



# Student Guardian visa (Subclass 590)

## Application Checklist (Thailand and Laos)

### Who should apply for a Student Guardian visa?

This visa allows you to stay in Australia as the guardian of an international student younger than 18 years of age studying in Australia on a student visa.

You must be the student's parent, legal guardian or relative, have enough money to support yourself and the student during your stay, be able to provide accommodation and other support, and be at least 21 years of age.

Not everyone can be a student guardian. Student guardians must be of good character and be a relative. A relative is defined as a parent, spouse, de facto partner, a child, brother or sister of the applicant, step-child, step-parent, step-brother or step-sister of the applicant, grandparent, grandchild, aunt, uncle, niece or nephew, or a step-grandparent, step-grandchild, step-aunt, step-uncle, step-niece or step-nephew of the applicant.

See: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/student-590>

### I am taking my family with me; can they be included in my application?

You cannot include family members in your application.

Children six years old or older can come with you but they must apply for their own student visa.

You can only include children under six years old if either:

- there are compelling **and** compassionate reasons,
- the granting of the visa would significantly benefit the relationship between the Australian government and the government of another country. If this is the case, you must be at least 21 and the student must be supported in writing by a parent or person who has custody.

The child must meet the same health requirements as you and have health insurance for the duration of their stay in Australia.

### What can I do as the holder of a Student guardian visa?

This visa is primarily for someone to come to Australia to provide care and support for a student visa holder. You can provide care for more than one student.

The visa lets you:

- stay in Australia for as long as the student stays or up until the student turns 18 years of age
- study an English Language Intensive Course for Overseas Students (ELICOS) for less than 20 hours per week
- study another course for up to three months.

This visa does not generally allow you to work.

## How do I lodge my application?

Student Guardian visas must be lodged online through ImmiAccount, which you can access via <https://online.immi.gov.au/lusc/login>.

If you lodge your application online through [ImmiAccount](#), you **must** upload all supporting documents into the system **at the time** of lodgement.

## Biometrics collection

Most applicants lodging visa applications in Thailand, regardless of nationality, need to attend in person to provide their biometrics (fingerprints and a digital facial photograph) as part of the visa application process. The collection of biometrics is conducted at an AVAC in Bangkok or Chiang Mai. Please take your original passport with you. For further information on biometrics, see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/biometrics>.

Bangkok	Chiang Mai
The Trendy Office Building 28th floor, Sukhumvit Soi 13, Klongtoey-Nua, Wattana, Bangkok 10110 (NANA BTS station, exit 3)	Siriphanich, 191 Huaykaew Road, Suthep, Muang, Chiang Mai (opposite MAYA Lifestyle Shopping Centre)
Telephone: 02 118 7100 Email: <a href="mailto:info.auth@vfishelpline.com">info.auth@vfishelpline.com</a>	Telephone: 02 118 7100 Email: <a href="mailto:info.auth@vfishelpline.com">info.auth@vfishelpline.com</a>
Further information on the Australia Visa Application Centres in Thailand, please see: <a href="http://www.vfsglobal.com/Australia/Thailand">www.vfsglobal.com/Australia/Thailand</a>	

## How much will this visa cost?

There is a charge for this application. This will not be refunded if your application is unsuccessful, or if you decide to withdraw your application after you have lodged it.

VFS Global will charge fees for biometrics collection in addition to the scheduled fee charged by the Australian Government for visa applications.

For Australian Government fees, see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/visa-pricing-estimator>

For VFS Global fees, see: [www.vfsglobal.com/Australia/Thailand](http://www.vfsglobal.com/Australia/Thailand)

## How long will it take?

Global visa and citizenship processing times will be updated monthly, providing you with an indicative timeframe for processing applications. Processing times are impacted each month by changes in application volumes, seasonal peaks, complex cases, and incomplete applications. Processing times include applications lodged online and by paper.

For current processing times, please visit: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-processing-times/global-visa-processing-times>

Please note that we are unable to provide any updates on the progress of your application if it is within the global processing time.

Do not make arrangements to travel to Australia until you are advised in writing that you have been granted a visa. We are unable to expedite visa applications on the grounds of pre-booked travel commitments.

## Should I provide original documents?

Do not provide original documents unless specifically requested. You should provide 'certified copies' of original documentation. Documents not in English must be accompanied by accredited English translations. 'Certified copies' are copies authorised, or stamped as being true copies of originals, by a person or agency recognised by the law of the country in which you currently reside.

For further information on certifying translating documents see: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/on-paper/certified-copy>

## What if my circumstances change after I lodge my visa?

If there are any changes in your circumstances following lodgement of your application, you are obliged to inform us about them. You may use Form 1022 Notification of Changes in Circumstances for this purpose.

## What will help me get my application processed faster?

You should ensure you lodge a complete application with all relevant information and supporting documents.

A decision on your application may be made without further requests for information.

**Note:** the Visa Application Charge (and any other associated service fees) will not be refunded if a decision is made to refuse to grant the visa because you did not satisfy the criteria for grant of the visa.

## Do I need to have a health examination?

The Department uses an online health system to record your health examination results and conduct your health assessment. Generally, medical examinations can be conducted only after a visa application has been validly lodged. After the application is lodged, the case officer will provide you with a "Health Assessment" letter (by email, mail or fax). The Panel Physician will need to see this letter as part of the medical examination process and you should take the letter with you when you go to the Panel Physician for your examination.

Medical examinations must be undertaken by a doctor from a list of approved doctors provided by the Department of Home Affairs. A list of these doctors is on the Department's website:

<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/contact-us/offices-and-locations/list>

## Do I need to provide police clearances?

You may be requested to provide police clearances, depending on your circumstances. If requested, applicants need to provide police clearance certificate(s) from every country the applicants (if aged 16 years and over) have resided in for a total of 12 months or more during the last 10 years. For instructions on obtaining a certificate from an overseas government or law enforcement authority, refer to the relevant country information on our website: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/contact-us/offices-and-locations/list>.

If you are required to provide an Australian police clearance certificate, you must complete the Australian Federal Police (AFP) National Police Check application form which is available at the AFP National Police Checks page on the AFP website: <https://www.afp.gov.au/what-we-do/services/criminal-records/national-police-checks>.

## About your visa

We electronically record all visas issued to non-citizens providing them permission to travel, enter and/or remain in Australia. The Australian Government does not provide visa labels.

When you receive your Australian visa you are emailed a visa grant notification letter that explains the conditions of your visa including period of validity and entry requirements. You should retain this for your own reference and may wish to carry it with you when you travel as it contains important information about your visa. The information contained within the visa grant notification letter will help you check your visa details online using the Department's Visa Entitlement Verification Online service, known as VEVO.

## Can I ask another person to deal with the Department on my behalf?

Australian privacy law prevents the Department from responding to enquiries from people not authorised by the visa applicant. This includes the person providing support to the application. If you want to authorise another person to be able to discuss your application with this office, or receive correspondence about your application, you must do so in writing. If you have not advised of an authorised recipient appointment in your visa application form you can:

- Submit a completed Form 956 or 956A which **must be** signed by the both applicant and authorised person, or,
- Advise the Department in writing (for example, by email or letter) and include the name and address of the authorised recipient.

For further information on appointment an authorised recipient visit: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/who-can-help-with-your-application/overview>.

For more information on appointing a Migration Agent visit: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/who-can-help-with-your-application/using-a-migration-agent>

## Application Document Checklist

You must provide all relevant documents when you apply. Some documents could take time to obtain. You should have them ready and submit them when you apply. We can make a decision using the information you provide when you lodge your application. It is in your interest to provide as much information as possible with your application.

This application document checklist details the information and supporting documents (personal, health and character) required to assist with the lodgement of a complete application.

You may also need to provide additional information if the Department requests it.

You should submit (upload) additional documentation online via your ImmiAccount. To attach documents to your application, please login to your ImmiAccount, find the application details page and click on the Attach Document button on the right hand side of the screen. **The maximum size for each file you attach is 5MB.** Additional information regarding the attachment process can be found here: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/applying-online-or-on-paper/online>

### Checklist

- Complete the online form – completed in English.
- A completed Form 157N Student guardianship arrangements,
- A non-refundable visa application charge paid [online](#). See detail under 'Visa Application Charge (VAC)' above.
- Photograph: one recent passport size photo of you and any dependent applicants.
- Passport: scan of all passport pages for each person included in the application; valid for the period of your stay in Australia, or for a minimum of 6 months.
- National Identification card and House Registration Certificate / Birth certificate.
- Evidence of relationship between you and the student visa holder (eg birth certificate).
- Military discharge papers (if applicable).
- Evidence that you intend to stay in Australia temporarily.

### Health/Insurance requirements

- Medical and x-ray examination results for yourself and each family member planning to accompany you to Australia.
- Evidence you have adequate Health Insurance (OVHC) for your first 12 months of stay or entire course duration if less than 12 months in Australia.

**If you are bringing dependent children - evidence of health insurance for their first 12 months of stay or entire course duration if less than 12 months**

### Financial capacity requirements

All applicants for a Student Guardian visa must have enough money that is genuinely available to them, to support them, the student and any children coming with them, for the duration of their stay in Australia.

You must show evidence of financial capacity by providing one of the following:

- Evidence of funds to cover travel costs and ' living costs for the first 12 months of stay or entire course duration if less than 12 months for yourself, the student and other children coming with you,
- Evidence that your spouse (who is not travelling to Australia) will support you and your dependents and has an annual income of at least AUD70,000.

If the grant of the visa will significantly benefit the relationship between Australia and the government of your home country, you only need to show evidence of funds for yourself and dependents, not the student.

Please see <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/student-590> for more information.

## Genuine access to funds

You and your accompanying family members must demonstrate that you will have genuine access to the funds while you are in Australia.

When considering whether the funds shown will be genuinely available, we will take into account factors including:

- When another person or business is providing the funds, show evidence of the relationship and any history of financial support provided to the student or any other students. It is also good practice to provide identity documents for the person providing the funds or evidence that the business is currently operating.
- If relying on a money deposit, any recent large deposits must be explained. You may also consider explaining ongoing deposits – like wages.
- If you have an education loan to cover tuition fees or living expenses (such as accommodation) disbursement should occur according to the agreement between the bank, provider and yourself. Evidence of any disbursement which occurs before the visa application has been finalised, should be provided. Evidence of the terms of the loan and the full amount of the loan that will be disbursed should be attached.

For more information on the financial capacity requirements, please see our main website:

<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/student-590>

## Bringing Children

- Form 1229 to be completed by both parents (or persons with parental responsibility), with evidence of their signatures (ie bio-data pages of passport or other document containing evidence of their signature).
- If Form 1229 cannot be signed by both parents (or persons with parental responsibility), the following should be included:
  - Evidence of sole custody, or permission from the relevant court authority permitting removal of the child from Thailand or Laos for example:
    - A court order from Thailand or Laos permitting the removal of the child, or
    - A Por Kor 14 covering the custodial circumstances of the applicant, or
    - Death certificate, or
    - Divorce certificate with memorandum covering the custodial circumstances of the applicant.

**Department of Home Affairs**

**Australian Embassy, Bangkok**

**[www.thailand.embassy.gov.au](http://www.thailand.embassy.gov.au)**