

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS **BRIDGING VISA STUDENT ENROLMENTS**

A bridging visa is a temporary visa granted by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) when the person has made application for a new visa but the new visa has not yet been granted and the previous visa has expired. The processing of a permanent residency application can take several months to a number of years to finalise depending on an individual applicant's circumstances.

Very often students on bridging visas are transitioning from a tourist visa or are a dependant of an international student but other situations are also possible. Bridging visas can be identified by the following subclass number: 010, 020, 030, 040, 050, 060 and 070 (subject to change at any time).

Application Requirements

- Parents wishing to enrol their child in a Queensland Government school need to complete a Bridging Visa Enrolment Application form for each school-aged child in the family. These application forms are available for families to download from the EQI website – <http://www.eqi.com.au/programs/bridging-visas.html>

Enrolment at a State School

- School staff are required to contact Education Queensland International (EQI) prior to enrolling all non-permanent resident students to determine whether tuition fees are required.
- All changes to a student's visa status should be reported to EQI.
- As required by Departmental policy, all students need to provide appropriate proof of identity in order to enrol at a State School.
- All non-permanent Australian residents should also be asked to present their passport to allow school staff to sight and photocopy their passport and current visa of entry. School personnel are requested to contact EQI to check, on a case by case basis, the conditions which relate to each visa subclass (three digit code), prior to the school enrolling these students.
- School staff should monitor the enrolments of bridging visa students (as with all international student enrolments) on a term by term basis to determine if there has been a change in visa status for the student and to confirm that the student is eligible to continue to attend the school, fees have been paid, etc.

Tuition Fees

- The conditions of school enrolment for students on bridging visas are the same that existed under the student's previous visa, and will continue this way until a new visa is granted. However, in the case of a tourist visa, the school can now issue reports for the student.
- A new bridging visa application for enrolment requires a new enrolment process. An application fee is payable for each enrolment request (i.e. change of school).
- The conditions applicable under the previous visa will be used to determine the fees payable under a bridging visa; however any previous fee exemptions or waivers granted in relation to scholarships, etc will no longer apply. If the student has previously been granted a fee waiver, a new fee waiver application will need to be made.

Trading Name: Education Queensland International **CRICOS Provider Number:** 00608A

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- Fees are charged on a term by term basis, as a decision in relation to the new visa application could be made at any time.
- An invoice (if applicable) will be issued to parents for each term that a student remains on a bridging visa. This invoice must be paid prior to the commencement of the new term.
- Bridging visa students are required to pay for compulsory subject costs or activities, text book hire/purchase and compulsory and non compulsory costs of schooling.
- The following list provides an indication of the schooling costs the families of bridging visa students are responsible for.

Families of bridging visa students are required to pay for the following costs (if applicable):
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text Books (hire or purchase) • Compulsory Subject Levies • Stationery Kit • Yearbook • Musical Instruments (if applicable) • Student Identification Card • Student Organiser (if compulsory item) • Library Books and Resources • Curriculum Excursions • School Camps (if attendance is compulsory) • Extra Curriculum Excursions • Special Events • Uniform • School Formal • All non-compulsory school costs (optional)

- Students who have been granted tuition fee exemptions or waivers are required to pay the same school costs as outlined above.
- Any pre-paid tuition fees are refundable to the family from the date that permanent residence is granted by DIAC.

ESL Support

- Access to in school or in class support by ESL staff is determined by the Regional Education Office responsible for each school by location.
- Tuition fees received by schools for bridging visa students should be utilised by schools to provide funds to purchase learning/language support according to each student's needs.

For further information please contact –

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