



## Genuine Temporary Entrant Guidelines for QUT representatives

This document is intended to provide guidance to QUT representatives with regards to prospective international students intending to obtain an Australian student visa. These guidelines will help you to consider whether the students are likely to satisfy the Department of Home Affairs Genuine Temporary Entrant (GTE) requirements.

### What are the Genuine Temporary Entrant requirements?

To satisfy the Genuine Temporary Entrant requirements, the applicant's individual circumstances must demonstrate that they genuinely intend to stay in Australia temporarily for the purpose of study. The factors that are considered during assessment of the Genuine Temporary Entrant requirement include:

- their personal circumstances in their home country;
- their potential circumstances in Australia;
- the value of the program to their future;
- their immigration history;
- their English proficiency level, and;
- any other matter that is relevant to their intention to remain in Australia temporarily.

The information provided in their application and supporting documentation will be used by QUT to assess whether they are a genuine student. They may be requested to provide additional information in relation to the factors set out above. For further information please refer to [Department of Home Affairs](#)

### How does QUT assess whether the applicant may be a Genuine Temporary Entrant?

QUT considers all of the information provided with their application, which constitute a 'whole of person' assessment. This means QUT considers a range of factors that can put the applicant at risk of being rejected for a student visa by Department of Home Affairs due to not meeting their Genuine Temporary Entrant criteria. Where applicants demonstrate risks in one or more of the described factors, it is important that a detailed Statement of Purpose (SOP) is provided by the applicant to clarify or explain how the risk is mitigated. These statements are carefully reviewed as part of the 'whole of person' assessment.

### How should you use this document?

Review the applicant's circumstances with the risk factors described in this document.

If you are satisfied that the applicant is likely to satisfy the GTE requirement, sign and submit the Agent Checklist (AC form) with their application to QUT. Note: All applicants with citizenship from [specified countries](#) requires an Agent Checklist declaration with their application for admission to QUT.

If the applicant demonstrates some risks, however, you are satisfied that the risks are mitigated, ensure that it is explain in the applicant's SOP and where applicable, provide additional information in the Agent Checklist. The supporting information will assist QUT to understand the rationale for your support of the application despite the demonstrated risks. Note: All applicants with citizenship from [specified countries](#) requires a detailed SOP to be submitted with their admission application.

If you deem the applicants to be a high risk of not satisfying the GTE requirements, the application should not be submitted to QUT.

### No guarantee of visa grant

Even if QUT is satisfied that the applicant are likely to be considered a Genuine Temporary Entrant by Department of Home Affairs, that does not mean they are guaranteed to be granted a student visa. If they accept QUT's offer and apply for a visa, Department of Home Affairs will conduct their own assessment of the applicant's visa application, including whether or not they will be a Genuine Temporary Entrant. They may decline a visa application if they have concerns, regardless of the fact that QUT decided to offer the applicant a place.

## Factors considered at risk of not meeting Genuine Temporary Entrant criteria include:

### ***Applicant's personal circumstances***

- **Marital History:** Marriage within the 12 months prior to the current application being assessed are considered of higher risk, especially if the spouse accompanies the applicant to Australia.
- **Dependents:** Having a spouse and/or dependent child(ren) accompany the applicant to Australia. It reduces the applicant's ties to their home country and may serve as an incentive to not return to their home country.
- **Family in home country:** Do they have immediate family such as parents and/or siblings remaining in their home country? It may indicate personal ties to their home country.
- **Employment in home country:** Are they employed in their home country? Do they have a job waiting for them when they return from Australia?
- Applicants from some countries and/or geographical regions within some countries are more likely to have a visa refused for GTE reasons, than other countries or regions. Such information is drawn from Department of Home Affairs intelligence and/or immigration risk rating data. For QUT, applicants from these [specified countries](#) are required to apply via agent representation.

### ***Financial capacity***

Applicants should be able to provide evidence, if required, of having sufficient funds that are genuinely available and equivalent to 12 months of living costs, tuition fees, travel and study costs for themselves and family (where applicable). Any indications of a lack of financial capacity required to pay for their proposed study, such as a (non-merit based) scholarship request, or a request to pay tuition fees by instalments or a previous acceptance of offer without payment, will deem the applicant of higher risk of non-genuineness.

- Does the applicant need to find employment in Australia to fund their studies in Australia?
- What is the relationship between the applicant and the person providing the funds for their studies?
- If their dependent family accompanying them during their period of study in Australia, do they have evidence of sufficient funds to maintain their family members living, travel, school and/or childcare costs?
- Will they require a scholarship to fund their period of study in Australia?

(Note: QUT does not require applicants to submit evidence of sufficient funds with their application, however, expect agents be satisfied the applicants have demonstrated evidence of sufficient financial capacity.)

### ***Immigration and travel history***

- A prior visa (Australian or other countries) rejection means an applicant is at higher risk of non-genuineness.
  - If the applicant have had a previous visa rejection, they must provide evidence from the relevant visa issuing authority about the reason for that rejection.
  - They must provide an explanation about what circumstances have changed that will likely mean their new visa application will be approved.
  - Visa cancellations (Australian or other countries) must also be declared and explanations provided on the reason for the visa cancellation.
- Residence outside of Australia and/or outside their country of citizenship must be explained in the SOP as it indicates a desire to reduce ties to home country.
- Has the applicant previously applied for or currently awaiting decision on an Australian temporary or permanent visa?
- Has the applicant previously applied for a temporary or permanent visa in countries other than Australia?

### ***Choice of study program, education provider and study destination***

- Is the applicant able to establish the *relevance of their proposed study at QUT* and their prior education and/or work history?
- Is their proposed study at QUT at the *same or lower level* of previous/most recent studies? Studying at same or lower level is not normally considered a logical academic progression and requires explanation in applicant's SOP.
- Are they able to demonstrate how their *proposed study benefits their employment prospects and future earning capacity* when they return home?
- English Proficiency – Applicants with demonstrated low levels of English proficiency needing QUT pathways (e.g. EAP or Graduate Certificate in Communication) will have this considered as part of their genuineness assessment.
- Educational Gap – If there is a gap of 1 year or more since the most recent studies, ensure this is explained in the SOP. Unexplained gaps is likely to impact genuineness consideration.
- Do the applicant understand the structure of the intended program of study at QUT?
- Is the applicant able to justify why they have chosen QUT over other Australian universities who offer similar courses?
- Is the applicant eligible for direct entry with other institutions for similar courses but require a Foundation/Diploma pathway with QUT? Why have they chosen a pathway course with QUT over a direct entry course with another institution?
- Does the applicant understand how their Australian study program will improve their employment prospects and the approximate remuneration/salary they are likely to receive after they graduate?
- Why have they chosen to study in Australia instead of other countries?
- Why have they not chosen to study the program in their home country?

### ***Family connections in Australia***

- If the applicant has family or community ties in Australia, the information must be declared on the application form and provide details in the SOP, such as their occupation in Australia, how long have they resided in Australia and the type of visa they hold in Australia.
- Does the applicant intend to apply for residency in Australia after they complete their study program?
- Information which suggests the applicant may have a strong incentive to remain in Australia, after completion of their study program, may impact genuineness consideration.

### ***Other relevant information:***

- Document integrity: Reliable, clear and good quality documentation, and clear photo identification (where provided) is integral to consideration of genuineness.
- Inconsistent names, e.g. Married name, with no evidentiary document supplied, adds to a profile of non-genuineness.