

International Student Emergency Relief Fund – eligibility updates (27 August 2020)

The Victorian Government's International Student Emergency Relief Fund offers a one-off payment of up to \$1,100 to eligible students who are experiencing financial hardship due to lost work during the pandemic.

The eligibility criteria have recently been changed so more students can access the Fund.

Updated eligibility criteria

Are you on a bridging visa and waiting for your student visa?

You can now apply for the Fund if you hold a bridging visa with a student visa application in process and meet the other eligibility criteria. You must also meet the other eligibility criteria.

Were you enrolled by 31 March 2020?

The enrolment cut-off date changed so more students can access the Fund. Your Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE) document must show you were enrolled at 31 March 2020. You must also meet the other eligibility criteria.

Did you start working after March 2020 and subsequently lost work or wages?

You may be eligible if you can show that you worked in Victoria any time between March and July 2020, and are experiencing financial hardship due to lost work. You must also meet the other eligibility criteria.

To be eligible to apply for the Fund you must meet all eligibility criteria, and show that:

1. You were enrolled in an eligible private tertiary education provider in Victoria at 31 March 2020.
2. You have a current student or bridging visa (with a student visa application in process).
3. You are currently located in Victoria, Australia.
4. You were employed in Victoria any time between March and July 2020, are in financial hardship due to lost work, and don't have other financial support.

Read the detailed [Eligibility criteria \(Stream Two\)](#).

Do you need help with your application?

- Learn how to apply in the [Application Guide](#)
- Check the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) and [translated forms](#)
- See the [tips for subcontractors and self-employed students](#)
- Or call Study Melbourne on 1800 056 449. They can organise an interpreter.

More support for international students in Victoria

Find more support from the Victorian Government on Study Melbourne's coronavirus (COVID-19) support hub:

- [utility relief grants](#), for help paying overdue bills
- [rent relief grants](#), if you're having trouble paying your rent
- the [Working for Victoria](#) initiative, to help you find new work
- a [directory of community support services](#), including food support, in your area
- free and confidential [mental health and wellbeing](#) support
- free [legal advice](#) for accommodation and work issues.

Get the latest health advice and resources from the Victorian Government:

- [how to stay safe and well](#)
- [current restrictions](#)
- [free coronavirus \(COVID-19\) testing](#)
- [when to wear a face mask](#)
- [translated information](#)
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Test Isolation and Worker Support Payments](#)
- [looking after your mental wellbeing](#).

[Stay connected with Study Melbourne](#) for more opportunities for international students in Victoria.