



MINISTER
HOME AFFAIRS
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS : HEAD OFFICE
: PORTS OF ENTRY

DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND COOPERATION: : CONSULAR SERVICES

IMMIGRATION DIRECTIVE NO 25 OF 2016

BLANKET CONCESSION TO INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AFFECTED BY THE CURRENT STUDENT PROTESTS

Following various representations made to me to intervene on the matter of international students who are affected by the current protest action at tertiary institutions and who, as a result, would not be able to conclude the academic year before the expiry date of their study visas, I have decided to grant a blanket administrative extension until 31 March 2017 of all study visas which were issued to students for the purpose of studying at tertiary institutions in South Africa with an expiry date of or prior to 31 December 2016.

Furthermore, I have with the powers bestowed upon me in terms of section 31(2)(c) of the Immigration Act, 2002 (Act No 13 of 2002), granted a blanket waiver of the requirements prescribed in Regulation 27(a) and (c) of the Immigration Regulations for the need to declare a person undesirable when departing from the Republic of South Africa after the expiry date of his or her temporary residence visa. The blanket concession is granted to holders of study visas for the purpose of studying at tertiary institutions, on condition that the date of departure from South Africa is no later than 31 March 2017.

Managers of all Ports of Entry are requested to please implement the necessary processes and procedures to accommodate the affected students.

MR MKN GIGABA, MP
MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS
DATE: 2016/10/31

This Immigration Directive follows Immigration Directive No 24 of 2016 which deals with: Application for study visas: Students studying at private institutions not registered with the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET).



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BLANKET CONCESSION TO INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AFFECTED BY THE CURRENT STUDENT PROTESTS

I, Mr MKN Gigaba, MP, Minister of Home Affairs has, with the powers bestowed upon me in terms of section 31(2)(c) of the Immigration Act, 2002 (Act No 13 of 2002), decided to grant a blanket administrative extension until 31 March 2017 of all study visas which were issued to students for the purpose of studying at tertiary institutions in South Africa with an expiry date of or prior to 31 December 2016, thereby waiving the requirements prescribed in Regulation 27(a) and (c) of the Immigration Regulations for the need to declare a person undesirable when departing from the Republic of South Africa after the expiry date of his or her temporary residence visa. The blanket concession is granted on condition that the date of departure from South Africa is no later than 31 March 2017.

Signed on this 31st day of OCTOBER 2016.

MR MKN GIGABA, MP
MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS