HOW TO WRITE SOP FOR AUSTRALIAN STUDENT VISA

How to Write SoP for Australian Student Visa

Anyone seeking to enter Australia as a student will need to supply a Statement of Purpose (SoP) with their application for a visa. This must be carefully written to show that you meet the requirements for a Genuine Temporary Entrant (GTE) visa as laid down by the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP).

Failure to provide an SoP or failing to cover any of the information that they will be looking for will cause your application to be denied. So you must always take great care to ensure that your SoP is done perfectly. Your application can be made as soon as you have been made an offer for a place to study within Australia.

What Needs to Be Covered in Your Australian Student Visa SoP?

The following are the areas that you will need to fully address within the SoP:

Your family's economic circumstances:

- What is the composition of your family?
- How many dependants do you have?
- What is the total income of your family? What are the details of their employment?
- What assets do the family hold? What are your liabilities?

Explain any study or working gaps exceeding 6 months:

- Highlight any gaps and explain why they occurred
- Attach any documentary evidence you have to support your claims

What courses you are intending to study at your chosen institution:

Show the specific program you have applied for giving the name and the level

Why are you choosing to study at the specific institution specified?

- Give your own specific reasons for choosing them
- Detail any others that you applied to and what the outcome of the application was

Why are you looking to study in Australia and not your home country of residence?

- Show what institutions you have applied to or considered in your home country
- Explain how you researched those options
- Explain the value of the program studied in Australia against that in your home country
- If you have started studies in your home country explain why you wish to complete them in Australia



How to Write Your SoP

Where will you live in Australia?

- Provide details of your planned living arrangements and costs
- Give details of any family or friends that are residing in Australia and if you will stay with them

The relevance of your chosen course to your academic or work background:

- Show how past course and employment are relevant to your chosen courses
- If you are making a change in direction educationally then explain the change
- If you are applying to a program at the same level as your current educational attainment or lower explain the reasons why

How is your chosen program relevant to your future career or educational plans?

- Provide your future ambitions for employment including the country you intend to work in
- Detail the research you have done. Including; likely salaries, potential employers, positions you can apply for, and other countries you may be able to apply to.

The following tips can help you to ensure that your statement will be written well and cover all of the questions that are expected of you:

- Carefully review their expectations directly on the website so that it is clear what they are looking for before you start.
- Create an outline for your statement by listing out carefully the answers to each and every question.
- Use clear and concise formal English within your writing: never use slang or any acronyms.
- Ensure that your writing is clearly about you: they want to know about you not others.
- Provide evidence: this is one of the most important things to remember, if you say something attach the evidence to your letter required to back up your claims.
- Be honest and stick to the facts: they may check what you have to say and you will almost certainly be interviewed.
- Keep focused: only write about what they have asked for.
- Show you are interested in gaining and education, not staying in Australia. Do not only talk about how wonderful it will be to be in the country, concentrate on your education.
- Proofread: they will assess your English skills through your SoP so ensure there are no issues with how your SoP has been written.

Remember as Canberra University instructs us:

"Students who cannot demonstrate that they meet the GTE requirements will be unlikely to be successful with their visa application."

