

##### **Collect all your documents BEFORE you lodge your application**

Using the attached *How to Lodge a Complete Application* checklist, think about all the information that you need to provide with your student visa. If you provide this information when you lodge your application it will make the process much faster. It may even mean that when a case officer assesses your application they can grant your visa on the same day! Also on our website you can download a comprehensive checklist: <http://www.immi.gov.au/students/checklists/>

There is lots of useful information on the website [www.immi.gov.au](http://www.immi.gov.au) and the contact centre can be contacted on 131881 to answer your questions. The queues in the office are often very lengthy, so save time and use the website and phone contacts!

**Remember- obtain your COE as soon as you can- then you can lodge online!**

##### **Health checks**

If you know that you need a new health check, book your appointment and undertake the check before you lodge your application! This will make things much faster for your Case Officer as often all they are waiting for is your health check before they can finalise your visa! You can find information on whether you need a health check at <http://www.immi.gov.au/allforms/health-requirements/>

#### **TIP 2- Lodging your application- online is fastest**

##### **1. Lodge online via [www.immi.gov.au](http://www.immi.gov.au) It is much faster and you still get a Bridging Visa when you successfully lodge!**

Lodging your application on the internet is the fastest way for your student visa to be processed. Online lodgement is exactly the same as lodging on paper, you can still provide all your documents simply by scanning and attaching them to the application (just like you would attached documents to an email).

**Online applications will be processed faster than paper applications and will be treated as a priority caseload.**

To lodge online you need your COE, your current visa still needs to be valid and you need to make your payment of \$565. If you pay by credit card with your COE and you complete the form you will instantly be granted a Bridging Visa. If you pay by BPAY there is often a short delay in the lodgement of your application and the granting of your Bridging Visa while we wait for your funds to clear. We recommend that if you are going to pay by BPAY you lodge your application at least 10 days before your current visa expires. Remember- make sure you attach copies of all your documents to your application to make it faster for your Case Officer.

**TIP 3- If you are not able to lodge online**

If you are not able to lodge online, then we ask that you mail in your application to DIAC. Make sure that you do this at least 7 days before your visa is going to expire, allow more time for postage if you live outside of Brisbane, Cairns or the Gold Coast.

**We suggest that you mail in your application to us to avoid lengthy delays in the office**, as Students will not be seen by appointment in any DIAC Queensland office. Mailing your application means that your application and all your documents will go straight to the Student Centre where a team of people will commence your application, and if it is valid they will grant you a Bridging Visa on the same day!

**Mail to Brisbane:** Student Visa Centre, GPO Box 9984, Brisbane, QLD 4001

**TIP 4- More information and next steps**

You can visit our website [www.immi.gov.au/students/index.htm](http://www.immi.gov.au/students/index.htm). If you would like to speak to someone about lodging your visa our information officers will be available to answer your questions on 131881.

After you lodge your application it will be forwarded to a Case Officer for assessment, with your permission by agreeing to receive emails on your application form, they will contact you by email- which is much faster- so remember to check your email regularly! They will contact you as soon as they have assessed your application, so there is no need to come into the office to follow up, unless you have a change in circumstances or need to travel (you may need to apply for a Bridging Visa to travel)



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Immigration  
and Citizenship**



## How to Lodge a Complete Student Visa Application

This applies to both e lodged and paper applications. Some of the requirements will vary depending on your assessment level and duration of stay in Australia.

<b>Application Form</b>	<p>We recommend you save time and apply online via our website:  <a href="http://www.immi.gov.au/e_visastudents.htm">http://www.immi.gov.au/e_visastudents.htm</a></p> <p>If unable to lodge electronically complete and sign Form 157A "Application for a student visa" and the "Addendum to Form 157A" <a href="http://www.immi.gov.au/students/students/573-3/apply-person.htm">http://www.immi.gov.au/students/students/573-3/apply-person.htm</a>. You can mail this to the Department: Student Centre, GPO Box 9984, Brisbane 4001</p>	
<b>Visa Application Charge</b>	<p>As at 01 July 2011 the Visa Application Charge is <b>\$565</b>, payable by Credit Card, Bank Cheque or Money Order.          For online lodgement you can pay with Credit Card or by BPAY.</p>	
<b>Confirmation of Enrolment</b>	<p>You must provide your electronic Confirmation of Enrolment. If you are not able to provide a COE at the time of lodgement, a Letter of Offer can be provided. Where a letter of offer is provided a COE is still required before the application can be finalised.</p>	
<b>Health Requirements</b>	<p>You must meet health requirements and <b>may</b> need to complete a health examination. Please see          For further information: <a href="http://www.immi.gov.au/allforms/health-requirements/">http://www.immi.gov.au/allforms/health-requirements/</a></p>	<b>Health Check Completed:</b> Yes / No  <b>Appointment Date:</b>
<b>English Language</b>	<p>You must satisfy English Language proficiency requirements and <b>may</b> need to complete an IELTS test.  <b>Please note:</b> Assessment Level 1 and 2 applicants <u>do not</u> require an IELTS test.          For further details select your course of study and your passport country and read the information listed under the "Eligibility"  <a href="http://www.immi.gov.au/students/students/chooser/">http://www.immi.gov.au/students/students/chooser/</a></p>	
<b>Financial Requirements</b>	<p>You must provide evidence of funds to cover travel, tuition and living expenses for yourself and your dependents (even if your dependents do not travel with you to Australia). Assessment levels 2-4 are required to provide evidence of funds beyond signing the financial declaration.          For further details select your course of study and your passport country and read the information listed under the "Eligibility"  <a href="http://www.immi.gov.au/students/students/chooser/">http://www.immi.gov.au/students/students/chooser/</a></p>	
<b>Health Insurance</b>	<p>You must have health insurance for the entire length of your stay in Australia. Health insurance can be provided by obtaining Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC).  <a href="http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/Publishing.nsf/Content/Overseas+Student+Health+Cover+FAQ-1">http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/Publishing.nsf/Content/Overseas+Student+Health+Cover+FAQ-1</a></p>	
<b>Family Members</b>	<p>Family members are only eligible to accompany you to Australia if your course of study is for 12 months or longer.          You must declare all family members on your application (even if they <b>do not</b> travel with you) and provide proof of the relationship (marriage / birth certificate).</p>	