

19 May 2023

Dear Agent

India High Risk Markets – Stopped Processing

The University has observed a significant increase in the proportion of visa applications being refused from some Indian regions by the Department of Home Affairs. We hoped this would prove to be a short-term issue, however it has persisted, and it is now clear there is a trend emerging.

It is our assessment that refusal rates from certain regions in North India are unlikely to reduce in the foreseeable future. We understand that a visa rejection can significantly impact on an applicant's plans to study abroad, and we want to mitigate any potential negative consequences for an applicant. Therefore, we have made the hard decision to stop processing applications for students from the following regions.

- Punjab
- Haryana
- Jammu and Kashmir
- Uttarakhand/Uttaranchal
- Uttar Pradesh

We acknowledge the difficulties that genuine students from various regions in India are currently facing, and we acknowledge the potential impact this decision may have on an applicant and their families.

We have made the difficult decision to stop processing applications for these regions knowing that there is a greater chance that the applicant may receive a visa refusal which can significantly impact their future study intentions.

Key points

1. We have stopped processing for the above 5 regions in India.
2. All applications will be withdrawn immediately.
3. We will not defer applicants to the next intake.
4. Any applicant with an unconditional offer, who has made payment before the 19th of May, have been offered the choice to continue to COE or withdraw their application to study at Federation. Please refer to notification sent to student via StudyLink.
5. **We ask that you do not recruit students from these regions until further notice.**

We thank you for your efforts in supporting this application, however we are acting in the best interests of the applicant and hope you can assist them with their future student intentions.

Yours sincerely,

Federation University Australia