

Homestay Information for Parents

NSW Department of Education and Training (the Department) / TAFE NSW assists in the accommodation and welfare arrangements for students as requested by parents, who do not have a relative residing in NSW who meets the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) requirements.

As requested by you, the Department / TAFE NSW has issued the Confirmation of Appropriate Accommodation and Welfare arrangements (CAAW) to DIAC for your child's visa. As such your child must live in the homestay accommodation and with the guardian arranged through the Department.

Homestay accommodation and guardianship is arranged through independent Homestay Providers who have agreements with the Department / TAFE NSW to provide such service. Your child will be placed in accommodation that meets the following standards:

The Required Standards for student accommodation are as follows:

1. The home must be clean and comfortable and the Homestay Hosts / guardians must reside at the Homestay Premises;
2. Each student is to have its own room, bed, desk or if a shared room no more than 2 persons per room (same sex) each of whom must have separate bed and desk;
3. Students are not to share rooms with host family members and sharing arrangements will only be provided if the parents of the Student(s) so request;
4. There are to be no more than 3 overseas students residing in the home;
5. Students are to be given a key to the home or arrangements made so that the Student can gain access to the home at any time;
6. There must be adequate lighting for study purposes;
7. There must be heating in winter and some means of cooling in summer;
8. There must be access to shared bathroom, with reasonable time allowed for showers (10 minutes);
9. There must be access to kitchen and laundry facilities and use of shared living areas of home;
10. The Homestay Host is to provide 2 meals a day on weekdays and 3 meals on weekends and, in providing meals, the Homestay Host must be aware of and take account of cultural differences. Food should be available for Students to make themselves an after school snack;
11. House rules are to be discussed and explained to the Student, (including friends visiting, use of phone and incoming calls, cleaning of room or other household tasks, meal times and rules for behaviour such as going out and times for arriving home, manners and courtesy);
12. Use of telephone and/or computer facilities is to be at students own expense. However charges to the Student should only cover the actual cost of phone or internet usage. Use of Homestay internet will be restricted including restrictions on downloads. Internet access is not permitted between 11pm and 6am. Personal items and their insurance to be at the Student's own risk;
13. Students may change Homestay Premises if there is a medical reason to do so, a request from parents of the Student or the placement in particular Homestay Premises is not compatible, in the reasonable opinion of the Student. Changes to Homestay placement may incur an additional fee.

The present cost of homestay accommodation ranges from A\$200 to A\$290 per week, including the guardian / carer role. All payments must be paid monthly and in advance but the Department takes no responsibility for variations or increases from time to time.

Recognising the importance of child protection, Homestay Providers and Homestay Hosts ensure that all adult individuals residing at any Homestay Premises will have a Working With Children Check.

Homestay Premises are to be visited and inspected by Homestay Providers regularly to ensure that standards are being met.

Homestay Hosts take on guardianship of students under 18 years. Guardians take on a parental role in communication between the Student, schools, the Department and parents. They provide care and support for students and assist Students to settle into life and study in school.

I, , parent of the Student
(name of parent) (name of student)

agree to the above conditions for my child's accommodation and welfare.

Signature

date//

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