

Statement of Purpose (SOP)

Question	Answer
How many words are required?	As stated on the Department of Home Affairs website, a Personal Statement (SOP) should be no more than 300 words in total (a 2000-character limit applies).
Can students complete a UTS College SOP form?	Applicants can use UTS College GTE forms, agent GTE forms, or write their answers in a word document. What is submitted to UTS College for assessment should be the same as what is submitted for a student visa.

Finance and savings

Question	Answer
<p>How much money/savings do students need to show for their first year in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pre-Master's Program ● UTS Foundation Studies ● Diploma 	<p>Students will need enough money to cover their costs and expenses. Students can check visa conditions on the Department of Home Affairs website.</p> <p>Annual income</p> <p>Students should provide evidence that their parents or partner has a personal annual income of at least A\$62,222 in the 12 months immediately before they apply.</p> <p>If the student is bringing family members, they must demonstrate that their parents' or partner's income is at least A\$72,592. If both parents are working, we can consider their combined income.</p> <p>Providing evidence of income</p> <p>Students will need to provide evidence of their parents' or partner's income in the form of official government documents, such as tax assessments, less than 12 months old.</p> <p>Employer bank statements or direct evidence from employers are not accepted.</p> <p>When converting currency into Australian dollars, please take exchange rates into account to ensure the conversion to AUD meets the required amount.</p>
What documents are accepted as evidence of funds?	<p>Students will need to show proof that they have enough money to cover the costs and expenses of travel and stay in Australia. Evidence includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● deposits of money from a financial institution ● government loans or loans from a financial institution ● scholarships or similar financial support ● official government tax assessments.
What kind of costs can students expect?	<p>Students will need enough money to cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● travel ● 12 months of course fees ● 12 months of living costs ● school fees for any school-age children <p>For combined applications, students should include the costs and expenses of both the primary applicant and any family members also applying for the visa, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 12 months of living costs ● school fees ● travel expenses.

Finance and savings

Question	Answer
How much are typical living costs?	<p>12-months of living costs may be typically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● A\$21,041 - for a student or guardian● A\$7,362 - for an additional partner● A\$3,152 - for an additional child.
How much are typical travel costs?	<p>As a guide, to calculate how much money is required for travel, add:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● A\$2,500 if applying from East or Southern Africa● A\$3,000 if applying from West Africa● A\$2,000 if applying from anywhere else outside Australia● A\$1,000 if applying in Australia. If returning to Africa, include A\$1,500.
What evidence is required of access to funds?	<p>If we ask for evidence of financial capacity, students must prove they have access to their funds.</p> <p>If someone else is providing funds, students should provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● evidence of their relationship with that person● their identity documents● evidence of any financial support that person has provided the student or another student visa holder in the past. <p>If financial support involves a business, the student will need to show proof that the business is operating. Students must also explain the source of any money deposits.</p> <p>Any education loan covering tuition or living costs should be paid out according to the agreement between the student, the bank and the education provider.</p> <p>If the student is relying on another kind of loan, they should provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● evidence of the security used● terms of the loan● evidence of ability to cover ongoing costs● evidence of disbursement. <p>Students should let us know of any conditions on their education loan. Some loans offer deferred repayment against future earnings. These loans can be conditional on studying a specified course with a certain provider.</p>
Are savings preferred to an education loan?	<p>Yes, savings are preferred.</p>
What evidence of monthly income is required?	<p>If savings and monthly income are the source of funds, personal bank statements and proof of income will be required.</p>
Do you require income evidence from the student if the student / parents have enough savings?	<p>Ideally, students or their parents will need to show proof of regular income and savings in their account.</p>
Do you require bank documents to be certified by agents?	<p>Do you require bank documents to be certified by agents?</p> <p>It is expected that agents / counsellors have sighted original bank documents. Please stamp any copies to be included with the application for assessment by the Admissions team.</p>

Sponsors

Question	Answer
How many sponsors are acceptable, and who is eligible to be a sponsor?	<p>Ideally, three sponsors or less is acceptable, but the fewer the better.</p> <p>Parents are preferred as sponsors. Grandparents are considered, as are immediate family members, however proof of relationship is required to ensure the student has genuine access to funds.</p> <p>Multiple sponsors from across a family, each contributing small amounts, raises concerns that the student does not have genuine access to funds.</p>
How is funding for consecutive years assessed?	<p>No proof is required. The applicant should be able to articulate how they intend to fund their future costs, and this can be included in their personal statement.</p>

Education loans

Question	Answer
Is an education loan accepted to cover first year tuition fees + living + OSHC + travel costs?	<p>Yes. Points we consider, to ensure the applicant has genuine access to the funds, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● who is taking the loan● their financial situation. <p>Proof of loan disbursement is required.</p>

Dependants

Question	Answer
Are dependants accepted for applications to the Pre-Master's Program?	<p>Dependants can be included as part of any application to study, including for the Pre-Master's Program.</p> <p>The amount of funds required for applicants which include dependants, is more than for a single applicant.</p> <p>The education and employment background of the dependant, and the reason for accompanying the student, needs to be disclosed.</p> <p>Single applicants are preferred.</p>
Why do you ask about a dependant's qualifications and previous work experience?	<p>To understand what the dependant intends to do in Australia while the student is studying.</p> <p>Points we consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● what was the highest qualification completed?● what is their previous work experience?● if they are leaving a job in their home country, does this make sense?● what are their employment expectations in Australia?● if they are not currently working in their home country, why not? <p>It is not reasonable to expect the dependant to fund the student's ongoing costs for future study or for the student to live solely on the income of the dependant.</p>
Should married students apply for a visa with no dependants?	<p>Yes, when there are dependants, UTS College Admissions team needs to understand more about the dependant travelling with the student. More financial proof will also be required.</p> <p>However, if the GTE assessment is sound, married applicants with dependants are acceptable.</p>

Deferring students

Question	Answer
Why does a GTE check need to be redone when deferring a student?	<p>If a GTE check has been approved and a deferral is required, the Admissions officer will check the GTE assessment to ensure there were no concerns.</p> <p>If bank documents or proof of finances are more than six months old when first assessed, updated documents will be required for assessment.</p>

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