

If a student holds a visa and they desire to change their course of study, they must ensure that they continue to meet all the conditions that apply to their student visa.

If they have not completed six (6) months of their principal course (the main course of study they are undertaking) and they want to change their education provider, the ESOS National Code Standard 7 explains the circumstances in which this will be possible. Unless special circumstances apply, a student needs to have permission from their existing education provider to transfer to another education provider.

If they want to transfer, NSWHE must assess or consider the request to transfer. Students must make sure they understand the NSWHE transfer policy, and what their written agreement says they must do, before they attempt to enrol with a new education provider.

If NSWHE does not give they permission to transfer to another education provider and students are not satisfied with the outcome, they should first use their education provider's internal appeal process. If they are still not satisfied, they can appeal the education provider's decision at an external complaints handling body such as the Territory Ombudsman.

## http://www.ombudsman.gov.au/making-a-complaint/overseas-students

If a student has changed courses or education provider NSWHE will be notified electronically by their new education provider. They do not need to send their CoE to DHA.

NSWHE will not allow a registered student to transfer from NSWHE within the first six (6) months of their course until NSWHE has assessed the student's request to transfer within this restricted period.

NSWHE will grant the student's request where:

- a) The transfer will not be to the detriment of the student;
- b) The student has provided a letter from another registered provider confirming that a valid enrolment offer has been made;
- c) The student can register into the other course at an appropriate point in the course; and
- d) The student's current academic progress indicates that the student can manage the new course.

Note that:

- 1. Students should allow a minimum of five (5) working days to assess the student transfer request;
- 2. If approved the Letter of Release, if granted, will be issued within the five (5) day working period at no cost to the student and will advise the student of the need to contact DHA to seek advice on whether a new student visa is required;
- 3. If a transfer is granted NSWHE will calculate any refunds according to the Course Cancellation and Refund Policy and Procedure which states, "Refunds will be paid no later than four (4) weeks after the application for refund is made." and provide the student with a written statement; and
- 4. Students may use NSWHE Complaints and Appeals process or involve an independent 3<sup>rd</sup> party at any time.

Where NSWHE does not grant a letter of release, the student will be provided with written reasons for refusing the request and will be informed of his or her right to appeal using NSWHE's Complaints and appeals process.