



Dear Prospective Student,

We were pleased to receive your enquiry about enrolling as a student at the Melbourne School of Theology (formally Bible College of Victoria). Students from overseas have greatly enriched our community life in recent years and given us valuable personal contact with the wider world church. Should you eventually join us at MST, we assure you of a very warm welcome.

MST is an affiliated college of the Australian College of Theology (ACT) which is the provider registered on CRICOS (No. 02650E). All the courses offered by MST are courses of the ACT.

It is important for you to understand from the outset the special requirements related to overseas students studying at MST. As you will see, most of the following are Government regulations over which we have no control. This may seem like a long list, but if the Lord is really calling you to study with us in Australia, then I am sure that He will open up the way and provide all that you need.

1. Overseas students are responsible for return airfares to Australia from their own country.
2. It is necessary for overseas students to submit a letter from their church leaders or Christian organisation in their home country stating:
 - 2.1 The purpose of the training at the Melbourne School of Theology,
 - 2.2 How the training at MST will be of benefit to them when they return to their own country.
3. The Australian Government has strict regulations governing the admission of overseas students to our courses. These are as follows:
 - 3.1 It is necessary to provide 'evidence of having sufficient finances to cover the cost of the first year of study in Australia'. You must also provide 'a **declaration** that you have access to adequate funds necessary to meet the proposed tuition and living costs for the period of study sought.' There are no restrictions on the source of funds. MST Fees and Charges can be found in the Fee Schedule in the back of the Prospectus.

Extra money will be needed for such things as text books, travel expenses, clothing and other personal items. The Government allows part-time work, defined as a maximum of 20 hours per week, providing that such part-time work does not

interfere with a full-time study course. However, most students find the study load does not allow them to take up work as well.

- 3.2 Australian immigration laws require overseas students to complete their course within its expected duration. Overseas students must leave Australia upon completion of the study course.
- 3.3 A course may be terminated if student progress is unsatisfactory or fees cannot be paid. If this happens students are required to leave Australia. Overseas students are required to attend all classes for their course and make satisfactory progress. Missing more than two classes per semester unless satisfactory reasons are given will result in failing the subject.
- 3.4 Overseas students are responsible for the cost of Health Insurance while in Australia. Health insurance may only be obtained through one of the following five providers: Medibank Private, Australian Health Management OSHC, BUPA Australia, OSHC Worldcare or NIB OSHC.
- 3.5 If English is not your first language, then students must take an assessment test to establish proficiency in the use of English. The use of the International English Language Testing System (IELTS Academic Version) which is available in most countries is preferred.
- 3.6 Entry requirements for your chosen course must be met. Qualifications from non-Australian institutes will be assessed to determine their Australian equivalence by Australian Government qualification assessment information.
- 3.7 The educational costs for your children's schooling in Australia have to be paid for. The following are only for children coming as a dependant of an international student. You should allow \$8,000 per child for schooling.
NB: That extra costs such as text books, uniforms, fees outings etc are not covered by these figures.
- 3.8 As and overseas student the Immigration Department expects you to meet the following costs for living expenses:
 - Students - \$19,830 per year
 - Additional Spouse - \$6,940 per year
 - Each child - \$2,970 per year

4. Please note that the Melbourne School of Theology does not have any general funds available for scholarships for overseas students.

5. Overseas Students should be aware that there is no accommodation provided on campus. MST will endeavour to assist overseas students find appropriate accommodation but MST does not provide for or subsidise accommodation for any of its students.

The list seems a long one, but part of it is required to deal with Government regulations. If you believe that you are able to meet these requirements, please complete the attached form and we

will be very happy to send you further information and all the necessary forms. Processing an application may take several months so it is important to apply early (at least 6 months prior to the semester in which you wish to start.)

We pray that the Lord will guide you about your study program and future service and ministry for Him. Please let us know how we can help you further.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Meyers', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Timothy Meyers
Principal

REQUEST FOR PROSPECTUS AND APPLICATION FORMS

1. I have read the information letter for overseas students and understand the requirements set out.
2. I enclose a letter from my Church leaders or Christian organisation explaining why they want me to study at the Melbourne School of Theology.
3. I believe I can fulfil all conditions required for an overseas student to study at the Melbourne School of Theology.
4. Please send me further information and application forms. YES
Please send application forms for my spouse also YES NO
(Please indicate where applicable).
5. Do you have sufficient financial support from your own country to meet the costs of study in Australia?
YES NO If yes, please provide evidence of finances as outlined in 4.1.

Please PRINT CLEARLY

Name

Address

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Date Signature