

### Renewing or Extending your student visa

You can apply to renew or extend your student visa if your old one will expire before you can complete your course. Reasons to apply for a new visa may include:

- Your current visa will expire before you can complete your course due to failed subjects, a Leave of Absence, or Reduced Study Load;
- You have commenced a new course
- Your graduate research candidature has been extended
- Your first visa was cancelled administratively by the Department of Home Affairs (DHA).
- You want to change to a lower Australian Qualification Framework (AQF) level course or a non-AQF level course. For example you are studying a Master of Commerce (Level 9) and wish to switch to Bachelor of Science (Level 7), you will need to apply for and be granted a new visa before you can switch. See the DHAs advice on changing courses at: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/change-in-situation/study-situation>.

### How to apply for a new visa

We recommend applying for a new visa no earlier than four months before your current visa expires. This does not prevent you from requesting a CoE. If you've had a previous visa cancelled by the DHA for a breach of your visa conditions, we recommend seeking assistance from a qualified migration agent or lawyer.

### Step one: Extend your Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC)

Extend your OSHC policy to align with your new visa periods. You can continue with your existing insurer or find a new provider. See our [Overseas Student Health Cover](#) page for information about the length of cover you'll require. The University's preferred OSHC provider is BUPA.

### Step two: Request a new Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE)

Before applying for a new visa, you'll need to request an extended CoE online by completing the 'Request for Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE) [International Students Only]' form found under **Quickforms** in OASIS. **Please note:** You will not be able to request your CoE online if:

- You are undertaking a Higher Degree by Research course - please contact the Student Advisor – International Student Visas at [jovisa@curtin.edu.au](mailto:jovisa@curtin.edu.au) to seek advice on how to obtain a CoE; or
- You are changing to a new course - please contact [Curtin International](#) to obtain a CoE for your new course

### Supporting Documents

Curtin University is required to keep a record of the circumstances that led to you needing to extend your student visa. You must include the following supporting documents with your request for a new CoE:

1. **A revised study plan** – You will need to meet with your Course Coordinator and request a new study plan showing your unit enrolments for the extension period. **You must wait until after results have been released before requesting a new study plan.** Remember that at Curtin University a full time study load for international students is 100 credits per semester or 75 credits per trimester.
2. **Medical Certificates** - if a mental or physical health issue interrupted your studies, you must provide a Professional Practitioner Certificate completed by your doctor. You can get a copy of the form here: <https://students.curtin.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2020/02/Professional-Practitioner-Certificate.pdf>.
3. **Personal Statements** – you can also provide a personal statement to explain compassionate or compelling circumstances which interrupted your studies. This can include issues faced by your family members or close relatives. Remember to provide evidence to support your claims. This can include medical certificates, death certificates or police reports.
4. **Other documents** – when processing your new CoE request, we may ask you to provide extra documents or evidence. For example we may request new evidence of financial capacity including new sponsorship or scholarship letters.

### Step three: Submitting your visa application

You can submit a visa application once you receive your COE. See the [Student Visas page](#) for instructions on how to apply. After you apply, check your email regularly for correspondence from the DHA regarding your application status.

### Please note:

1. Medical examinations may not always be required for new student visa applications. For this reason, we recommend you submit your student visa application, then check the "Health Assessment" tab in ImmiAccount to confirm if a medical examination is required. Instructions for the medical questionnaire and organising a health examination can be found on the DHA website.
2. **Applying while in Australia** - If you hold a current student visa when you apply for a new student visa, you'll be able to stay in Australia for as long as it takes to process your new visa application. When you pay for your new visa, you'll receive an acknowledgment letter and a Bridging visa A (subclass 010) (BVA). Your BVA will only become active when your previous student visa has expired, and if your new visa application has not yet been processed. If you hold a BVA and need to leave the country temporarily, you must apply for Bridging visa B (subclass 020) before departing the Australia.
3. **Applying from outside Australia** - If you don't have an existing visa and you are applying from overseas, you must wait until your new student visa is granted before returning to Australia. Plan ahead and factor potential processing delays into your intended return date.
4. **No Further Stay Condition** - Before applying for a new visa, check whether you have a 'No Further Stay' condition (Student Visa Conditions 8534 or 8535) on your current visa. This prohibits you from applying for any further visas while you are in Australia.