VISA INSTRUCTIONS

Introduction to the Australian student visa
As a UCEAP participant in Australia, you must apply for and be granted a student visa, which must be valid for the duration of your program. The Australian Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) offers online visa applications for U.S. citizens participating in a one-or two-semester academic program abroad.

Non-U.S. citizens
If you are a non-U.S. citizen, read the DIAC website carefully and contact the Australian Embassy in Washington D.C. immediately to check entry requirements for your country of citizenship. The entry process for non-U.S. citizens may take much longer than for U.S. citizens, so allow ample time to research the requirements and complete them.

Cost of the visa
It’s expensive to apply for the Australian student visa. At the time of this printing, the application fee for the student visa described above was listed as $535 Australian dollars (approx. $570.00 in U.S. dollars). Remember to include this item when budgeting your out-of-pocket expenses for time abroad. The most convenient way to pay your visa application fee is by credit card.

You’ll need a “CoE”
To use the online application you will first need an electronic “Confirmation of Enrolment” (CoE) number, which will be issued to you by your host University. How do you get a CoE? You will be issued a CoE by your host university once you have a) received an offer of place (an acceptance letter) from your host University and have b) accepted this offer by returning an acceptance form to your Australian University.

Your “TRN”
After submitting your student visa application online, you’ll be assigned a transaction number (TRN). Keep track of the TRN, because this number, along with your passport number, allows you to check the status of your online visa application.

Read all about the online application
Go to the home page of the Department of Australian Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) at http://www.immi.gov.au/. Browse all the relevant chapters on their website for detailed information. To read specifically about the student visa application process,

- select “Visas, Immigration, and Refugees” from the menu on the home page,
- select “Students” from the options on the left,
- choose which kind of student visa you are interested in by clicking “Student Visa Options”,
- select the country of your passport from the pulldown menu,
- for your main course of study choose non-award from the pulldown menu.
- select no when asked if you intend to study any courses other than your main course of study (you are not seeking a degree from an Australian university).
- follow the prompts.

You should end up on “Non-award Sector: Temporary Visa: Subclass 575)”. On this page read about the uses for this visa (including the opportunity to work while studying, see stipulations), the fee for the visa, and your assessment level. If you are a US citizen, your assessment level is 1.
**OSHIC?**
You may come across references to the OSHC policy. This stands for the Overseas Student Health Cover. OSHC is a requirement for all international students studying in Australia. Unless you are going to UNSW, this fee is already included in your EAP fees. (Students accepted to UNSW will need to actually enroll in this Australian insurance plan and submit the receipt to UNSW as proof of enrollment in the OSHC).

**Begin the Online Application**
- Select “Start an application” and scroll to the chart
- See the category for applicants outside Australia.
- Click “First student visa” from the right hand column of the chart.
- Once you begin, the steps are fairly self-explanatory.

You will need to enter the proposed date of your arrival and departure. To help determine these dates, see the pulldown calendar on the menu of the Participant’s page, EAP website. Find the Last Date to Arrive and the End Date (last exam date) at your host university.

- **When your e-visa is granted, we highly recommend that you print out a copy of the notification, keep it with your passport, and take it with you when you travel.**

**The health clearance procedure**
During the e-visa application process some students will be notified that a consular health clearance is required. **This is unrelated to the EAP Health Clearance**, and the EAP clearance and forms are not accepted for this purpose. If you find out that you have been notified, you must take action to get the exam and chest x-ray completed and submitted as quickly as possible. The required medical forms are available on the DIAC website. These forms can be filled out by any certified MD and sent to the specified address (usually the Embassy of Australia in Washington, DC). Most students will not encounter this, however if you are informed you must submit the consular health clearance information and have problems with the medical forms, contact UC EAP for assistance.

**Further questions?**
The instructions above outline the basics. **Direct any further questions about your student visa application to the Australian Department of Immigration and Citizenship.**

You may also contact the Australian Embassy in Washington D.C.

**The Embassy of Australia in Washington D.C.**
1601 Massachusetts Ave. NW
Washington DC, 20036-2273
Tel: (202) 797-3000

If there are questions you haven’t been able to answer via the DIAC website or by calling the number above, call the Embassy’s line for inquiries at 1-905-280-1437.