

Important changes to the Student visa programme

(from 1 July 2016)

New student visa applicants

On 1 July 2016, Australia will make a number of changes to its student visa processes. These changes include the introduction of a simplified student visa framework (SSVF).

Under the SSVF:

- all international students will now apply for a single Student visa ([subclass 500](#)), regardless of their chosen course of study
- all international students will be required to apply for their student visa online
- a new immigration risk framework will be used to guide the evidence of English language and financial capacity that a student needs to provide with their visa application.

Evidentiary requirements

To find out the level of English language and financial documentary evidence you need to provide with your Student visa application, please select your Education Provider and Country of Passport using the [Online Document Checklist Tool](#).

How to lodge a student visa application

All applications for a Student visa (subclass 500) should be lodged online. See [ImmiAccount](#) for more information.

Current visa holders

If you hold a student visa with subclass numbers 570 to 576, your visa will remain valid and your visa conditions will not change after 1 July 2016.

After 1 July 2016, family members of Student visa holders (subclasses 570-576) will need to apply for a subclass 500 visa if they want to join a family member in Australia.