

TEMPORARY RESIDENTS PROGRAM

Fact sheet – Education fee

In NSW, most temporary resident students pay the temporary resident administration fee and education fee to enrol in a government school. The fee is generally calculated using the visa subclass held by the student. For details refer to the [Visa subclasses and enrolment conditions](#) document on our website.

What the education fee covers

The temporary resident education fee is a partial contribution to the cost of educating a student in the NSW government school system. The education fee includes most tuition costs and access to student support services. The Temporary Residents Program education fee includes:

- access to the [NSW Education Standards Authority](#) curriculum across all key learning areas
- textbook hire (where hire is available)
- student welfare and counselling services
- intensive English as an Additional Language/Dialect (EAL/D) support for eligible visa holders
- access to TAFE subjects if eligible and within the curriculum requirements.

What the education fee does not cover

The Temporary Residents Program education fee does not cover:

- the cost of school excursions
- provision of school uniforms
- student medical expenses
- workbook or textbook purchases
- additional fees which may be payable for certain subjects or optional extension activities in sport or other disciplines
- subsidised travel under the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS). For more details on the School Student Transport Scheme contact [Transport for NSW](#).

Temporary resident student

The education fee for a temporary resident student is determined by the visa subclass held by the student. The education fee may be paid annually in advance (representing 40 school weeks) or half-yearly in advance (representing 20 school weeks). The education fee is charged on a whole week basis. If for any reason a student only attends school for a part week, the whole week rate is charged.

Administration fee

In 2020 / 2021, a non-refundable administration fee of \$120 is payable on initial enrolment for each fee liable student.

Education fee

Refer to Table 1 for the 2020 / 2021 education fee for the one-year enrolment of a temporary resident student (excludes visitor visa and a dependant of an international student). All fees are in Australian dollars.

Table 1

School year	2020 & 2021 education fee for one year (40 school weeks)
Primary school (years KG-6)	\$5,600
Junior high school (years 7-10)	\$5,600
Senior high school (years 11-12)	\$6,400

Dependant of an international student

The education fee for a dependant of an international student is determined by the visa subclass held by the dependant student and the education sector where the primary visa holder (parent) is studying.

The education fee may be paid annually in advance (representing 40 school weeks) or half-yearly in advance (representing 20 school weeks). The education fee is charged on a whole week basis. If for any reason a student only attends school for a part week, the whole week rate is charged.

Administration fee

In 2020 / 2021, a non-refundable administration fee of \$120 is payable on initial enrolment for each fee liable student.

Education fee

Refer to Table 2 for the 2020 / 2021 education fee for a dependant of an international student. All fees are in Australian dollars.

Table 2

Visa subclass	Education sector the primary visa holder (parent) is studying	2020 / 2021 education fee for one year (40 school weeks)		
		Primary (years KG-6)	Junior high (years 7-10)	Senior high (years 11-12)
500 or 570	Independent ELICOS	\$9,800	\$10,800	\$12,000
500 or 572	VET sector	\$9,800	\$10,800	\$12,000
500 or 575	Non-Award sector	\$9,800	\$10,800	\$12,000
500 or 570 or 572	TAFE NSW (CRICOS Code 00591E) is the parent's current course provider	\$6,600	\$6,600	\$7,600
500 or 573	Higher education	\$6,600	\$6,600	\$7,600
500 or 574	Postgraduate Masters. Postgraduate Doctorate studying in a non-NSW university. A recipient of a scholarship that includes school fees for dependants.	\$6,600	\$6,600	\$7,600
500 or 574	Postgraduate Doctorate studying in a NSW main campus university (excludes recipients of a scholarship that include school fees for dependants).	\$120 administration fee payable. Exempt from education fee.		
500 or 576	Foreign Affairs or Defence sector	Exempt from administration fee. Exempt from education fee.		

Visitor visa student

A visitor visa student is restricted to a maximum of 3 months study (13 school weeks) for the duration of their visa (Department of Home Affairs visa condition 8201). The education fee is charged on a whole week basis. If for any reason a student only attends school for a part week, the whole week rate is charged.

Administration fee

In 2020 / 2021, a non-refundable administration fee of \$120 is payable on initial enrolment for each fee liable student.

Education fee

Refer to Table 3 for the 2019 and 2020 / 2021 education fee for a visitor visa student. All fees are in Australian dollars and are non-refundable.

Table 3

School year	2020 & 2021 education fee for one week
Primary school (years KG-6)	\$335
Junior high school (years 7-10)	\$370
Senior high school (years 11-12)	\$415

Bridging visa student

A student holding a bridging visa is required to pay the temporary resident administration fee and education fee. The fee conditions for a student holding a bridging visa are determined according to the conditions of the immediate previous substantive visa and the visa applied for.

Setting the education fee

Under section 31A (1) and (2) of the *Education Act 1990*, fees for various visa categories are set and approved by the Secretary of the NSW Department of Education.

The NSW Department of Education reserves the right to vary fees. A student is required to pay the adjusted fee from the date of variation. The education fee is charged at the rate applicable to the academic year indicated by the school, Intensive English Language Centre or Intensive English Language High School but may change as a student moves to the next academic year fee band.

Voluntary school contributions

NSW government schools may request voluntary school contributions and charge additional fees for certain subjects or optional extension activities. Voluntary school contributions apply to all students, including those who pay the Temporary Residents Program education fee.

Making payment

For initial enrolments, make payment in Australian dollars by credit card (Visa Card or Mastercard), bank cheque, bank draft or Australia Post money order. Bank cheques, bank draft or postal money orders are made payable to *NSW Department of Education*. Cash, personal cheques and company cheques are not accepted. Upon request, the Temporary Residents Program will issue an official receipt of payment.

Payment methods using BPay, internet and telephone banking are made available for ongoing enrolments. Do not make payment into a third-party account. The NSW Department of Education accepts no responsibility for payment made to an agent or a third-party account.

Exemption from the education fee

Some visa subclasses are exempt from the Temporary Residents Program education fee. For details refer to the [Visa subclasses and enrolment conditions](#) document on our website.

Exemption for specific circumstances

Temporary resident students in the following specific circumstances are exempt from the education fee, however, are liable for the administration fee.

- Dependants of international students who hold visa subclass 500 or 574, and the principal visa holder is undertaking a Postgraduate Doctorate course (as per their *Confirmation of Enrolment*), the course provider is a New South Wales main campus university, and the principal visa holder is not a recipient of a scholarship that includes school fees for dependant children.
- Dependants of international students who have a full scholarship from a publicly funded Australian university.

Exemption for specific circumstances

Temporary resident students in the following specific circumstances are exempt from the administration fee and education fee.

- Dependants of international students who have a full scholarship from the Australian Government or who are sponsored by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade or the Department of Defence.
- Exchange students who enrol in NSW government schools through organisations that manage student exchange programs and are registered with the NSW Department of Education.
- Dependants of teachers on exchange programs organised by the NSW Department of Education or in agreements or memoranda of understanding recognised by the department.
- Temporary residents enrolled in a NSW government hospital school and receiving in-patient care.
- Temporary resident students with links to an Australian citizen or permanent resident by birth, marriage or adoption, who have applied for permanent residency and do not hold, or have applied for, a dependant student visa. For details refer to the [Link to an Australian Citizen or Permanent Resident](#) fact sheet on our website.
- Temporary resident students with links to an Australian citizen or permanent resident by a de facto relationship, who have applied for permanent residency under family stream migration and do not hold, or have applied for, a dependant student visa. For details refer to the [Link to an Australian Citizen or Permanent Resident](#) fact sheet on our website.
- Students who are holders of an ImmiCard issued by the Department of Home Affairs.

Exemption based on low income

The Exemption Review Panel considers individual appeals for exemption from the education fee. The Exemption Review Panel provides assistance to low income families. Appeals for exemption based on low income must be made in writing using the [Application for fee exemption based on low income](#) form on our website. All applications are considered on a case-by-case basis. The use of disposable income, the payment of Australian income tax or the purpose for which the visa was issued are not criteria considered by the Exemption Review Panel.

The [Visa subclasses and enrolment conditions](#) document on our website lists the eligibility of each visa subclass to apply for a fee exemption based on low income.

Application for refund of the education fee

A student may be entitled to a pro-rata refund of the education fee if their visa category changes to a fee exempt category, the visa is cancelled, the application to enrol is rejected, or the student leaves the school before the expiry of their paid period of enrolment.

The refund will amount to the balance of education fee from the date of the change of visa status or the entire education fee amount if the initial application is rejected. Any change of visa status must be confirmed by documentation from the Department of Home Affairs.

Under risk management policy, where the education fee is paid by credit card in advance, the NSW Department of Education reserves the right to process a refund back to the same credit card.

A holder of a visitor visa or other short-term visa with visa condition 8201 (maximum 3 months study) is not entitled to a refund of the education fee.

If a student cancels the application for enrolment in a NSW government school, any unused education fee is refunded in accordance with our refund policy. If a student will cease enrolment, at least one week notice must be given to the Temporary Residents Program by the parent or guardian.

The *Application for refund of the Temporary Residents Program education fee* is available on our website or by contacting the Temporary Residents Program.

Need more information

To find out more about the Temporary Residents Program, please visit deinternational.nsw.edu.au/trp or call our Customer Service Team on 1300 300 229 (then option 1).