



Office of Hon Steven Joyce

Minister for Economic Development
Minister of Science and Innovation
Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment
Associate Minister of Finance

31 MAR 2014

A. Fyfe
Auckland Regional Migrant Services Charitable Trust
Fyi-request-1489-90ee755b@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear A.Fyfe

I refer to your request dated 20 February 2014, requesting, under the Official Information Act (OIA) 1982:

- *"A copy of a background briefing paper which was provided to you on November 1 2013 by the Chief Executive of Education New Zealand."*
- *"any other related emails, memos or documents concerning foreign fee-paying medical students in New Zealand from July 1 – December 31 2013."*

As requested, please see the enclosed material in response to your requests. Information related to your requests has been withheld under the following sections of the Official Information Act:

- protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons – s.9(2)(a).
- protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information; – s.9(2)(b)(ii).
- making available of that information would be likely to prejudice the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand – s.6(a)

Under section 9(1) of the OIA, I am satisfied that withholding this information is not outweighed by other considerations which render it desirable, in the public interest, to make that information available.

Under Section 28 (3) of the Official Information Act you have the right to request the Ombudsman to investigate and review the withholding of this information.

Yours sincerely



Steven Joyce
Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment

-----Original Message-----

From: 9(2)(a)

Sent: Monday, 9 September 2013 3:56 p.m.

To: 9(2)(a)

Cc: ENZ Ministerials; 9(2)(a)

Subject: FW: Brunei

Importance: High

9(2)(a),

Updated Brunei paper, as discussed.

Word and PDF versions attached

9(2)(a)

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-----Original Message-----

From: 9(2)(a)

Sent: Friday, 6 September 2013 10:50 a.m.

To: 9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: ENZ Briefing - International Medical Students from Brunei

9(2)(b)(iii)

-----Original Message-----

From: 9(2)(a)

Sent: Friday, 6 September 2013 9:53 a.m.

To: 9(2)(a)

Cc: 9(2)(a)

Subject: ENZ Briefing - International Medical Students from Brunei

Hi

Attached is the briefing prepared on International Students from Brunei. I will include it in the electronic bag going to the Minister this afternoon.

TEC, MOE and MFAT have provided input and have agreed on the final draft.

9(2)(a) - let me know if you have any comment.

Cheers

9(2)(a)

-----Original Message-----

From: 9(2)(a)

Sent: Friday, September 06, 2013 01:05 PM New Zealand Standard Time

To: 9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: Brunei - briefing for Minister Joyce

Here you go

9(2)(a)

From: 9(2)(a)

Sent: Friday, 6 September 2013 12:04 PM

To: 9(2)(a)

Subject: FW: Brunei - briefing for Minister Joyce

Could you send me the word version for the electronic bag.
Cheers.

9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (NZTE and ENZ)

Office of the Hon Steven Joyce

9(2)(a)

From: 9(2)(a)

Sent: Friday, 6 September 2013 7:41 a.m.

To: 9(2)(a)

Cc: 'ENZ Ministerials'; 9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: Brunei - briefing for Minister Joyce

Hi 9(2)(a)

Thank you for taking the lead in the preparation of the briefing – I will pass the briefing and seek the minister's view in the week-end bag.

Cheers.

9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (NZTE and ENZ)

Office of the Hon Steven Joyce

9(2)(a)

From: 9(2)(a)

Sent: Thursday, 5 September 2013 5:41 p.m.

To: David Aubergier

Cc: ENZ Ministerials; 9(2)(a)

Subject: Brunei - briefing for Minister Joyce

9(2)(a)

Please find attached the signed report on International medical students from Brunei

9(2)(b)(ii)

TEC and MFAT have been consulted in the drafting of this paper.

Let me know if you need anything more.

9(2)(a)



9(2)(a)

Director Board and Stakeholder Engagement
Level 9, Classic House, 15 Murphy Street, Thorndon
PO Box 12041, Wellington 6144, NEW ZEALAND

9(2)(a)

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From: 9(2)(a)

Sent: Monday, 26 August 2013 4:21 PM

To: 9(2)(a)

Subject: Analysis on Brunei and Malaysia - 3 (now with Malaysian numbers 9(2)(b)(ii))

Hey 9(2)(a)

I've quickly put together some graphs and bullet points on Brunei and Malaysia – please see attached.

I didn't have time to put anything together for ASEAN – but I know the ASEAN strategy doc has some facts/figures.

Happy to discuss

Thanks

9(2)(a)



9(2)(a)

Senior Strategic Analyst

Level 9, 15 Murphy Street, Thorndon

PO Box 12041, Wellington 6144, NEW ZEALAND

9(2)(a)

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From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, 7 November 2013 11:10 a.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Correspondence from 9(2)(a) re house surgeon placements

Hi

(9(2)(a) did give me a copy of the signed report yesterday)

(out of scope)

9(2)(a)

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, 7 November 2013 10:49 a.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Correspondence from 9(2)(a) re house surgeon placements

Is it correct re the student support stuff?

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, 7 November 2013 7:38 a.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Cc: 9(2)(a)
Subject: FW: Correspondence from 9(2)(a) re house surgeon placements

Hi

I wasn't. 9(2)(a) were you?

9(2)(a)

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 6 November 2013 6:46 p.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Subject: FW: Correspondence from 9(2)(a) re house surgeon placements

Were you consulted on this?

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 6 November 2013 12:26 p.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Correspondence from 9(2)(a) re house surgeon placements

Yes – the briefing is attached.

They discussed during the meeting – can I get back to you tomorrow on action from the meeting?

9(2)(a)

Private Secretary (NZTE and ENZ)

Office of the Hon Steven Joyce

9(2)(a)

I'll take responsibility over here, 9(2)(a)



9(2)(a) Director, Strategy and Policy Development

Level 9, 15 Murphy Street, Thorndon
PO Box 12041, Wellington 6144, NEW ZEALAND

9(2)(a)

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NZIEC2012 NEW OPPORTUNITIES - WORKING TOGETHER 1 and 2 November REGISTER HERE

Hi 9(2)(a)

I've started trying to gather some info around here – numbers and fees from EEL stats – other info from our tertiary people. Will let you know what I find out. Let me know who we can get in touch with at your end

Cheers

9(2)(a)

9(2)(a) Policy Manager
International Division
Ministry Of Education
Level 11, Public Trust Building
117-125 Lambton Quay
Wellington, New Zealand

9(2)(a)

From: 9(2)(a)

Sent: Thursday, 24 October 2013 3:21 p.m.

To: 9(2)(a)

Cc: 9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: Correspondence from 9(2)(a) re house surgeon placements

Hi 9(2)(a)

As discussed over the phone – could you please add this topic on the agenda of the upcoming ENZ monthly meeting with Minister Joyce of 5 November 2013.

Minister Joyce will want to have a better understanding of the issue, including:

- How many international students are concerned, and where are they coming from
- What is the value / revenue we get from these students?
- Is practical training required as part of the curriculum in New Zealand and registration in their home country
- How does it work in other countries including Australia?
- How damaging is that the NZ offering to international students?
- The letter talks about house surgeons, what about international students in other medical / health fields?

Could you please work with our colleagues at the Ministry of Education to prepare a paper for Minister Joyce ahead of the next ENZ Monthly meeting.

At this stage, and as noted with the Minister he wants to discuss the issue with ENZ – 9(2)(g)

Let me know if you have questions.

Cheers

9(2)(a) Private Secretary (NZTE and ENZ)

Office of the Hon Steven Joyce

9(2)(a)

From: 9(2)(a)

Sent: Thursday, 24 October 2013 2:29 p.m.

To: 9(2)(a)

Cc: 9(2)(a)

Subject: Correspondence from 9(2)(a) re house surgeon placements

Hi 9(2)(a),

As discussed, this came back to me from the Minister with a comment that he may like to discuss this with Minister Ryall and Health Workforce NZ, but would like to discuss with ENZ first. I understand you're going to put it on the agenda for the next officials meeting with ENZ?

Please let me know if you need any input from MoE. I have copied in some of my officials so they will be aware of it if contacted by ENZ. I haven't spoken to Minister Ryall's office but if/when you need to, the private sec there is Jenny Vickers.

Thanks,

9(2)(a)

9(2)(a) | Private Secretary

Office of Hon Steven Joyce | Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment
7-2 Beehive, Parliament Buildings, Private Bag 18041, Wellington 6160, New Zealand

9(2)(a) 3 | E: 9(2)(a) | W: <http://www.beehive.govt.nz> and <http://www.parliament.nz>

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From: 9(2)(a),
Sent: Monday, 18 November 2013 9:58 a.m.
To: 9(2)(a),
Cc: 9(2)(a),
Subject: RE: ODT: Omani medical student hopes to practise in NZ

Education people copied in.

From: 9(2)(a),
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2013 9:56 AM
To: 9(2)(a),
Subject: RE: ODT: Omani medical student hopes to practise in NZ

No correspondence pending from my end and nothing recorded as being received from him or on him.

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From: 9(2)(a),
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2013 9:49 AM
To: 9(2)(a),
Subject: RE: ODT: Omani medical student hopes to practise in NZ

If we haven't met with him it'd be useful to know if there's been a meeting request or any correspondence from/about him.

From: 9(2)(a),
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2013 9:48 AM
To: 9(2)(a),
Subject: ODT: Omani medical student hopes to practise in NZ

Omani medical student hopes to practise in NZ

By [Eileen Goodwin](#) on Sat, 31 Aug 2013

An international medical student who has spent nearly a decade studying in Dunedin says he is not ready to give up his goal of obtaining registration as a doctor in this country.

The *Otago Daily Times* reported this week international medical students graduating this year are likely to miss out on work placements because of a shortage of placements.

Sultan Al-Shaqsi (26), of Oman, is in his final year of medical school in Dunedin.

He said it was a lack of transparency about the placement problem that upset him most. International students should have been told much earlier than last week.

This would have given them more time to make other arrangements, such as applying for places overseas.

He said it was not too late for him to find a graduate job in Oman, where the Government had paid for his study, but at this stage he wanted to stay in New Zealand.

He had made many friends and was interested in the New Zealand health system. As well as his medical training, he had completed a PhD looking at the New Zealand health system's preparedness for disaster.

"I know the country very well. I love the people, [but] I can't get a job."

Mr Al-Shaqsi would hold out for a job over the coming months, but eventually would have to leave if nothing eventuated. He understood domestic students had to come first, and acknowledged he had never been promised a graduate job.

The situation, caused by an increased number of graduates and low turnover in the established workforce, is expected to be an issue again next year.

International students have been placed in previous years.

The Omani Government had not bonded him to return as a condition of his funding.

Brunei

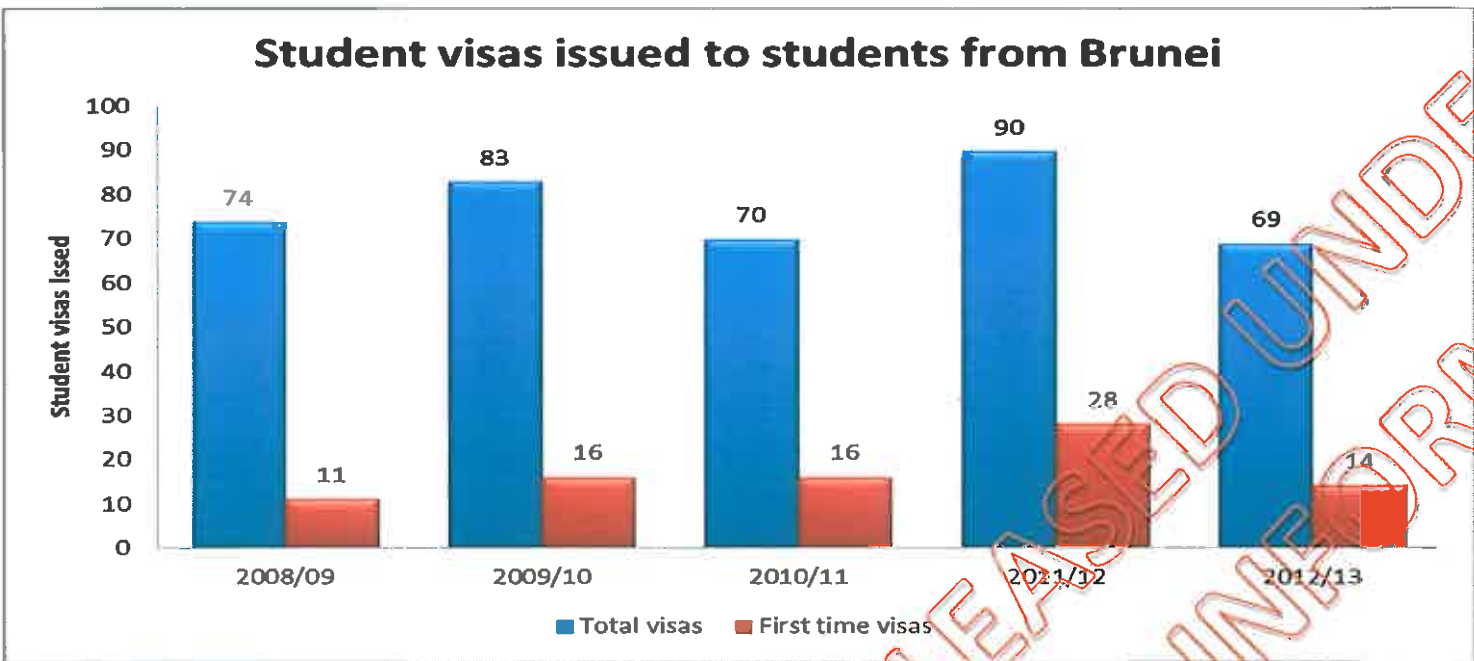
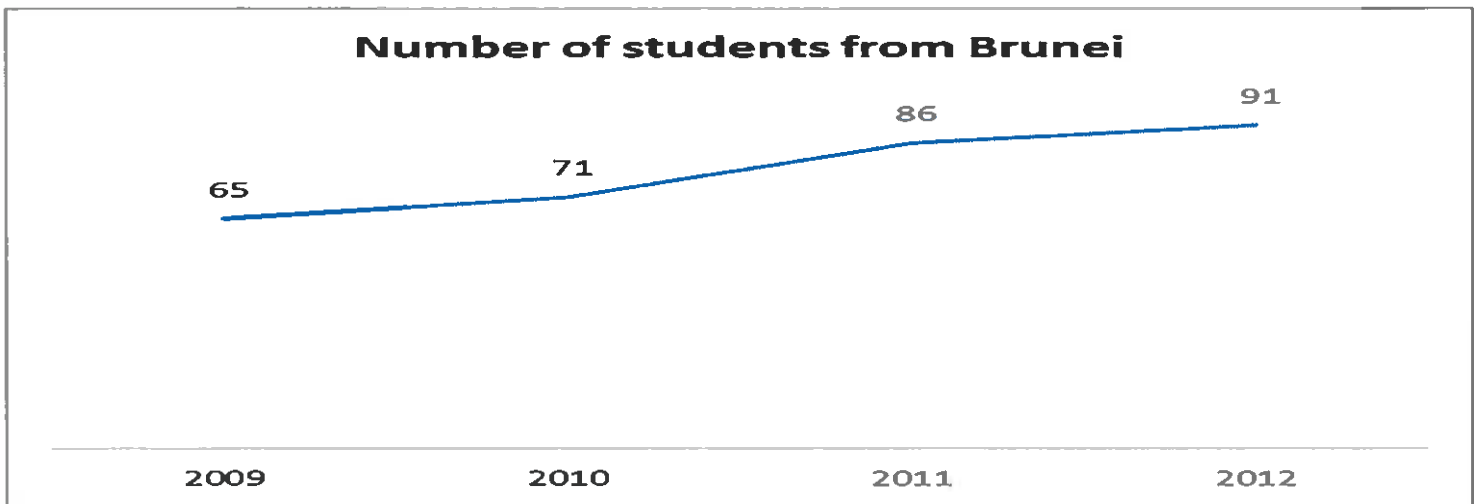
Overall profile:

- Between 2009 – 2012, student numbers from Brunei have been steadily increasing, though from a small base.
- Majority of all students study health at bachelors level at the University of Otago.
- 60% of all students are aged between 20 – 24 years, followed by 20% at 25 – 39 years.
- 66% of all students are female.
- There has been no consistent trend in total student visa numbers – it appears to be relatively unstable.
- With the exception of 2011/2012, first time visas have been relatively consistent/stable since 2008/2009.
- An estimated value of a student from Brunei is approximately \$22,800 (based on the 2012 Economic Value Report from Infometrics). The total estimated contribution of students from Brunei is \$2,070,000 to the New Zealand economy. [This report has not been released by the Minister]

9(2)(b)(ii)

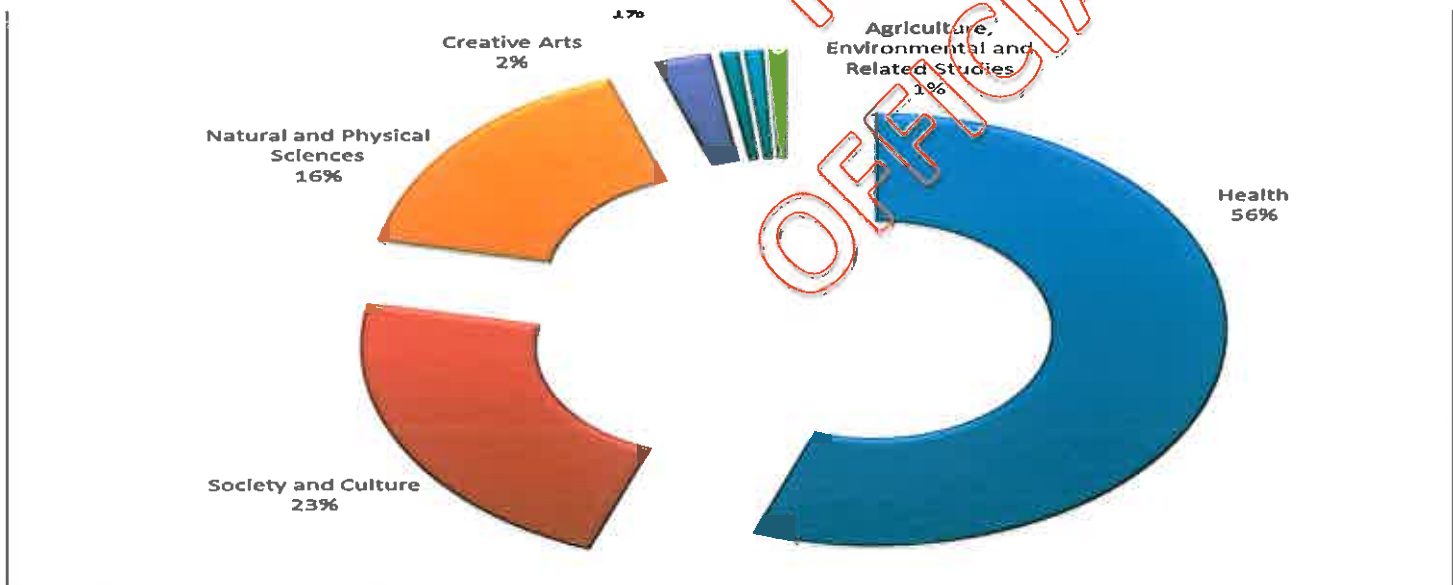
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Trends in international students from Brunei



Field of Study breakdown of students from Brunei 2012

- Society and Culture predominantly includes Defence Studies, as a result of the agreement between Malaysia and Royal Brunei Armed Forces



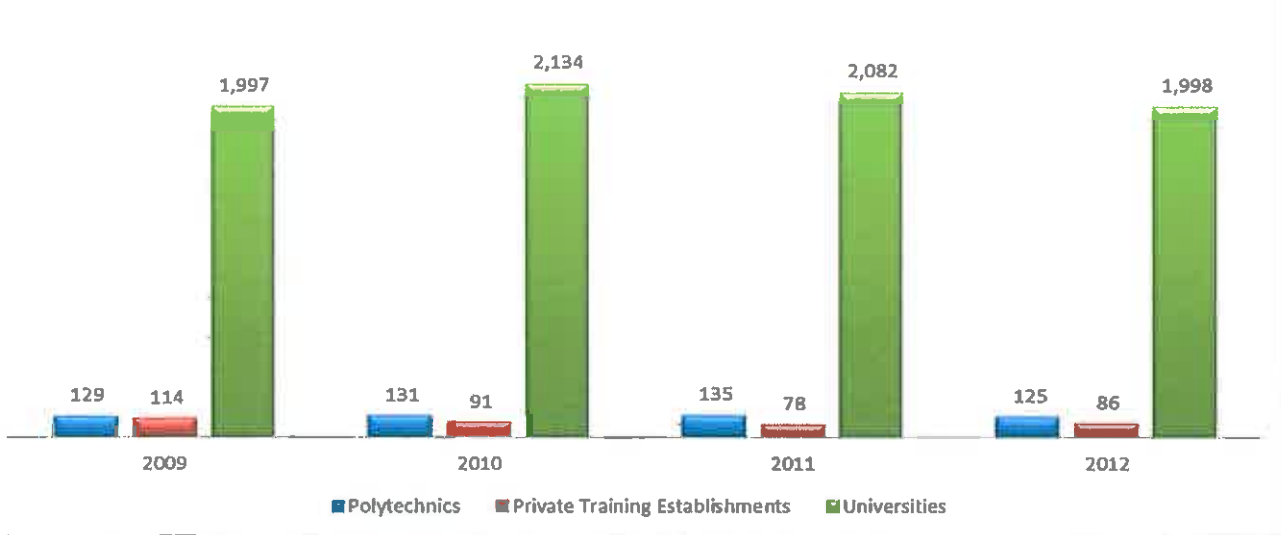
Malaysia:

- Since 2010, the number of students from Malaysia has declined by an average of 3% per annum.
- In 2012, 27% of all Malaysian students were enrolled at University of Auckland, 20% were at University of Otago, and 17% were at Victoria University.
- In 2012, 62% of Malaysian students studied at bachelors level, with 16% at PhD level.
- 20% of students study in the society and culture field (approx. 90% of these students study at Bachelors level).
- 60% of students are female.
- 66% are aged between 20 – 24 years.
- Malaysian student visas issued have been steadily declining since 2009.
- An estimated value of a student from Malaysia is approximately \$22,800 (based on the 2012 Economic Value Report from Infometrics). The total estimated contribution of students from Brunei is \$50,365,000 to the New Zealand economy. [This report has not been released by the Minister].

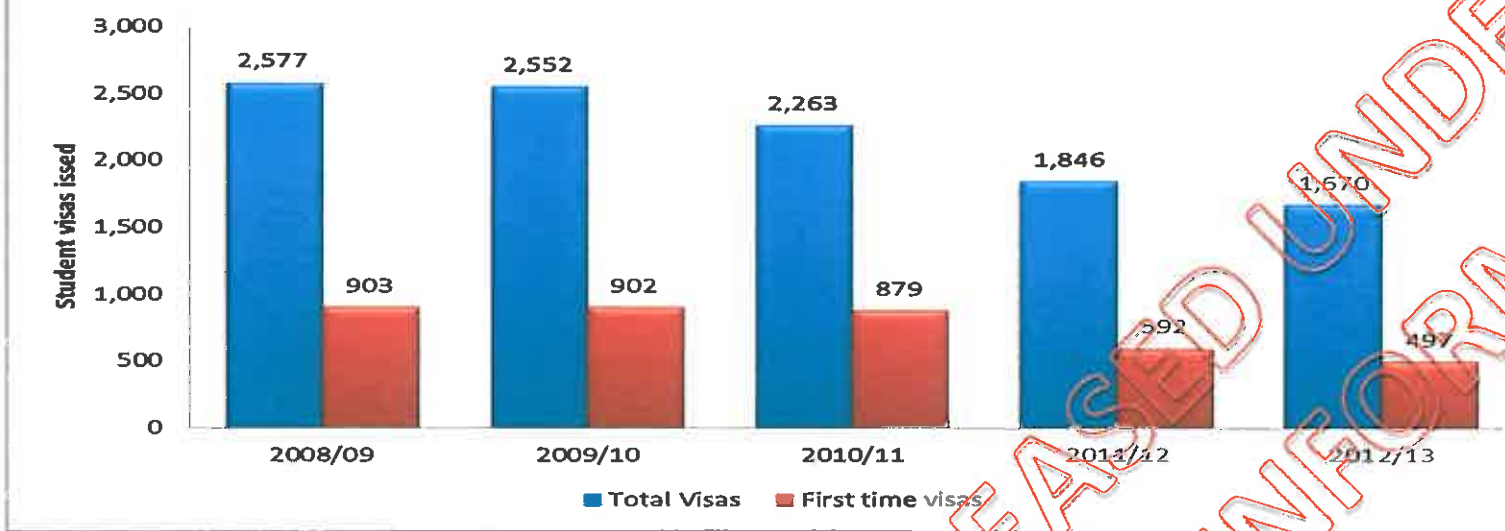
9(2)(b)(ii)

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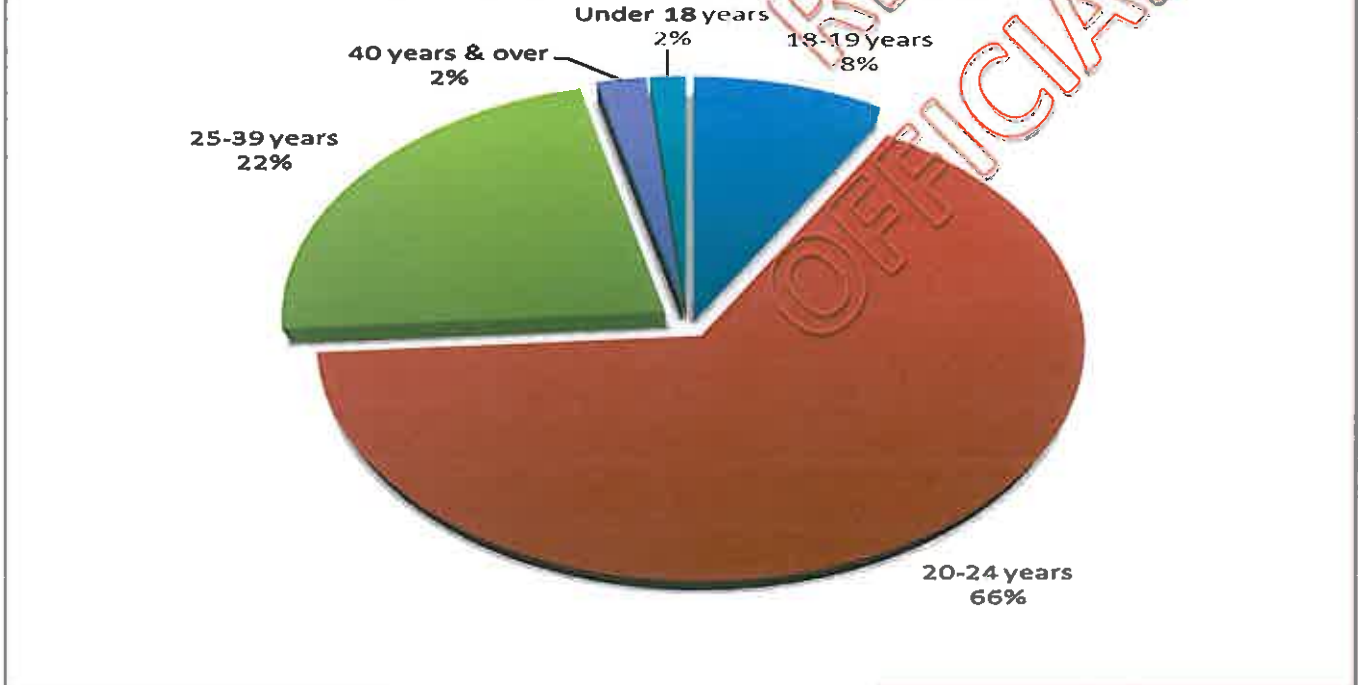
Number of Malaysian students enrolled by Subsector



Student visas issued to students from Malaysia



Age profile of students from Malaysia, 2012



From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Friday, 25 October 2013 3:53 p.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Subject: NZMSA Advice

Hi 9(2)(a),

Sorry for the delay, a few things typically got in the way. The attached information should be helpful, this is consistent with recent advice provided to Mr Ryall and Mrs Turia who frequently correspond with the New Zealand Medical Students Association.

I can't find the most recent meeting Mr Ryall had with the NZMSA, but it looks like Mrs Turia met with Phillip Chao on 12 June 2013.

Please let me know if you need any further information!

Kind Regards,
9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)
Private Secretary – Health
Office of Hon Tony Ryall

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Ministry of Health advice on issues discussed with New Zealand Medical Students Association (NZMSA)

The NZMSA

1. The NZMSA is the main representative body for medical students in New Zealand. Its primary aims include:
 - a. to proactively identify and advocate on issues of importance to medical students
 - b. to be an agency for communication for and representation of New Zealand medical students domestically and internationally to key stakeholders
 - c. to inform and interact with medical students on issues of importance in the health sector.

Key Messages

Out of scope (paragraphs 2-5)

Out of scope (paragraphs 1-5)

6. Beyond New Zealand domestic government-funded medical graduates, preference would generally be given to New Zealand citizens who graduate from an Australian medical school and Australian citizens who graduate from a New Zealand medical school.

Out of scope (paragraphs 7-20)

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From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, 10 October 2013 9:51 a.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Ministerial 813079 from 9(2)(a) re international medical student placements. Due 23 October INFORMATION REQUIRED

Great, I will pass that information to MoH.

Thanks 9(2)(a)!

Kind regards,
9(2)(a)

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 9 October 2013 5:41 p.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Cc: 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Ministerial 813079 from 9(2)(a) re international medical student placements. Due 23 October INFORMATION REQUIRED

Thanks 9(2)(a),

I think we will send a response to say Hon Ryall will be responding. Can the response please be cc'd to Minister Joyce?

Please let MoH know they can contact 9(2)(a) at MoE (9(2)(a)) if they require any input from our end. They may also wish to coordinate the response with ENZ who look after international education matters. A contact person for ENZ is 9(2)(a)

Many thanks,
9(2)(a)

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 9 October 2013 1:07 p.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Ministerial 813079 from 9(2)(a) re international medical student placements. Due 23 October INFORMATION REQUIRED

Hi 9(2)(a),

Interestingly enough, we are already responding to this one. Happy for any response to say that Mr Ryall will be answering 9(2)(a) concerns, or for this to be transferred.

Kind Regards,
Jenny

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 9 October 2013 9:05 a.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Subject: FW: Ministerial 813079 from Warwick Brunton re international medical student placements. Due 23 October INFORMATION REQUIRED

Hi 9(2)(a),

I think I may have a ministerial which may be more appropriately answered by Health? Let me know what you think.

Many thanks,

9(2)(a)

9(2)(a) | Private Secretary

Office of Hon Steven Joyce | Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment
7.2 Beehive, Parliament Buildings, Private Bag 18041, Wellington 6160, New Zealand

9(2)(a) | E: 9(2)(a) | W: <http://www.beehive.govt.nz> and <http://www.parliament.nz>

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====

From: 9(2)(a)

Sent: Wednesday, 9 October 2013 8:54 a.m.

To: 9(2)(a)

Cc: 9(2)(a)

Subject: FW: Ministerial 813079 from 9(2)(a) re international medical student placements. Due 23 October INFORMATION REQUIRED

Good Morning 9(2)(a)

I've been advised that this ministerial needs to be transferred to the Minister of Health for response. Can you please advise?

Thanks

9(2)(a) Senior Ministerial Coordinator | Ministerials Unit | Corporate & Infrastructure
Ministry of Education / Te Kāhuhu o Te Mātauranga | DDI: +9(2)(a)

From: 9(2)(a)

Sent: Wednesday, 9 October 2013 8:51 a.m.

To: 9(2)(a)

Subject: FW: Ministerial 813079 from 9(2)(a) re international medical student placements. Due 23 October INFORMATION REQUIRED

Good Morning 9(2)(a),

I thought I would forward this onto you following our conversation last night about transferring it to Ministry of Health? ☺

Thanks
9(2)(a)

9(2)(a) | Senior Support Officer | Tertiary Education Policy | Ministry of Education | 9(2)(a)

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 8 October 2013 10:48 a.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Cc: 9(2)(a)
Subject: FW: Ministerial 813079 from 9(2)(a) re international medical student placements. Due 23 October INFORMATION REQUIRED

Hi 9(2)(a)

John agrees that this should be transferred to the Minister of Health to answer – ourselves and International can support them if that's required

9(2)(a)
9(2)(a) | Senior Policy Analyst | Tertiary Education Group | Ministry of Education | 9(2)(a)

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 7 October 2013 1:15 p.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Subject: Ministerial 813079 from 9(2)(a) re international medical student placements. Due 23 October INFORMATION REQUIRED

Hello 9(2)(a)

<< File: 9(2)(a) - Sun Sep 15 2013 - employment for international students undertaking medical training.pdf >>

You've been identified as the subject matter expert for this draft reply. Please can you provide some information (bullet points) to assist with a response. I've checked Google and it looks like he is 9(2)(a)

9(2)(a) is disappointed that there appears to be no planning between the education sector supply and health sector demand, meaning that this year's international medical graduates have not been placed for 2014.

- Is it correct that no international medical graduates have house surgeon positions in NZ in 2014?
 - If so, what is the reason for this?
- He is concerned that this will affect future enrolments from international students in medicine or other health professions courses.
 - Is this a likely outcome?

- He writes that international graduates who have completed their training and obtained registration in NZ before returning to their own countries are an important contribution by NZ to international development.
 - Would this contribution be a reason for allowing students to complete their registration in NZ before returning home?
 - Denying them employment to complete their professional registration will damage NZ's reputation as an educational destination and could sour goodwill for international educational partnerships. Is this correct?
- Is it correct that international students have assumed they would obtain NZ medical registration? Was there any guarantee about this?
- Is there a way to ensure international students can obtain NZ medical registration?

9(2)(a) asks for clear information about the procedures for future intakes of international students

- Please provide this.

The response is due in the Minister's office by 23 October.

Thank you

9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

Ministerial Unit | Communication Group | Ministry of Education
Level 10 St Paul's Square | 45-47 Pipitea Street | PO Box 1666 Wellington

9(2)(a)

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Ref: fA63092

9(2)(a)

Dear 9(2)(a)

On behalf of the Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment, Hon Steven Joyce, thank you for your letter of 15 September 2013 regarding medical students.

The matter you have raised falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister of Health, Hon Tony Ryall. I have therefore referred your letter to the Minister for his consideration.

Yours sincerely

9(2)(a)
Private Secretary

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Education New Zealand Briefing

Title:	International medical students affected by graduate positions
Date:	1 November 2013
Priority:	Low
Security level:	Unclassified
ENZ ID no:	1314-103

Action sought

Addresses:	Action sought:	Deadline:
Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment	Note the background information about international medical students being affected by graduate positions for discussion at the 5 November meeting with Education New Zealand	
Enclosure:	No	Round robin: No

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)

Name:	Position:	Telephone:	Cell phone:	1 st contact:
Grant McPherson	Chief Executive	9(2)(a)	9(2)(a)	
	9(2)(a)	9(2)(a)	9(2)(a)	x

The following departments/agencies have seen this report

- | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ERO | <input type="checkbox"/> MBIE | <input type="checkbox"/> MFaT | <input type="checkbox"/> MoH | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MoE | <input type="checkbox"/> MSD |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NZQA | <input type="checkbox"/> NZTE | <input type="checkbox"/> TEC | <input type="checkbox"/> TPK | <input type="checkbox"/> Treasury | <input type="checkbox"/> Audit NZ |

Minister's office to complete

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Approved | <input type="checkbox"/> Declined | <input type="checkbox"/> Noted | <input type="checkbox"/> Needs change |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seen | <input type="checkbox"/> Overtaken by events | <input type="checkbox"/> See Minister's notes | <input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn |

Comments:



Education New Zealand Briefing

Title: International medical students affected by graduate positions
Date: 1 November 2013
Priority: Low
Security level: Unclassified
ENZ ID no: 1314-103

Action sought

Addresses:	Action sought:	Deadline:
Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment	Note the background information about international medical students being affected by graduate positions for discussion at the 5 November meeting with Education New Zealand	
Enclosure:	No	Round robin: No

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)

Name:	Position:	Telephone:	Cell phone:	1 st contact:
Grant McPherson	Chief Executive	9(2)(a)	9(2)(a)	
	9(2)(a)	9(2)(a)	9(2)(a)	x

The following departments/agencies have seen this report

- ERO MBIE MFaT MoH MoE MSD
- NZQA NZTE TEC TPK Treasury Audit NZ

Minister's office to complete

- Approved Declined Noted Needs change
- Seen Overtaken by events See Minister's notes Withdrawn

Comments:

Education New Zealand Briefing

Title: International medical students affected by graduate positions
Date: 1 November 2013
ENZ ID no: 1314-103

Recommendations

We recommend that you

- a. note the background information about international medical students being affected by graduate positions for discussion at the 5 November meeting with Education New Zealand, and prior to possible discussions with Minister Ryan and Health Workforce New Zealand

NOTED



Grant McPherson
Chief Executive

Hon Steven Joyce
Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment

Purpose

1. This briefing provides background information about international medical students being affected by graduate positions for discussion at the 5 November meeting with Education New Zealand, and prior to possible discussions with Minister Ryall and Health Workforce New Zealand.

Background

2. ^{g(2)(a)} wrote to you and to Minister Ryall on 15 September 2013 about his concern that this year's international medical graduates have not been placed for house surgeon positions in 2014 denying them the ability to be registered in New Zealand. He is particularly concerned about the impact on New Zealand's international reputation and on future international enrolments in medicine or other health professional courses.
3. Minister Ryall responded that the increase in Government-funded places for domestic students since 2009 had reduced the number of places available to international or self-funded graduates down to zero in 2014. Neither the University of Otago nor the University of Auckland guarantee postgraduate training places in New Zealand and both are now actively advising prospective international students that they may have difficulty finding postgraduate training places in New Zealand.
4. This background paper has been prepared without consultation with the Universities of Otago and Auckland concerning any plans they may have for helping current affected students or what approach they might take in future around marketing and setting numbers of places.

Structure of the Medical Training Programme

5. The medical training programmes in New Zealand comprise six years of training, from which students graduate with Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MB ChB) degrees.
6. The first three years of the programme (Years 1–3) are based in Auckland (the University of Auckland) or Dunedin (the University of Otago), and consist of the study of basic medical and health sciences and an introduction to professional and clinical aspects of medical practice.
7. The next three years (Years 4–6) may be based in a regional School of Medicine throughout New Zealand. Years 4–5 involve continued elements of practical training in hospitals and in community practice.
8. The trainee intern year (Year 6) includes clinical attachments and an elective period in a hospital setting.
9. During these six years, students pay fees and attract Student Achievement Component (SAC) funding for their providers, and are eligible for loans and allowances. In their sixth year, domestic students are paid a stipend, funded through Vote Tertiary Education.
10. Upon successful completion of these six years, students graduate with MB ChB degrees. This alone is not sufficient for registration with the Medical Council of New Zealand.

House officers

11. The seventh year builds on the trainee Intern year. This year is not part of the medical training programme, and District Health Boards (DHB) are responsible for arrangements in this year. Junior doctors must apply and be appointed to substantive positions in a New Zealand hospital. They are generally employed as a house officer from November of their sixth year of study by the DHB.
12. We understand that DHBs are funded for training places for house officers, which sets a capacity constraint. We further understand that DHBs have prioritised offering this limited number of places to New Zealand-trained New Zealanders, which has created the bottleneck and has appeared for the first time in 2013.
13. House officer positions allow the doctor to:
 - broaden their medical experience and master new skills
 - consolidate those skills and develop greater independence and responsibility for patient care
 - prepare for vocational training.
14. Part-time study is undertaken under the guidance of the Clinical Training Agency. At the end of this year a junior doctor may apply for registration within a general scope of practice with the Medical Council of New Zealand.

How many international students are affected, and where are they coming from?

15. There are currently 195 international students enrolled in medicine - 93 at the University of Auckland and 102 at the University of Otago. They are spread over the six years of study (at around 32 per year group).
16. According to media reports, the New Zealand Medical Students Association estimated that 30 students missed out on jobs this year while 376 New Zealand residents were offered positions - 49 more internships than in 2012. We understand that this was not just caused by an increased number of graduates seeking positions. There was also interest from New Zealanders trained in Australia looking to enter our hospital system.
17. Appendix One shows the nationality of international students enrolled in medical courses over time (years 2-7), the number of international fee-paying students studying medicine, 2004 - 2013, and also the number of international students enrolled to study health in 2010 by their qualification type.

What is the value/revenue we get from these students?

18. The approximate revenue earned by New Zealand from these international students is \$13 million per annum for tuition fees, and around \$18 million in total export revenue (inclusive of tuition fees) based on other expenditure for a typical student.

19. The University of Otago tuition fees are as follows:

Year 1	Years 2-3	Years 4-6
\$28,586	\$64,838	\$73,870

20. The University of Auckland tuition fees are as follows:

Year 1	Years 2-6
\$29,700	\$66,840

Additional charges apply to years 4-6 that seem to be similar to those at the University of Otago, but vary according to the papers chosen by students.

Is practical training required as part of the curriculum in New Zealand and required for registration in the student's home country

21. The practical training requirements for registration (known as clinical training requirements in the medical profession) are set by the licensing body. These requirements are determined by the Medical Council of New Zealand.
22. One element of these practical training requirements (the trainee intern year) is conducted as part of the broader medical training programme, and is required for graduation from a university. Registration requires practical training over and above that required for graduation, and these requirements vary from country to country.

How does it work in other countries including Australia?

23. Both universities are currently accredited with Medical Councils overseas, including:

- Australian Medical Council
- Singapore Medical Council
- Thai Medical Council
- Malaysian Medical Council (PDF)

24. It is likely that students graduating with the MB ChB from our universities would be able to find work in any of these countries that could eventually lead to registration as a doctor (but not necessarily leading to recognition by the New Zealand Medical Council).
25. The Australian and United Kingdom medical education systems are very similar to those in New Zealand. It is generally easier for graduates to undertake post-graduate training to meet initial registration requirements in the country in which they are educated. This is because it is easier to find employment in the country in which they have trained, and because full registration and related work experience is almost essential in finding employment in another country as a doctor.
26. Graduates intending to practice in the United States need to pass an examination to be provisionally registered in that country. Each year several New Zealand junior doctors sit these examinations in addition to any United States International students studying in New Zealand.

How damaging is the NZ situation to international students?

27. The total number of international students studying medicine in New Zealand is relatively small.

9(2)(b)

...s. However, these students pay very high fees and some of them have been resident in New Zealand for a long period of schooling. The students will have either borrowed extensively for their education or will be on government scholarships offered by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade or their own government. Any difficulty in completing registration as a doctor could affect New Zealand's reputation with foreign governments who rely on overseas medical training opportunities.

28. We have not yet had any submissions from affected governments, specifically on this issue.

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The letter talks about house surgeons, what about international students in other medical / health fields?

29. The issue seems to be primarily one of clinical placements of junior doctors in their second post-graduate year (house officer year). This falls under the responsibility of the health sector.
30. Both universities and institutes of technology have advised Education New Zealand that their ability to increase the numbers of international students in health fields more generally is substantially constrained by the number of clinical placements available.
31. Lists of the health related occupations that are in long-term or immediate shortage in New Zealand are shown in Appendix Two.

Consultation

32. Education New Zealand has consulted with the Ministry of Education who provided background information and estimated revenue. The Tertiary Education Commission has been advised of this paper.

Appendix One: International students enrolled in medical courses in New Zealand

1. The following table indicates the nationality of international students enrolled in medical courses (years 2–7):

Country	Total
Brunel Darussalam	30
Canada	8
China	2
Fiji	1
Japan	2
Korea, Republic of	2
Malaysia	92
Oman	18
Saudi Arabia	10
Seychelles	1
Singapore	5
Sri Lanka	2
Taiwan, Province of China	1
Thailand	4
Tonga	2
United Arab Emirates	3
United Kingdom	3
United States of America	8
Viet Nam	1
Grand Total	195

2. The following table indicates the number of international fee-paying students studying medicine, 2004 – 2013.

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
University of Auckland										
new	16	27	23	27	25	32	11	13	16	8
continuing	14	47	62	73	82	89	102	94	81	85
Total	30	74	85	100	107	121	113	107	97	93
University of Otago										
new	5	7	9	14	12	12	13	11	2	4
continuing	93	135	174	184	205	206	188	151	126	98
Total	98	142	183	198	217	218	201	162	128	102

3. The following table shows the number of international students enrolled in the health field of study in 2010 by qualification type:

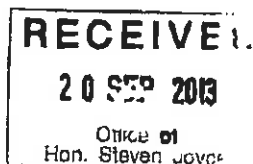
Level 1-3 certificate	Level 4 certificate	Diploma	Bachelors	Graduate certificate & diploma	Post-grad certificate & diploma	Masters	Doctorate
10	30	100	1,340	40	210	160	240

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Appendix Two: Health related occupations identified in skills shortage lists

1. The long-term skills shortage list operated by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment lists the following health fields as being in long-term shortage:
 - Anaesthetists, Anatomist, Physiologist, Audiologist, Cardiac Technician, Clinical Psychologist, Radiologist, Dietician, General Medical Practitioner, Pharmacist, Intensive Care Specialist, Radiation Therapist, Nuclear Medicine Technologist, Laboratory Scientist, Oncologist, Midwife, Nurses (varying types), Obstetrician and Gynaecologist, Occupational Therapist, Osteopath, Pathologist, Physiotherapist, Psychiatrist, Radiation Oncologist, Renal Medicine Specialist, Sonographer, Specialist Physician in Palliative Care, Speech Language Therapist, Surgeon, Veterinarian.

2. There is also a very long list of health related professional positions on the Immediate Shortage list, including the following medical positions:
 - Medical Practitioners (excluding First Year Resident Medical Officers) Resident Medical Officer, Specialist Physician (General Medicine), Cardiologist, Clinical Haematologist, Endocrinologist, Gastroenterologist, Neurologist, Paediatrician, Rheumatologist, Thoracic Medicine Specialist, Specialist Physicians not elsewhere classified, Cardiothoracic Surgeon, Neurosurgeon, Orthopaedic Surgeon, Otorhinolaryngologist, Paediatric Surgeon, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon, Urologist, Vascular Surgeon, Dermatologist, Emergency Medicine Specialist, Ophthalmologist, Medical Practitioners not elsewhere classified.



9 (2)(a)

Hon. Steven Joyce
Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment
Parliament Buildings
WELLINGTON

Dear Mr Joyce

I welcome the Government's strong message to the tertiary education sector to encourage the enrolment of international students.

For many years, the two New Zealand medical schools or their universities have had agreements or arrangements with a number of overseas government sponsors to admit their students to a limited number of guaranteed places in medicine and other health professional courses, subject to meeting required academic and behavioural requirements. These commitments reflect the international standing of New Zealand medical qualifications and registration.

New Zealand universities and hospitals benefit greatly by training students from other countries beyond the Pacific. They benefit from the income derived from the significantly higher fees charged to international students. International students contribute to the cross-cultural awareness that is essential for all health care workers in an increasingly multicultural society. The vast majority are very diligent, polite, hard-working and respectful. They are also committed to making a difference to the health and health services of their own countries once they have gained the relevant training and registration in New Zealand. Some have obtained a research-based degree as well as their main qualification. Graduates are invariably positive about their exposure to the educational, cultural and social values and style of New Zealand life.

Some sponsors from Malaysia, Oman, Brunel and Saudi Arabia allow their graduates to complete house surgeon requirements and meet registration requirements before returning to bonded service in their home country. A few allow students to then further their studies by applying for admission to vocational specialties. Students and sponsors have always been made aware of the priority given to New Zealand citizens and permanent residents for places as house officers in district health boards. It has always been possible to place graduating sponsored international students. Placing these graduates is a service to the New Zealand community and health care system.

I am therefore very disappointed at the apparent lack of synthesised planning between the education sector supply and health sector demand that means that this year's international medical graduates have not been placed for house surgeon positions in 2014. I am particularly concerned about the effects this may have for future international enrolments in medicine or other health professional courses.

International graduates who have completed their training and obtained registration in New Zealand before returning to service in their own countries are an important contribution by this country to international development. The graduates are good ambassadors for New Zealand. Denying them the employment needed to complete their professional registration, however, will undoubtedly damage New Zealand's reputation as an educational destination. The oversight is likely to create the impression among international sponsors that New Zealand has only a mercenary interest in recruiting international students. It is also likely to sour the goodwill that is essential for effective international educational partnerships - goodwill has led to generous gifts by alumnae and governments. The Sultan of Oman, for instance, contributed \$1M. to relief funds after the Christchurch earthquake.

I hope that you and your colleagues will find a way to remedy this situation for New Zealand trained international medical graduates in 2013. This must necessarily apply to all international students currently in years 1-6 of the course in order to demonstrate our moral obligation and good faith to those who, like their predecessors, have reasonably assumed that they will be able to obtain New Zealand medical registration.

I look forward to receiving your suggestions for a positive outcome for those international students affected by the current situation and clear information about the procedures for future intakes of international students.

Yours sincerely

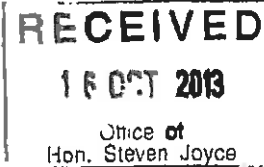
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Office of Hon Tony Ryall

Minister of Health
Minister for State Owned Enterprises



16 OCT 2013

9(2)(a)

Ref. 13001521

Dear 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your letter of 15 September 2013 about house surgeon placements for international medical graduates trained in New Zealand.

In 2009, the Government began phasing in an additional 200 Government-funded places in medical schools for domestic students each year. It is important that Government funding is used effectively. Therefore, priority must be given to the placement of students whose training is funded by the New Zealand Government. This has meant a reduction in places available at district health boards for internationally sponsored or self-funded medical graduates, and, for the 2013/14 year, no places remained available once domestic Government-funded students were placed.

I acknowledge the need for co-ordination between the health and education sectors on the placement of medical graduates who are New Zealand trained and internationally sponsored. I am advised that neither the University of Auckland nor the University of Otago has previously guaranteed any international students that postgraduate training places would be available for them in New Zealand. Given the increasing number of domestic Government-funded medical graduates in New Zealand, the Universities are now advising prospective international students that they may have difficulty finding postgraduate training places here.

I am further advised that Health Workforce New Zealand is aware of this matter, and is discussing how to ensure that all prospective international medical students are aware of the limited number of places before they come to New Zealand. This discussion will also involve officials from the Ministry of Education.

Thank you for drawing your concerns to my attention.

Yours sincerely

Tony Ryan

**Hon Tony Ryall
Minister of Health**

**cc Hon Steven Joyce
Minister of Education
Parliament Buildings
Wellington**

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