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Accreditation Service for International Colleges

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Establishing a Student’s True Intent to Study

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Establishing ‘Intent to study’

Before a student should be offered a place to study , a college or University should always check a students true ‘Intention to study’. It is recommended that you question a student on;

- Financial Viability
- Initial research undertaken
- Course of study
- PBS Tier 4 responsibilities

Financial Viability

- Who is financing your studies?
- What evidence of funding do you have?
- What is the profession of your financial sponsor and what relationship are they to you?
- Do you have evidence of the financial status of your financial sponsor, e.g. last 6 months bank statements, financial bonds etc?
- (check, the best you can, for fraudulent documents)
- What evidence is there that this money is available for study?
- Are you able to pay your fees up front?
- Do you know what your living expenses will be in the U.K.?
- Do you know how much accommodation will cost?
- Are you expecting to work in the UK ?
- Do you know how many hours you are able to work ?
- Do you know what hourly pay to expect ?
- How reliant are you on being able to work in UK?

Initial Research Undertaken

It is reasonable to expect a student to be able to answer detailed questions about why they are interested in enrolling at your college. The following could be asked during a student interview:

- Why do you want to study in UK?
- What are the benefits of studying in the UK compared to your home country or Australia/USA?
- What is your current occupation?
- How is the course relevant your chosen career path?
- Can the same course be studied in your home country and is there a reason for studying it in the UK?
- What is the relevance of your course / qualification to the course you are applying or your future career path?

Initial Research Undertaken (Cont)

- What is your family background e.g. do you have other relatives who have studied to a similar level, or who have studied overseas?
- Do you have any dependants , if so, do you plan to bring them to the UK, If so, how many?
- Why did you choose this college?
- Where did you see this college advertised?
- Have you applied for any other colleges?
- What do you see as the main benefits of studying at this college?
- Where is the college?
- Is it near any particular landmarks?
- Do you know anyone who has already studied at the college?

Initial Research Undertaken (Cont)

- What are the main courses offered by the college?
- Is this course offered at any other colleges /Universities?
- Is this course offered in your own country ?
- What facilities do the college have?
- How many students are there at the college?
- Which other courses do they offer?
- Does the college offer any extra curricula activities?
- Does the college offer any pre-departure briefing?
- Does the college offer a meet and greet service?
- Will the college arrange any accommodation?

Course of Study

- Why did you choose this course?
- How is the course relevant to your chosen career path?
- Can the same course be studied in your home country and is there a reason for studying it in the UK?
- Who is the awarding body? (what qualification will you receive?)
- What is the duration of the course?
- How is the course assessed?
- What can you do when you complete the course?
- How does the course fit into your personal career plan?
- What level is the course on the UK's National Qualifications Framework (NQF)?
- What English language level is required before the course starts?
- Does the college offer extra English language support.

Course of Study (cont)

- Did you consider any other alternative courses?
- Does this course offer any professional recognition?
- Are you planning to stay in the UK on completion, to study for a higher award?
- If so, which?
- Are you interested in transferring to a UK University on completion?
- If so, which?
- Does the college have any partnership agreements with any UK University?
- If so, which?

PBS Tier 4 Responsibilities

- Do you know what your responsibilities as a Tier 4 sponsored student are?
- What are they?
- Have you applied for more than one college/university?
- If so, how many and which ones.
- Do you know how many hours of study you must undertake?
- Do you know your timetable of classes?
- Do you know how many hours you are allowed to work as a Tier 4 student?

PBS Tier 4 Responsibilities (cont)

- Do you know if your prospective college is on the Tier 4 Sponsors Register?
- Are they A, B or HTS rated?
- Do you know what the college's attendance policy is?
- Do you understand a college's responsibilities as a Tier 4 sponsor of students in regard to reporting no shows, poor attendance and poor performance?
- Do you understand the college's complaints policy? Do you understand the college's refund of fees policy .

Ask the same questions several times in different sequences to check if they give the same answers.

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