

INDEPENDENT

9. SHOULD THERE BE WAITING PERIODS FOR GP SERVICES?

ISA strongly supports a no wait period for student visa holders to visit a GP. This is particularly important for the mental health of school aged children. Some students may arrive in Australia with pre-existing mental health conditions.¹

Digital membership cards

Digital membership cards are suitable for some under 18-year-olds who are accompanied by a guardian. However, a hard copy option should also be allowed for accessibility for guardians who mTf6U174.14rd cop

14. WILL CLARIFYING THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE DEED IMPROVE OR FURTHER HINDER THE OPERATION OF OSHC FOR YOUR ORGANISATION?

Clarifying the requirements of the Deed would improve the operation of OSHC. As mentioned previously, managing multiple students can prove to be a burden on schools, therefore further clarity would ensure they can advocate for the rights of student visa holders.

15. WHAT TRANSITION ARRANGEMENTS AND TIMEFRAME WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO IMPLEMENT THIS CHANGE?

ISA recommends that there be no change to existing policy holders and that any change not disadvantage students who are currently onshore. Introduction of the new Deed would be best aligned with students commencing the academic calendar year and therefore should be in effect from the start of a financial year as students commence the enrolment process.

17. WHAT IS THE ANTICIPATED IMPACT ON PREMIUMS?

Insurers introducing regular premium payment options will have significant implications to the
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cancelled by the insurer due to missed payments. A one-off full payment for the duration of the student visa at the outset is preferred.

Providers who hold welfare for under 18-year-old healthcare is always covered.

