



Border Exemptions – International Medical Students

This fact sheet applies to International Medical Students who are not:

- Australian citizens
- Australian permanent residents
- Immediate family member of an Australian citizen or permanent resident or;
- A New Zealand citizen usually resident in Australia.

Background

On May 8 2020, the Australian Government outlined that the reopening of international student travel would be considered in Stage Three of the [3-Step Framework for a COVIDSafe Australia](#). A date has not yet been decided for international students to return to Australia.

How to apply to return to Australia early

International Medical Students holding an appropriate visa who wish to return to Australia prior to Stage 3 of the Framework must abide by the rules and regulations outlined on the Australian Department of Home Affairs [website](#).

International Medical Students who have a compassionate or compelling reason to travel to Australia will need to have an exemption from the Australian Border Force Commissioner. Applications can be made [here](#).

Evidence for an exemption

Exemptions must be granted prior to travelling to Australia. The request for an exemption through Commissioner's Discretion must be accompanied by:

- **Passenger details:** name, DOB, visa type and number, passport number, Australian residential address, Australian telephone number.
- **Case information:** why you should be considered for Commissioner discretion/exemption. It must be made very clear if you will be contributing to the COVID public health response.
- **Supporting statement:** the request should be accompanied by a statement and evidence of how you meet one of the grounds for an exemption or excise of the Commissioner's discretion. This may include a statement from your college or university exemplifying how you hold, or are studying to develop critical skills that may be used to contribute to the COVID public health response.



- **Supporting evidence:** may include but is not limited to:
 - proof of ID
 - birth certificates
 - visa Status
 - letter from a doctor or hospital indicating why the travel is necessary
 - letter from an employer indicating why the travel is necessary or the work undertaken is critical
 - letter from a related business or company
 - any other proof you may have to support your claims.

All evidence supporting a travel exemption claim needs to be officially translated into English