2.4 Students temporarily resident or travelling overseas

Students who are travelling overseas or are temporary overseas residents for a period of at least 50 school days may be eligible to enrol in a distance education school or centre.

Initial placement in distance education will be for a period of up to 200 school days but may be extended, on application by the parent outlining their case for an extension. Extensions must not exceed an additional 200 days and will only be approved if the principal of the distance education school considers that the return of work and engagement with the teaching programs during the initial period of enrolment is satisfactory.

The family must intend to continue the student’s schooling at a NSW school, at the completion of the travel or temporary relocation.

A comprehensive itinerary must be submitted with the application. Addresses for a minimum of six weeks in advance are required to ensure the continuity of the student’s learning program.

Parents are required to purchase all necessary textbooks and equipment. They will also be required to pay a charge for airmail postage of lesson materials. The postage charge for overseas students must be paid in advance to ensure the continuity of the student’s learning program. All lesson materials must be mailed direct to the student and cannot be sent via a local address. Any alternative arrangement, such as the use of the diplomatic courier bag or a large company’s courier service must be authorised by the principal of the distance education school or centre.

When commencement of travel and departure from NSW is delayed by more than 30 school days, the student is no longer eligible to be enrolled in distance education and should seek enrolment at the local school.

Families seeking to travel for fewer than 50 school days should discuss an exemption from schooling with their local school principal who has the capacity to grant any student an exemption from school attendance for periods totalling up to 100 days in a 12 month period.

In addition to the five common requirements for enrolment on page 4, the following are required:

1. A statutory declaration stating the family’s intention to travel, the anticipated duration of this travel, the student’s NSW home address before the travel and their expected home address after the travel.

2. A comprehensive itinerary showing addresses for at least six weeks in advance.

Submit completed documents to:
The Principal of the appropriate distance education school (see “Where to apply” at the end of Section 2).

2.5 Students with a medical condition that prevents their attendance at a regular school or other local provision: short term provision

This provision is designed to cover students requiring education while they are undergoing medical assessment or treatment. The enrolment period is for a minimum of 100 school days and must not exceed 400 school days. The principal of the distance education school will seek advice from the learning and engagement coordinators or a delegate from the local Educational Services team where the student lives, to investigate alternative local provision or to determine whether further assessment is needed prior to enrolment.

The principal of the distance education centre may seek background information about a student’s medical condition from the student’s previous school, by submitting a request for student background information and documents which can be accessed through the Enhanced Enrolment Procedures web page.

If the student’s medical condition persists beyond the maximum period, their continued enrolment should be sought under Category 2.8 or 2.10 in order to access the support and resources available in local Educational Services teams.

In addition to the five common requirements for enrolment on page 4, the following are required:

1. A letter from the student’s specialist, outlining the student’s medical condition and how it impacts on their ability to attend their school or other local education provision. This letter should include an assessment of the length of time it is expected that the student will be unable to attend a regular school or other local education provision.

2. Independent advice may be sought by the Department to confirm that distance education is and continues to be the most appropriate provision for the student.

Submit completed documents to:
The Principal of the appropriate distance education school (see “Where to apply” at the end of Section 2).

2.6 Pregnant students/young parents for whom no appropriate local provision is available

Pregnant students or students seeking to re-engage in education as a school-aged parent may be eligible for enrolment at a distance education school or centre. Enrolment can be maintained for a period of up to 200 days or, after the development of a comprehensive case management plan, extended to the completion of the next stage of learning.

The principal of the distance education school will seek advice from learning and engagement coordinators or their delegate, from the local Educational Services team where the student