



# International education and managed growth arrangements for 2026 – information for TAFE providers

The Australian Government remains committed to a high quality, resilient international education sector with modest growth over time. A managed growth approach has been effective in returning student numbers to a more sustainable level in 2025 and the Government has now determined arrangements for 2026, including for TAFE providers.

More information about the [Government's managed growth arrangements for 2026](#) is published by the Department of Education.

[Allocations for all VET providers for 2026](#) were published on 4 August 2025 (and continue to be available in PRISMS) and provider progress against allocations will continue to inform prioritisation for offshore student visa processing.

## ***Offshore visa applications from students enrolled with a TAFE provider***

A TAFE provider means a public VET provider which is a body established under Australian state or territory law to provide VET.

Offshore visa applications from students enrolled with a TAFE provider will continue to receive ongoing Priority 1 processing. This ensures TAFE providers can continue to grow their share of the onshore international student market, in turn supporting the development of offshore delivery opportunities. TAFE providers have an established reputation for quality and integrity and increasing their capacity in international education delivery will continue to lift the quality and integrity of the entire sector.

Offshore visa applications from students enrolled with TAFE providers will always be given Priority 1 processing status by Department of Home Affairs decision makers, regardless of whether a TAFE provider has reached its prioritisation threshold. This remains the case, regardless of the prioritisation category displayed on the Summary Tab<sup>1</sup> of a TAFE provider's New Overseas Student Commencement (NOSC) Report when downloaded in PRISMS.

Department of Home Affairs decision makers will never apply a lower processing priority to offshore visa applications from students enrolled with a TAFE provider.

TAFE providers are not required to do anything in order for continuous Priority 1 processing to apply. They have already been identified in Department of Home Affairs systems so that Priority 1 processing

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<sup>1</sup> The Summary Tab provides information on indicative allocations and NOSCs. It also displays a provider's 'Prioritisation Percentage' and 'Offshore Visa Processing Prioritisation Category'.

status will automatically apply to all offshore visa applications from students enrolled with a TAFE provider.

The Government highly values TAFE partnerships with universities. To make more seamless transitions possible between VET and higher education, new arrangements in 2026 will recognise a strong pathway relationship for international students between TAFE study and a university course. Information regarding the status of [transitioning students from an affiliated pathway provider](#) is published by the Department of Education.

Questions about the prioritisation of student visa application processing for students enrolled with a TAFE provider can be directed to [managedgrowth@dewr.gov.au](mailto:managedgrowth@dewr.gov.au).