POLICY TITLE: Student Application and Admissions (International Students)

Purpose
The purpose of this policy is to outline Photography Studies College (Melbourne)’s approach to international student application and admissions through its entrance requirements and course specific requirements. This policy should be read in conjunction with the selection procedures stated in the Fair Treatment and Equal Benefits and Opportunity Policy.

Policy
Photography Studies College (Melbourne) is committed to ensuring a balance is met between upholding the principles of fairness and equal benefits and opportunity and student merit in admitting students to Photography Studies College (Melbourne). Photography Studies College (Melbourne) will ensure that all prospective and admitted international students are made aware of the requirements and obligations of applying and being admitted as a student to Photography Studies College (Melbourne).

Procedures
There are specific academic entry requirements for all International applicants to Photography Studies College (Melbourne)’s courses. Students who are eligible for admission to Photography Studies College (Melbourne) will have met the course entrance requirements, have completed an enrolment form, attended an interview (If the applicant is not in Australia, a telephone or email interview will be arranged by the Communications and Students Officer) and presented a photographic folio.

Course Entrance Requirements
For admission to Photography Studies College (Melbourne), Photography Studies College (Melbourne) requests as a minimum educational requirement that all applicants to provide evidence of completion of Secondary School Year 12 or equivalent (certified transcripts of results and any post-secondary qualifications).

International students must also satisfy additional course entrance requirements. Bachelor of Photography applicants must provide:
- a photographic folio of a minimum of 10 to 15 images
- details of any previous experience in the photographic industry and evidence of this experience
- PSC accepts a range of English language examination methods as evidence of English language proficiency; applicants must provide evidence that they have achieved one of the following levels of English language proficiency.
  - International Language Testing System (IELTS) of 6.0 and above
  - TOEFL Internet: Test score 65
  - Pearson Test of English (PTE): Overall score 50 -57 (50)
  - University of Cambridge – Advanced (CAE): Total score: 52
- evidence of ability to pay the international tuition fees, overseas student health cover cost, equipment requirement costs, other course material costs and living expenses
Advanced Diploma of Photography applicants must provide:

- a photographic folio of a minimum of 8 to 10 images
- details of any previous experience in the photographic industry and evidence of this experience
- PSC accepts a range of English language examination methods as evidence of English language proficiency; applicants must provide evidence that they have achieved one of the following levels of English language proficiency
  - International Language Testing System (IELTS) of 5.5 and above
  - TOEFL Internet: Test score 55
  - Pearson Test of English (PTE): Overall score 42 - 49 (40)
  - University of Cambridge – Advanced (CAE): Total score: 47

**Application Process**

For admissions to Photography Studies College (Melbourne) courses, applicants are required to apply directly to the College by completing an International Application form available through the Photography Studies College (Melbourne) website www.psc.edu.au.

Selection requirements are based on successfully meeting the course entrance requirements, interview and the presentation of a folio of work. The specifics of this are described in the *Fair Treatment and Equal Benefits and Opportunity Policy*. At application, Photography Studies College (Melbourne) will also seek to ensure it gains an understanding of any extra learning requirements that may be required for each individual applicant.

Photography Studies College (Melbourne)’s Special Entry Assistance Scheme (SEAS) allows extra consideration to be granted for certain applicants seeking selection. Photography Studies College (Melbourne) will ensure that throughout the process of selection and admission, applicants are treated courteously and expeditiously. Student selection procedures are published in Photography Studies College (Melbourne)’s Course Guide and on Photography Studies College (Melbourne)’s website.

**Enrolment**

Applicants who have successfully met the course entrance requirements and the selection criteria will be advised in writing with a letter of offer from Photography Studies College (Melbourne). Successful applicants will then be required to complete the Photography Studies College (Melbourne) International Enrolment and pay the relevant annual tuition fees and the Overseas Student Health Cover payment. Once these payments are received and confirmed an electronic confirmation of enrolment (eCoE) will be issued. This Confirmation of Enrolment must be taken to the nearest diplomatic mission, as stated on the eCoE certificate – along with the other student Visa requirements.

At enrolment, the Coordinator Communications & Students and/or the Communications & Students Officer will explain to all enrolling students the concept of recognition of prior learning and/or the procedures for applying for credit transfer and the required evidence to support such claims.
Students wishing to undertake recognition of their prior learning and/or credit transfer will be encouraged to do so and will be supported in their endeavours. Further information regarding this procedure is described in the RPL and Credit Transfer Policy.

**Fees**

Enrolment into Photography Studies College (Melbourne) courses is on an annual basis and tuition fees are payable for each year of enrolment. A payment plan or an upfront discount is available for the relevant enrolment period which is outlined on the Tuition Fees Schedule which is provided during the application process.

There are additional equipment and material costs involved in Photography Studies College (Melbourne) courses. These costs are provided on the Expenses Other than Tuition Fees information sheet.

**Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and/or Credit Transfer**

Photography Studies College (Melbourne) does not expect students to repeat learning that has been successfully completed at a similar level and standard elsewhere, where that work is substantially the same in content and standard as that required for the student’s course at Photography Studies College (Melbourne). Two types of learning may be recognised to enable students to gain credit towards their course at Photography Studies College (Melbourne), these are:

- Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)
- Credit Transfer

Details of the policy and procedures relating to RPL and Credit Transfer applications are contained in the RPL and Credit Transfer Policy.

**Discrimination**

Throughout this process of application and admission, and in accordance with legislation, no person will be treated unfairly or discriminated against, on the basis of age, colour, race, gender, religious or political conviction, sexuality, ability or disability, location, family responsibilities, membership or non-membership of an association or for any other stereotypical or illegal reason.

**Responsibility**

Director, Communications and Students & all Communications and Students staff
Interviewing staff (including Academic Staff)

**Definitions**

Nil
Related Documentation

Policies
Fair Treatment and Equal Benefits and Opportunity
RPL and Credit Transfer

Procedures Forms & Documents
Bachelor of Photography International Student Information Guide
Advanced Diploma of Photography International Student Information Guide

Bachelor of Photography International Application Form
Advanced Diploma of Photography International Application Form
Bachelor of Photography International Tuition Fee Schedule (for relevant year of entry)
Advanced Diploma of Photography International Tuition Fee Schedule (for relevant year of entry)

Bachelor of Photography Expenses Other Than Tuition Fees information sheet
Advanced Diploma of Photography Expenses Other Than Tuition Fees information sheet

Bachelor of Photography Interview Form
Advanced Diploma of Photography Interview Form
Bachelor of Photography International Student Offer Letter
Advanced Diploma of Photography International Student Offer Letter

Bachelor of Photography International Student Enrolment Form
Advanced Diploma of Photography International Student Enrolment Form
Enrolment checklist

Bachelor of Photography International Student Handbook
Advanced Diploma of Photography International Student Handbook

RPL Policy & Application Form
Credit Transfer Application Form

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