

Dear Professor Pickering,

I am writing to express the Monash Graduate Association's (MGA) ongoing concern regarding the impact on our students of the Commonwealth Government's impending migration strategy. An increasing number of students have contacted the MGA expressing severe concern over the proposed changes to the Temporary Graduate Visa (TGV) and the lack of communication from Monash University about its own efforts in relation to these changes.

At the time of writing, the government's estimated date for the implementation of the changes to the TGV is **July 1<sup>st</sup> 2024**. These changes include shortening the TGV to two years and capping the maximum age for eligibility at 35. The final date for Semester 1 exams at Monash is June 21<sup>st</sup> with the release of results on the 8<sup>th</sup> July, meaning students who are set to complete after Semester 1 will not be able to apply for the current, longer TGV, with those over 35 unable to apply at all.

Given the current timeline for the release of results and the impending legislation changes, many of these students are seriously concerned that they will miss out on the opportunity to extend their stay in Australia and successfully transition into industry. For many international students visa opportunities after graduation are one of the most important factors in choosing to study in Australia and at Monash.

To ensure that these students do not miss out on this life changing opportunity, some Australian universities including ANU have agreed to expedite the release of results at the end of Semester 1. Out of respect for its international student cohort, many of whom have paid increasingly large tuition fees, and to protect its own international reputation, the MGA kindly asks that:

- Monash University release Semester 1 results and notifications of completion ***as soon as possible***, and
- Release a statement to all students about its own efforts in relation to these visa changes.

We look forward to your response.

Kind regards,



Sahampath Hettiarachchi

MGA President 2023-2024