



Australian High Commission
Malaysia

MEDIA RELEASE

**AUSTRALIA WELCOMES MORE STUDENTS
FROM MALAYSIA**

KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA – 6 August 2025: The Australian Government is increasing the number of international student places in Australia next year as well as introducing new measures to boost the number of students from Malaysia and other Southeast Asian countries.

Under the new framework, a National Planning Level of 295,000 international student places will be introduced for 2026. This represents a 9% increase from 270,000 places in 2025.


Supporting partnerships with Malaysia and Southeast Asia

Significantly, Australia's public universities will be able to apply to increase their international student allocations for 2026, by demonstrating an increased engagement with Southeast Asia, through their education offerings, partnerships, campuses, alumni and scholarships.

As part of the reforms, universities will also be required to provide additional student accommodation to ensure both domestic and international students have access to safe and secure student housing.

These changes reflect the Australian Government's commitment to building stronger ties with Southeast Asia, consistent with the strategy [Invested: Australia's Southeast Asia Economic Strategy to 2040](#).

Opportunities for Malaysian students



Australia's High Commissioner to Malaysia, HE Danielle Heinecke, welcomed the announcement.

"The Australian Government is prioritising Southeast Asia – this is great news for Malaysian students wanting a high-quality Australian education and student experience," said High Commissioner Heinecke.

"Malaysia and Australia share a longstanding partnership in higher education, with strong institutional links, student mobility, and alumni networks built over decades. Around 500,000 Malaysians have studied with Australia's world-class education providers.

"Four Australian universities – Monash University Malaysia, Curtin University, Swinburne University of Technology and University of Wollongong – operate campuses in Malaysia, reflecting the strength of our education ties.

"Australia remains one of the most popular destinations for Malaysian students with more than 13,000 Malaysians currently studying in Australia. New efforts to boost the number of students will strengthen our people-to-people links and encourage more investment in Malaysia," she said.

For more quotes from the Australian Education Minister Jason Clare and other Australian Ministers, please see this [media release](#).

