



Visa Information for International Medical Students

Disclaimer: This document was prepared by UMMSS International to provide an overview of the visa options for internship purposes for current MD international students. The information contained in this document has been collected to the best of the ability by the International student subcommittee from the Department of Home Affairs websites and after consultation with an immigration lawyer. Please refer to the specific websites for detailed information or consult an immigration lawyer for professional advice.

Visas for internship coverage:

There are two main types of visas international students can apply to allow for internship completion in Australia. This is dependent on when students **applied for and were granted their first student visa**. For students who applied for and were granted their first student visa:

Before 05 November 2011	Training Visa (Subclass 407)
On or after 05 November 2011	Temporary Graduate Visa (Subclass 485)

Training Visa (Subclass 407)

This visa allows individuals to take part in workplace-based occupational training activities to improve their skills for their job, area of tertiary study, field of expertise or in a professional development training programme in Australia.

There are 3 types of occupational training covered by this visa:

- **Occupational training required for registration**
- Occupational training to improve skills in an eligible occupation
- Occupational training for capacity building overseas

Overview:

- Length of stay: **up to 2 years**
- Cost: from AUD285
- Place of application: can be in or outside Australia
- Processing time: 63 days for 75% of applications; 88 days for 90% of applications
- Family members can be included
- Best time to apply: December/January

Eligibility:

- Have an approved sponsor
- Be nominated by a sponsor to participate in a program of occupational training
- Must be 18 years old or older
- Currently hold a valid temporary substantive visa (if applying in Australia)
- Meet health requirements
- Meet character requirements
- Be a genuine temporary entrant
- Must have functional English (see link below for more information)
- Sign the Australian values statement
- Have paid back debt to the Australian Government
- Not have had a visa cancelled or a previous application refused

For detailed information:

<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/training-407>

Functional English:

<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/english-language/functional-english>

Temporary Graduate Visa (Subclass 485)

This is a temporary visa that allows international students to live, study and work after they have finished their studies.

There are 2 streams covered by this visa:

- Graduate work stream
- **Post-study work stream**

Please note the graduate work stream **does not apply** to international students who applied for and was granted their first student visa prior to 05 November 2011 due to lack of occupational skills accreditation before completion of internship training.

Post-study work stream:

This visa is for international students who have recently graduated with a degree from an Australian institution. It lets them live, work and study in Australia, temporarily.

Overview:

- Length of stay: **up to 2 years (masters by coursework)**
- Cost: from AUD1,535
- Place of application: **must be in Australia**
- Processing time: 78 days for 75% of applications; 4 months for 90% of applications
- Family members can be included
- Best time to apply: December/January
- Not renewable (students who have obtained this Visa in the past may consider 407 Visa for internship)

Eligibility:

- Must be under 50 years of age
- Meet visa requirement
 - **Applied for and was granted first student visa on or after 5 November 2011**
 - Main holder of a current student visa
 - Held a student visa within the past 6 months before application and now have a Bridging Visa A or Bridging Visa B
- Meet Australian study requirement within past 6 months
 - Study was in a CRICOS-registered course
 - Successfully completed all course requirements
 - Study was in English
 - Completed course as a result of at least two academic years (92 weeks) study
 - Physically in Australia for at least 16 calendar months to complete the study
- Hold an eligible qualification at degree-level or above
- Have studied with an Australian education provider
- Meet English language proficiency
 - English test not required for students who hold a valid passport from the United Kingdom, United States of America, Canada, New Zealand or the Republic of Ireland
- Have adequate health insurance
- Meet health requirements
- Meet character requirements
- Sign the Australian values statement
- Have no debt to the Australian Government
- Not have had a visa cancelled or a previous application refused

For detailed information:

Note of caution

International MD students from previous years may have successfully applied for other types of visas (including 482 subclass visa) for their internship. However, circumstances may have changed, and those visas may not be applicable this year due to eligibility changes. The visas mentioned above should cover all international MD students. Students with special circumstances should consult an immigration lawyer on a case-by-case basis for professional opinions.

Visa leading to Permanent Residency (PR):

Skilled Independent Visa (subclass 189)

This visa is for invited workers and New Zealand citizens with skills Australia need, to live and work permanently anywhere in Australia.

There are 2 streams covered by this visa:

- **Points tested stream**
- New Zealand stream (for eligible NZ citizens only)

Points tested stream:

This visa lets invited workers with skills Australia need to live and work permanently anywhere in Australia.

Overview:

- Length of stay: permanently
- Cost: from AUD3,755
- Place of application: can be in or outside Australia
- Processing time: 6 months for 75% of applications; 7 months for 90% of applications

Eligibility:

- Be invited to apply
 - Invitations issued after submission of an expression of interest (EOI)
- Have a suitable skills assessment
 - For medical practitioners this equals to full or unconditional or general medical registration with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA)
 - International medical graduates are eligible for registration with AHPRA after completion of the internship year
- Must be aged under 45
- Be able to score 65 points or more
 - Refer to website for more information on scoring system
- Meet English language proficiency
- Have an occupation on the relevant skilled occupation list
 - For doctors post-intern year this equals to General Practitioners NEC - 253111
- Meet health requirements
- Meet character requirements
- Have paid back debt to the Australian government
- Sign the Australian values statement
- Not have had a visa cancelled or a previous application refused

For detailed information:

<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/skilled-independent-189/points-tested>