

11 DECEMBER 2023

MIGRATION STRATEGY BRINGS WELCOMED CHANGES FOR REGIONAL UNIVERSITIES

The Regional Universities Network (RUN) welcomes the migration strategy released today by the Albanese Government.

Executive Director of RUN, Alec Webb said the focus of quality and integrity for the migration strategy is essential in ensuring Australia's world leading international education sector remains at the top of the class.

"Australian universities are renowned for their high quality academic offerings and the migration strategy's focus on integrity and quality will only strengthen Australia's reputation.

"The implementation of a Genuine Student Test and the creation of a new visa stream to attract highly skilled and talented migrants is welcomed by RUN as it will ensure that Australia's universities are able to enrol, and to hire, those who possess genuine intentions to study and work in Australia," said Mr Webb.

RUN is particularly pleased to see the proposed changes to the Temporary Graduate visa and the return of a meaningful regional based extension for graduates.

"RUN have long argued for positive regional differential in international student post-study work rights and we highly commend the proposed changes outlined in the migration strategy.

"The creation of meaningful regionally based temporary graduate visa extensions will go a long way in ensuring regional Australia, and Australia's world class regional universities remain a viable option for those looking to study and work in Australia," said Mr Webb.

RUN looks forward to working constructively with the Government as they produce discussion papers on permanent skilled migration and regional migration in 2024.

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