

Student Residential Accommodation and Welfare Procedure

PROCEDURE PURPOSE

The purpose of this procedure is to give effect to the Student Residential Accommodation and Welfare Policy.

SCOPE

This procedure applies to all students who:

- are on a subclass 500 student visa and require a CAAW and/or
- are studying at UTS Insearch and undertaking an ELT, Diploma or UTS Foundation Studies program or a combination of courses; and
- wish to stay with a Student Residential Accommodation Provider approved by UTS Insearch during their studies.

This procedure also applies to under 18 international students who have gained direct entry into UTS, where UTS requests UTS Insearch to provide the accommodation and welfare arrangements.

This procedure also applies to any staff member involved in the process of administration, selection, allocation and approval of accommodation and welfare arrangements.

DEFINITIONS are set out at the end of this procedure.

PROCEDURE STEPS

Activity	Description	Responsible
Arranging and Confirming the Approved Accommodation and Welfare Arrangements		

<p>Arranging placement in Student Residential Accommodation</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students over 18 years of age can apply directly to Student Residential Accommodation Providers and enter into a binding agreement. UTS Insearch does not require proof of this binding agreement. For students over 18 years of age no welfare arrangements are required. 2. Under 18 students are required to show a binding agreement between a Student Residential Accommodation Provider and a Welfare Provider. In addition, a one-off Accommodation and Welfare Administration Fee is also payable by the student or parents/legal guardians to UTS Insearch for overseeing these welfare and accommodation arrangements. 3. For under 18 UTS Direct Students who wish to stay in Student Residential Accommodation, UTS will provide the student details to UTS Insearch. UTS Insearch will then liaise with the student, their parent(s) and/or legal guardian, if applicable, their Channel Partner and the Student Residential Accommodation Provider and Welfare Provider to arrange the required services. 4. UTS Insearch will advise UTSI once these arrangements are in place, so that UTSI can proceed with issuing the CAAW. 5. UTS Insearch and UTS Direct students will receive instructions on how to apply for accommodation and welfare arrangements. Students must apply online using the appropriate application form. UTS Insearch will check that the appropriate contracts are completed and received. 6. UTS Insearch will also ensure that it collects the welfare guardian's and student's contact details. These details will be shared with UTSI for Direct UTS students. 7. Please note that if there are no available places at student residential accommodation providers, the student will be placed with one of our Homestay Providers. 	<p>UTS Insearch Welfare and Accommodation Team / UTSI / Student Residential Accommodation Provider / Welfare Provider / Channel Partner</p>
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<p>Issuing CAAW Letters for Under 18 students</p>	<p>8. UTS Insearch will issue the CAAW letter for under 18 students undertaking an ELT, Diploma or UTS Foundation Studies program who have paid for, and hold binding agreements with UTS Insearch approved Student Residential Accommodation Providers and Welfare Providers. (Note: students over 18 years of age do not require a CAAW.)</p> <p>9. UTSI will issue the CAAW for students under the age of 18 enrolling directly at UTS, once UTS Insearch confirms the student has booked and paid for UTS Insearch approved student accommodation and welfare services.</p> <p>10. Any under 18 UTS Insearch student, articulating to UTS, must remain in their UTS Insearch approved Student Residential Accommodation and Welfare arrangements, and will be covered by the UTS Insearch CAAW, until:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • they turn 18; or • they are granted a release to transfer to another provider who agrees to take on their accommodation and welfare responsibilities; or • they return overseas; or • they enter the care of a nominated guardian approved by the Department of Home Affairs. 	<p>UTS Insearch Welfare and Accommodation Team / UTSI / Student Residential Accommodation Provider / Welfare Provider</p>
<p>UTS Insearch Approved Transport</p>	<p>11. All students under 18 years of age will need to have UTS Insearch approved transport arrangements in place before their arrival in Sydney to ensure they are safely transported to their Student Residential Accommodation.</p> <p>12. UTS Insearch under 18 students may request that they make their own airport transport arrangements; which will need to be approved by UTS Insearch.</p> <p>13. UTS Direct Students cannot request to make their own airport transport arrangements and must use UTS Insearch approved transport.</p> <p>14. The UTS Insearch Accommodation Coordinator will confirm arrival dates with the student (and Channel Partner where applicable). They will also notify the nominated welfare guardian of the student's arrival details for all students under the age of 18 years.</p> <p>15. Students over 18 years of age do not require UTS Insearch approved transport but may request it.</p>	<p>UTS Insearch Accommodation Team</p>
<p>Approving Student Residential Accommodation and Welfare Providers</p>		

Initial checks	16. UTS Insearch will only approve and enter into a contractual agreement with providers of Student Residential Accommodation Providers and Welfare Providers, where these providers meet all legislative and regulatory child welfare and protection requirements. UTS Insearch must have evidence that the provider(s) meet UTS Insearch minimum standards, as outlined in schedule 1 and 2 of the procedure.	UTS Insearch Welfare and Accommodation Team / Student Residential Accommodation Provider / Welfare Provider
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<p>Grievances / Complaints</p>	<p>17. After arrival, if any student including UTS Direct students express a concern with their accommodation all efforts will be made to rectify this.</p> <p>If the complaint is raised directly with UTS Insearch, the UTS Insearch Accommodation Team will take one or more of the following actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact the third-party provider to raise the concern. • Determine whether the grievance relates to either the student or the third-party provider. • In the case of breach by either party, the student may be moved by UTS Insearch as soon as practicable, whilst causing as little inconvenience to the affected party as possible and at no additional cost to the student or UTS Insearch • In the case of a misunderstanding, raise the issue with the student and provider and offer advice to solve the issue cooperatively. • Record all issues in StarRez under the student record and ensure the Homestay provider records in their complaints register • Grievances that require further attention must be lodged through the formal UTS Insearch process via complaint@insearch.edu.au. Follow the UTS Insearch 'Student Complaints and Appeals Policy and Procedure' for more details. • Monitor issues and follow up with the student, and third-party provider to confirm that a satisfactory solution has been reached for all parties. • Breach of any Third-Party Code of Conduct and Terms & Conditions will be recorded as serious incidents. • Note: All critical incidents will be addressed as per UTS Insearch's' Critical Incident Policy. • In case of student breaches, repeated failure to comply with code of conduct or serious incidents may result in initiation of the non-academic misconduct procedure. <p>Note: Make sure there is always a contact available for the student residential accommodation provider, welfare provider and/or student to contact at UTS Insearch in cases of complaints. For critical Incidents both UTS Insearch and the Providers have in place 24/7 emergency contacts.</p>	<p>UTS Insearch Welfare and Accommodation Team/ Homestay Provider</p>
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Third-Party fees & Charges	18. Payments made to third parties will be managed by the UTS Insearch and/or third-party refund policies.	Third-Party Providers
Changes to Accommodation & Welfare Arrangements	<p>19. Under 18 students who have a CAAW cannot terminate their arrangements unless other suitable arrangements are in place. These arrangements need to be approved by UTS Insearch/UTSI staff.</p> <p>Note: Students under 18 years of age can only change their third-party provider arrangements with the approval of UTS Insearch. New contact details and Carer and Emergency details must be updated in Student One Ci by UTS Insearch Welfare and Accommodation Team.</p> <p>20. Students over 18 years of age are able to change accommodation without notifying UTS Insearch but should update their contact details in e-student. For international students this is a visa requirement.</p> <p>Note: For UTS Direct students the UTS Insearch Welfare and Accommodation Team update their own records and forward the change of homestay details onto UTS International (UTSI).</p>	Student/UTS Insearch Welfare and Accommodation Team

<p>Student Holidays</p>	<p>21. Student on Holidays:</p> <p>Any student under 18 years of age wishing to travel overseas must provide their travel details to the UTS Insearch Welfare and Accommodation Team, complete a Holiday Application Form and use UTS approved transport to and from the airport; or make alternate transport arrangements with the Welfare and Accommodation Team.</p> <p>Any student under 18 years of age wanting to holiday in Australia with their parents/legal guardians or stay with their parents for a short period of time (usually two weeks) must provide their parents travel details, accommodation arrangements, Australian address and contact details and complete a UTS Insearch ShortStay Application Form.</p> <p>The UTS Insearch Welfare and Accommodation Team will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • flag the student as on holiday or short stay in STARREZ • notify Student Residential Provider and Welfare Guardians about students plans advising of return dates. <p>Note: For UTS Direct students the UTS Insearch Accommodation Coordinator will forwards the holiday and shorts stay approval details onto UTS International (UTSI).</p> <p>Failure by the student to supply the required notice and/or travel details to the UTS Insearch Accommodation team or failure to return back to student residence after the approved holiday or short stay period will result in a sanction placed on the student record.</p> <p>Furthermore, the student will be requested to attend a compulsory meeting with the Student Welfare Team Leader or the Student Accommodation coordinator when they return.</p> <p>Any future beaches may result in non-academic misconduct being instigated.</p>	<p>Student/UTS Insearch Welfare and Accommodation Team</p>
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<p>Ongoing compliance and auditing</p>	<p>22. Once approved by UTS Insearch, Student Residential Accommodation Providers and Welfare Providers must continue to meet legislative and regulatory requirements, applicable UTS Insearch Policies and Procedures and minimum contractual service delivery standards.</p> <p>23. The UTS Insearch Accommodation Coordinator will undertake regular audits of Student Residential Accommodation Providers and Welfare Providers. to ensure adherence to legislative, regulatory and contractual agreements. Findings and any applicable recommendations will be presented to UTS Insearch’s senior management team and to key UTS stakeholders, as appropriate.</p> <p>UTS Insearch will monitor the suitability of student accommodation and welfare arrangements by seeking feedback from students and conducting regular, random checks, as outlined in the UTS Insearch Third Party Audit process.</p> <p>24. For Student Residential Accommodation Providers: Checks conducted can include, but are not limited to the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accuracy of the accommodation provider’s published contact details • access to their 24/7 emergency contact • detailed proof that the accommodation provider is abiding by and recording any curfew breaches by UTS Insearch or UTS Direct under 18 students • accuracy of a student’s key contact details held by the accommodation provider • accommodation provider’s maintenance of appropriate communication and liaison with the student’s parent(s) or legal guardian or their approved welfare provider and records are held and easily accessible • student has been correctly inducted • documented monitoring of curfew for under 18 students. • accuracy and currency of any complaints and critical incidents including follow up actions • currency of any necessary documents such as public liability and indemnity insurances and Working with Children Checks (WWCC), and • provider can demonstrate all current legislative, regulatory and UTS Insearch contractual requirements are maintained. (Refer Schedule 1). 	<p>UTS Insearch Welfare Accommodation Team / Student Residential Accommodation Provider</p>
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<p>Ongoing compliance and auditing</p>	<p>25. For Welfare Providers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checks conducted can include, but are not limited to <p>the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accuracy and currency of the student's accommodation and transport details • accuracy of the student's key contact details and the ease of access to the contact details of the person assigned to oversee the student's welfare arrangements • provider is accessible and responsive 24/7 • provider has made phone contact with the student on the day of arrival • student has been correctly inducted • report sent to the student's parent's/legal guardian within 30 days of the student's arrival • regular personal contact with the student that has been maintained, including meetings in person as outlined in 'Schedule 2' • checking of details and currency of any complaints and critical incidents and follow up actions • provider maintains currency of any necessary requirements such as public liability and indemnity insurances and Working with Children Checks (WWCC), and • provider can demonstrate all current legislative, regulatory and UTS Insearch contractual requirements are maintained. (Refer Schedule 2) <p>26. UTS Insearch will review this Procedure and related procedures at least once a year.</p>	<p>UTS Insearch Welfare and Accommodation Team / Welfare Provider</p>
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DEFINITIONS

[List any defined terms that are used in the procedure in alphabetical order.]

<p>Accommodation and Welfare Administration Fee</p>	<p>This is a one-off fee payable directly to UTS Insearch by the student or their parent/legal guardian and applies to all students who require UTS Insearch to oversee their accommodation and welfare arrangements</p>
<p>CAAW</p>	<p>Means the Confirmation of Appropriate Accommodation and Welfare and is the Department of Education and Training pro-forma letter downloadable through PRISMS.</p>

DET	Means Department of Education and Training
ELT	Means English Language Teaching
Legal Guardian	Means a parent, step-parent, adoptive parent, or any other person who has legal responsibility for an international student.
PRISMS	Means the Provider Registration and International Students Management System.
Student Residential Accommodation Provider	Means a third party, other than a Homestay Provider approved by UTS Insearch to provide residential accommodation to students.
UTS Direct Student	Any student under 18 years of age who gains direct entry to UTS or completes an UTS Insearch course offered offshore by an UTS Insearch partner institution.
Welfare Provider	Means a third party approved by UTS Insearch to provide student welfare arrangements

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

- *Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000 (Cth)*
- The National Code 2018
- UTS Insearch Third Party Audit Process
- UTS Insearch Management of Students Incidents Procedure
- UTS Insearch Student Residential Accommodation & Welfare Policy
- UTS Insearch Under 18 Policy
- UTS Insearch Student Complaints and Appeals Policy and Procedure
- UTS Insearch Critical Incident Policy – Student Management

ADMIN USE ONLY

APPROVAL	
Signature	
Name	Chief Operating Officer (COO) Date: 29th June 2020
Procedure Title	Student Accommodation and Welfare Procedure
Procedure Owner	Head of Student Services
Procedure ID	PROC/OPS/08/20
Effective Date	29 June 2020