

## **Confirmation of Approval of Appropriate Welfare Arrangements (CAAW): Advice to providers on nominating dates for the CAAW.**

Standard 5 of the National Code 2007 states that:

**Where students under the age of 18 are not being cared for in Australia by a parent or suitable nominated relative, registered providers ensure the arrangements made to protect the personal safety and social well-being of those students are appropriate.**

Providers are required to complete a CAAW letter when they agree to approve the accommodation, support and general welfare arrangements for students who are not living with a relative approved by DIAC. Where a provider is responsible for approving the arrangements, they must nominate the beginning and end dates for the period during which they will be undertaking that responsibility.

Under Migration Regulations the provider must nominate a period of at least the Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE) plus seven days in order to satisfy DIAC provisions for appropriate welfare arrangements.

Providers are advised that the student will not be allowed to travel before the start date on the CAAW letter unless they have other DIAC approved interim arrangements in place, eg, they may be accompanied by a parent.

Therefore, in nominating the start date for the approval of welfare arrangements, providers should take into consideration the time needed for the student to travel and settle in before beginning classes or orientation sessions. This should not impose extra responsibilities on the provider as it would be merely bringing forward arrangements already in place to allow the student to begin their study programme on time.

Providers are also reminded that onshore student visa holders wishing to apply for a further student visa are required to have welfare arrangements in place at the time of their application. Unless welfare arrangements are in place, the student is unable to make a valid application.

For further information on Standard 5 see:

[http://aei.dest.gov.au/AEI/ESOS/FAQs/Standard\\_5.htm](http://aei.dest.gov.au/AEI/ESOS/FAQs/Standard_5.htm)

[http://aei.dest.gov.au/AEI/ESOS/NationalCodeExplanatoryGuide/PartD/Standard\\_5.htm](http://aei.dest.gov.au/AEI/ESOS/NationalCodeExplanatoryGuide/PartD/Standard_5.htm)