Australian Government

Department of Immigration and Citizenship

Changes to processing for student visa applications for citizens of Pakistan and Afghanistan

From 1 August 2009 all student visa applications for citizens of Pakistan (living in Pakistan or New Zealand) and citizens of Afghanistan (living in Pakistan or Afghanistan or New Zealand) will be processed by the Adelaide Offshore Student Processing Centre (AOSPC) in Australia.

Student visa applications lodged from 1 August 2009 must be lodged directly with the AOSPC.

Student visa applications sent to the Australian High Commission in Islamabad on or after 1 August 2009 will not be accepted and will be returned for lodgement with the AOSPC.

Applications lodged on and after 1 August 2009

Citizens of Pakistan (living in Pakistan or New Zealand) and citizens of Afghanistan (living in Pakistan or Afghanistan or New Zealand) must lodge their student visa application to the AOSPC by post or by courier.

Applications sent by post to the AOSPC should be directed to the following address:

Adelaide Offshore Student Processing Centre Department of Immigration and Citizenship GPO Box 1393 Adelaide SA 5001 Australia

Applications sent by courier to the AOSPC should be directed to the following address:

Adelaide Offshore Student Processing Centre Department of Immigration and Citizenship Level 4, 55 Currie Street Adelaide SA 5000 Australia

For information on how to pay visa application charges in Australia, please visit the DIAC website at <u>www.immi.gov.au/allforms/990i/how-to-pay.htm</u>.

Original documents, including passports, should not be sent with the student visa application to the AOSPC unless asked to do so. Certified copies of original documents should be provided – certified copies are copies that have been authorised or stamped as being true copies of originals by a notary public.

Students who have their visa application approved by the AOSPC can have a visa label placed in their passport by any DIAC office overseas. For contact details of DIAC offices overseas details please visit the DIAC website at www.immi.gov.au/contacts/overseas/.

Students supported by AusAID or the Australian Defence Minister will continue to be lodged and processed by the Australian High Commission in Islamabad.

Applications lodged before 1 August 2009

If a student visa application has been lodged with the Australian High Commission in Islamabad before 1 August 2009, the Australian High Commission in Islamabad will continue to process and finalise this application. It will not be transferred to the AOSPC for a decision.

Contacting the department

Before an application is lodged

If you are considering lodging a student visa application we encourage you to visit our website at www.immi.gov.au/students.

The AOSPC can be contacted using the email or telephone options provided below:

By email: offshore.student.processing.adelaide@immi.gov.au By phone + 61 1300 652 486 (outside Australia) 1300 652 486 (inside Australia)

After an application is lodged

Please ensure the student visa application is lodged at least 4 months before the course of study starts in Australia.

The AOSPC can be contacted using the email or telephone options provided below:

By email: offshore.student.processing.adelaide@immi.gov.au

By phone + 61 1300 652 486 (outside Australia)

1300 652 486 (inside Australia)