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The fast pace of activity across [Global Victoria](#) and [Study Melbourne](#) continues at this important time in the sector's recovery.

This month we have been busy with [Melbourne Edtech Week](#), from 8 to 11 August 2022. Join us at this exciting series of events to learn why Melbourne is Australia's EdTech capital and connect with global innovators driving change in our sector. There's never been a more important time to deepen your understanding of Victoria's EdTech ecosystem and be a part of the education innovation conversation. Scroll down for more information about how you can get involved.

Our [Study Melbourne Hubs](#) are a continuing network of activity around the globe, with a busy agenda of pre-departure sessions for new students, a summer camp for students in Shanghai, and a recent STEM career panel discussion in Bangalore. We encourage education providers to connect with the Study Melbourne Hubs to explore opportunities to engage with offshore current and prospective students, and to showcase your institution's graduate career outcomes.

Victoria's international education sector also continues to benefit from initiatives being delivered with support from the Victorian Government, including the [International Research Partnerships Program](#), [Pathways to Victoria Scholarship Program](#), Study Melbourne welcome packs for recently arrived international students, and many collaborative projects being announced by university partners supported by funding under the Victorian Government's International Education Recovery Fund.

There is always so much going on at Global Victoria and Study Melbourne. We invite you to join our monthly sector briefings for on-the-ground market intelligence and insights from our Trade Commissioners and Global Education Network. Scroll down for your invitation to join this month's [North Asia sector briefing](#).

In response to current events, we continue to work closely with our sector colleagues to support Victoria's Sri Lankan international students and maintain our reputation as a supportive study destination. Scroll down for insights and advice from Michelle Wade, Victoria's Commissioner for South Asia, on the issues and vulnerabilities our Sri Lankan students may be currently experiencing.

We will continue to engage regularly with colleagues across the sector including peak bodies and sector representatives and extend our thanks for your ongoing collaboration and insights as we move forward together during this critical stage of sector recovery.

The Study Melbourne Team

## NEWS & UPDATES

### Pre-departure sessions at the Study Melbourne Hubs



*Pictured are sessions by The University of Melbourne, Australian Catholic University, Monash University and RMIT.*

Throughout June and July, Victorian institutions held pre-departure sessions for semester two commencing students at the Study Melbourne Hubs in Kuala Lumpur, Ho Chi Minh City, Shanghai and South Asia.

These pre-departure support sessions provide international students with an understanding of things to consider and plan before living and studying in Melbourne, Victoria.

The events brought together new students with university staff and the local Study Melbourne teams, creating opportunities for students to make new friends, learn about their university, learn about life in Victoria, and make the most of their studies.

Several sessions incorporated scholarship ceremonies and networking with alumni.

Victorian education sector stakeholders (including education providers, educators and EdTech companies) can access the Study Melbourne Hubs for free (excluding catering and incidental costs) to organise and hold activities and events to support student and international partner engagement.

Refer to our [Study Hub page](#) for more information.

### Using virtual reality to educate nurses around the world



Nursing educators and students will be able to collaborate internationally – sharing skills,

resources and best practices – through a new online learning platform from Holmesglen Institute in Victoria and Grande Prairie Regional College in Alberta, Canada.

Supported by the Victorian Government's [International Education Short-Term Recovery Plan](#), the project received a grant to develop new technologies to support the development of nursing education in Australia and overseas.

The project will use virtual reality and cloud-based platforms to develop new, experimental-based online learning for nurses.

The pandemic has revealed the importance of sharing knowledge and collaboration in the healthcare industry, particularly on the frontline.

By creating an online and experience-led platform, nurses can benefit from the best in the world, no matter where they are.

Find out more about the Study Melbourne Research Partnerships on our [website](#).

## EVENTS & KEY DATES

### Melbourne EdTech Week

Global Victoria invites key education innovators and technology partners to participate in **Melbourne EdTech Week, 8 to 11 August 2022.**

Melbourne EdTech Week will showcase Melbourne as Australia's EdTech capital, home to leading online program management companies, innovative EdTech companies and world-class education institutions.

Melbourne EdTech Week is underpinned by two internationally recognised events:

### Melbourne EdTech Summit

The Summit brings together leaders from across Australia's EdTech ecosystem and hand-picked global innovators to drive the education innovation agenda.

This year's theme is 'Education Unlimited: Think Big, Drive Change, Transform Learning'. Join the conversation and help articulate a vision for Australia's education ecosystem and EdTech's role in driving innovation across the education and skills sector and its connection to the future of work.



#### Event details:

- **Date:** 8-11 August 2022
- **Time:** 9am – 5pm AEST
- **Location:** Deakin Downtown on 8-9 August and Innovation Precinct at EduTECH International Congress and Expo on 10-11 August
- **Cost:** \$499 – [Register now](#).
- **Organiser:** Edugrowth - the national industry body for EdTech in Australia.
- **Program outline:** [View here](#)

### EduTECH International Congress and Expo

Join the biggest education event in Australia and the APAC region, attended by between 10,000 – 15,000 people annually. This event brings together leaders, practitioners and managers from ICT, business, and finance and represents the entire learning lifecycle – from preschool to workplace learning. Register now to attend this packed program including a trade show, conferences and breakout seminars, training forums and professional development workshops.



#### Event details:

- **Date:** 10 August 2022 | 11 August 2021
- **Time:** 8am – 6pm AEST | 9am – 4pm AEST
- **Location:** Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre
- **Agenda:** [View here](#)
- **Register:** Choose your [package](#).

### Study Melbourne Monthly Sector Briefing: Spotlight on North Asia

Join us for the North Asian Sector briefing delivered by our Commissioner and Global Education Network in market. The briefing will provide on the ground market intelligence and updates on new opportunities, student/agent feedback, competitor activities, changes to education policies and various Victorian Government business development activities in market.



#### Event details:

- **Date:** 30 August 2022
- **Time:** 2pm – 3pm AEST
- **Cost:** Free event
- **Register:** [Via Eventbrite](#)

### Conference on Investment and Cooperation in Education Hanoi, Vietnam

The Vietnamese Ministry of Education and Training (MOET) is hosting a conference on Investment and Cooperation in Education in Hanoi, Vietnam in September 2022. You are invited to join virtually or in-person. The purpose of the conference is to connect interested education, government and industry stakeholders to explore opportunities for foreign investment in education and to enhance the effectiveness and quality of transnational education partnerships.



#### Event details:

- **Date:** 15 September 2022
- **Time:** 8.30am – 4pm
- **Location:** Lotte Hotel 54 Lieu Giai, Ba Dinh District, Hanoi
- **Register:** By 15 August [via this link](#)

## MARKET ENGAGEMENT

### Sri Lanka and Student Welfare



You would no doubt be aware of the issues in Sri Lanka right now which are causing major disruptions at all levels of the country.

We are pleased to note that many of the institutions we have heard from recently regard Sri Lanka as a market for the long term and have very positive things to say about the quality of that student community. Our office is also highly committed to Sri Lanka from both an education and trade perspective, and has been seeking feedback from DFAT, education agents in Sri Lanka and welfare groups in Victoria to better understand issues for this vulnerable group.

The welfare of our Sri Lankan student community in Victoria right now is very important. Here are some important insights and advice from Global Victoria's Commissioner to South Asia, Michelle Wade:

- The Sri Lankan government has placed limits on money transfers out of the country to about USD120 per week. This may put some students who do not have money saved in Australia in financial stress, particularly as fees become due. We trust your institutions will be sympathetic to this situation and consider appropriate arrangements.
- Education visas issued for Sri Lankan students remain steady. However, given the current economic issues, incoming students might also be impacted by their ability to pay fees in a single tranche. Agents have also advised of a risk of these students taking out high interest, black market loans.
- Please also remind your international offices and counselling staff that students can also reach out to [Study Melbourne Student Centre](#), the [Sri Lankan Consulate General in Melbourne](#) and cultural support groups such as [IndianCare](#), [Victorian Sri Lankan Youth Association](#) and others.
- Further information on welfare support across Victoria is available on the [Study Melbourne website](#).
- Our [Study Melbourne Hub South Asia](#) will also schedule activities over the coming months to specifically address the welfare and resilience of Sri Lankan students at this time. Please contact us [via email](#) if you have suggestions for speakers or topics which would help our community of existing and potential students.

Sri Lanka is among the Top 10 markets for Victoria with 69% of Australia's market share. The vast majority of Sri Lankan students who study in Australia choose Victoria as their home, and we look forward to working together to maintain our reputation as a supportive and caring education destination.

## Career Talk in STEM with RMIT



In July, our [Study Melbourne Hub South Asia](#) presented a career talk which explored multidisciplinary courses and in-demand careers in STEM with world-leading experts and alumni from RMIT.

Students, faculty members, career counsellors, education agents, education leaders, researchers and government agency members attended the event in Bangalore.

The panellists, including Professor Calum Drummond, RMIT's Deputy Vice Chancellor Research and Innovation, discussed innovations in STEM education through international partnerships, high-impact research collaborations with industry and government, and employment and entrepreneurship opportunities across growth industries and sectors.

The discussion also explored workforce transformation and preparing graduates to successfully transition into diverse roles across various industries and global organisations.

One of the participants shared with us that they found, *"the event was very informative and enlightening about the opportunities available."*

To explore opportunities to showcase your institution's graduate career outcomes to prospective South Asian students, please contact the Study Melbourne Hub Manager for South Asia, Abirami Vilvanathan at [abirami.vilvanathan@global.vic.gov.au](mailto:abirami.vilvanathan@global.vic.gov.au).

## SERVICES & SUPPORT



### The Study Melbourne Student Centre re-opening soon!

The Study Melbourne Student Centre offers support for international students living in Victoria and provides information about employment, accommodation, financial hardship, health, education provider issues, and legal advice.

International students can contact the Student Centre via phone and email: 1800 056 449 or [info@studymelbourne.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@studymelbourne.vic.gov.au).

### Support for international students in need

Study Melbourne continues to provide help and support for international students including:

- support for international students [working in Melbourne, Victoria page](#)
- legal support through the [International Student Employment and Accommodation Legal Service](#)
- help to find work through the [Jobs Victoria online hub](#)
- [utility relief grants](#) to help pay overdue bills
- free, one-to-one support and advice through [Partners in Wellbeing](#)
- information about [family violence and state-wide support services](#)

We encourage you to share these resources with your students.

# COVID-19 UPDATE



## International Student Arrivals

Study Melbourne continues to work with the sector to support the arrival of international students to Victoria, and to warmly welcome returning and commencing students.

**Update:** From 6 July 2022, people travelling to Australia no longer have to declare their COVID-19 vaccination status. For more information on international travel requirements visit the [Home Affairs website](#).

Study Melbourne offers dedicated resources for students who are travelling to Victoria from overseas, and for those who have just arrived.

Connect your students to Study Melbourne's [International Student Arrivals](#) and [Welcome to Melbourne, Victoria](#) web pages to help them settle into student life, learn about support services and programs for international students in Victoria and find helpful checklists and resources.

## COVID-19 vaccine third dose | Coronavirus Victoria

If you are aged 18 and over and you had your second vaccine dose three or more months ago, you are due for your third dose now. For more information about COVID-19 Pfizer and Moderna third doses visit the [Victorian Government's coronavirus website](#).

## Victoria's current restriction levels

Victoria has moved to COVIDSafe Settings. For updates on current restrictions, please visit the [Victorian Government's coronavirus website](#).

## Support for Victorian businesses

[Government assistance](#) is available for Victorian businesses impacted by COVID-19.





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