Dear Australian Immigration Department,

I am Ngoc Bao Luong and I am writing this GTE personal statement to prove my eligibility for a new Student Visa subclass 500. The main reason why I apply for this visa is because there was a delay in completion of my degree. My delay was caused by 2 reasons: changes in my course major and my course deferral due to online study since Covid 19 started.

When I first started my course at my university, I got disoriented and did not know which major was the most suitable for me. I was supposed to start my first semester of the Bachelor of Science at university in 02/2019 but I withdrew from the Bachelor of Science to apply for Bachelor of Commerce starting in 08/2019. However, I realized that it was a wrong decision, hence, I applied again for the Bachelor of Science starting again in 08/2019. My disorientation in choosing course and major has caused a 6-month-deferral (02/2019-08/2019), which means my course completion date was also deferred by 6 months. (31/12/2021-06/2022). The evidence is the first Coe attachment (Coe code is A9BDAC99). I acknowledge that my course changes were very troublesome, and I am sincerely sorry for the mistake I have made.

For the second deferral, I did struggle studying online at home and being in lock down for so long, so I was unable to handle the full academic workload required. Because of that, I applied for underloading my course and that was approved by the University of Melbourne. Proofs for approval are the Coe attachment (Coe code is C3B3FE75) and Covid 19 Impacted Students Form (1545) provided by the University of Melbourne. I understand that I am ineligible for a new student visa fee waiver because I already needed a new visa after course changes mentioned above. I will follow the rule and still pay a student visa fee as required. But I hope the immigration department can take the tough pandemic situation affecting me mentally and academically into account when it comes to consideration for a new student visa.

With regards to my family’s financial stability, my family is financially stable enough to support me to finish my last year of my bachelor’s degree. We have paid $27,488 as tuition fees for a half of 2022 as required by the University of Melbourne. and I’ll also provide my Fee Account Statement as a proof for my payment.

I am highly satisfied with the world-class education offered by one of the most prestigious Australian universities. I always have a desire to return to my home country, which is Vietnam after my course completion. My desire has even been much stronger since I want to take care of my parents, my family after Vietnam was severely hit by the Corona Virus with 15,600 new infections on average each day.

I hope that the Australian Immigration Department will grant me the new visa that allows me to finish my last year of my bachelor’s degree before the end of my study abroad journey.