



ASIA

ASTRAL SKILLS INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA

RTO Code: 41322 | CRICOS No: 03858C

Deferral, Suspension and Cancellation of Students - Policy and Associated Procedures

Version 2.0

THE EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING COMPANY PTY LTD, T/A ASTRAL SKILLS INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA

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STATUS, DETAILS AND SUMMARY OF CHANGES

Document Reference	DSCS-POL-PROC/2023	Review Date	30 September 2025
Status	Current	Version	2.0
Effective Date	01 October 2023	Review Date	30 September 2025
Codes, Standard and Legislative References	Standards for RTOs 2015 – Standard: 1.7; 6.2; 6.3; 6.4; 6.5 National Code of Practice for Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students 2018 – Standard 9		
Review Authority	ASIA Academic Team		
Endorsement Authority	ASIA Board of Director(s)		
Enquiries	Academic Manager: joy.academic@asia.edu.au		
Available on	Website	<input type="checkbox"/>	Academic Manager's Office <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

VERSION CONTROL AND SUMMARY OF CHANGES

Version	Date	Description of Changes
1.0	01.06.2022	Introduction of the policy
2.0	01.10.2023	New version highlighting precise responsibility of designated ASIA Staff for procedural steps



Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that Next Tech Institute has documented procedures for assessing, approving and recording a deferment or suspension of study. It also covers student access to complaints and appeals mechanisms if ASIA initiates a suspension or cancellation of enrolment against a student's wishes.

Objectives

The objective of this Policy and Procedure for ASIA is to ensure that ASIA:

- provides guidelines for suspending, deferring or cancelling student enrolments with the Institute in accordance standard.
- outline the relationship between the ASIA and the enrolled student, and define the obligations of both parties for the duration of the enrolment
- provide policy and procedure for assessing, approving and recording a deferment of the commencement of study or suspension of study for a student.
- inform students before the enrolment about grounds on which their enrolment be deferred, suspended or cancelled.

For the purposes of this policy, the term "RTO" refers to the Registered Training Organization.

Scope

This policy applies to all prospective and enrolled students.

Policy Statement – ASIA's Commitment

ASIA is committed to maintaining compliance with all regulatory, legislative and contractual requirements.

Specifically, we will:

- Ensure that all students complete their course on time;



- Extend the student’s course under compassionate or compelling circumstances.
- Provide the implementation of intervention strategies for students at risk of not meeting satisfactory course progress; or
- Comply with the requirements of granting of an approved deferment or suspension of study as per standard

General Processes:

Policy Aspects	ASIA’s Implementation Process
Compliance with legislation and general requirements	<p>ASIA Management and staff are committed to assessing and recording all deferments, suspensions or cancellations of study, ensuring that in the process students are informed of their rights to appeal and provided with due care and support when required.</p> <p>This policy/procedure provides information on the grounds in which a student’s enrolment may be deferred, suspended, or cancelled.</p> <p>The following procedures will ensure that ASIA follows the required processes when either a student or ASIA, wishes to defer, suspend, or cancel a student’s enrolment.</p> <p>Students are able to initiate deferral, suspension or cancellation of their studies only in limited circumstances or may have their enrolment suspended by ASIA due to misbehavior.</p>
Deferment/ Suspension	<p>To defer or suspend enrolment means to temporarily put studies on hold (adjourn, delay, postpone).</p> <p>A student may request a temporary deferment or suspension of his or her enrolment on the grounds of compassionate or compelling circumstances.</p> <p>A provider may also initiate suspension of a student’s enrolment due to misbehavior of the student.</p>
Student Initiated Deferral,	Students may be able to temporarily defer the commencement of their studies or suspend their enrolment after commencement where they have a good



<p>Suspension or Cancellation of Enrolment</p>	<p>reason to do so.</p> <p>ASIA is only able to temporarily defer or suspend the enrolment of the student on the grounds of compassionate or compelling circumstances.</p> <p>These circumstances could include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Serious illness or injury, where a medical certificate states that the student was /is unable to attend classes;• Bereavement of close family members such as parents or grandparents (Where possible a death certificate should be provided);• Major political upheaval or natural disaster requiring emergency travel, and this has impacted on the student's studies; or• A traumatic experience which could include:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ involvement in, or witnessing of a serious accident; or○ witnessing or being the victim of a serious crime, and this has impacted on the student○ (these cases should be supported by police or psychologists' reports)• Where the ASIA is unable to offer a pre-requisite unit <p>Please Note: The above are only some examples of what may be considered compassionate or compelling circumstances. The CEO will use their professional judgment to assess each case on its individual merits. When determining whether compassionate or compelling circumstances exist, ASIA will consider documentary evidence provided to support the claim and should keep copies of these documents in the student's file.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A student wishing to defer an enrolment must do so prior to commencement of their course. <p>Students must complete a Deferment/Leave application and submit it to the</p>
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	<p>Student Support Officer/Admin Officer. Where possible, the student should meet with the Student Support Officer/Admin Officer to discuss the reasons for the application.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This application to defer must include 'the compassionate or compelling circumstances' to support the temporary deferral of the start date of their studies. • There should be no outstanding fees owing as this could result in the application being rejected. • A student wishing to temporarily suspend their studies after commencement must complete a Deferment/Leave Application and submit to the Student Support Officer/Admin Officer. Where possible, the student should meet with the Student Support Officer/Admin Officer to discuss the reasons for the application. • This application for suspension of study (leave of absence) must include the 'compassionate or compelling circumstances' to support the temporary suspension of studies. • There should be no outstanding fees owing as this could result in the application being rejected. <p>The CEO will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review all applications for deferral or suspension and determine if the applications are to be granted or rejected. • On receiving a request for course study deferment, ASIA will ensure that the student is aware of our appeals process
<p>Deferment Request Responses</p>	<p>Following consideration of an application for deferment, the CEO will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the student is informed in writing of the outcome of their application for deferral or suspension (leave of absence). • In the case of a student application being rejected, the student will receive written notification (via email) within 10 working days of the application being assessed. This will also inform the student of their ability to access





	<p>the appeals process if they wish to appeal the decision.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain all documentation in relation to the deferral or suspension application on the student's file.
<p>Student Initiated Cancellation</p>	<p>A student may cancel her/his enrolment where s/he has decided to discontinue studying with ASIA.</p> <p>There should be no outstanding fees owing as this could result in the application being rejected.</p> <p>Students wishing to cancel their enrolment must complete a 'Course Withdrawal - Cancellation form' and submit it to the Student Support Officer/Admin Officer. Where possible, the student should meet with the Student Support Officer/Admin Officer to discuss the reasons for the application.</p> <p>The Student Support Officer/Admin Officer will submit all applications to the CEO who will then:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Review all applications for Course Withdrawal/Cancellation and determine if the applications are to be granted or rejected. 2) On receiving a request for Course Withdrawal/Cancellation, ASIA will ensure that the student is aware of our appeals process
<p>Cancellation Request Responses</p>	<p>Following consideration of an application for Course Withdrawal/Cancellation, the CEO will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain all application documentation for the cancellation of enrolment on the students file. • Ensure the student is informed in writing of the outcome of their application for cancellation within 10 working days of the application being assessed. • In the case of a student application being rejected, the written notification to the student will also inform of their ability to access the appeals process if they wish to appeal the decision.





	<p>Students will be required to refer to their written agreement and the Refunds Policy and Procedure for details of the refund arrangements in place where an enrolment is cancelled.</p>
<p>Provider Initiated Deferral, Suspension or Cancellation of Enrolment</p>	<p>ASIA Initiated Deferrals:</p> <p>ASIA may defer an enrolment where the course is not being offered at the proposed date, site, or any other reason that ASIA deems necessary to cancel the course. In such cases a refund shall be processed as required or an alternative course offered.</p> <p>NB. Please see 'Provider Default' within the Refund Policy and Procedure.</p> <p>ASIA Initiated Suspension or Cancellation:</p> <p>ASIA may suspend or cancel a student enrolment where they have not paid fees as documented in their written agreement or has behaved in a manner that is not appropriate for an education setting such as misbehavior.</p> <p>This may include (but is not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disrespecting others including discrimination for any reason • Intimidating students or staff • Refusing to work in a safe, clean, smoke free, orderly and cooperative environment • Damaging or misusing ASIA or other students' personal property (including computer files and student work. • Criminal actions • Failure to make satisfactory progress (NB. Refer to Attendance and Academic Progress Monitoring Policy and Procedures) • Other actions deemed unsuitable by the CEO/Academic Manager <p>If the registered provider initiates a suspension or cancellation of any overseas student's enrolment, before imposing a suspension or cancellation, ASIA</p>





	<p>must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> inform the overseas student of that intention and the reasons for doing so, in writing advise the overseas student of their right to appeal through the provider's internal complaints and appeals process, in accordance with Standard 10 (Complaints and appeals), within 20 working days. <p>When there is any deferral, suspension or cancellation action taken under this standard, the registered provider must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> inform the overseas student of the need to seek advice from Immigration on the potential impact on his or her student visa report the change to the overseas student's enrolment under section 19 of the ESOS Act
<p>Suspension or Cancellation Responses</p>	<p>In receiving a report of misconduct, the Student Support Officer/Admin Officer or CEO shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Validate the actions of all staff involved seeking further advice, verbal or written. Where necessary, seek further advice from the student(s) involved maintaining an unbiased approach to the student(s) involved. Discuss with CEO and decide whether an enrolment suspension or enrolment cancellation is warranted. Inform the student that their misconduct has resulted in a report being made to management. Ensure that the student is aware that they may access ASIA's internal complaints and appeals process. Inform the student in writing, should a decision to suspend or cancel their enrolment be made, they have 20 working days to appeal following the decision. <p>If the student lodges an appeal, the suspension / cancellation cannot</p>





	<p>take effect until the internal appeal process has been completed, unless extenuating circumstances relating to the welfare of the student apply.</p> <p>Following the suspension or cancellation, the CEO will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain all documentation for the suspension or cancellation of enrolment on the student's file. <p>The suspension or cancellation of the overseas student's enrolment under Standard 9.3 cannot take effect until the internal appeals process is completed, unless the overseas student's health or wellbeing, or the wellbeing of others, is likely to be at risk.</p>
<p>Procedure for Re-enrolment</p>	<p>If a student wishes to re-enrol at ASIA after they have withdrawn or been cancelled from a course, they are required to submit an application for Enrolment to the Student Support Officer (or an Admin Officer).</p> <p>Each application will be re-assessed on a case-by-case basis and the student will be informed of the decision in writing.</p>

Continuous Improvement

This procedure is designed to ensure that the student support services policy and procedure is in place and the delivery of our courses across the ASIA and qualifications ensure management become aware of:

- Common threads relating to compliance and quality assurance.
- Repeat issues
- Any general adverse trend that needs correcting

Confidentiality and Privacy Statement

For more Information, please refer to our Privacy and Confidentiality Policy.

Publication

This policy, once approved, will be available to staff through ASIA SharePoint and to students upon





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request or via the ASIA website.

Review processes

The policy will be reviewed biennially by the CEO/Academic Manager.

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