



Dear Agent Partners,

We take this opportunity to thank you for all your support in 2021 and wish you a very happy and prosperous 2022.

Seasons greetings to all of you!

### **A MESSAGE FROM THE PRO VICE CHANCELLOR LINDA TAYLOR**

Hello from Western Sydney University,

As another year draws to a close, I want to take this opportunity to extend my deepest thanks for your support and continued loyalty throughout what has been yet another challenging year for International education globally.

I am extremely proud of the flexibility and resilience shown by both our team here at Western Sydney International, and our partners globally who have continued to strive for and achieve innovations, collaborations and partnerships, which have supported our students and helped them to navigate international education during a difficult time.

2021 brought with it many successes such as:

- Our recent rankings growth in both the prestigious Times Higher Education World University and World Young University rankings, cementing our upward trajectory into 2022 and beyond.
- The continuation of our generous scholarship program which will continue into 2022 and 2023, providing excellent value to all eligible international students aspiring to study at Western
- The strong ties we continue to foster with industry through our numerous industry accreditations, with the most recent award of the prestigious Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business accreditation, where the Western Sydney University School of Business has achieved this impressive global recognition, highlighting the School's commitment to highly engaged learning experiences and ongoing innovation.
- Our innovative online study abroad programs which have enabled students to continue to benefit from our valued partnerships abroad, even while international travel has been on hold. And our;
- Continued commitment to offering exceptional student support to all international students by way of the Student Assistance Fund established in 2020 and our Western Success initiative which has seen every international student receive one on one care and support from a dedicated team of Western Success officers.

Looking ahead to the new year, I am full of optimism and hope as we continue to hear positive news of the Australian borders re-opening and international travel resuming, bringing our international students back onshore to study face to face once more on our beautiful campuses.

We also welcome 2022 as our excited team begin to plan for overseas travel again to meet with our partners and prospective students in person.

And so, on behalf of the whole team from Western Sydney International, I wish you and your families a safe and restful holiday season, thank you for your support.

Professor Linda Taylor  
Pro Vice-Chancellor, International  
Western Sydney University



## NEWS UPDATE FOR DECEMBER

### MASTER OF NURSING PRACTICE (CRICOS 105752J)

We are pleased to announce that our School of Nursing and Midwifery has been approved by the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council to offer the Master of Nursing Practice degree from 2022.



This program will replace the Bachelor of Nursing (Graduate Entry) degree and will be delivered along very similar lines with identical start dates and duration.

Students with the current offer letter and acceptance for Bachelor of Nursing (Graduate Entry) will meet the entry requirements for the new Master degree and will have their new offers (replacing the old BNGE offer) sent to them this week. The fees will remain the same as will the level of scholarship that has

already been awarded.

We kindly request that you assist your students in accepting their new Masters offer for the January 2022 start.

The program will be available ongoing in the January of each year and you will now be able to promote this new Masters degree for intakes in 2023 and beyond.

This great development at Western Sydney University offers your students an enhanced AQF level 9 qualification benefitting their future careers in healthcare.

[Click here](#) to find out more information about this course.

## ENGLISH RECOGNITIONS UPDATE

During COVID we have been accepting a number of alternate English tests to assist students in evidencing their English levels. Western Sydney University is now also recognising the new Pearson PTE Online for courses at Western Sydney University as an “alternate English test”. The following points summarise our recognitions:

- PTE Online has been included as an alternate English test and Western will accept the same scores as PTE Academic (Eg. 58 overall with no band score less than 50).
- TOEFL iBT, IELTS Indicator and Duolingo remain listed as acceptable alternate English Tests. For full information on our English Entry Requirements visit our [website](#).
- Western offers a 3 year validity for IELTS, PTE, TOEFL, all alternate English tests and prior study in English.
- We can accept the alternate English test for programs which have IELTS 7.0 or equivalent e.g. Master of Social Work (Qualifying); Bachelor of Physiotherapy (Hons)
- The alternate English tests will not be acceptable for: Bachelor of Nursing, Bachelor of Nursing (Graduate Entry), Master of Nursing Practice, Master of Teaching, Graduate Diploma of Psychology, Master of Clinical Psychology and Master of Professional Psychology.
- Alternate tests are not accepted for immigration purposes or by external accrediting bodies.

These extended recognitions for Alternate English Test will only apply to intakes for in the first half of 2022: Quarter One, Quarter Two, Semester 1 and Term 1 2022.

## BORDERS

Our first 250 returning students to NSW arrived last week in the Pilot Program organised by the universities in NSW and the state and federal governments. We look forward to a further 250 students on December 24<sup>th</sup>. This is a great development which we hope will be scaled up in the coming weeks and months.

In anticipation of good news regarding Australian borders opening, we encourage you to ensure that your students are fully vaccinated with a TGA approved or recognised vaccine and carry with them when travelling clear evidence of their vaccination with appropriate formal translations of any certification.

Please keep an eye on the following websites for updates:

## Useful Websites

[Australian Government Smarttravellers website](#) for the latest information on COVID-19 entry requirements. This includes [pre-departure testing](#), [declaration forms](#) and [vaccination evidence](#).

- [General Information about travelling into and out of Australia](#)
- [Coming to Australia](#)
- [Leaving Australia](#)
- [TGA approved or recognised vaccines](#)
- [Vaccination requirements and proof of overseas vaccines to enter Australia](#)
- [Australian Travel Restrictions](#)

For any current student enquiries please contact [internationalarrivals@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:internationalarrivals@westernsydney.edu.au) or your Western Success Advisor [westernsuccess@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:westernsuccess@westernsydney.edu.au). You can also call or send a message on WhatsApp to +61 2 9852 5155.

For any future student or applicant enquiries please contact us at [internationalstudy@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:internationalstudy@westernsydney.edu.au).

### Checklists

- [Study NSW pre-departure and arrivals checklist](#)
- [Australian Government travel and pre-departure checklist](#)
- [International students leaving Australia checklist](#)
- [NSW health guidelines for fully vaccinated arrivals](#)

### TIPS FOR FASTER ADMISSIONS TURNAROUND

International Admissions have continuously improved processes and systems in recent years to ensure your students move from application to full offer in good time. With our 'busy season' upon us here are a few tips to speed up the process even further!

- Please provide correct students' email address, contact numbers and actual home addresses
- Confirm if the student is offshore at home or onshore in Australia at the time of application
- Provide full applications with all complete and incomplete academic/English documents to reduce back and forth between admissions team and your office if there are gaps in studies.
- Only communicate to Admissions staff via Studylink, so it is easier for them to follow-up on student cases. Using Assessors work email addresses slows down their work. If you stick to Studylink communication only, the Assessors will be able to respond faster.

### STUDENTS RETURN TO SYDNEY

As you will have seen in the media, New South Wales had the great pleasure of welcoming back its first group of returning international students on 3 December. Our team was at the airport to greet them in Sydney with Western Sydney University receiving 17 students.

There will be further flights arriving in December for the Pilot Program from South Asia and East Asia. We also look forward to positive news on 15 December from the Federal Government in relation to borders.

Check out some of the photos from the day below and [watch the video](#) of the TV news on the day.





Please get in touch with your Regional Manager if you have any questions about any of the above.

Kind Regards,

Western Sydney International



Western Sydney University. CRICOS Provider Number 00917K.

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