



Australasian International Academy

RTO Code 41144, CRICOS Code 03480K

Course Transfer Policy & Procedure

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Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that:

- Australasian International Academy does not enrol transferring students prior to the student completing six months of their principal course of study except for the circumstances outlined in this Policy.
- Australasian International Academy has a policy and process for assessing student applications to:
 - transfer from Australasian International Academy before completing six months of their principal course
 - transfer to another course provided by Australasian International Academy.

This ensures compliance with Standard 7 of the National Code of Practice for Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students 2018.

Definitions

Course Package means a package of courses included on an international student's visa that usually includes the principle course and any approved pre-requisite courses

DESE means Department of Education, Skills and Employment

DHA means Department of Home Affairs

ESOS Act means the Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000

National Code means National Code of Practice for Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students 2018 which can be accessed from www.legislation.gov.au

PRISMS means Provider Registration and International Student Management System

Registered Provider means an Australian education provider approved to offer courses to overseas students and registered on CRICOS (the Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students)

RTO means Registered Training Organisation, a provider and assessor of nationally recognised vocational education and training.

Six months means six calendar months from the date that the student commences their studies

SRTO means the Standards for RTOs 2015 – refer definition of 'Standards'

Standards means the Standards for Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) 2015 of the VET Quality Framework which can be accessed from www.asqa.gov.au

Training Product means AQF qualification, skill set, unit of competency, accredited short course or module.



Policy

- All decisions made by Australasian International Academy with regard to student transfer requests will be made in accordance with this policy and procedure, will be fair and taken into account the student's individual circumstances and any other relevant factors.

1. Transferring from another registered provider

- Australasian International Academy will not knowingly enrol a student wishing to transfer from another registered provider's course prior to the overseas student completing six months of his or her principal course unless one or more of the following conditions apply:
 - the releasing registered provider or the course in which the student is enrolled has ceased to be registered; or
 - the releasing registered provider has had a sanction imposed on its registration by the ESOS agency that prevents the student from continuing his or her principal course at that registered provider; or
 - the releasing registered provider has agreed to the overseas student's release and recorded the date of effect and reason for release in PRISMS; or
 - any government sponsor of the student considers the change to be in the student's best interest and has provided written support for that change.

2. Transferring to another registered provider

- For Australasian International Academy students seeking to transfer to another registered provider's course of study prior to completing six months of their principle course, the transfer request will be assessed and granted in any of the following circumstances:
 - the student will be reported because they are unable to achieve satisfactory course progress at the level they are studying, even after engaging with Australasian International Academy's intervention strategy to assist the overseas student in accordance with Standard 8 (Overseas student visa requirements).
 - there is evidence of compassionate or compelling circumstances.
 - Australasian International Academy fails to deliver the course as outlined in the student agreement.
 - there is evidence that the student's reasonable expectations about their current course are not being met.
 - there is evidence that the student was misled by Australasian International Academy or an education or migration agent regarding Organisation and/or its course and the course is therefore unsuitable to their needs and/or study objectives.
 - an appeal (internal or external) on another matter results in a decision or recommendation to release the student.
- A transfer to another course will not be granted where:
 - The transfer may jeopardise the student's progression through a package of courses.
 - The student has recently started studying the course and the full range of support services are yet to be provided or offered to the student. In this case, the student will be requested to wait a further 4 weeks before applying for a transfer to another registered provider during which time the full range of support services will be provided to the student.
 - The student is trying to avoid being reported to DHA for failure to meet the provider's attendance or academic progress requirements.
 - There are no legitimate compassionate or compelling circumstances.
- In order for a request for transfer to be considered and a letter of release provided, students must provide a valid offer of enrolment from another registered provider.
- The outcome of the student's application for course transfer will be provided in writing within 10 working days of receipt of application.
- Where a student's application is refused, the reasons for this will communicated plus the right to access the complaints and appeals process as outlined below.



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- There is no cost in releasing students. However, where a student transfers to another registered provider, any refund of course fees, where applicable, will be paid will be in accordance with Australasian International Academy's *Fees and Refunds Policy and Procedure*.

3. Transferring to another course offered by Australasian International Academy

- Students may transfer to another course offered by Australasian International Academy in the following circumstances:
 - Where it is considered that the course that the student wishes to transfer to:
 - better meets the study capabilities of the student; and/or
 - better meets the long-term goals of the student, whether these relate to future work, education or personal aspirations; and/or
 - where the student claims or can provide evidence that his or her reasonable expectations about the current course are not being met.
- A transfer to another course within Australasian International Academy will not be granted where:
 - The transfer may jeopardise the student's progression through a package of courses.
 - The student has recently started studying the course and the full range of support services are yet to be provided or offered to the student.
 - The student is trying to avoid being reported to DHA for failure to meet the provider's attendance or academic progress requirements.
- In order for a request for transfer to be considered, students must complete an *Internal Course Transfer Application Form*.
- The outcome of the student's application for course transfer will be provided in writing within 10 working days of receipt of application.
 - Cost involved in transferring to another course plus any refund of course fees paid for the student's current course will be in accordance with Australasian International Academy's *Fees and Refunds Policy and Procedure*.

4. Visa advice

- All students who are either considering a course transfer, or have had their transfer request approved, will be advised that they must contact DHA to seek advice on whether a new visa is required. To find out more about visa requirements, students will be advised to contact DHA on 131 881 or visit the following website:
<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-finder/study>

5. Complaints and Appeals

- Where the decision is made to refuse a course transfer or Australasian International Academy does not respond to the request in the timeframe set out in this Policy, the student may appeal against the decision by accessing Australasian International Academy's complaints and appeals process within 20 days. If the appeal finds in favour of a student wishing to transfer, a letter of release will be granted.
- The refusal status will not be finalised in PRISM until the complaints and appeals process is finalised within the 28-day period for complaints and appeal process or the student withdraws from the course.

6. Records

- All records relating to course transfers will be kept for two years after the student ceases to be an enrolled student. This includes requests for release, the assessment of the request and the decision.

7. Publication

This policy is provided to students in the International Student Handbook, which is provided to students prior to or upon commencement of a course, and also via Australasian International Academy's website at www.aiaacademy.edu.au



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Procedures

1. Transfers from another provider

Procedure	Responsibility
A. Process application. <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Check PRISMS to see if the releasing registered provider has agreed to the overseas student's release and recorded the date of effect and reason for release in PRISMS.▪ If required, contact the student or student's agent to confirm the student's status with the previous registered provider.▪ Review application and check standard enrolment requirements such as entry requirements and pre-requisites are met.▪ Process application within 5 working days of receipt.	Administrative/ Senior Student Support Officer
B. Approve application <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Where the application is approved by the Head of Administration, inform the student in writing.▪ Refer the application for enrolment per the <i>Student Administration Policy & Procedure</i>.▪ Include all documentation on the student's file.	Administrative/ Senior Student Support Officer and Head of Administration
C. Refuse application <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Where the student is not approved, inform the student in writing that their application has been refused, stating the reasons why.▪ Include all documentation on the student's file.	Administrative/ Senior Student Support Officer and Head of Administration

2. Transfers to another provider

Procedure	Responsibility
A. Process application <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Where a student requests to transfer to another provider, provide the student with an application for withdrawal form for completion (<i>Student Request Form</i>). Documentation required is stated on this form, including the requirement for a valid letter of offer from another provider.	Administrative/ Senior Student Support Officer
B. Review application <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Review the application and supporting evidence provided within 10 working days of receipt of application.▪ Make a decision based on the circumstances in which a transfer will be granted as set out in this policy.	Administrative/ Senior Student Support Officer and Head of Administration
C. Approve application <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Where the application is approved, inform the student in writing, including a <i>Letter of Release</i>, information on any refund of course fees (if applicable in accordance with Australasian International Academy's <i>Fees and Refunds Policy & Procedures</i>) and advising the student to contact DHA to confirm whether they will need a new visa.▪ If a student's appeal is successful, a <i>Letter of Release</i> will be granted and emailed to the student.▪ Report the 'Student Course Variation' into PRISMS immediately.	Administrative/ Senior Student Support Officer and Head of Administration



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Procedure	Responsibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Include all documentation on the student's file, to be kept for a minimum of 2 years.	
D. Refuse application <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Where the application is refused, inform the student in writing, including the reasons for the decision and advising the student of their right to access Australasian International Academy <i>Complaints and Appeals Policy & Procedure</i> and that they have 28 days in which to do this from the date specified on the letter.▪ Include all documentation on the student's file.▪ If the student does not appeal against the decision or if their appeal is unsuccessful, the matter will be closed.▪ Include all documentation on the student's file, to be kept for a minimum of 2 years.	Administrative/ Senior Student Support Officer and Head of Administration

3. Transfers to another course offered by Australasian International Academy

Procedure	Responsibility
A. Process application <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Where a student requests to transfer to another course within Australasian International Academy, provide the student with an <i>Internal Course Transfer Application Form</i> for completion. Documentation required is stated on this form. This will include any documentation required relevant to the entry requirements for the course into which the student wishes to transfer.▪ Acknowledge receipt of <i>Internal Course Transfer Application Form</i> by email to the student. This should include advice to the student that they must stay in their current course until their application is assessed and that the student must contact DHA for advice on visa implications.	Academic/ Senior Student Support Officer
B. Review applications <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Review the application and supporting evidence provided within 10 working days of receipt of application.▪ Make a decision based on the circumstances in which a transfer will be granted as set out in this policy.	Academic/ Senior Student Support Officer
C. Approve application <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Where the application is approved, inform the student in writing, information on any additional fees and/or refund of course fees in accordance with Australasian International Academy's <i>Fees and Refunds Policy & Procedure</i> and advising the student to contact DHA to confirm whether they will need a new visa.▪ Create CoE and all required documentation for new course in accordance with standard procedures for enrolment as per the <i>Student Administration Policy & Procedure</i>.▪ Include all documentation on the student's file.▪ Report the 'Student Course Variation' into PRISMS within 14 days of approval of the application.	Academic/ Senior Student Support Officer and Head of Administration
D. Refuse application <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Where the application is refused, notify the student including the reasons for the decision and advising the student of their right to access Australasian International Academy's <i>Complaints and Appeals Policy & Procedure</i> and that they have 28 days in which to do this from the date specified on the letter.▪ If the student does not appeal against the decision or if their appeal is unsuccessful, the matter will be closed.▪ If a student's appeal is successful, a letter of release will be granted and emailed to the student.▪ Include all documentation on the student's file.	Academic/ Senior Student Support Officer and Head of Administration



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Document control

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Reviewed and Approved by	Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
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Standards (SRTOs)	
Standards (National Code)	Standards 7

Summary of changes

Date	Change
15.04.2015	Full Version Course Transfer Policy and Procedure Version ID: SC8-I - Course Transfer P&P V2.0
28.09.2020	Version ID: <i>AIA Course Transfer Policy & Procedure V2020.1</i> Revised version V2020.1 Version naming convention changed to keep consistency across all policies and procedures as well as other AIA documents. Reviewed and updated against the current SRTOs and National Code Standards. Reviewed and updated according the current administrative and legal frameworks in practice. Reviewed and updated in alignment with the current marketing and advertising documents and materials used.

Note

This document is uncontrolled when printed and may be out of date. The current version of this document is maintained on Australasian International Academy's website: www.aiacademy.edu.au