



## 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