

Checklist for **Students (Exchange)**

Study in an educational establishment **organized, recognized or subsidized** by the **public authorities (Article 60)**

It is essential that your file contains the following:

Two sets of your entire visa application (application form and supporting documents), plus any original documents that are to be returned to you, such as your original police and medical certificate.

Application form

Two (2) application forms duly filled in, signed and dated by the applicant.

This form is available free of charge online or at VFS and the Embassy. You complete it in English, French, Dutch or German.

Please follow the link to the application form online.

Photo

Two (2) recent (no more than 6-months old) passport size photographs (dimensions: 35 by 45 mm) should be affixed to the application form (but not glued).

Passport

A valid passport:

- should have been issued within the previous 10 years;
- should be valid for more than 12 months;

should contain at least 2 facing empty pages when applying for the visa.

Copy of Visa

For non-Australian/New Zealand passport holders only: one copy of your residence permit or of your visa for Australia/New Zealand. Submit your VEVO details for Australia or VisaView details for New Zealand. These details cannot be older than 1 month.

Administrative fee

The applicant has to provide the proof of payment of the <u>Administrative fee</u> at the submission of his/her application. If this is not the case, the visa application is not admissible. The administrative fee needs to be paid directly to the Home Affairs Office in Brussels.

Admission or inscription letter

A certificate of admission or enrolment from a Belgian university or institution of higher education, organized, recognized or subsidized by the Belgian public authorities. This certificate is mandatory even in case you intend to take a language course prior to starting your studies. For the latter course, a certificate of enrolment is also to be submitted.

A diploma or certificate of study that gives access to Belgian higher education

A letter from your home university confirming the exchange, or a copy of your final secondary education diploma, or baccalaureate.

Proof of Financial support

Proof of the <u>scholarship</u> you have been or will be granted Or

- ullet Proof of the <u>student loan</u> you have been or will be granted Or
- $\bullet\,$ A $\underline{\text{financial certificate}}$ issued by the university in Belgium where you are registered to study $\textit{Or}\,$
- A <u>financial certificate</u> issued by Studely or Ready Study Go for a blocked account. See
 <u>www.studely.com</u> or <u>www.ready-study-go.com</u>. Look for an "Attestation de Virement
 Irrévocable (AVI)".

Or

- Proof that a guarantor supports you:
 - **A.** If the guarantor is a Belgian national or has a permanent residence permit in Belgium, he has to provide:
 - A letter of guarantee (in the prescribed form "ANNEXE 32"/"BIJLAGE 32") by your guarantor. This document can be obtained from the guarantor's municipality in Belgium and has to be certified by the municipality. This document is valid during 6 months after signature.
 - A certificate of registration issued to the guarantor by the municipality in Belgium; a photocopy of the guarantor's identity card / passport.
 - Proof of the solvency of the guarantor (documents showing the guarantor has access to the required monthly amount for as long as he/she is sponsoring the student): bank account statement with monthly salary/ salary slips last 3 months/ tax paper. Proven monthly income should be at least € 2131.28 + € 835 for the student + €150 for each dependent family member of the guarantor.
 - A certificate of the composition of the guarantor's family.
 - These should all be original documents.
 - **B.** If the guarantor is residing in Australia/New Zealand or in a third country, he/she has to provide:
 - An original letter of guarantee (in the prescribed form "ANNEXE 32"/"BIJLAGE 32") by your guarantor. If the guarantor is residing in Australia/New Zealand, he is requested to contact the Embassy for information on the procedure. If the guarantor is residing in a foreign country, this document can be obtained from the diplomatic or consular mission of Belgiumin this country and has to be certified by that mission. This document is valid during 6 months after signature.
 - A photocopy of the guarantor's identity card.
 - Proof of the solvency of the guarantor (documents showing the guarantor has

access to the required monthly amount for as long as he/she is sponsoring the student): bank account statement for the last 3 months / salary slips / tax paper. The monthly income should be at least (the equivalent of) 2131.28 + \in 835 for the student + \in 150 for each dependent family member of the guarantor.

• For full instructions please email <u>canberra@diplobel.fed.be</u>.

Health Insurance

Proof of private medical travel insurance for a minimum of 3 months.

The insurance must be valid throughout all of the Schengen countries and must cover the whole duration of the stay or transit. The minimum cover is EUR 30,000.

The insurance must cover the cost of repatriation on medical grounds, urgent medical treatment and/or urgent hospital treatment or costs incurred in the event of death while in the Schengen area. Only providers from Australia, New Zealand or a Schengen country are acceptable.

Below are 7 companies that provide acceptable travel insurance:

Covermore: https://www.covermore.com.au/

Columbus direct travel insurance: https://www.columbusdirect.com.au/

GoInsurance: http://www.goinsurance.com.au/ Insure4less: https://www.insure4less.com.au/

Travel Insuranz: https://quote.travelinsuranz.com.au/cover/

Southern Cross New Zealand: https://www.scti.co.nz/travel-insurance/international

AXA-Schengen: https://www.axa-schengen.com/en

Or, in case you have a scholarship:

Proof that the provider will also cover medical costs for the duration of the scholarship.

The applicant who does not provide health insurance will receive a visa valid for 4 months only. In Belgium, they will receive a certificate of registration valid for 4 months and they will have to provide health insurance no later than 15 days before the expiry of this certificate.

Non-Criminal Record Certificate

For applicants aged 18 and over, an original National Police Certificate:

In Australia: "National Police Clearance Certificate-Name Check", issued by the AFP. Use this link:

https://www.afp.gov.au/what-we-do/services/criminal-records/national-police-checks

You need to opt for a hard copy police check (name check only-no fingerprints).

In New Zealand: "Criminal Conviction Information" issued by the Ministry of Justice. Use

this link: https://www.justice.govt.nz/criminal-records/get-your-own/

This certificate must be no older than 6 months from date of issuance.

This document has to be legalized by means of an **Apostille**.

The police check is not to be notarized by a Notary Public.

In Australia you can obtain the Apostille from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Please note that in Australia the apostille can only be placed on a hard copy police check. In New Zealand you obtain the Apostille from the Department of Internal Affairs in Wellington.

Medical Certificate

An original <u>medical certificate</u> attesting that you are not carrying any of the diseases which might endanger public health. This certificate must be no older than 6 months from the date of issuance. The specific form must be signed and stamped by an <u>approved</u> <u>doctor</u>.

The documents drawn up abroad in a language other than English, Dutch, French or German are to be translated by an official translator. The translation must be legalized in line with the procedure laid down in the country of origin, and then by the competent Belgian consulate or Embassy.

Applicants who cannot enclose all documents from the list, should consider adding alternatives or making an explanation about the reason for not handing them in.

The applicant is hereby informed that submitting the above-mentioned documents does not quarantee automatic issuance of a visa.

If you have any questions regarding this checklist please email the Embassy at canberra@diplobel.fed.be.

Disclaimer

This checklist comprises all documents that are part of my visa application. I understand that the Embassy will decide on my visa application based on these documents only. I also understand that in exceptional cases additional documents may be requested by the Embassy, even documents that do not feature on this list at all.