

TAFE SA Guidelines for International Students on Genuine Student Assessment and Student Visa Living Costs and Evidence of Funds

These guidelines are to be read in accordance with the TAFE SA International Student – Admissions and Enrolment Policy. The Department of Home Affairs (DoHA) requires that international students applying for a student visa:

1. be a genuine student for entry.
2. be able to show an understanding that studying in Australia is the primary reason of their student visa.
3. must maintain sufficient funds to pay for travel, tuition and living expenses for themselves, their partner and any dependants for the duration of their stay in Australia.

For additional information www.homeaffairs.gov.au

Background to Genuine Student Status and Living Costs/Evidence of Funds

A student visa applicant must prove they are a genuine student. Without this, applicants will unlikely receive a student visa. TAFE SA must make sure that an applicant is a genuine student prior to making an offer. In addition, students must ensure they have enough money to pay for travel, tuition and living expenses for themselves, their partner and any dependants for the duration of their stay in Australia. TAFE SA must make sure applicants meet these criteria and may request documentation to make this assessment.

Assessing and Determining Genuine Student Status and Sufficient Funds.

In order to determine whether an applicant is a genuine student and has sufficient funds to pay for travel, tuition and living expenses for themselves, their partner and any dependants for the duration of their stay in Australia, an applicant may be required to complete a genuine student assessment and/or financial matrix.

Genuine Student Assessment

The genuine student assessment contains the same questions as asked by DoHA in the Student visa application form. The responses submitted to TAFE SA must be what applicants intend to submit to DoHA for their visa application.

All information and documentation submitted as part of the assessment process must be submitted in English.

Should an applicant be deemed to be a genuine student by TAFE SA, this decision will remain valid for 2 years from the date of assessment.

Should a student deemed to be a genuine student defer their commencement date with TAFE SA they will not be required to undergo a further genuine student assessment within a 2 year period from the original genuine student assessment date.

Should a student deemed to be a genuine student apply to change their program the applicant may need to complete a new genuine student assessment and/or financial matrix.

If TAFE SA determines that an applicant is not a genuine student, the applicant's applicant with TAFE SA will be rejected and will be ineligible for readmission with TAFE SA or into partnered courses for up to 2 years from the decision date of assessment.

TAFE SA's Genuine Student Assessment is completed separately to DoHA's assessment for student visa applications and is based on information provided by the applicant. Passing TAFE SA's Genuine Student Assessment should not be viewed as a guarantee to passing the Student visa assessment managed by DoHA who has access to more information.

Should DoHA refuse to grant an applicant a student visa based on the decision that the applicant is not a genuine student, the applicant will be ineligible for readmission with TAFE SA or into partnered courses for up to 2 years from the date that TAFE SA becomes aware of such refusal.

Financial Check/Matrix

Applicants will be required to demonstrate that they have sufficient funds for their first 12 months in Australia (including tuition, living expenses and travel). In some circumstances, applicants may be required to demonstrate that they have sufficient funds for more than 12 months. If TAFE SA determines that an applicant does not have the sufficient funds TAFE SA will not provide the applicant with an unconditional Letter of Offer.

If Term Deposits have matured and reinvestment documentation has not been supplied, they cannot be accepted. Any documents supplied in foreign currency will be converted into Australian dollars using the currency conversion of the day of the assessment, typically using <http://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/>

All information and documentation submitted as part of the assessment process must be submitted in English.

Withdrawal of Offers

If TAFE SA suspects that information or supplied documentation from the applicant or their representative was incorrect, misleading or fraudulent, TAFE SA reserves the right to withdraw any offers for that applicant. TAFE SA may, at its discretion, refuse any further applications for course admission from the applicant for up to 2 years.

An applicant, not originally required to complete the genuine student assessment and/or financial matrix, may, at TAFE SA's discretion, be required to complete one or provide evidence, particularly should the student's or external circumstances change.

Should the applicant not complete this assessment or complete the assessment but fail to demonstrate they are a genuine student, TAFE SA reserves the right to withdraw any offers for that applicant. TAFE SA may also choose to not consider any further applications from the applicant for up to 2 years.

TAFE SA reserves the right to withdraw any offers at any time, including where an applicant has accepted and paid for their place, and been issued a Confirmation of Enrolment (refer to the International Student Tuition Fee Refund Policy for more information).

General

TAFE SA may amend these Guidelines and any related policies at any time. The process, assessment and results of any genuine student/financial assessment are confidential and remain the property of TAFE SA.

TAFE SA will not be under any obligation to disclose or provide a copy of the process, assessment or results to applicants, any educational institution or other third party unless required by law to do so but may disclose genuine student /financial assessment results to its University partners.

TAFE SA's genuine student assessment decision is final and there are no rights to appeal.