Ms Minran Liu
President SUPRA
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President SRC
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UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY NSW 2006

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Dear Ms Liu and Mr Donohoe

Thank you for your earlier correspondence regarding the welfare of international students. I am writing to provide an update on recent changes to the NSW Government’s $20 million package to further support international students during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Changes to the eligibility criteria for crisis accommodation mean more international students in need can now receive assistance.

These changes include:
- removing the requirement to demonstrate job loss
- removing the requirement to have less than $1,500 in savings
- replacing the requirement to demonstrate eviction with a requirement to simply confirm the student has lost (or is at risk of losing) access to secure accommodation
- allowing applications from international students who have moved from a student visa to a bridging or visitor visa.

To be eligible under the amended criteria students must:
- hold an international student visa
- have lost, or be at risk of losing, access to secure accommodation
- have no other avenues of support.


I ask that you please circulate this new information to your relevant contacts and stakeholders. This information will help vulnerable students in need of support.

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For more information on support and other services, students can contact the COVID-19 hotline by phone on 13 77 88, or visit the International Student Welfare Hub on the Study NSW website at https://www.study.sydney/news-and-stories/news/covid-19-international-student-welfare-support.

Thank you for assistance in helping to support these students at this difficult time.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]

The Hon. Dr Geoff Lee MP
Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education
Acting Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans

17 JUL 2020