

SC8-I: Course Transfer Policy & Procedure International Students

Contents

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|---|---|
| Contents | 1 |
| Purpose | 2 |
| Definitions | 2 |
| Policy | 3 |
| 1. Transferring from another registered provider | 3 |
| 2. Transferring to another registered provider | 3 |
| 3. Transferring to another course offered by Brighton College | 4 |
| 4. Visa advice | 4 |
| 5. Complaints and Appeals | 5 |
| 6. Records | 5 |
| 7. Publication | 5 |
| Procedures | 6 |
| 1. Transfers from another provider | 6 |
| 2. Transfers to another provider | 6 |
| 3. Transfers to another course offered by Brighton College | 7 |
| Document Control | 9 |

SC8-I: Course Transfer Policy & Procedure International Students

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that:

- Brighton College does not enrol transferring students prior to the student completing six months of their principal course of study except for the circumstances outlined in this Policy.
- Brighton College has a policy and process for assessing student applications to:
 - Transfer from Brighton College before completing six months of their principal course
 - Transfer to another course provided by Brighton College.

This ensures compliance with Standard 7 of the National Code of Practice for Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students 2018.

Definitions

DET means Department of Education and Training.

DHA means Department of Home Affairs.

PRISMS means Provider Registration and International Student Management System (PRISMS).

Six months means six calendar months from the date that the student commences their studies.

Course Package means a package of courses included on a student's Visa that usually includes the principle course and any approved pre-requisite courses.

Registered Provider means an Australian education provider approved to offer courses to overseas students, and registered on CRICOS (the Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students).

SC8-I: Course Transfer Policy & Procedure International Students

Policy

- All decisions made by Brighton College with regards to student transfer requests will be made in accordance with this policy and procedure. Brighton College will ensure all decisions are fair and take into account the student's individual circumstances and any other relevant factors.

1. Transferring from another registered provider

Brighton College will not knowingly enroll a student wishing to transfer from another registered provider's course prior to the overseas student completing six months of his or her principal course unless one or more of the following conditions apply:

- The releasing registered provider or the course in which the student is enrolled has ceased to be registered with ASQA;
- The releasing registered provider has had a sanction imposed on its registration by the ESOS agency that prevents the student from continuing his or her principal course at that registered provider;
- The releasing registered provider has agreed to the overseas student's release and recorded the date of effect and reason for release in PRISMS;
- Any government sponsor of the student considers the change to be in the student's best interest and has provided written support for that change.

2. Transferring to another registered provider

For Brighton College students seeking to transfer to another registered provider's course of study prior to completing six months of their principal course, the transfer request will be assessed and granted in any of the following circumstances:

- The student will be reported because they are unable to achieve satisfactory course progress at the level they are studying, even after engaging with Brighton College's intervention strategy to assist the overseas student in accordance with Standard 8 (Overseas student visa requirements).
 - There is evidence of compassionate or compelling circumstances.
 - Brighton College fails to deliver the course as outlined in the student agreement.
 - There is evidence that the student's reasonable expectations about their current course are not being met.
 - There is evidence that the student was misled by Brighton College or an education or migration agent regarding Brighton College or its course and the course is therefore unsuitable to their needs and/or study objectives.
 - An appeal (internal or external) on another matter results in a decision or recommendation to release the student.
- A transfer to another course will not be granted where:
 - The transfer may jeopardize the student's progression through a package of courses.
 - The student has recently started studying the course and the full range of support services are yet to be provided or offered to the student. In this case, the student will be requested to wait a further 4 weeks before applying for a transfer to another registered provider during which time the full range of support services will be provided to the student.

SC8-I: Course Transfer Policy & Procedure International Students

- The student is trying to avoid being reported to DHA for failure to meet the provider's attendance or academic progress requirements.
- There are no legitimate compassionate or compelling circumstances.
- In order for a request for transfer to be considered and release provided in PRISMS, students must provide a valid offer of enrolment from another registered provider.
- The outcome of the student's application for course transfer will be provided in writing within 10 working days of receipt of application.
- Where a student's application is refused, the reasons for the refusal will be communicated to the student as well as the right to access the complaints and appeals process as outlined below.
- There is no cost in releasing students. However, where a student transfers to another registered provider, any refund of course fees, where applicable, will be paid in accordance with Brighton College's *Fees and Refunds Policy and Procedures*.

3. Transferring to another course offered by Brighton College

- Students may transfer to another course offered by Brighton College in the following circumstances:
 - Students must study at least one term before applying for an Internal Course Transfer.
 - Students can only transfer between the same AQF level.
 - Where it is considered that the course that the student wishes to transfer to;
 - o Better meets the study capabilities of the student; and/or
 - o Better meets the long-term goals of the student, whether these relate to future work, education or personal aspirations; and/or
 - o where the student claims or can provide evidence that his or her reasonable expectations about the current course are not being met.
- A transfer to another course within Brighton College will not be granted where:
 - The transfer may jeopardize the student's progression through a package of courses.
 - The student has recently started studying the course and the full range of support services are yet to be provided or offered to the student.
 - The student is trying to avoid being reported to DHA for failure to meet the provider's attendance or academic progress requirements.
- In order for a request for transfer to be considered, students must complete an *Internal Course Transfer Application Form*.
- Student is required to clear any outstanding balance in the current course for the term/duration studied in that particular course prior to submitting the internal credit transfer.
- The outcome of the student's application for course transfer will be provided in writing within 10 working days of receipt of application.
- Cost involved in transferring to another course plus any refund of course fees paid for the student's current course will be in accordance with Brighton College's *Fees and Refunds Policy and Procedure*.

4. Visa advice

- All students who are either considering a course transfer, or have had their transfer request approved, will be advised that they must contact DHA to seek advice on whether a new visa is required. To find out more

SC8-I: Course Transfer Policy & Procedure International Students

about visa requirements, students will be advised to contact DHA on 131881 or visit the following website:
<https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/trav/stud>

5. Complaints and Appeals

- Where Brighton College decides to refuse a course transfer or Brighton College does not respond to the request in the timeframe set out in this Policy, the student may appeal against the decision by accessing Brighton College's Complaints and Appeals process within 20 days. If the appeal finds in favour of a student wishing to transfer, the release will be granted.
- The refusal status will not be finalised in PRISMS until the complaints and appeals process is finalised within the 20 working day period or the student withdraws from the course.

6. Records

- All records relating to course transfers will be kept for two years after the student ceases to be an enrolled student. This includes requests for release, the assessment of the request and the decision.

7. Publication

- This policy is provided to students in the *International Student Handbook*, which is provided to students prior to or upon commencement of a course, and also via Brighton College's website at <http://brighton.edu.au/>.

SC8-I: Course Transfer Policy & Procedure International Students

Procedures

1. Transfers from another provider

| Procedure | Responsibility |
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| A. Process application. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check PRISMS to see if the releasing registered provider has agreed to the overseas student's release and recorded the date of effect and reason for release in PRISMS. If required, contact the student or student's agent to confirm the student's status with the previous registered provider. Review application and check standard enrolment requirements such as entry requirements and pre-requisites are met. Process application within 5 working days of receipt. | Enrolment officer Administration team |
| B. Approve application <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where the application is approved by the Operation Manager, inform the student in writing. Refer the application for enrolment per the <i>Student Administration P&P</i>. Include all documentation on the student's file. | Enrolment officer Administration team Operations Manager |
| C. Refuse application <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where the application is not approved by the Operations Manager, inform the student in writing. Include all documentation on the student's file. | Enrolment officer Administration team Operation Manager |

2. Transfers to another provider

| Procedure | Responsibility |
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| A. Process application <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where a student requests to transfer to another provider, provide the student with an <i>Application for Withdrawal Form</i> for completion. On receipt of form, acknowledge receipt by post and/or email to the student. | Enrolment officer Administration team Student Support Officers |
| B. Review application <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the application and supporting evidence provided within 10 working days of receipt of application. Make a decision based on the circumstances in which a transfer will be granted as set out in this policy. | Enrolment officer Administration team Student Support Officers Operation Manager |
| C. Approve application <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where the application is approved, inform the student in writing, including a notification of release in PRISMS, information on any refund of course fees (if | Enrolment officer Administration team Student Support |

SC8-I: Course Transfer Policy & Procedure International Students

| Procedure | Responsibility |
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| <p>applicable in accordance with Brighton College's <i>Fees and Refunds P&P</i>) and advising the student to contact DHA to confirm whether they will need a new visa.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a student's appeal is successful, the student will be released in PRISMS and the student will be notified accordingly by email. Report the 'Student Course Variation' into PRISMS immediately. Include all documentation on the student's file, to be kept for a minimum of 2 years. | <p>Officers Operation Manager</p> |
| <p>D. Refuse application</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where the application is refused, inform the student in writing, including the reasons for the refusal as well as the student's right to access Brighton College Complaints and Appeals P&P Tuition Protection Service (TPS) within 20 working days from the date specified on the letter. Include all documentation on the student's file. If the student does not appeal against the decision or if their appeal is unsuccessful, the matter will be closed. Include all documentation on the student's file, to be kept for a minimum of 2 years. | <p>Enrolment officer Administration team Student Support Officers</p> |

3. Transfers to another course offered by Brighton College

| Procedure | Responsibility |
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| <p>D. Process application</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where a student requests to transfer to another course within Brighton College, provide the student with an <i>Internal Course Transfer Application Form</i> for completion. Documentation required is stated on this form. This will include any documentation required relevant to the entry requirements for the course into which the student wishes to transfer. Acknowledge receipt of <i>Internal Course Transfer Application Form</i> by post and/or email to the student. This should include advice to the student that they must stay in their current course until their application is assessed and that the student must contact DHA for advice on visa implications. | <p>Enrolment officer Administration team Student Support Officers Operation Manager</p> |
| <p>E. Review applications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the application and supporting evidence provided within 10 working days of receipt of application. Make a decision based on the circumstances in which a transfer will be granted as set out in this policy. | <p>Enrolment officer Administration team Student Support Officers Operation Manager</p> |
| <p>F. Approve application</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where the application is approved, inform the student in writing, information on any additional fees and/or refund of course fees in accordance with | <p>Enrolment officer Administration team Student Support Officers</p> |

SC8-I: Course Transfer Policy & Procedure International Students

| Procedure | Responsibility |
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| <p>Brighton College 's <i>Fees and Refunds P&P</i> and advising the student to contact DHA to confirm whether they will need a new visa.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create CoE and all required documentation for the new course in accordance with the standard procedures for enrolment as per the <i>Student Administration P&P</i>. • Include all documentation on the student's file. • Report the 'Student Course Variation' into PRISMS within 14 days of student leaving Brighton College. | <p>Operation Manager</p> |
| <p>G. Refuse application</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where the application is refused, notify the student including the reasons for the refusal and the student's right to access Brighton College <i>Complaints and Appeals P&P</i> within 20 working days from the date specified on the letter. • If the student does not appeal against the decision or if their appeal is unsuccessful, the matter will be closed. • If a student's appeal is successful, a letter of release will be issued and emailed to the student. • Include all documentation on the student's file. | <p>Enrolment officer Administration team Student Support Officers Operation Manager</p> |

SC8-I: Course Transfer Policy & Procedure International Students

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