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# INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION BULLETIN

STUDY MELBOURNE

19 October 2021

## News and updates

### Get vaccinated

The COVID-19 vaccine reduces the risk of you and your workers getting seriously ill with COVID-19.

The more Victorians who get vaccinated through the COVID-19 vaccine rollout, the faster we can move towards reopening our state's businesses and industry.

If you're yet to be vaccinated, book your appointment today. If have any questions or concerns you can talk to a GP, or pharmacist.

All Victorians are encouraged where possible to book their vaccination at [portal.cvms.vic.gov.au](https://portal.cvms.vic.gov.au) or by phoning the Coronavirus hotline on 1800 675 398.

Visit [coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccination-centres](https://coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccination-centres) for more information on Victoria's vaccination centres, including locations and opening hours.

You can now book as a group at a Victorian vaccination centre. This means that Victorians can invite other eligible individuals from their workplace and local community to get vaccinated together. For more information visit <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/group-bookings-service>.

### Vaccine mandates for industry

In order to work, all staff in schools and early childhood services will be required to have a first dose by 18 October or have a booking within one week, with full vaccination required by 29 November unless a medical exemption applies – including in government and non-government schools and all types of early childhood and care settings.

More information, including a list of current requirements, can be found on the [Specified Worker Permit](#) web page.

### International Student Arrivals



The Victorian Government has been working closely with education providers on the International Student Arrivals Plan to allow the gradual return of international students to Victoria.

The plan has been submitted to the Australian Government for consideration and if endorsed will create a safe pathway for a limited number of international students to arrive in Victoria each week.

Under the first stage of the plan, 120 places will be available each week. These places will be prioritised for university students who urgently need to return to Victoria to do practical work, including health and medical students, and postgraduate research students.

The second stage of the plan will expand to include more students, including those who are enrolled with other education providers such as TAFEs, English-language colleges, private education providers and secondary schools. More information about stage two will be available soon.

Universities will select enrolled students who can return to Victoria under the first stage of the plan. There is no application process.

Student selection will begin after the Australian Government has confirmed its support for the plan.

For more information, please visit our [student arrivals webpage](#).

## 2021 Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU)



The 2021 Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) was released 18 August.

The ranking methodology is based on indicators such as the number of alumni and staff winning Nobel Prizes and Fields Medals, the number of articles published in journals of Nature and Science, the number of articles indexed in Science Citation Index, and per capita academic performance of an institution.

The headline from last year still remains: six Victorian universities are in the Top 400 (this has been the case since 2018).

A notable congratulations to The University of Melbourne (#33) and Monash University (#80) which were listed in the Top 100.

## International Education Resilience Fund



The Victorian Government has announced a new \$50 million International Education Resilience Fund to support Victorian universities and international students respond to impacts of COVID-19 and position Victoria's university sector for recovery.

The International Education Resilience Fund will support Victorian universities through funding for increased international student welfare and support services, improved delivery of remote and offshore teaching and learning, and increased student engagement initiatives.

This support builds on the Government's unprecedented investment in Victoria's international education sector during the pandemic, including an additional \$50.9 million announced in the 2021-22 State Budget and \$33.4 million [International Education Short-Term Recovery Plan](#) released in 2020.

## Thunderstorm Asthma preparedness



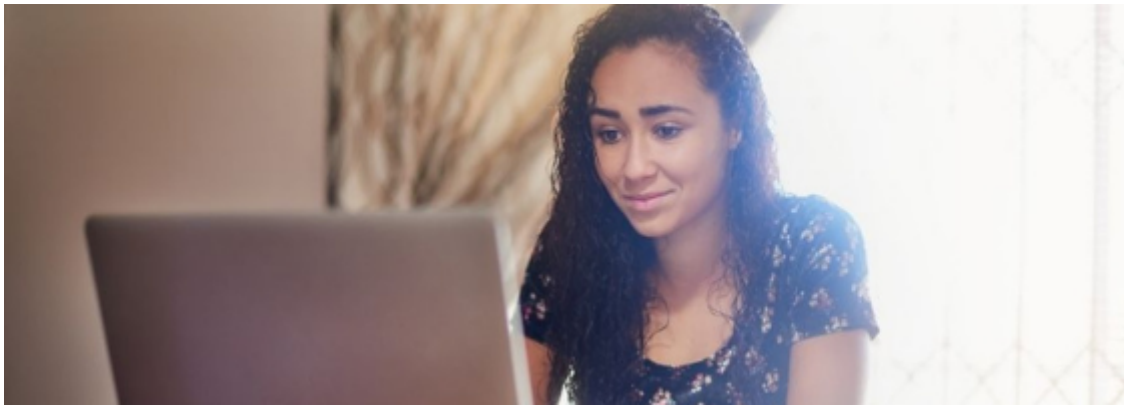
Grass pollen season brings an increase in asthma and hay fever. During the season, a high grass pollen count and a certain type of thunderstorm can also trigger [thunderstorm asthma](#).

For people with asthma or hay fever, especially those who experience wheezing or coughing with their hay fever, thunderstorm asthma can be sudden, serious and even life threatening.

In Victoria, the grass pollen season runs from October through December. Take action to prepare and protect yourself and people in your care this grass pollen season.

Find out more on the [Better Health Channel](#).

## Study Melbourne Online Course Guide



Victoria's education providers are embracing technologies to deliver online coursework in innovative ways.

International students can opt for 100 percent online study from their home country or start their course online and transition to on-campus learning in Melbourne if and when conditions allow.

International students can visit the Study Melbourne [Online Course Guide](#) to learn about the latest courses and institution information.

[The Study Melbourne Course Finder](#) will soon include the option for online study options.

The new course features will make it easier for international students to find courses that suit their study preferences.

## Everyday Heroes Latin America



Study Melbourne has partnered with Internash to deliver an [Everyday Heroes Latin America](#) program for our Latin American students, with the first event commencing on 28 October 2021.

This five week long program fosters connectedness and inspiration, showcasing the positive contribution of Latin American students and alumni to Victoria and the cultural links between Victoria and Latin America.

The program starts on 28 October and will showcase the positive contribution of Latin American students and alumni to Victoria and the cultural links between Victoria and Latin America.

This program also includes a professional development workshop for participating students to learn videography and how to record personal stories on TikTok.

The events are free and will cover topics to assist with career and personal development.

Please share information about the program and the [registration link](#) with your Latin American students.

## Meet and Greet with the Filipino-Australian Student Council of Victoria



Rebecca Hall - Commissioner for Victoria to Southeast Asia and Chris Lee, Program Lead, Study Melbourne will join the Filipino-Australian Student Council of Victoria (FASTCO) on 22 October 2021 from 4pm onwards to share information about Victoria's supports for international students, including the Study Melbourne employability program called [Career Catalyst](#).

This session is a great opportunity for you to learn about Study Melbourne and how you can prepare for graduate employment through Career Catalyst.

[Book a ticket here.](#)

A few days left to the event. Don't miss your chance!

## COVID-19 information and support

### 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.

### COVID-19 Test Isolation Payment

Workers in Victoria who are self-isolating while waiting for a COVID-19 test result can apply for a [\\$450 COVID-19 Test Isolation Payment](#), which provides financial support to those who cannot earn an income while they self-isolate

### Partners in Wellbeing Helpline

[The helpline](#) is a confidential, one-on-one service providing support for small business owners and employees through coaches, financial counsellors and business advisors.

The helpline number is 1300 375 330.

### Support for international students in need

Study Melbourne continues to provide help and support through our dedicated COVID-19 support hub. We encourage you to share this resource with your students.

International students in Victoria can access other support, including:

- help to find work through the [Jobs Victoria online hub](#)
- [utility relief grants](#) to help pay overdue bills
- a dedicated [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) support hub](#)
- free [legal advice](#) on accommodation and employment matters
- confidential support and practical help through the [Study Melbourne Student Centre](#)
- free, one-to-one support and advice to international students through the [Partners in Wellbeing](#) team
- for information about family violence and statewide support services visit the [Study Melbourne website](#).

## Services Spotlight

### Study Melbourne Student Centre



The Study Melbourne Student Centre building is temporarily closed for face-to-face appointments, but staff continue to work online and by phone to provide case management support and referrals for international students. This includes mental health support and free legal advice on employment and accommodation matters.

We have also enhanced the centre's resources to meet increased student demand, including case management and emergency assistance.

Visit the [Study Melbourne website](#) to find out how we can help.

## Study Melbourne Hubs

### Shanghai —Study Melbourne Hub Shanghai Pitch Bootcamp



[The Study Melbourne Hub Shanghai](#) Pitch Bootcamp was held on Saturday, 28 August 2021 to enhance Victorian students' employability skills.

The Pitch Bootcamp is part of the Hub's ongoing student support and skills development program.

The 60+ judges were executives and professionals from the world's top 500 fortune companies across different industries, including consultancy, entertainment, legal and professional services.

One of the judges, Mr Piers Matthews, Director of Marketing and Communication from Dulwich College Shanghai, commented: *"It was inspiring to see these young Victorian university students putting themselves out there, sharing their stories, worries, hopes, and dreams, and taking on feedback as they begin mapping out their careers. It was also great to meet many other professionals who are committed to sharing their experience and insights."*

The Pitch Bootcamp is an example of the Victorian Government's commitment to supporting international students. The Hub is also an excellent platform to engage with local stakeholders.

## Study Melbourne Hubs in Kuala Lumpur and Ho Chi Minh City

With COVID-19 restrictions lifting in Malaysia and Vietnam, the [Study Melbourne Hub in Kuala Lumpur](#) is now open to staff and a limited number of students, and the [Ho Chi Minh City Hub](#) will open soon. Official openings for these Hubs are planned for the coming weeks.

[The Study Melbourne Hubs](#) provide a location for offshore students to come together, access support and information on studying in Victoria, and participate in programs and events.

For further information and discuss how your institution can utilise the [Study Hubs in Kuala Lumpur](#), [Ho Chi Minh City](#), [Shanghai](#) and [India \(virtual hub\)](#), please contact the relevant Study Melbourne Hub.

## Career Catalyst – Job ready program for Malaysia

Under the [Career Catalyst program](#), Study Melbourne is offering scholarships for a premium job ready and internship program, specifically for a select number of international students in Malaysia. The program is valued at \$5,000 and includes an Innovation Sprint followed by a 12-week remote cadetship with a Victorian company.

Institutions are encouraged to promote the opportunity to students who are currently enrolled or recently graduated from a Victorian university, and reside in Malaysia. Candidates may register interest at <https://outcome.life/job-ready-program/>.

## Industry News

### China — Opportunity to profile your program at two major education events in China

There will be a Study Melbourne booth at the 12th International Postgraduate Education Information Fair 2021 hosted by Beijing Normal University - Hong Kong Baptist University United International College (UIC) in Zhuhai on 20 October.

This fair will promote Victorian universities' post-graduate programs to UIC students and further explore opportunities in the Greater Bay Area.

From 21 -23 October, our Education Service Managers in China will also attend the 2021 China Annual Conference for International Education in Beijing and host B2B sessions to discuss institution partnership opportunities with Chinese universities and vocational colleges.

If you want to profile your programs at those two events or are interested in our business development activities in the market, please reach out to our team in China.

Contact Qian Li, Education Services Director, [qian.li@global.vic.gov.au](mailto:qian.li@global.vic.gov.au) or Terry Wang, Education Services Manager, [terry.wang@global.vic.gov.au](mailto:terry.wang@global.vic.gov.au).

### Vietnam — Victoria featured on Vietnam National TV through the Shine with Australia Program

Shine with Victoria is the theme of the IFO Nightly Show Season 7 on Vietnam National TV.

Episode 15 will have a focus on Victoria and highlight why Melbourne is among the most desired study destinations for Vietnamese students and [Australia's best student city](#).

The episode featuring Melbourne and Victoria brings together Chi and Nam, two outstanding Vietnamese entrepreneurs/alumni who believe Melbourne has given them more than just an amazing study experience.

Commissioner to Southeast Asia Rebecca Hall shared some incredible initiatives to support international students, including the Study Melbourne Hub soon to open in [Ho Chi Minh City](#)!

Check out the [preview here](#).

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