

## **Austria – Australia: Recommendations for Admission to Higher Education Studies**

### **QUOTATION**

#### **Australia-Austria Academic Links Agreement – Recommendations for Admission to Higher Education Studies**

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### **TEXT**

#### **AUSTRALIA-AUSTRIA ACADEMIC LINKS AGREEMENT**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADMISSION TO HIGHER EDUCATION STUDIES**

Decisions on admission of students with Austrian qualifications to Australian universities and students with Australian qualifications to Austrian universities will be made by the receiving institution.

To assist member universities in the decision-making process, the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee (AVCC) and the Austrian Rectors' Conference (ORK) have agreed to the following recommendations. They are aware that changes of structures and standards in both systems may require, from time to time, a review of these recommendations.

#### **1. Language**

Australian and Austrian students wishing to study in the other country should demonstrate an appropriate level of competence in the language of tuition. In Austria, exceptions regarding doctoral studies are possible.

## **2. Admission to Universities**

For admission to Austrian universities, Australian students should hold a secondary school leaving certificate awarded after 12 years of primary and secondary education. In addition Australian students will need to meet specific standards, such as grades or other evaluation requirements, as prerequisites for admission to particular programs of study.

For admission to Australian universities, Austrian students should hold the Reifezeugnis/ Matura (Maturity Certificate) awarded after 12 years of primary and secondary education. In addition Austrian students will need to meet specific standards, such as grades or other evaluation requirements, as prerequisites for admission to particular programs of study.

## **3. Recognition of Higher Education Qualifications**

In principle, periods of study at universities in Australia or Austria should be regarded as comparable on a year-to-year basis, given that the student has passed the relevant examinations according to the curriculum. However, there are programs and awards in each system which do not lend themselves to direct comparisons with awards in the other system and these should be considered on a case-by-case basis.

## **4. Australian Students and Graduates**

Holders of an Australian Bachelor's degree awarded after three years of study should be eligible

- for admission to the Austrian *Diplomstudium* with advanced standing in accordance with the profile of their prior studies, or
- for admission to graduate studies (*Magister*/Master programs) in accordance with the profile of their prior studies.

Holders of an Australian Bachelor's degree with Honours, with thesis or research project and the classification, First Class or Second Class, may be considered for candidature for doctoral studies in Austria.

Holders of an Australian Master's degree by research should be eligible for candidature for doctoral studies in Austria.

Holders of an Australian Master's degree by coursework should be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

## **5. Austrian Students and Graduates**

The Austrian *Erste Diplomprüfung* (first diploma examination) should be regarded as comparable to two years of study towards a Bachelor's degree in Australia.

Students with an *Erste Diplomprüfung* plus an additional year of study (three years in total) should be eligible for admission to Australian graduate programs which have as a prerequisite a three-year undergraduate degree or equivalent.

Holders of an Austrian *Bakkalaureus* (Bachelor's) degree awarded after three years of study should be eligible for admission to Australian graduate programs which have as a prerequisite a three-year undergraduate degree or equivalent.

Holders of an Austrian *Magister/Diplom-Ingenieur* (Master's) degree may be considered for candidature for doctoral studies in Australia.

Other students should be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

## **6. Doctorate**

The Australian PhD and the Austrian Doctorate should be regarded as equivalent.

## **7. National Information Centers**

Member institutions are advised to take advantage of the services of the National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (NOOSR) in Australia and of the National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) in Austria.