

TRANSCRIPT 1

“Before Enrolment”

FADE IN:

JUDY is sitting on the front porch of her student accommodation in a major metropolitan city in Australia. She is absorbed in writing on a clipboard.

Fellow international student JOHN, who also lives nearby was hoping to see his friend Judy on his way home.

JOHN

Hi Judy! I thought I might see you on the way home sitting outside in the sun.

JUDY

Oh, hello John. Guess what? I've just joined a program to help new international students. And some of them do need help.

JOHN

What do you mean?

JUDY

Some students seem really unprepared for study in Australia. **BEFORE arriving** here they should have collected information, talked to education agents, visited a college expo... made sure they enrolled for a course they really wanted to do.

JOHN

Yes.

JUDY

Some did that, but today I spoke to a few new students - one arrived here too late for his orientation, missed all the affordable on-campus accommodation so now he's over budget and can't afford where he lives for much longer.

John cuts her off.

JOHN

(smiling) ...Sounds like you when you first arrived

JUDY

Yes, (Judy's a bit embarrassed)
but that was two years ago...
...it's amazing how much I know now.
Still I wish I knew all this back then - there's lots of help for new students, but first you've got to help yourself by **understanding your rights...**

JOHN

...and your responsibilities.

JUDY

Exactly! You were well prepared John, what did you do before you came to Australia?

JOHN

I researched life in Australia, collected lots of information. The **pre-departure guide** sent by the college gave me the best information about living costs in this city, and I found out that part-time work is not easy to get!

JUDY

You know some of the students I helped today thought they could get a full time job.

JOHN

That's one of the first rules I read about - you cannot get a job before the course starts and you can't work more than 20 hours a week while studying - it's on the **Australian Immigration website**

On-screen super - Website address: www.immi.gov.au

JUDY

So - students DO need enough money to pay for their studies and living expenses. They also need to know that they cannot change their course until they complete at least 6 months of study. More if they enrolled in a package of courses.

JOHN

My advice would be to get all the details about the course, the college and the city before signing anything, and also find out if they can get credit for previous study.

JUDY

You can also check that the course is **registered with the Government**, which is very simple...

JUDY & JOHN (LAUGHING)

There's a website!

On-screen super DEST URL: www.cricos.deewr.gov.au

JOHN

But how does this help the students you spoke with today?

JUDY

Well, I know the **International Student Coordinator** is helping everyone to settle in now, but she's also asked me to make up a checklist for students still overseas and looking for a course.

JOHN

OK, that's not hard - three easy steps:

1. Decide what you want to study
2. Arrange your finances
3. Send in your application with all the supporting documents

Then you receive your **letter of offer** and your **written agreement**.

JUDY

Exciting!

JOHN

Yes, it was for me! First contract I had ever signed.

JUDY

You're right, it is a **Contract**. I'll make sure I put that on the checklist for them.

(she writes on the clipboard)

"Get good advice and make sure you know exactly what you're agreeing to BEFORE you sign it".

JOHN

Right! If you don't understand things, like the **course progress policy** and **class attendance requirements**, you could have real problems.

JUDY

Well John, I hope I can help students to be successful. You really make it easy for yourself if you know all this.

JOHN

(Interrupting)

...You mean how the Australian Government guarantees quality courses for overseas students and has rules for education providers to make sure everyone is treated fairly. It's all explained on the **"Study in Australia" website**.

On Screen super Website URL: www.studyinaustralia.gov.au

JUDY

The great thing about that website is: you can look at it in several different languages; it's easy to

understand what you need to know; and they've put the most important advice into six steps. So I just added that to my one page checklist. What do you think?

JOHN

It's easy, just tick the boxes.
That **will** be a great help to students and their parents.

FADE OUT:

THE END