



# Genuine Temporary Entrant

The genuine temporary entrant (GTE) requirement is an integrity measure to ensure the student visa program is used as intended and not as a way for international students to maintain ongoing residency in Australia.

The GTE requirement provides a useful way to help identify those applicants who are using the student visa program for motives other than gaining a quality education. An applicant needs to show they are coming to Australia temporarily to gain a quality education. The GTE requirement is not designed to exclude those students who, after studying in Australia, go on to develop the skills required by the Australian labour market and apply to obtain permanent residence.

The GTE requirement applies to all student visa applicants. An applicant must provide a personal statement in English addressing the GTE requirement. Where an applicant is not comfortable writing their statement in English, it can be written in their own language, however, a translated copy must be submitted. An applicant can provide details within the application form, or attach a written statement along with supporting documents. Generic statements unsupported by evidence will not be weighed heavily in the GTE assessment.

Findings on the GTE requirement are not made on the basis of one factor alone. All of an applicant's personal circumstances are considered before a decision is made and we place weight based on a number of factors. When assessing whether an applicant is a genuine temporary entrant, the Department considers their circumstances as a whole. *Ministerial Direction 69* sets out a number of factors that are taken into account in determining whether an applicant meets the GTE requirement.

*Ministerial Direction 69* is not intended to be used as a checklist. A broad summary of the factors taken into account include:

**Circumstances in home country (or country of residence)** – reason for not studying in home country or region if a similar course is available there, ties to their home country that support the intention to return once study is complete, economic circumstances, evidence that links successful completion of study to relevant employment outcomes, military service commitments, political and civil unrest in home country.

**Potential circumstances in Australia** – ties to Australia which would present as a strong incentive to remain in Australia, realistic knowledge of proposed course of study and education provider in comparison to others, alternate course options in Australia, previous study and qualification(s), planned living arrangements and financial stability.

**Value of the course to the applicant's future** – is the course(s) consistent with the applicant's current level of education, relevance to past or proposed future employment in home country or a third country, expected remuneration in home country or third country upon completion of course(s) of study.

**The applicant's immigration history** – previous visa applications for Australia or other countries including visa refusals or cancellations.

**If the applicant is a minor** – the intentions of a parent, legal guardian or spouse of the applicant.

We encourage applicants to read Ministerial Direction 69 before drafting their GTE statement.

Applicants are encouraged to provide evidence or information about:

**Previous study** – academic transcripts which show qualification(s) obtained, name of the education provider(s) and duration of study, certificates of attainment.

**Gap in previous study** – reasons why there is a gap in between studies including where enrolment was not maintained.

**Current employment** – current employer, company address, period of employment and details about the position held. Applicant's should include the name and contact details of a person who can verify the terms of employment.

**Ties to home country or country of residence** – this may include evidence of financial, family or social ties. The applicant needs to show they have significant incentives to return home once study is complete.

**Economic circumstances in home country or country of residence** – this can include documents showing employment or business activities for 12 months prior to application lodgement, an employment offer after course completion, income tax return reports or bank statements.

We encourage applicants to put as much information in their GTE statements as possible to help create a holistic view of their circumstances. Statement should be personalised as generic statements do not weigh heavily. For example *'The course is of good quality and will help me get a job'* will not be considered sufficient.

We can make a decision on a student visa application with the information provided and there is no requirement to request further information from the applicant.