



COMMUNIQUE

COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION MEETING

26 NOVEMBER 2025

On 26 November 2025, the Hon Jason Clare MP, Minister for Education, the Hon Andrew Giles MP, Minister for Skills and Training and the Hon Julian Hill MP, Assistant Minister for International Education and Assistant Minister for Citizenship, Customs and Multicultural Affairs met with the Expert Members to reflect on developments in international education during 2025 and discuss priorities for 2026.

As Chair, Minister Clare opened the meeting by acknowledging the work of Minister Giles and Assistant Minister Hill and highlighted the Government's collaborative work on the *Education Legislation Amendment (Integrity and Other Measures) Bill 2025 (ELA Bill)* and the interim Australian Tertiary Education Commission (ATEC). Minister Clare also noted the upcoming Ministerial visit to India, which will include participation by some Expert Members.

Minister Giles reinforced the importance of cross-government collaboration and referenced the Jobs and Skills Australia (JSA) International Students Pathways and Outcomes Study as a key resource for informing international education policy. Minister Giles also emphasised the need to maintain a critical focus on the sector's integrity. Assistant Minister Hill discussed government priorities for 2026, and shared insights from an international student roundtable he chaired in November, which included international student representatives from across jurisdictions, sectors and backgrounds. Assistant Minister Hill noted student representatives shared positive feedback about their experience studying in Australia, while offering ideas for consideration by the sector and governments at all levels.

Ministers and Expert Members discussed the Strategic Framework and the Council's ongoing role in its development. Expert Members reiterated the importance of the Strategic Framework in articulating the value of international education to the Australian community, enhancing social licence and supporting productivity and skills needs for Australia and its regional partners. Expert Members also acknowledged growing global competition in international education delivery, particularly for Transnational Education (TNE), highlighting the need to communicate Australia's unique value proposition as an education provider. Expert Members highlighted the importance of reinforcing positive sentiment for Australian education by ensuring international students have a high-quality experience while studying in Australia.

Ministers and Expert Members also discussed the International Education Innovation Fund (IEIF), including proposed projects that align with the development of the Strategic Framework.

Members expressed confidence in the state of the sector at the close of 2025, noting the increase to the National Planning Level (NPL), the introduction of integrity measures, and the introduction of Ministerial Direction 115 (MD115). The next meeting of Expert Members is expected to take place in early 2026.