

# Summary of changes to visa and immigration requirements for short duration (2-8 week) visits to Indonesia: May 2022

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## 1. Introduction

In late 2022 (from November), ACICIS intends to recommence the consortium's short duration (less than a semester) educational programs in Indonesia for Australian students — most of whom will be supported by the New Colombo Plan. These programs range in duration from two weeks (14 days) to six weeks (45 days). Programs include the consortium's:

- Two-week [Public Health Study Tour](#) hosted by Universitas Indonesia (UI);
- Three-week [Indonesian Language Short Course](#) hosted by Satya Wacana University (UKSW); and
- Six-week [Professional Practicum programs](#) hosted by Atma Jaya University, Sanata Dharma University, and Udayana University.

Prior to the pandemic, ACICIS arranged sponsored B211A (Social Cultural) Visit visas for all Australian students participating in these programs.

Desktop research by the ACICIS Secretariat suggests that the Indonesian Directorate General of Immigration has made some changes to the eligibility requirements of the B211A visa, which might adversely affect the ability of Australian universities to use this category of visa for short duration (i.e. less than a semester) educational programs or visits to Indonesia. Our office's findings have subsequently been confirmed (verbally) by the Directorate General of Immigration's liaison office at the Indonesian Consulate General in Sydney — Mr Agus Majid, by the Educational attaché at the Indonesian Embassy in Canberra — Mr Mukhamad Najib, and by the Immigration Counsellor at the Australian Embassy in Jakarta, Mr Ben Nicholls.

Specifically, the advice currently provided (as of May 2022) by Indonesian immigration authorities is that **all Australian students wishing to enter Indonesia for educational purposes are now required to apply for a 316 (VITAS) visa — regardless of the duration of their stay in Indonesia**; and, further, that the B211A visa is no longer an acceptable category of visa for use by Australian students wishing to visit Indonesia for educational or study purposes.

Consultation conducted by ACICIS' in-country Resident Director, Dr Adrian Budiman, with the international offices of the consortium's Indonesian partner universities (including UI, Atma Jaya, UKSW and UII) suggest considerable confusion among Indonesian universities as to how to restart the hosting of short duration student mobility programs without using the B211A visa.

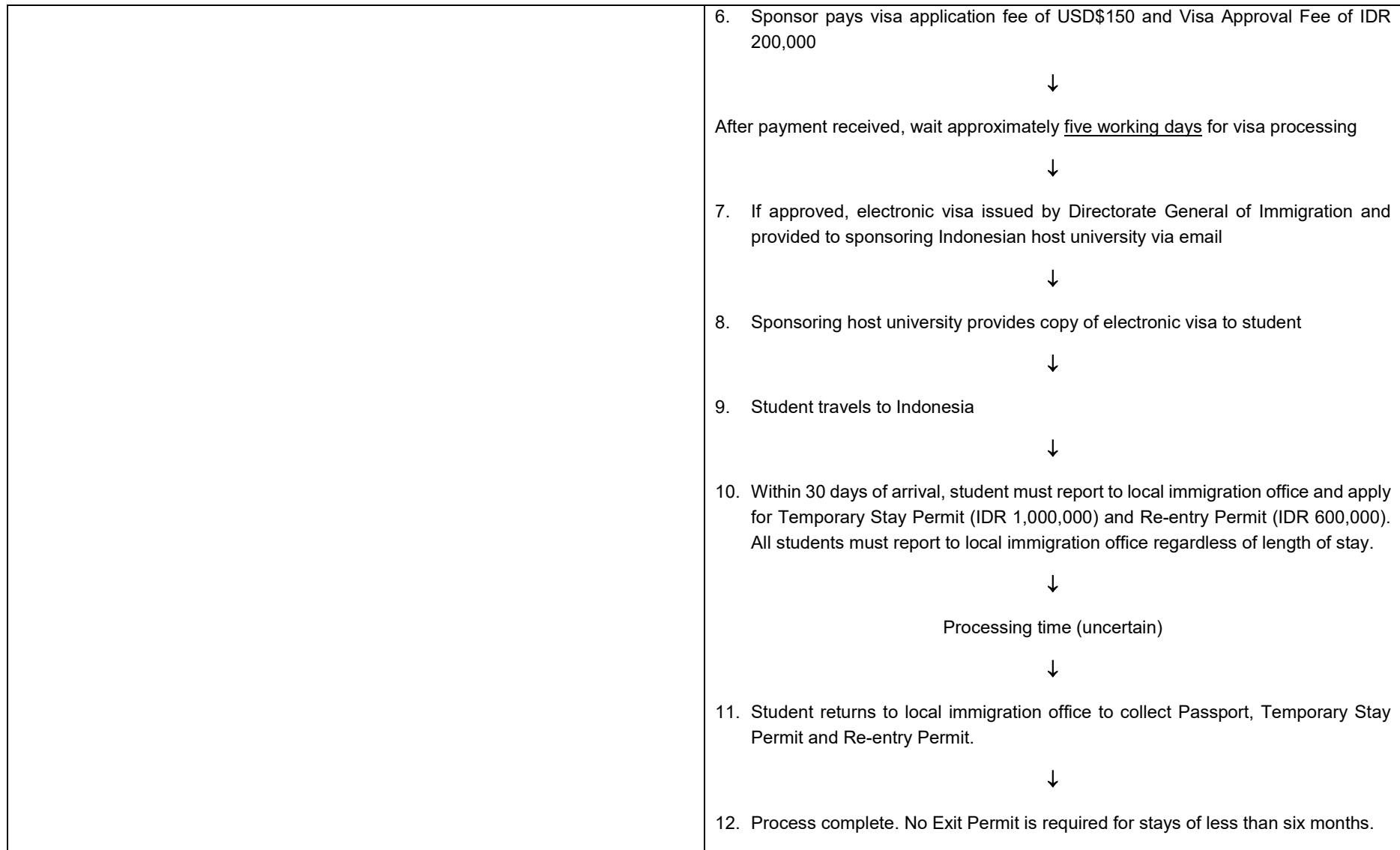
These changes could have significant ramifications — not only for ACICIS' operations —but for all Australian universities wanting to send New Colombo Plan students to Indonesia for short duration educational experiences given the significant additional cost and administrative burden — both prior to departure and upon arrival in Indonesia — entailed with use of the 316 visa, compared to the B211A Social Cultural visa. The details of this additional cost and administrative burden are outlined in the table below.

It should be noted that, prior to the pandemic, Indonesia was one of the most popular destinations for New Colombo Plan students. And further, that of the 1,545 Australian undergraduates who undertook a study abroad experience in Indonesia in 2019, 75% did so on short programs of less than four weeks' duration (*see information provided in Appendix 1*). As such, these changes are likely to impact the largest segment of New Colombo Plan students seeking to travel to Indonesia in the future.

<b>B211A (Social Cultural Visit) Visa</b>	<b>C316 Limited Stay Visa for Study Purposes</b>
<b>APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS (prior to March 2020)</b>	<b>APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS (since November 2021)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Total cost:</b> AUD\$80</li> <li>• <b>Processing time:</b> approximately five working days</li> <li>• <b>Maximum stay:</b> 60 days</li> <li>• <b>Required documents:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Visa Application Form (obtained from Indonesian Embassy or Consulate)</li> <li>2. Passport with at least six months validity from the date of arrival in Indonesia</li> <li>3. One passport-style photo</li> <li>4. Letter from sponsoring Indonesian University/Educational Institution + copy of author's Indonesian National ID Card (KTP)</li> <li>5. Round trip airline tickets.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Total cost:</b> approximately AUD\$400, comprised of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ USD\$150 Visa Fee</li> <li>▪ IDR 200,000 Visa Approval Fee by the Directorate General of Immigration</li> <li>▪ IDR 1,000,000 Temporary Stay Permit (must be obtained after arrival)</li> <li>▪ IDR 600,000 Re-entry Permit(must be obtained after arrival)</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. <b>Processing time:</b> unpredictable, officially five working days, plus three working days for issuance of Letter of Recommendation from Directorate General of Higher Education.</li> <li>3. <b>Maximum stay:</b> two years.</li> <li>4. <b>Required documents:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Letter of Recommendation from Directorate General of Higher Education. To apply for this letter the following documents are required: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1. Completed application form (completed by sponsoring Indonesian host university)</li> <li>1.2. Letter of Acceptance from Indonesian Host University</li> <li>1.3. Official Copy of Student's Home University Academic Transcript</li> <li>1.4. Scan of Student's Passport Information (Photo) Pages</li> </ol> </li> </ol> </li> </ol>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.5. Letter of declaration not to work while studying in Indonesia (signed by student)</li> <li>1.6. Letter of declaration not to participate in political activities while in Indonesia (signed by student)</li> <li>1.7. Letter of declaration to comply with Indonesian laws and regulations (signed by student)</li> <li>1.8. Letter from financial guarantor (e.g. parent)</li> <li>1.9. Certificate of financial guarantee</li> <li>1.10. Statement of good health by student's general practitioner.</li> <li>1.11. One passport style photograph of student.</li> </ol> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Passport with minimum of 12 months validity beyond date of arrival in Indonesia.</li> <li>3. Recent bank statement showing savings of at least USD\$2,000 or foreign currency equivalent.</li> <li>4. Evidence of travel insurance policy in student's name with full medical coverage, and at least USD\$25,000 of coverage for COVID-19 treatment in Indonesia.</li> <li>5. One passport style photo.</li> <li>6. Evidence of full COVID-19 vaccination.</li> <li>7. Letter of declaration to comply with all Indonesian health protocols (signed by student)</li> </ol>
<b>APPLICATION PROCESS (prior to March 2020)</b>	<b>APPLICATION PROCESS (since November 2021)</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Student accepted by Indonesian host university/education provider.  ↓</li> <li>2. Indonesian host university/provides sponsor letter and copy of author's Indonesian National ID Card (KTP) to student.  ↓</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Student accepted by Indonesian host university/education provider.  ↓</li> <li>2. Student provides following documents to Indonesian host university/education provider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Official Copy of Student's Home University Academic Transcript</li> <li>• Scan of Student's Passport Information (Photo) Pages</li> <li>• Letter of declaration not to work while studying in Indonesia (signed by student)</li> <li>• Letter of declaration not to participate in political activities while in Indonesia (signed by student)</li> <li>• Letter of declaration to comply with Indonesian laws and regulations (signed by student)</li> <li>• Letter from financial guarantor (e.g. parent)</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

<p>3. Student (or representative) attends local Indonesian Embassy or Consulate with the following documents (or applies by post/courier):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visa Application Form (completed and signed by student)</li> <li>• Passport with at least six months validity from the date of arrival in Indonesia</li> <li>• One passport-style photo</li> <li>• Letter from sponsoring Indonesian University/Educational Institution + copy of author's Indonesian National ID Card (KTP)</li> <li>• Round trip airline tickets.</li> <li>• AUD\$80 Payment</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Wait approximately <u>five working days</u> for visa processing</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>4. Student (or representative) attends local Indonesian Embassy or Consulate to collect passport and B211A visa.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>5. Student travels to Indonesia within three months of visa issuance. No further action required after arrival in Indonesia.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certificate of financial guarantee</li> <li>• Statement of good health by student's general practitioner.</li> <li>• One passport style photograph of student</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>3. Indonesian host university applies to Directorate General of Higher Education via online portal for Letter of Recommendation using the above documents, alongside their letter of acceptance and complete application form. Cost: free of charge.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Wait approximately <u>three working days</u> for Letter of Recommendation from Directorate General of Higher Education to be Issued.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>4. Student provides following documents to Indonesian Host University:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scan of Passport with minimum of 12 months validity beyond date of arrival in Indonesia</li> <li>• Recent bank statement showing savings of at least USD\$2,000 or foreign currency equivalent</li> <li>• Evidence of travel insurance policy in student's name with full medical coverage, and at least USD\$25,000 of coverage for COVID-19 treatment in Indonesia</li> <li>• One passport style photo</li> <li>• Evidence of full COVID-19 vaccination</li> <li>• Letter of declaration to comply with all health protocols in Indonesia (signed by student)</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p>5. Indonesian host university uses above documents and Letter of Recommendation from Directorate General of Higher Education to apply for C316 Temporary Stay Visa via Directorate General of Immigration's online visa application portal.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p>
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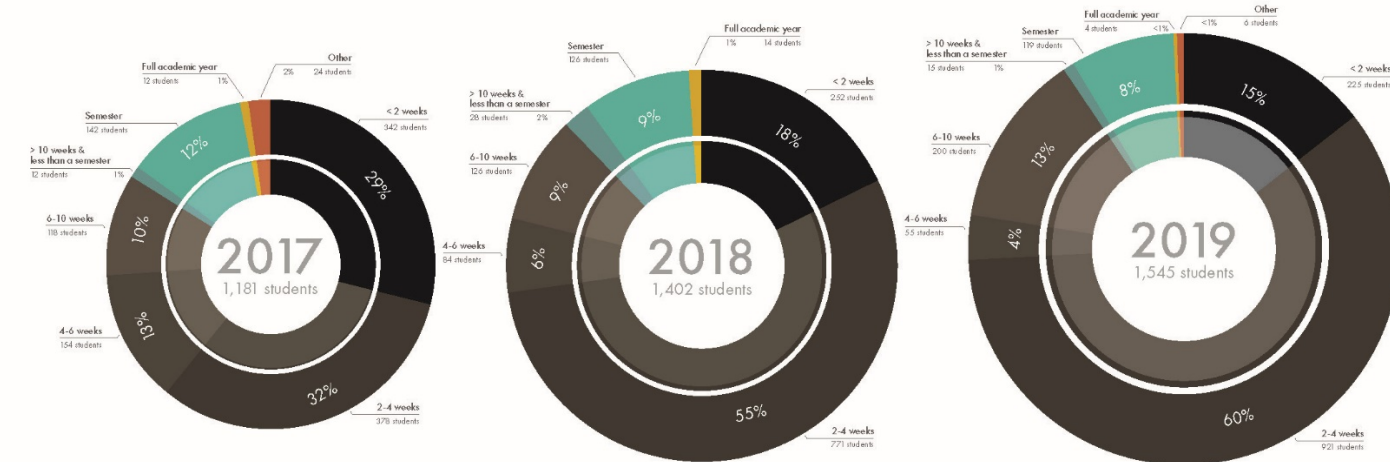
## Appendix 1 – Duration of study in Indonesia by Australian undergraduate students: 2017- 2019

# Duration of study in Indonesia: 2017-2019

## by Australian domestic undergraduate students

Despite the current policy settings of the Australian Government’s New Colombo Plan clearly prioritising the incentivisation of semester-length (or longer) learning abroad experiences, short-term study abroad experiences remain far more popular among students destined for Indonesia. 1,146 (or 75%) of the 1,545 Australian domestic undergraduate students who studied in Indonesia in 2019 did so on short-term programs of less than four weeks’ duration. By contrast, only 123 (or 8%) are reported to have studied in Indonesia for a semester or more during the same period. A significant year-on-year increase (10%) in the overall number of Australian domestic undergraduate students undertaking learning abroad experiences in Indonesia was recorded in 2019. This increase was most pronounced in the number of short-term experiences of between 6 and 10 weeks’ duration recorded (up 59% on 2018). Significant growth was also

seen in experiences between 2-4 weeks in duration (up 19%). 2019 also saw significant declines in the number of domestic undergraduate students undertaking studies in Indonesia of less than two weeks in duration (down 11%), of between 4 and 6 weeks in duration (down 35%), and of one semester in duration (down 6%). The number of Australian domestic undergraduate students undertaking a full academic year abroad in Indonesia also fell dramatically (down 71%) – from 14 students in 2018 to just four students in 2019.



Sources:  
Australian Universities Directors' Forum (AUIDF). *Outgoing international mobility of Australian university students 2017 (in 2018)*. (AUIDF, October 2018), 24.  
Australian Universities Directors' Forum (AUIDF). *Outgoing international mobility of Australian university students 2018 (in 2019)*. (AUIDF, March 2020), 26.  
Australian Universities Directors' Forum (AUIDF). *Learning Abroad 2019 (in 2020)*. (AUIDF, December 2020), 61.

# Duration of study in Indonesia: 2017-2019

by Australian domestic undergraduate students

	2019 (1,545 students)		2018 (1,402 students)		2017 (1,181 students)	
Study length	Student numbers	% of Student Cohort	Student numbers	% of Student Cohort	Student numbers	% of Student Cohort
< 2 weeks	225 students	15%	252 students	18%	342 students	29%
Growth yoy	-11%	-	-26%	-	191%	-
2-4 weeks	921 students	60%	771 students	55%	378 students	32%
Growth yoy	19%	-	104%	-	-8%	-
> 4-6 weeks	55 students	4%	84 students	6%	154 students	13%
Growth yoy	-35%	-	-45%	-	59%	-
> 6-10 weeks	200 students	13%	126 students	9%	118 students	10%
Growth yoy	59%	-	7%	-	70%	-
> 10 weeks	15 students	1%	28 students	2%	12 students	1%
Growth yoy	-47%	-	137%	-	18%	-
Semester	119 students	8%	126 students	9%	142 students	12%
Growth yoy	-6%	-	-11%	-	51%	-
Full academic year	4 students	<1%	14 students	1%	12 students	1%
Growth yoy	-71%	-	19%	-	44%	-
Other	6 students	<1%	-	-	24 students	2%
Growth yoy	n/a	-	-100%	-	-78%	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,545 students</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,402 students</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,181 students</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Growth yoy</b>	<b>10%</b>		<b>19%</b>		<b>29%</b>	