

AUSTRALIA STUDENT VISA FAQ

IVY Overseas Knowledge Base

Q: What IELTS score do I need for Australia student visa?

A: For an Australian student visa (subclass 500), you typically need an overall IELTS score of 6.0, with no band below 5.5. However, many universities require higher scores. For undergraduate courses, most universities require IELTS 6.0 to 6.5. For postgraduate courses, the requirement is usually IELTS 6.5 to 7.0. Some competitive programs like medicine or law may require IELTS 7.0 or above.

Q: How much money do I need to show for Australia student visa?

A: For the Australia student visa, you need to show sufficient funds to cover tuition fees for the first year plus living costs. The living cost requirement is AUD 24,505 per year (approximately Rs 13.5 lakhs). You also need to show tuition fees which vary by university and course, typically AUD 20,000 to AUD 45,000 per year. Total funds required are usually AUD 40,000 to AUD 70,000 (approximately Rs 22 lakhs to Rs 38 lakhs).

Q: Can I work while studying in Australia?

A: Yes, Australia student visa holders can work up to 48 hours per fortnight during the academic semester. During scheduled course breaks and vacations, you can work unlimited hours. Your family members who come on dependent visas can also work up to 48 hours per fortnight. This work right starts from the day your visa is granted, not just when your course begins.

Q: What is the Australia Post Study Work Visa?

A: The Temporary Graduate visa (subclass 485) allows you to work in Australia after completing your studies. There are two streams. The Graduate Work stream is for 18 months if you have a qualification in an occupation on the skilled occupation list. The Post-Study Work stream is for 2 to 4 years depending on your qualification level. Bachelor degree holders get 2 years, Honours and Masters by coursework get 3 years, and Masters by research and PhD holders get 4 years. You must apply within 6 months of completing your course.

Q: How long does Australia student visa processing take?

A: Australia student visa processing typically takes 4 to 6 weeks for most applicants. During peak periods from October to January, it can take up to 8 to 10 weeks. The visa fee is AUD 710 (approximately Rs 39,000). You should apply at least 3 months before your course start date to be safe. Health examinations and police clearance certificates may be required and can add extra time.

Q: What documents do I need for Australia student visa?

A: The main documents required are your Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE) from the university, valid passport, proof of English proficiency such as IELTS or PTE scores, financial evidence showing sufficient funds, Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) insurance, academic transcripts and certificates, statement of purpose, and evidence of ties to home country. All documents must be in English or translated by a certified translator.

Q: What is OSHC and is it mandatory for Australia?

A: Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) is mandatory for all international students in Australia. It covers doctor visits, hospital treatment, ambulance services, and some pharmaceuticals. Most universities arrange OSHC on your behalf and include it in your fees. The cost is approximately AUD 600 to AUD 700 per year (approximately Rs 33,000 to Rs 38,000). You must maintain valid OSHC for the entire duration of your student visa.

Q: What percentage or GPA do I need for Australian universities?

A: For undergraduate admission, most Australian universities accept students with 60 to 70 percent in their 12th standard or equivalent. For postgraduate admission, you typically need 55 to 65 percent in your bachelor degree. Top universities like University of Melbourne and Australian National University may require 70 percent or above. Some programs have additional requirements like work experience or prerequisite subjects.

Q: Can my family come with me to Australia?

A: Yes, your spouse and dependent children can join you in Australia on a Student Dependent visa. Your spouse can work unlimited hours if you are doing a postgraduate research degree. If you are doing other courses, your spouse can work up to 48 hours per fortnight. Your dependent children can attend school in Australia. The dependent visa application fee is AUD 710 per person.

Q: What are the top universities in Australia for Indian students?

A: The top universities in Australia popular with Indian students are University of Melbourne ranked 33 globally, University of Sydney ranked 41, Australian National University ranked 30, University of Queensland ranked 43, Monash University ranked 42, University of New South Wales ranked 45, and University of Adelaide ranked 89. These universities offer excellent programs in engineering, IT, business, and healthcare which are popular choices for Indian students.