



Deakin Student
Legal Service

COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions

Below are some FAQs that provide general information accurate as on 16.04.2020, and is not intended to be relied on as immigration advice. No one should act based on the information provided in this FAQ without first obtaining immigration advice that is relevant to your personal circumstances. Deakin University students can do that by making an appointment with the legal service – please visit <http://www.eclc.org.au/deakin>.

Can I under enrol/study part time without breaching a visa condition? - Yes. The Department of Home Affairs does not regulate mode or load of study requirement – as long as the provider monitors your progress and arrange to under-enrol/study part-time, and you are able to maintain your enrolment, you are not in a breach of a visa condition. Please discuss your situation with Deakin University.

I want to go to my home country and study online more than one third of my study, will this affect my Student Visa? – The Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) and the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) is flexible and students can study online either in Australia or offshore. For their statement, please click [here](#). Provider has to assess student’s situation on case-by-case basis. If you believe, you need to leave Australia and study online, please discuss your situation with Deakin University. However, please be mindful about current travel ban as you may not be able to come back in T2. In addition, total time you spent outside Australia while studying might affect your eligibility to apply for Temporary Graduate Visa in the future.

Can I work more than 40 hours? – International students should continue to comply with all student visa conditions. However, the Department of Home Affairs has temporarily relaxed 40 hour per fortnight work restriction for some sectors;

- International students who are employed in major supermarkets to help shelving. Only employers who are registered with the Department of Home Affairs can give access to more than 40 hours – please see list of employers who are registered [here](#). This will return to normal 40 hours per fortnight limit on **01st of May 2020**.
- International student who are employed in aged care sector.
- International students who are enrolled in nursing.

These relaxations are only applicable for **existing** employees.

My student visa is expiring soon and I cannot go to my home country due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, what are my options to remain in Australia? – If your student visa is expiring and cannot leave Australia due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, you must apply for a suitable visa. If you have not completed your current course, you have to apply for a new Student Visa to remain in Australia to complete your course. If you have completed your course but cannot leave Australia,

you can apply for a Visitor Visa to remain in Australia. For more information on Visitor Visas, please see [here](#).

My student visa is expiring soon and I have completed my course, can I apply for a work visa? – If you have completed an eligible course and you meet requirements, you may be eligible to apply for Temporary Graduate (Subclass 485) Visa that gives you full work rights.

Also, if you are not eligible to apply for Temporary Graduate (Subclass 485) Visa, but work in a critical area for COVID-19 (such as healthcare, disability and aged care, childcare and agriculture), you may be eligible to apply for Temporary Activity (Subclass 408) Visa. For more information, please see [here](#).

For more information:

Deakin University FAQ: <https://blogs.deakin.edu.au/deakinlife/2020/02/03/deakins-coronavirus-faq-international-students-2/>

Department of Home Affairs - <https://covid19.homeaffairs.gov.au/>