



# Student Visa Program: Processing update for education providers

The Department is currently concentrating on managing the peak lodgement period. Providers are encouraged to issue students with their Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE) with enough time to lodge their application at least six weeks before course commencement.

## Health insurance – Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC)

Education providers arranging OSHC on behalf of student visa applicants should ensure the policy covers the maximum period of visa grant. If OSHC only covers the student for the length of the course, the visa will only be granted to the end date of the OSHC.

OSHC must commence at least a week before course commencement but it might be more beneficial for it to start around a month beforehand so the student can enter Australia and get settled. Remember, the student visa holder cannot enter Australia until their OSHC has started or they are in breach of visa condition 8501.

The maximum period of visa grant depends on the length of the course and when it finishes, see below:

Duration of course	Maximum period of visa grant
10 months or longer (finishing at the end of the Australian academic year: November – December)	Usually granted to March 15 of the following year
10 months or longer (finishing January - October)	Usually granted for two months after course end date
Less than 10 months	Usually granted for one month after course end date
Exceptions	
Primary school students (where two year maximum* period applies)	Usually granted to the end of the second year (31 December)
Postgraduate research students	Usually granted an additional six months past the maximum period as per the duration of course above

\*A maximum period of two years will generally apply to primary school students. This does not apply where a student is seeking to study two years of primary school prior to secondary school as the primary component would not exceed two years. For example, a student studying Years 5 and 6 could be granted a visa to Year 9.

More information about education provider responsibilities is available at:

[www.border.gov.au/Busi/Educ/Educ](http://www.border.gov.au/Busi/Educ/Educ)

Regards  
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