

MEDIA RELEASE

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RUN welcomes the return of international students

The Regional Universities Network (RUN) welcomes today's announcement of exemption free travel for international students and other eligible visa holders to Australia from 1 December.

"The decision from the Australian Government to allow fully vaccinated international students, skilled workers and eligible visa holders exemption free travel from December 1 will be appreciated by prospective and returning international students," said RUN Executive Director Mr Alec Webb.

"This announcement ends uncertainty for thousands of international students looking to return to Australia to enjoy the benefits of Australia's world-class higher education system. From today, international students have a clear pathway to arriving on our shores.

"Beyond the huge economic value international students bring to the regions, they represent an integral part of our community diversity – contributing significantly to the social and cultural fabric of our regions.

"Regional communities, businesses and universities are incredibly enthusiastic and excited to welcome prospective and returning international students back to Australia's regions.

"RUN universities provide a uniquely Australian experience, and we consistently lead the way for student experience as per the latest Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching (QILT) and Employer Satisfaction Survey (ESS). These results demonstrate the exceptional educational experience that international students will receive at our regional universities," Mr Webb said.

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