

Q20.

Australian Strategy for International Education consultation submission

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Q1. Name *

Q2. Organisation *

Q3. Occupation/role at the organisation (if applicable)

Q4. Contact email address *

Q5. Contact phone number

Q6. 1 - What do you see as the key priorities for a new Australian strategy for international education? [limit to 500 words]

Providing quality education and limiting the number of international students so that we don't have university courses run specifically for International Students

Q7. 2 - Students should be at the centre of the new Strategy. How can Australian education providers deliver the best possible student experience both now and in the future? [limit to 500 words]

International students should not be viewed as money making machines but rather as part of mainstream studies, they need to be integrated with local students, which means they need 'pre-service', if they haven't done direct entry course (which focus heavily on study skills for the Australian environment) and higher standard of English. For example, I do not believe that 5.5 in Academic IELTS is enough for TAFE studies, where teachers and students interact on daily basis. I believe that the score must be higher for Listening and Speaking especially, to fully participate in the study process.

Q8. 3 - What changes are needed to make Australia more globally competitive over the next decade? [limit to 500 words]

Limiting the number of international students accepted into a course, tightening regulations for providers. At present, there are courses at certain universities and VET colleges that are only for International students. Some universities even open campuses that cater for International students only. The visa providing universities and vocational schools (the visa shops) should not be allowed, and yet they operate under the current system.

Q22. 3.1 - Policy and regulatory flexibility are important in enabling providers to innovate. How can we utilise these settings to pursue opportunities, and in what other ways can we work together to ensure Australia remains globally competitive? [limit to 500 words]

Q21.
4 - How can providers, governments and stakeholders work together to achieve diversification opportunities (for example of disciplines, source countries, study destinations and delivery models)? [limit to 500 words]

Australian providers are after 'easy' money, i.e. China. The European market needs investment and marketing, and yet we at TAFE are not even allowed to do our own marketing for ELICOS (as an example). Also the Au government could provide more scholarship opportunities to attract the best potential students. More intergovernmental agreements could also help.

Q9.
5 - What are the necessary skills for the future that students should be prepared for? [limit to 500 words]

Q10.

5.1 - How can Australia improve employability outcomes for international students, ensuring students have the necessary the skills to compete in a globally competitive labour market? [limit to 500 words]

See 3. Parthways to PR vs. employability.

Q11.

6 - How do we create a uniquely Australian education experience? [limit to 500 words]

Q12.

6.1 - What is our value proposition for both international and domestic students? [limit to 500 words]

Q13.

6.2 - How do we offer an Australian education experience while complementing the value of Australian offshore and online education? [limit to 500 words]

Q14.

7 - What else should the Council for International Education and the Australian Government consider in developing a new strategy? [limit to 500 words]

There should be a review of an educational agencies system. At present, educational agencies promote only the schools they are affiliated with. This means that they don't have the best interests of potential international students at heart and often do not advise them on their best option. This needs to be changed as too many students are sold the courses they don't need or that are not the best option for them. I strongly believe that educational agencies should be operating similar to the immigration agencies, with agents having no affiliation to a particular school, and the amount of commission legislated by the government.

Q15.

8 - Do you have any additional comments or feedback to share?

I believe the international student market was overheated for too long, and while I feel for teachers who lost their jobs, I believe universities and vocational collages relied on International students too much, and many local students felt that they were 'sold out' in favour of International students.

Q19.

If you wish to upload a document to support your submission, including a document answering the discussion questions, please upload it here.

Q16.

Do you give the Department of Education, Skills and Employment permission to publish your submission on its website? *

- Yes – publish my submission with my name
- Yes – but keep my name anonymous
- No – don't publish my submission