

## Media release

20 July 2020

# Government support for international students: IRU response

The Innovative Research Universities (IRU) group is pleased the Government has responded to university requests to recommence processing international student visas in preparation for the re-opening of Australia's borders and ensured that students affected by COVID-19 restrictions will still have access to post study work visas.

Immigration Services Minister Alan Tudge MP and Education Minister Dan Tehan MP jointly made the announcement today, outlining [five changes to visas](#).

### **IRU Executive Director Conor King said:**

"The changes announced by the Government show it understands the importance of international students to Australia's recovery from COVID-19.

"International students are vital to the success of Australian universities. Fewer students means less money invested in research and other university operations.

"This is a step in the right direction in helping Australia remain competitive as an international student destination. It is important universities can recommence the enrolment of overseas students, even if those students need to study online from their home countries."

## IRU contacts

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## About the IRU

The IRU is a network of seven comprehensive universities committed to inclusive excellence in teaching and research in Australia. Its members are Charles Darwin University, Flinders University, Griffith University, James Cook University, La Trobe University, Murdoch University and Western Sydney University.

[iru.edu.au](http://iru.edu.au)