

Unique Student Identifier

Information for parents and carers

The Australian Government requires everyone undertaking nationally recognised training qualifications to have a Unique Student Identifier (USI). It is now extended to all students commencing higher education from 1 January 2021 and is mandatory for students graduating in 2023 or later to receive an award.

If you're at university, TAFE or doing other nationally recognised training, you need a USI. You need one to get Commonwealth financial assistance, your qualification or statement of attainment.

This includes school students enrolling in a Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualification as part of their school program or applying to university through the [Tertiary Institutions Service Centre](#)¹ (TISC).

What is a USI?

The USI is a ten-character alphanumeric reference number issued by the Australian Government since 2015. The USI stays with a person for life and enables a person's record of achievements to be accessed in an online account that they control. It is free to get a USI and will take about 5 minutes to set up. A USI account can be accessed online at any time. You can find information about the USI in [other languages](#)².

How does a student create a USI?

1. Students will need two of the following forms of identification before starting the application:
 - Driver's licence
 - Medicare card
 - Australian passport
 - Visa (with non-Australian passport) for international students
 - Australian birth certificate, please note a birth certificate extract is not sufficient
 - Certificate of registration by descent
 - Citizenship certificate
 - ImmiCardThe details entered must match those shown on the form of ID used. For further information go to the [USI website](#)³.
2. Make sure the student's personal contact details are ready, such as an email address.
3. Go to the [USI website](#)⁴ and click on the 'Click here to Get your USI' button and follow the steps.
4. If a student is doing a VET Qualification, the USI must be provided to the student's school.

¹ <https://www.tisc.edu.au/static/guide/applying-online.tisc>

² <https://www.usi.gov.au/languages>

³ <http://www.usi.gov.au/help-centre/proof-of-ID/Pages/proof-of-ID.aspx>

⁴ <https://www.usi.gov.au/students/get-a-usi>