



# STUDENT & COURSE VARIATION OR WITHDRAWAL

Reference:

**National Code Standard 9  
Deferring, suspending or cancelling the overseas student's  
enrolment**

VERSION HISTORY

| <b>Policy Owner:</b>        | CEO   | Mahendra Oli   |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Document Management:</b> | Admin and Accounts Manager                        | Srivinya Bikkani   |
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| v2.2                        | May 2019  | Edits for roles in RTO and updates to National Code 2018   |
| v2.1                        | May 2017  | Update to National Code 2017   |
| v2.0                        | September 2016                                    | Quality assurance check across documents with reference to ASQA fact sheets and ESOS Act changes & Explanatory guide |
| v1.0                        | July 2016   | New standards for RTO's 2015   |

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# DEFERRING, SUSPENDING, WITHDRAWAL

## PURPOSE

Skyline International College course variation or withdrawal policy includes guidelines for Deferral, Leave of Absence, Change in Course, Change in Schedule, Withdrawal requests, Release requests, Change in Start Date and inactive students.

Students may, through formal agreement with their registered provider, be given permission to defer commencement, take a leave of absence or temporarily suspend their studies during the course. Such absences, however, may affect the student's visa status.

This policy also describes the limited circumstances in which students have the right to appeal the decision if deferral, suspension or cancellation of enrolment is initiated by Skyline International College.

The registered provider may also seek to cancel the student's enrolment in certain circumstances.

## References

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| NC Standard 9 | Deferring, suspending or cancelling the overseas student's enrolment |
|---------------|--|

## Implementation

The **CEO** is ultimately responsible for the care of student welfare and compliance with visa conditions.

The **Student Services and Admin Officer** is responsible for day to day course and student administration and counselling for students and will refer to the **Academic Manager** in relation to student study loads and requests for variations where approval is needed.

## PROCESS

### Course Variation Initiated by Skyline International College

#### **Defer Commencement Date**

Skyline International College may defer the commencement of a course when it is not offered.

#### **Suspension of Enrolment**

Skyline International College may suspend a student's enrolment in the following circumstances;

Student misconduct:

- i If the student gave false and misleading information upon application, the enrolment may be suspended while SIC considers the consequences.
- ii Serious misconduct as outlined in the International Student Handbook

#### **Cancellation of Enrolment**

Skyline International College may cancel student's enrolment in the following circumstances;

- i Non-payment of outstanding fees
- ii Inconsistent course progress (e.g. continuous absence from scheduled course hours, consistent unsatisfactory course progress)
- iii Serious misconduct as outlined in the International Student Handbook
- iv If a student is found to have provided false or misleading information, or documentation
- v New students who at the end of week 2 of classes have not completed orientation and enrolment, and have not received approval for a change in course or commencement date

#### **Guidelines**

In cases where a student's enrolment has been suspended, deferred or cancelled by SIC except in 1.3(v) listed above, the student will be notified and given 20 working days to access Skyline International College's internal complaints and appeals process.

Skyline International College will notify the relevant department via PRISMS (Provider Registration and International Student Management System) only after all internal appeal processes then external appeals processes if activated by the student have been exhausted and the outcome is not in favour of the student.

## Course Variation Requested by Student

### **Change in Session**

The student must complete FO\_Change of Subject-Session Form.

A student can request a change in schedule; however, it is subject to approval by the Academic Manager.

Timetable/schedules cannot be changed in the middle of the subject. Students are discouraged from making Change in Schedule requests to accommodate work requirements – but they shall be approved where possible.

### **Change in Start Date**

The student must complete the FO\_Course Deferral Form.

Students, both onshore as well as offshore will be required to submit substantial proof for change in start date.

Once the approval has been granted, the start date change will be processed in the Student Management System and a new Offer Letter provided. Once the student accepts the new offer by submitting the signed contract the update will be made on PRISMS.

If the student wishes to start at a later date owing to medical reasons or if a visa has not been granted he/she will not be charged any administration fees.

### **Change in Course**

The student must complete the FO\_Course Change Request Form. The change in Course is subject to approval by the Academic Manager.

A student wishing to change course can do so provided accounts/fees are paid in full for the previous course and they satisfy the entry requirements for the new course.

The student must pay at least one term towards the new course.

Once the approval has been granted, the course change will be processed in the Student Management System and a new Offer Letter provided. Once the student accepts the new offer by submitting the signed contract the update will be made on PRISMS.

### **Current student – Suspension or Leave**

The student must complete the FO\_Course Suspension Form or FO\_Student Leave of absence request form and submit substantial proof to support their application.

Request needs to be made a minimum of 14 days before the leave start date. A shorter notice will be considered only in the event of compassionate or compelling reasons.

Leave of absence is subject to approval by the Academic Manager.

Leave of absence will be treated as suspension if the course end is going to be affected owing to the absence - 4 weeks or more of absence (not including school holidays).

Leave of absence will be treated as leave if the course end is not going to be affected – no more than 2 weeks of absence not including school holidays.

If treated as suspension - CoE (Confirmation of Enrolment) through PRISMS will be changed and recorded on the Student Management System. If treated as leave it will be recorded on the Student Management System only.

### **Withdrawal from the course/Change in provider**

Students can complete and submit FO\_Course Withdrawal Form to withdraw from their course of study. The supporting documents, for example a doctor's certificate, should be provided with the request.

As per the National Code, standard 7, registered providers are restricted from enrolling transferring students for the first six months from the commencement of the student's principal course of study. Therefore, students who wish to transfer to a different provider before completing six months of study at Skyline International College (the principal course), need to apply for a release.

Students need to follow the process as outlined in the Student Transfer provider Policy.

### **Inactive Students Returning to Study**

An inactive student is a former student previously enrolled at Skyline International College who has withdrawn through application or by failure to attend or failure to re-commence in a compulsory study period.

#### **Process for returning to study**

- i An inactive student submits a completed Return to Study form.
- ii A check is performed to ensure that there are no outstanding fees from the Inactive student. Inactive students requesting to return to the College will not be accepted where previous tuition fees remain outstanding.
- iii A determination is made as whether the Inactive Student's originally offered course is current:
  - a. Where the Inactive student's course is current, the Inactive Student will be provided with a new Offer Letter detailing the duration remaining to complete the course. Once the student accepts the new offer by submitting the signed contract the update will be made on PRISMS.
  - b. Where the Inactive Student's course has expired or is to expire before the student can complete, the student will be contacted and offered an equivalent course where available.