

Visa Requirements - Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC)

It is a requirement of the Australian Government that if you want to study in Australia, you must have a valid Overseas Student Health Care policy. These policies are commonly referred to as OSHC.

The following Health Insurers are approved to provide OSHC:

- Australian Health Management OSHC;
- BUPA Australia;
- Medibank Private;
- Alliance Global Assistance OSHC (formerly OSHC Worldcare)
- NIB

You should apply online noting that the period of insurance must be the same as stated on your visa. When applying, have the following ready:

- Your credit card
- Passport
- Arrival date in Australia
- Name of school in Australia
- Your address in Australia

Send the OSHC letter to the Australian Embassy with your visa application
Send a copy to your Youth Exchange Officer in Australia

Remember the Australian Embassy will not issue a visa if you do not provide evidence of your OSHC.

*** Please note the following students are not required to take out OSHC**

Belgian students

As a result of an agreement between the Australian and Belgian governments, all Belgian students are considered to have met 'adequate insurance' requirements on the basis of the Reciprocal Health Care Agreement between Australia and Belgium. If you are a Belgian student, you will not have to take out OSHC.

Norwegian students

As a result of an agreement between the Australian and Norwegian governments, all Norwegian students are provided with adequate health insurance by the Norwegian government and the compulsory OSHC visa requirement is waived for Norwegian students.

N.B. All medical/hospital claims must be lodged with their Norwegian insurer and cannot be claimed under Medicare. Students are not issued with any Australian Health Care cards.

Swedish students

Swedish students may be waived the compulsory OSHC visa requirement. Swedish students whose insurance is provided by CSN International (the Swedish National Board of Student Aid) or Kammarkollegiet (the Swedish Legal, Financial and Administration Agency) will not need to take out OSHC. If you are a Swedish student who is not covered by CSN or Kammarkollegiet, you will need to take out OSHC.

Upon arrival in Australia, eligible students should report to a Medicare office with a copy of their European Health Card and passport to obtain a Medicare Card.

Students are also reminded that they must have Rotary approved Travel Insurance in addition to OSHC.