

Dear Sir/Madam,

This submission is in regards to the inquiry into the Welfare of International Students in particular the section on permanency.

I am a local student currently studying medicine at the University of Sydney. It has recently come to light that my fellow classmates whom hold international student positions will be at a great disadvantage to us upon graduation. Whilst local students such as myself are guaranteed intern positions once we finish our schooling, international students are now placed as having last priority in acquiring a training position making the possibility of them remaining in our country after graduating very poor. As it is increasingly difficult to return to their countries of origin, I feel this is entirely unfair and counter productive as it leaves them with very little security regarding their futures. The question of whether it is worth investing hundreds of thousands of dollars in an education that may leave them unemployed at the end of it.

I am fully aware of the shortage that the NSW government will face in the coming years with regards to provision of internship positions. However, I am also fully aware that international student fees provide a great proportion of the funding to our tertiary education institutions. I fear that by disadvantaging international students in such a way, news will eventually spread and our medical schools in Australia will begin to see a dramatic decline in the number of international entrants. Not only will this be a great shame due to the loss of diversity in our classes but will also lead to a strain on the already diminishing budget at the schools' disposals.

Many of my fellow students feel the same way and we feel that it would be in everyone's best interests to reconsider the current position that international students have been forced into.

Best regards,

David Zhe Yuan