



Ref No: MC26-028510

Mr Jack Kennedy
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Dear Mr Kennedy

Thank you for your correspondence of 6 July 2026 to the Prime Minister, the Hon Anthony Albanese MP, the recent increases to the Temporary Graduate (subclass 485) visa application charge and request for greater consultation. Your correspondence has been referred to the Hon Matt Thistlethwaite MP, Assistant Minister for Immigration and Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade. The Assistant Minister appreciates the time you have taken to bring this matter to his attention and has asked that I reply on his behalf.

The Australian Government recognises the important contribution international students, graduates, and the international education sector in general, make to Australia, the Australian economy and skills needs.

I acknowledge the concerns raised by the Monash Graduate Association regarding the increases to the Temporary Graduate (subclass 485) visa application charge on 1 March 2026 and 1 July 2026, including concerns about the cumulative impact of these increases on international graduates and the international education sector.

The Government is committed to managing the international education sector at sustainable levels, while continuing to improve its integrity and quality.

Australia's post-study work arrangements for international graduates remain generous compared with many like countries. Temporary Graduate visa holders have access to unlimited work rights and are able to use their Australian qualifications to access work opportunities and progress their careers in Australia or overseas.

Visa application charges are periodically reviewed to ensure they are aligned with broader visa policy considerations and Government policies. On 1 March 2026, the visa application charge for the Temporary Graduate (subclass 485) visa has increased for all applicants, with the exception of eligible Pacific country and Timor-Leste passport holders. A further increase to the visa application charge took effect on 1 July 2026.

I acknowledge your concerns regarding the impact of the increase in Temporary Graduate visa application charge and request for greater consultation with students and the higher education sector.

The Government will continue to monitor the impact of these changes, as well as other recent amendments to Student and Temporary Graduate visa settings, on the international education sector in Australia and make further amendments as necessary. The Government will also continue to engage with stakeholders across the international education sector regarding visa and migration settings.

Thank you for bringing this matter to the Government's attention.

Yours sincerely



Acting Director
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