



FEE PAYMENT & REFUND POLICY



ALPHA TRAINING COLLEGE

RTO Number: 45145

CRISCOS ID: 03633J

Email: alphatrainingcollege@gmail.com

Fee Payment & Refund Policy

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide information in relation to Fee payment & refund of course money to students in accordance with the requirements of 'Standard 3' of National Code 2018 and clause 5.3 of Standard for RTO 2015.

This fee payment & refund policy is in consistent with the requirements of ESOS Act, policy in relation to refunds of tuition fees and non-tuition fees in the case of student default and Provider default i.e. AICA default.

The policy provides students with information on the amounts that may or may not be repaid to the overseas students (including any tuition and non-tuition fees collected by education agents on behalf of AICA).

AICA is entitled to charge fees for services provided to students undertaking a course of study and for other services AICA may provide.

These charges are generally for items such as:

- Tuition fees;
- Enrolment fees;
- Course materials;
- Text books;
- Student services and
- Other related training and assessment services.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all students currently studying or formally enrolled at Alpha International College (AICA). Applicants are advised to ensure that they understand the Fee payment & Refund Policy. Refunds will be available only under certain circumstances as mentioned in this policy below.

3. Responsibility

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is responsible for the implementation, monitoring and interpretation of this policy.

AICA will ensure that learners are aware about their rights to obtain a refund for services not provided by the college in the event the:

- Arrangement is terminated early; or
- AICA fails to provide agreed services

4. Definitions

Tuition Fee: The Tuition Fee is a compulsory academic fee payable by students for courses offered by the college. It does not include course material fees and other applicable fees or cost.

Tuition Protection Service (TPS): The Tuition Protection Service is a protection scheme for international students whose provider cannot fully deliver a course for which the student has paid.

The TPS ensures that international students are able to either:

- a. complete their studies in another course or with another education provider or
- b. receives a refund of their unspent tuition fees.

Agreed Start Date/Course Commencement: Agreed Start Date (Course Commencement) means the day on which the course was scheduled to start as per the student's Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE), or a later date agreed between college and the student for the start of the course.

Course Material Fee: A fee charged for the cost of providing course materials for theory and practical study, textbooks (if any), student guides and resource materials that are retained by the student as his/her personal property.

Administration Fee: An Administration Fee is a non-refundable fee that is charged for providing services to students.

Enrolment Fee: An enrolment fee is a non-refundable fee payable for enrolling in college and is in addition to tuition fees.

Term: A term is referred to a study period of 10 weeks excluding Holidays.

DHA: Department of Home Affairs

Provider Default: Provider default means when a provider fails to start or finish providing a course to a student at the location on the agreed starting day,

Student Default: This means when a student fails to start or finish a course with a provider, withdraws from the course, or when provider refuses to provide, or continue providing, the course to the student due to:

- failure to pay an amount that he/she is liable to pay to the provider,
- Student breached a condition of his/her student visa, or misbehavior by the student.

5. Requests for Refund of Tuition Fees

A student who wishes to apply for a refund of tuition fees in accordance with this Refund Policy should do so by completing a Refund Application form (Appendix 1) available at AICA reception or on the AICA's website at <https://www.alphatrainingcollege.edu.au/> and submit with other supporting documents to Administration department at Alpha International College Australia (AICA).

6. Policy

It is important that learners are aware about the college Fees Payment policy and the Fees Refund Policy before they sign the agreement.

I. Payment of Tuition Fees

If any student is applying for a payment plan, the payment plan form is to be completed and submitted to the Student Support Officer. The CEO will make the final decision., The student is to be notified of the outcome.

a. The initial tuition fee, enrolment fee and material fee as stated in the offer letter must be paid in advance before the commencement of the course for confirmation of enrolment at college.

b. AICA may require students to pay up to 50% of the student's total tuition fee for a course before the student begins the course. AICA will not accept more than 50% of tuition fee upfront unless the course duration is 25 weeks or less.

c. Students are not required to pay more than the initial tuition fee amount as stated on the offer letter (or 50% of the tuition fee) before the start of the course. However, students can pay more than 50% if they wish to do so. Any amount of fees paid before the start of the course will be reflected on the Confirmation of Enrolment (COE).

d. Any remaining tuition fees can be paid through payment plan arrangements and payment for students will be due after every 30 days.

e. Student must pay full tuition fee for each term by due date or as specified in the invoices unless any other payment plan/arrangement is agreed with the college.

f. A late fee of \$200 will be applicable to students who do not pay the tuition fee by due date or as specified in the invoice.

g. Tuition fees is payable to the college by a bank draft or telegraphic transfer (or other approved payment options) in Australian dollars made payable to the college.



h. Student must pay their fee directly to Alpha International College Australia (AICA) and it does not accept liability for any fees paid to an agent or third party in relation to an application for enrolment and tuition fees.

i. If the student tuition fee is outstanding after the due date or any date mentioned in the invoice, a reminder notice and/or email will be issued within two weeks of the original invoice due date.

Three reminders will be given:

- 1st within 30 days,
- 2nd Notice within 30 days
- A final notice will be issued in 90 days, thereafter student's enrolment will be cancelled.

j. If a student fails to make the payment of the outstanding fees even after a final notice and/or email, their enrolment will be cancelled after 21 days of final notice. The suspension of Enrolment will cause following restrictions to apply:

i. Loss of access to the college learning management system, classroom, computer system including internet and others.

ii. Loss of access to enrolment records, results and academic certificates.

Inability to attend any classes where this may result in students having to repeat missed work and/units.

k. If student with suspended enrolment make no further payment or do not contact the college concerning their debt, their enrolment may be cancelled and the student will be reported to DHA for non-payment of fees.

l. An additional fee is applicable when:

- Students have to undergo reassessment after two additional attempts (Reassessment fee), or
- Students have to repeat a subject (unit fee).

m. Students who enrol in additional courses will be required to pay a separate tuition fee as specified for the course.

n. The tuition fee charged to the student will remain the same provided the student remains enrolled in the same course. If the student transfers the course, tuition fee for the transferred course will apply.

Please Note: Fees are subject to change without prior notice. Students are advised to contact student administration for updated fees and charges.

o. If the student's visa status changes (e.g., becomes a temporary or permanent resident), the student will continue to pay full overseas student fees for the duration of the enrolled program.

p. AICA reserves the right to engage any third party to recover any outstanding fees payable to the college. The cost incurred to the college for engaging a third party to recover such outstanding fees will be charged to the student.

q. AICA applies the following procedures to ensure all students are treated fairly and with integrity when applying for refunds.

r. All refunds applications are to be submitted to the Student Administration Department and the following procedures followed in assessing the application.

s. All 'refunds' are to be approved by the Compliance Manager and applications are processed within 10 working days of the application being placed.

7. Procedures

All students' refunds are conditional on the following:

A. COURSE WITHDRAWAL

- a) Where a written notice of withdrawal is received by the college **at least 12 full weeks before the agreed start date** of the course or term, the college will refund 100% of the fee received except application fee.
- b) Where the college receives a written notice of withdrawal within **6 to 11 full weeks before the agreed start date of the course or term**, the college will refund 50% of the fee received except application fee.
- c) Where the college receives a written notice of withdrawal within **5 full weeks or less before the agreed start date of the course or term**, no refund will be provided.
- d) Where the college receives a written notice of withdrawal after the start date of the course or term, no refund will be provided.
- e) Where the student defaults, including withdrawing from a course, after the course/term start date, student are liable to pay full tuition fee and there will be no refund of paid tuition fees.
- f) It should also be noted that if your enrolment falls within no refund time lines before the agreed start date of the course, then there will be no refund before.

For example: If a student enrolls in week 5 before course start date, he/she will not be eligible for refund as enrolment falls in no refund time period of 5 full weeks prior to the agreed start date of the course.

- g) If the refund application is approved, Refund will be paid within the period of 28 days (20 working days) after receiving written notification/claim from student and relevant forms duly signed by the student.

- h) The college must have received funds in order for any refunds to be made available (i.e., cheques are cleared)

b. STUDENT DEFAULTS

An overseas student or intending overseas student defaults, in relation to a course at a location, if the student himself/herself initiates termination of enrolment like:

- the course starts at the location on the agreed starting day, but the student does not start the course on that day (and has not previously withdrawn); or
- the student withdraws from the course at the location (after the agreed starting day); or
- the college refuses to provide, or continue providing, the course to the student at the location because of one or more of the followings:
 - the student failed to pay an amount payable to the college for the course;
 - the student breached a condition of his/her student visa;
 - misbehavior by the student (Note: the student is entitled to natural justice under subsection 47A(3))

A student does not default for failing to start a course on the agreed starting day if he/she does not start that course because the college defaults in relation to the course at the college. No refund is payable for student default.

C. VISA REFUSAL

If a student visa application or visa renewal is refused by the Australian Government, a refund of course fees, less enrolment, will be made and visa refusal refunds are calculated in accordance with the legislative instrument under subsection 47E (4).

The calculation under subsection 47E (4) is as follows:

The amount of unspent pre-paid fees that the college must refund the student for the purpose of

Subsection 47E (2) of the Act is the total amount of the pre-paid fees the provider received for the course in respect of the student less the following amount the lesser of:

- a. 5% of the total amount of pre-paid fees that the provider received in respect of the student for the course before the default day; or
- b. the sum of \$500.

Students must provide the College with substantiated evidence of their student visa refusal.

If an international student currently in Australia has their student visa application refused by Department of Home Affairs (DHA) after the commencement of their studies; refund will be calculated as follows:

The refund amount = weekly tuition fee x the number of weeks in the default period

- The weekly tuition fee = total tuition fee for the course / number of calendar days in the course x seven (7). This amount is rounded up to the nearest whole dollar.
- The number of weeks in the default period = number of calendar days from the default day to the end of the period to which the payment relates / seven (7).

No refunds will be granted where an international student currently in Australia has their student visa cancelled by the Department of Home Affairs (DHA) for a breach of visa conditions.

d. PROVIDER DEFAULT

- In the unlikely event that the college is unable to start or deliver the course (known as provider default), the student can choose to accept either:
 - A refund of course fees, which will be issued to the student within 14 days. or
 - be placed in an alternative course with the college or another provider. If the student chooses this option, they must sign a new written agreement to indicate they have accepted the placement.
- If the student chooses to receive a refund of course fees, the college will calculate the unspent portion of tuition fees paid to date (i.e., tuition fees the student has paid for, but which has not been delivered by the college). The refund will be paid within 14 days after cessation of the course.

- If the college is unable to provide a refund or place the student in an alternative course, the TPS will provide the student with options for suitable alternative courses (if any such courses are available), or if this is not possible, the student will be eligible for a refund as calculated by the TPS Director.

e. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

Where a student withdraws from the course and returns home because of exceptional and extenuating circumstances of a compassionate nature, such as a death or severe illness in the immediate family, 100% of all the unspent fees paid, less any administration fees, will be refunded.

REFUND PROCESS

- a. The Student must apply for refund using the Refund Application Form/Course withdrawal form (Appendix 1) along with the evidence and supporting documents. Such documents may include, but are not limited to:
 - a completed Course Withdrawal Form provided by the college,
 - a letter from DHA advising of a rejection of the student visa application or a refusal to extend a student visa,
 - Proof of extenuating circumstances of a compassionate nature.
- b. Refunds will be made within 28 days (20 working days) of the receipt of completed refund application form along with full supporting document by the college.
- c. Student can nominate a person(s), other than the overseas student, who can receive a refund in respect of the overseas student identified in the written agreement, consistent with the ESOS Act.

PAYMENT OF REFUNDS

Refunds will be paid in Australian dollars via bank transfer to the bank account number nominated by the student on the refund application form.

Refund to International banks are made in the Australian currency where by student will receive refund amount equivalent to Australian Dollar exchange rate on the date of transfer.

Note: Timeline for refund

It is to be noted that refund will be made available to students differently based on student's default and providers default.



In case of Student default: Refund will be paid within the period of 20 working days after receiving written notification/claim from student and relevant forms duly signed by the student.

In case of Provider's default: Refund will be paid within the period of 14 days after cessation of the course.

Please refer to the course refund table below for details:

AICA COURSE FEE REFUND TABLE			
Refund circumstances	Refund of Tuition Fees paid	Refund of Material Fees	Application/enrolment Fee
Withdrawal at least 12 full weeks prior to agree start date.	100%	100%	No refund
Withdrawal between 6 to 11 full weeks prior to the agreed Start Date.	50%	100%	No refund
Withdrawal in 5 full weeks or less	No refund	No refund	No refund
Withdrawal after course start date	No refund	No refund	No refund
Course withdrawn by the college	100%	100%	100%
Application rejected by the college	100%	100%	100%
The course is not provided fully to the student because the college has a sanction imposed by a government regulator.	Refund of unused portion of tuition fees for future terms	No refund	No refund



<p>Visa refused prior to course commencement</p>	<p>Total amount of the pre-paid fees received by AICA for the course in respect of the student course less the following amount</p> <p>(a) 5% of the total amount of pre-paid fees that the college received in respect of the student for the course before the default day; or</p> <p>(b) a maximum sum of \$500 whichever is lesser</p>	<p>100%</p>	<p>100%</p>
<p>Visa is refused after commencement of studies due to not meeting visa requirements</p>	<p>The refund amount = weekly tuition fee x the number of weeks in the default period</p> <p>a. The weekly tuition fee = total tuition fee for the course/ number of calendar days in the course x 7. This amount is rounded up to the nearest whole dollar.</p> <p>b. The number of weeks in the default period = number of calendar days from the default day to the end of the period to which the payment relates / 7</p>	<p>The refund amount = weekly material fee x the number of weeks in the default period</p> <p>a. The weekly material fee = total material fee for the course / number of calendar days in the course x 7. This amount is rounded up to the nearest whole dollar.</p> <p>b. The number of weeks in the default period = number of calendar days from the default day to the end of the period to which the payment relates / 7</p>	<p>No refund</p>
<p>RPL fee</p>	<p>No refund if Statement of Attainment 'is provided</p>	<p>No refund</p>	<p>No refund</p>



Visa refused due to submission of fraudulent documents by or on behalf of the student	No refund	No refund	No refund
Withdraws from the course without notification or breaches their Visa conditions	No refund	No refund	No refund
Withdrawal after the agreed start date	No refund	No refund	No refund
Visa cancelled due to actions of the student	No refund	No refund	No refund
Student abandons the course	No refund	No refund	No refund
The college cancels an enrolment due to serious student misconduct	No refund	No refund	No refund
<p>Note: If a student's enrolment falls within no refund time lines before the agreed start date of the course and the student decides to withdraw from the course, then there will be no refund.</p> <p>For example: If a student enrolls in week 5 before course start date, he/she will not be eligible for refund if student withdraws from the course as enrolment falls in no refund time period of 5 weeks prior to the agreed start date of the course.</p>			

STUDENT'S RIGHTS TO APPEAL

Any student who is refused a refund by the college may appeal within 14 days in writing to the Compliance Manager and follow the complaints and appeal process of AICA.

- a. The college appeal process does not restrict the student's right to pursue other legal avenues.
- b. This written agreement and the right to make complaints and seek appeals of decisions and action under various processes, does not affect the rights of the student to take action under the Australian Consumer Law if the Australian Consumer Law applies.

Review processes The policy and procedure will be reviewed annually by the Compliance Manager. Version 3.0



Appendix 1

Refund Application form/Course Withdrawal Form

Student's Personal details:			
Full name			
Student Id:			
Course code and Name			
Start date of study		End date of study	
Address			
Phone no		Mobile	
Email			
<p>I wish to apply for a refund for my tuition fees paid for course described above.</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Work Commitments <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Circumstances <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Grounds <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient study resources and facilities <input type="checkbox"/> Staff quality inadequate <input type="checkbox"/> Transferred to another course within AICA <input type="checkbox"/> Transferred to another provider <input type="checkbox"/> Medical reasons <input type="checkbox"/> Other; Please Specify _____ (provide admission documents) </p> <p>(Note: No withdrawal will be approved unless all outstanding fees are paid.)</p>			

International students must state the reason for withdrawing from a course at Alpha International College Australia (AICA).

AICA is obliged to report the withdrawal and the reason to DHA (Department of Home Affairs).

All supporting documents should be attached to this form.

Please refer to the Refund Policy for any applicable refunds.

Additional Comments:

COURSE FEE REFUND TABLE				
Please Tick	Refund circumstances	Refund of Tuition Fees paid	Refund of Material Fees	Application/enrolment Fee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Withdrawal at least 12 full weeks prior to agree start date.	100%	100%	No refund
<input type="checkbox"/>	Withdrawal between 6 to 11 full weeks prior to the agreed Start Date.	50%	100%	No refund
<input type="checkbox"/>	Withdrawal in 5 full weeks or less	No refund	No refund	No refund
<input type="checkbox"/>	Withdrawal after course start date	No refund	No refund	No refund



<input type="checkbox"/>	Course withdrawn by the college	100%	100%	100%
<input type="checkbox"/>	Application rejected by the college	100%	100%	100%
<input type="checkbox"/>	The course is not provided fully to the student because the college has a sanction imposed by a government regulator.	Refund of unused portion of tuition fees for future terms	No refund	No refund
<input type="checkbox"/>	Visa refused prior to course commencement	Total amount of the pre-paid fees received by AICA for the course in respect of the student course less the following amount (a) 5% of the total amount of pre-paid fees that the college received in respect of the student for the course before the default day; or (b) a maximum sum of \$500 whichever is lesser	100%	100%



<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Visa is refused after commencement of studies due to not meeting visa requirements</p>	<p>The refund amount = weekly tuition fee x the number of weeks in the default period</p> <p>a. The weekly tuition fee = total tuition fee for the course/ number of calendar days in the course x 7. This amount is rounded up to the nearest whole dollar.</p> <p>b. The number of weeks in the default period = number of calendar days from the default day to the end of the period to which the payment relates /7</p>	<p>The refund amount = weekly material fee x the number of weeks in the default period</p> <p>a. The weekly material fee = total material fee for the course / number of calendar days in the course x 7. This amount is rounded up to the nearest whole dollar.</p> <p>b. The number of weeks in the default period = number of calendar days from the default day to the end of the period to which the payment relates/7</p>	<p>No refund</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>RPL fee</p>	<p>No refund if Statement of Attainment 'is provided</p>	<p>No refund</p>	<p>No refund</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Visa refused due to submission of fraudulent documents by or on behalf of the student</p>	<p>No refund</p>	<p>No refund</p>	<p>No refund</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Withdraws from the course without notification or breaches their Visa conditions</p>	<p>No refund</p>	<p>No refund</p>	<p>No refund</p>



<input type="checkbox"/>	Withdrawal after the agreed start date	No refund	No refund	No refund
<input type="checkbox"/>	Visa cancelled due to actions of the student	No refund	No refund	No refund
<input type="checkbox"/>	Student abandons the course	No refund	No refund	No refund
<input type="checkbox"/>	The college cancels an enrolment due to serious student misconduct	No refund	No refund	No refund

Note: If your enrolment falls within no refund time lines before the agreed start date of the course and you decide to withdraw from the course, then there will be no refund.

For example: If a student enrolls in week 5 before course start date, he/she will not be eligible for refund if student withdraws from the course as enrolment falls in no refund time period of 5 weeks prior to the agreed start date of the course.

Please approach the finance department for approval on this application prior to final submission.

Student can specify person(s), other than themselves who can receive a refund in respect of the student identified in the written agreement, consistent with the ESOS.	
Full name of person authorized receive refund on behalf of you	
Address and contact detail of authorised person	



Student Declaration

- I have read and understood the policies and procedure for refund at Alpha International College Australia (AICA).
- I am aware about the terms and conditions applied with the amount of refund received by me as mentioned in the AICA Refund policy.
- I have been informed and understand that withdrawing from this course might affect my Visa status. I have been informed to contact DHA for any visa related queries.

<i>Student's Signature</i>		<i>Date</i>	
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For Office use only

<i>Refund Application Processed by:</i>		
<i>Compliance Manager approval</i>		
<i>Request received</i>		
<i>Request processed</i>		
<i>Decision Granted</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Entered PRISMS (If Yes)		
Entered on SMS(If yes)		



**ALPHA
INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE**

Level-8 500 Collins Street Melbourne VIC-3000

Phone : 03 8390 1019

Email : alphatrainingcollege@gmail.com