

TEMPORARY RESIDENTS PROGRAM

Fact sheet: Tuition fee

Contents

This fact sheet contains information about the tuition fee structure for temporary residents enrolling in NSW government schools. Topics include:

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Introduction

In NSW, most temporary resident students pay the temporary resident application fee and tuition 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.

Setting the tuition 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 tuition 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.

What the tuition fee covers

The temporary resident tuition fee is a partial contribution to the cost of educating a student in the NSW government school system. The fee includes most tuition costs and access to student support services. The Temporary Residents Program tuition 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 tuition fee does not cover

The Temporary Residents Program tuition 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](#).

Bridging visa student fee structure

A student holding a bridging visa is required to pay the temporary resident application fee and tuition fee. The bridging visa fee type base is the temporary resident rate applicable in Table 1.

The bridging visa fee type becomes student dependant rate applicable in Table 2a/2b where the immediate previous substantive visa held by the student is a dependant student visa.

The bridging visa fee type becomes visitor rate applicable in Table 3 where the immediate previous substantive visa held by the student is a visitor visa or international student visa (500P School Sector).

Temporary resident student fee structure

The tuition fee for a temporary resident student is determined by the visa subclass held by the student. The tuition 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.

Application fee

A non-refundable application fee of \$120 is payable on new applications lodged in 2024. A non-refundable application fee of \$150 is payable on new applications lodged in 2025.

Tuition fee

Refer to Table 1 for the 2024 and 2025 tuition fee for a 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	2024 school year Annual tuition fee (40 school weeks)	2025 school year Annual tuition fee (40 school weeks)
Primary school (years KG-6)	\$6,000	\$6,200
Junior high school (years 7-10)	\$6,000	\$6,200
Senior high school (years 11-12)	\$7,000	\$7,400

Invoice arrangements

- Temporary resident students are invoiced by the [NSW school term](#).
- Temporary resident students are not charged for the NSW school holiday periods.
- Weekly, fortnightly, or monthly invoice options are not available.

Dependant of an international student (visa subclass 500) fee structure

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

Application fee for 2024

A non-refundable application fee of \$120 is payable on new applications lodged in 2024.

Tuition fee for 2024

Refer to Table 2a for the 2024 tuition fee for a one-year enrolment of a dependant of an international student. All fees are in Australian dollars.

Table 2a

Visa subclass	Education sector the primary visa holder (parent) is studying	2024 school year Annual tuition fee (40 school weeks)		
		Primary (years KG-6)	Junior high (years 7-10)	Senior high (years 11-12)
500	Parent CoE is Independent ELICOS	\$10,400	\$11,600	\$13,000
500	Parent CoE is VET sector	\$10,400	\$11,600	\$13,000
500	Parent CoE is Non-Award sector	\$10,400	\$11,600	\$13,000
500	Parent CoE course provider is TAFE NSW (CRICOS Code 00591E)	\$7,200	\$7,200	\$8,400
500	Parent CoE is Higher Education	\$7,200	\$7,200	\$8,400
500	Parent CoE is Postgraduate Masters	\$7,200	\$7,200	\$8,400
500	Postgraduate Doctorate standard rate, or where parent CoE is Postgraduate Doctorate studying in a non-NSW main campus university, or is receiving a scholarship that includes dependant school fees	\$7,200	\$7,200	\$8,400
500	Parent CoE is Postgraduate Doctorate studying in a NSW main campus university and not receiving scholarship that includes dependant school fees	\$120 application fee payable and exempt from tuition fee. The tuition fee exemption does not apply to future bridging visas		
500	Parent CoE is Foreign Affairs or Defence sector	\$120 application fee payable and exempt from tuition fee. The tuition fee exemption does not apply to future bridging visas		

Invoice arrangements

- Dependants of international students who are liable for a tuition fee, and require a Confirmation of Placement, are invoiced half-yearly (representing 20 school weeks) for the initial invoice.
- Dependants of international students are invoiced by the NSW school term for subsequent invoices.
- Dependants of international students are not charged for the NSW school holiday periods.
- Weekly, fortnightly, or monthly invoice options are not available.

Application fee for 2025

A non-refundable application fee of \$150 is payable on new applications lodged in 2025.

Tuition fee for 2025

Refer to Table 2b for the 2025 tuition fee for a one-year enrolment of a dependant of an international student. All fees are in Australian dollars.

Table 2b

Visa subclass	Education sector the primary visa holder (parent) is studying	2025 school year Annual tuition fee (40 school weeks)		
		Primary (years KG-6)	Junior high (years 7-10)	Senior high (years 11-12)
500	Parent CoE is Independent ELICOS	\$10,800	\$12,200	\$13,800
500	Parent CoE is VET sector	\$10,800	\$12,200	\$13,800
500	Parent CoE is Non-Award sector	\$10,800	\$12,200	\$13,800
500	Parent CoE course provider is TAFE NSW (CRICOS Code 00591E)	\$7,600	\$7,600	\$8,800
500	Parent CoE is Higher Education	\$7,600	\$7,600	\$8,800
500	Parent CoE is Postgraduate Masters	\$7,600	\$7,600	\$8,800
500	Postgraduate Doctorate standard rate, or where parent CoE is Postgraduate Doctorate studying in a non-NSW main campus university, or is receiving a scholarship that includes dependant school fees	\$7,600	\$7,600	\$8,800
500	Parent CoE is Postgraduate Doctorate studying in a NSW main campus university and not receiving scholarship that includes dependant school fees	\$150 application fee payable and exempt from tuition fee. The tuition fee exemption does not apply to future bridging visas		
500	Parent CoE is Foreign Affairs or Defence sector	\$150 application fee payable and exempt from tuition fee. The tuition fee exemption does not apply to future bridging visas		

Invoice arrangements

- Dependants of international students who are liable for a tuition fee, and require a Confirmation of Placement, are invoiced half-yearly (representing 20 school weeks) for the initial invoice.
- Dependants of international students are invoiced by the NSW school term for subsequent invoices.
- Dependants of international students are not charged for the NSW school holiday periods.
- Weekly, fortnightly, or monthly invoice options are not available.

Visitor visa student fee structure

A visitor visa student is restricted to a maximum of 3 months study (13 school weeks) for the duration of their visa. This is a visa condition set by the Department of Home Affairs (condition 8201). The tuition 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.

Application fee

A non-refundable application fee of \$120 is payable on new applications lodged in 2024. A non-refundable application fee of \$150 is payable on new applications lodged in 2025.

Tuition fee

Refer to Table 3 for the 2024 and 2025 tuition fee for a visitor visa student. All fees are in Australian dollars and are non-refundable.

Table 3

Visa subclass	School year	2024 enrolment Tuition fee for one school week	2025 enrolment Tuition fee for one school week
600, 601, 651	Primary school (years KG-6)	\$375	\$390
600, 601, 651	Junior high school (years 7-10)	\$400	\$415
600, 601, 651	Senior high school (years 11-12)	\$460	\$475

Invoice arrangements

- Visitor visa students may nominate a maximum of 13 school weeks for their enrolment invoice.
- Visitor visa students are not charged for the NSW school holiday periods.
- Weekly, fortnightly, or monthly invoice options are not available.

Making payment to the Temporary Residents Program

The Temporary Residents Program will issue an invoice to fee-liable applications. Payment methods are explained on the invoice and a receipt will be issued automatically after your payment is received. The NSW Department of Education recommends you do not make a payment to any third-party account. The NSW Department of Education accepts no responsibility for payment you make to an agent or a third-party account.

Additional 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 Australian citizens, permanent residents, temporary residents, and those who pay the Temporary Residents Program tuition fee.

Exemption from the tuition fee

Some visa subclasses are exempt from the Temporary Residents Program tuition 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 tuition fee, however, are liable for the application fee.

- Dependants of international students who hold visa subclass 500, and the principal visa holder is undertaking a postgraduate doctorate course (as per their *Confirmation of Enrolment*), and the course provider is a NSW 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 the Australian Government or who are sponsored by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade or the Department of Defence.
- Dependants of international students who have a full scholarship from a publicly funded New South Wales main campus university.
- Dependants of eligible teachers employed by the NSW Department of Education through the NSW Teacher Talent Pool Pathway.
- 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 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 subclass 500 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 subclass 500 visa. For details refer to the [Link to an Australian Citizen or Permanent Resident](#) fact sheet on our website.
- Temporary resident students who hold visa subclass 482, and reside in an eligible NSW region, and attend an eligible regional NSW government school. For details refer to the [482 visa regional exemption](#) fact sheet on our website.

Exemption for specific circumstances

Temporary resident students in the following specific circumstances are exempt from the application fee and tuition fee.

- Temporary residents enrolled in a NSW government hospital school and receiving in-patient care.
- 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 tuition 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.

Tuition fee during periods of learning from home

On occasions where students learn from home, schools will teach online through a virtual platform with materials supplied electronically or in hard copy. The temporary resident tuition fee continues to apply during periods of learning from home if the student remains enrolled in the NSW government school system. NSW government schools are operational, and teachers continue to educate students where online learning platforms are deemed necessary or mandated. Discounts and fee reductions are not available during periods of online learning.

Application for refund of the tuition fee

A student may be entitled to a pro-rata refund of the tuition 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 end of their paid period of enrolment.

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

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 tuition fee.

If a student cancels the application for enrolment in a NSW government school, any unused tuition 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 tuition 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).