

Arrangement on Higher Education Qualifications

Recognition

between

the Government of Australia

and

**the Government of the People's Republic of
China**

According to the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation (hereinafter referred to as 'the MoU') in Education and Training Between the Government of Australia ('Australia') and the Government of the People's Republic of China ('China') (hereinafter referred to as 'The Parties'), signed on 2 December 2002 and renewed on 3 April 2006, the Parties shall establish a mechanism to promote cooperative activities in education and to improve student and professional mobility between Australia and China . Thus, The Parties concluded the following Arrangement on Higher Education Qualifications Recognition:

I Purpose

I.1 The Arrangement aims to facilitate the recognition of higher education degrees and qualifications as herein described awarded to students in Australia and China so as to make it easier for students to pursue further academic studies in each other's countries. The Department of Education, Employment & Workplace Relations (DEEWR) of Australia and the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China will designate appropriate bodies to provide information on recognition, and to make concrete recommendations in accordance with their current regulations and practices to promote academic exchange and cooperation.

II Arrangement Profile

II.1 This Arrangement relates to all Australian Higher Education Institutions with the authority to award degree or postgraduate qualifications as listed on the Australian Qualifications Framework and all Chinese Higher Education Institutions and Research Institutions with degree-awarding authority recognised by the Government of China.

II.2 The Parties respect the autonomy of higher education institutions in Australia and China as bodies that have the right to make their own decisions about the recognition of overseas qualifications and degrees for the purpose of admission to programmes of study.

III Introduction to the Academic Qualifications Frameworks in China and Australia

III.1 China

According to the Academic Degree Regulations of the People's Republic of China, academic degrees in China include Bachelor, Master and Doctoral degrees.

III.1.1 Bachelor Degree

A person enrolled in regular higher education courses (undergraduate courses) may be awarded an undergraduate graduation certificate upon accomplishing four years of university education. A qualified student may apply for a Bachelor degree, provided the institution has the authority to award a Bachelor degree.

A person who fails to enter a regular higher education course may also obtain an undergraduate graduation certificate if he/she passes the National Test for Self-Taught Students or meets the relevant requirements of an Adult Higher Education Institution. A qualified person may apply for a Bachelor degree, provided the institution has the authority to award a Bachelor degree.

III.1.2 Master Degree

A Bachelor degree holder may be admitted to an education programme in a Master degree awarding institution (a higher education institution or research institution with authority to award a Master degree) after passing the National Entrance Test to study and/or research for two or three years, and to be awarded a Master degree if qualified.

A Bachelor degree holder may also apply for and be awarded a Master degree by an institution with authority to award a Master degree by means of part-time study for an Academic Degree if qualified.

III.1.3 Doctoral Degree

A Master degree holder may be admitted to an education programme in a Doctoral degree awarding institution (a higher education institution or research institution with authority to award a Doctoral degree) after passing the required test, to study and/or research for three or more years to be awarded a Doctoral degree if qualified.

A Master degree holder may also apply for and be awarded a Doctoral degree by an institution with authority to award Doctoral degree by means of part-time study for Academic Degree if qualified.

Some institutions that have authority to award a Doctoral degree offer from Bachelor-to-Doctor degree awarding programmes. A Bachelor degree holder who is enrolled in such a programme may be awarded a Doctoral degree after five years of study and/or research.

III.2 Australia

Detailed descriptions of Australian qualifications are contained in the Australian Qualifications Framework, as reviewed periodically.

III.2.1 Associate Degree

The Associate Degree provides the foundational underpinnings of one or more academic disciplines by developing academic skills and generic employment-related skills relevant to a range of employment contexts. Normally the Associate Degree requires two years of full-time study, and provides the basis for articulation into the relevant Bachelor degree programmes with a maximum of two years of advanced standing with specific credit.

III.2.2 Bachelor Degree

The structure of the Australian Bachelor Degree depends on the subject area studied and on the department / faculty concerned. The basic Bachelor degree, often referred to as an Ordinary or Pass degree, provides initial preparation for professional careers and postgraduate study. It commonly requires three years of full-time study or the part-time equivalent. A number of Bachelor degrees are four or more years in duration. Apart from Honours Degrees (see below) this is most common in professional education, where additional time may be required to prepare students to operate in a professional context.

III.2.3 Honours Degrees and Degrees with Honours

An Honours Degree typically requires a total of four years study, with students being selected on the basis of outstanding academic achievement in the Ordinary or Pass (Bachelor) degree or programme. The additional year normally involves specialised study in one subject involving research and the submission of a thesis. A degree with Honours may be awarded to a student completing a regular Bachelor degree course of four years or more – for example in engineering or law – with a record of outstanding achievement.

III.2.4 Graduate Certificate and Graduate Diploma

Graduate Certificates and Graduate Diplomas are generally designed for specific professional purposes, either the broadening of skills and knowledge already gained in an undergraduate programme, or developing skills and knowledge in a new professional area. Although the duration of programmes may vary, the typical requirement is one semester of full time study for the Graduate Certificate and 2 semesters of full time study for the Graduate Diploma. Entry is normally based on successful completion of a Bachelor Degree.

III.2.5 Master Degree

The Master degree provides a mastery or high order overview of a relevant field of study or area of professional practice. It varies in length, typically requiring either one

year of study following a four-year or Honours Bachelor degree, or two years following a three-year degree, but requirements differ, depending on the discipline area.

III.2.6 Doctoral Degree

The Doctoral degree represents the highest level of postgraduate study. In Australia, the Doctoral degree most commonly undertaken is the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) which usually involves a searching review of literature, experimentation or other systematic approach to the relevant body of knowledge. The award of this qualification recognises a substantial original contribution to knowledge in the form of new knowledge or significant and original adaptation, or application and interpretation of existing knowledge. It normally requires three years of full-time study following a Master or Honours Bachelor degree.

Professional Doctorates have the same research focus as PhDs but are oriented towards advanced professional practice, and combine coursework and research. They normally require three to four years of full-time study with entry based on a combined research and coursework Master degree or an Honours Bachelor degree in the First or Upper Second class. In addition significant professional practice either prior to and/or as part of the programme is required.

Higher Doctorates are awarded to those who usually have a doctorate degree, on the basis of an internationally recognised original contribution to knowledge rather than supervised candidature.

IV Approval for Graduates of Australian Education Institutions to Study in Chinese Higher Education Institutions

IV.1 The higher education institutions in China retain the right to determine the qualifications, grades and examination results required to enter all courses of study according to their own regulations.

IV.2 An Associate Degree holder from an officially recognised higher education institution in Australia may be considered for admission to studies leading to a Bachelor Degree in China subject to the specific requirements of the admitting institution.

IV.3 A Bachelor degree holder from an officially recognised higher education institution in Australia may be considered for admission to studies leading to a Master Degree in China subject to the specific requirements of the admitting institution.

IV.4 A Graduate Certificate and Graduate Diploma holder from an officially recognised higher education institution in Australia may be considered for admission to studies

leading to a Master Degree in China subject to the specific requirements of the admitting institution.

IV.5 A Master Degree holder in Australia may be considered for admission to Doctoral studies in China subject to the relevance of previous studies and the proposed research and the specific requirements of the admitting institutions.

V Approval for Graduates of Chinese Education Institutions to Study in Australian Higher Education Institutions

V.1 Higher education institutions in Australia retain the right to determine the qualifications, grades and examination results required to enter all courses of study according to their own regulations.

V.2 A Bachelor degree holder from an officially recognised higher education institution in China may be considered for admission to studies leading to a Graduate Certificate, or a Graduate Diploma or a Master Degree in Australia, subject to the specific requirements of the admitting institution.

V.3 A Master degree holder in China may be considered for admission to Doctoral studies in Australia subject to the relevance of previous studies and the proposed research and the specific requirements of the admitting institutions.

VI Responsibilities of the Joint Working Group

VI.1 Consideration and action on issues concerning the implementation of the Arrangement will be a standing item on the agenda of the Joint Working Group on Education and Training established under the MoU. Such issues will include the exchange of information and the continued development of the mutual recognition mechanism of the two countries.

VII Dispute Settlement Mechanism

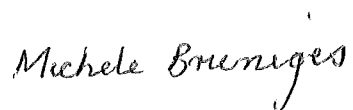
VII.1 Any issues that arise regarding the explanation or implementation of the Arrangement will be resolved by mutual consent through the Joint Working Group mentioned in paragraph 6 of this Arrangement.

VII.2 The Arrangement will come into effect on the date of its signature by both parties and will remain in effect for three years from that date.

VII.3 The Arrangement may be extended by mutual arrangement of the Parties and may be terminated at any time by either party by giving the other party six months' notice in writing.

Signed in Canberra on the seventh day of April 2011, in duplicate in both English and Chinese languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government of
Australia



Dr Michele Bruniges

Associate Secretary of the Department of
Education, Employment and Workplace
Relations

For the Government of
the People's Republic of China



His Excellency Chen Yuming

Ambassador of the People's Republic of
China to Australia

澳大利亚政府

与

中华人民共和国政府

关于相互承认高等教育学历和学位的协议

根据澳大利亚政府和中华人民共和国政府(以下简称“双方”)于2002年12月2日签署、并于2006年4月3日续签的《关于教育与培训的合作谅解备忘录》(以下简称“谅解备忘录”),双方应建立一种机制以促进两国在教育领域的合作,推动两国间的学生和专业人员的交流。因此,双方就相互承认高等教育学历和学位达成协议如下:

第一条 宗旨

本协议旨在促进澳、中两国对高等教育学位、学历的互认,以便于学生到对方国家的高等教育机构继续学业。为此,澳大利亚教育、就业和劳资关系部将负责指定适当的机构和中华人民共和国教育部将负责指定适当的机构,提供有关互认信息,并根据各自国家现有的法规和惯例提出具体建议,以促进学术交流与合作。

第二条 适用范围

本协议适用于澳大利亚学历框架指定的学位或研究生学历授予权的所有澳大利亚高等教育机构、中国政府承认的拥有学位授予权的所有中国高等教育机构及研究机构。

双方尊重各自高等教育机构在招生时是否承认海外学历、学位资格的自主权。

第三条 中国和澳大利亚学历学位结构

一、 中国

根据中华人民共和国学位条例，中国学位分学士，硕士和博士。

(一) 学士学位

进入普通高等学校学习（本科）的学生在完成四年的大学教育后，可获得大学本科毕业证书。符合条件的学生可向有权授予学士学位的单位申请以获得学士学位证书。

未能进入普通高等学校学习的人员，可进入成人高等学校学习或通过国家自学考试达到相应要求后获得本科毕业证书。符合条件的学生可向有权授予学士学位的单位申请以获得学士学位证书。

(二) 硕士学位

学士学位获得者，可参加国家统一举行的考试进入到硕士学位授予单位（有权授予硕士学位的高等教育机构或科研机构）学习，经过 2 到 3 年的学习和研究，符合条件的可获得硕士学位证书。

学士学位获得者，也可通过半脱产学习申请学位的办法，向硕士学位授予单位申请以获得硕士学位。

(三) 博士学位

硕士学位获得者，通过相应的考试可进入博士学位授予单位（有权授予博士学位的高等教育机构或科研机构）学习，经过 3

年或 3 年以上的学习和研究，符合条件的可得到博士学位证书。

硕士学位获得者，也可通过半脱产学习申请学位的办法，向博士学位授予单位申请以获得博士学位。

有些博士学位授予单位的部分专业采取硕士博士连续培养的办法，学士学位获得者可通过 5 年的学习和研究，直接获得博士学位。

二、 澳大利亚

澳大利亚学历学位框架，对澳大利亚学历学位进行了详细的描述。此框架定期审核。

(一) 准学位

通过开发学术技能和一系列与就业环境有关的一般就业技能，准学位为一个或多个学科提供基础性支持。通常情况下，准学位要求两年全日制学习，并提供续读相应学士学位课程的基础（条件是在之后最多两年内所修的具体学分达到优秀标准）。

(二) 学士学位

澳大利亚的学士学位结构依据学习的课程领域和相关的院系而定。普通学士学位通常指学生在攻读研究生学位前必须获得的普通或基本学位。普通学士学位也为学生的职业生涯提供初步准备。通常需要经过 3 年的全日制学习或相应时间的半脱产学习。许多学士学位要经过连续 4 年或更长的时间。除荣誉学士学位外（见后），学士学位在专业教育中是最普遍的，以便有更多的时间为学生进入专业领域做准备。

(三) 荣誉学士学位和学士荣誉学位

荣誉学士学位一般要求经过 4 年的学习，学生必须在普通或基本（学士）学位或课程学习中取得优异成绩。增加的一年学习一般涉及在某一个课程的专业学习，包括研究和提交一篇论文。学士荣誉学位可授予完成 4 年或更长时间的常规学士学位课程，如工程和法律专业，并取得优异成绩的学生。

(四) 研究生证书和研究生文凭

研究生证书和研究生文凭主要适用于特定专业的学习，如对本科课程中获得的知识和技能的扩展，或者在新的专业领域发展知识和技能。

虽然课程的学习时间各异，但研究生证书一般需要一个学期的全日制学习，而研究生文凭则需要两个学期的全日制学习。完成学士学位的学生有申请资格。

(五) 硕士学位

硕士学位为学生提供熟练掌握或全面了解某一相关研究领域或专业实践领域的机会。学习时间各异，一般需要在 4 年学习或获得荣誉学士学位后再学习 1 年，或者在获得 3 年制学位后再学习两年，但不同的学科领域要求也不同。

(六) 博士学位

博士学位代表最高层次的研究生学习。在澳大利亚，最常见的博士学位是哲学博士（PhD），主要涉及对相关知识领域的文献评论、实验或其他系统性方法的研究。博士学位的授予对学位获

得者在某一知识领域的重要的独创性贡献予以认可，如提出新的知识，或对现有知识做出重大的独创性的改进，应用和解释。一般要求在取得硕士学位或荣誉学士学位后再经过3年的全日制学习。

专业博士学位与博士学位具有相同的研究重点，但更侧重于高等专业实践领域，并将课程学习与研究相结合。专业博士学位，一般要求入学时已取得研究与课程相结合型硕士学位或一等或二等以上荣誉学士学位，并经过3年的全日制学习。此外，还要求在攻读专业博士学位课程前或作为攻读该课程的一部分，有重大的专业实践经验。

高等博士学位通常授予博士学位获得者。该学位的授予基于国际上认可的对知识的独创性贡献而并非基于接受指导的博士候选人。

第四条 澳大利亚教育机构毕业生进入中国高等教育机构读书的批准

一、 中国高等教育机构保留依据自身法规决定各学习课程所需学历、入学年级和考试成绩的权利。

二、 持有官方认可的澳大利亚高等教育机构颁发的准学士学位证书者在满足中国学校的具体录取要求的前提下，可以申请攻读中国的学士学位。

三、 持有官方认可的澳大利亚高等教育机构颁发的学士

学位证书者在满足中国学校的具体录取要求的前提下，可以申请攻读中国的硕士学位。

四、 持有官方认可的澳大利亚高等教育机构颁发的研究生证书和文凭者在满足中国学校的具体录取要求的前提下，可以申请攻读中国的硕士学位。

五、 澳大利亚硕士学位获得者，可以根据其学习经历和研究计划，在满足中国学校的具体录取要求的前提下，申请攻读中国的博士学位。

第五条 中国教育机构毕业生进入澳大利亚高等教育机构读书的批准

一、 澳大利亚高等教育机构保留依据自身法规决定各学习课程所需学历、入学年级和考试成绩的权利。

二、 持有官方认可的中国高等教育机构颁发的学士学位证书者在满足澳大利亚学校的具体录取要求的前提下，可以申请攻读澳大利亚的研究生证书，研究生文凭或硕士学位。

三、 中国硕士学位获得者，可以根据其学习经历和研究计划，在满足澳大利亚学校的具体录取要求的前提下，申请攻读澳大利亚的博士学位。

第六条 联合工作小组的职责

根据谅解备忘录成立的教育和培训联合工作小组应把本协议的实施作为磋商会议的常规议题，如交换信息和探讨两国互认机制的持续发展等。

第七条 争端解决机制

有关本协议的解释或执行的任何问题将通过本协议第六条所指的联合工作小组协商解决。

本协议自双方签字之日起生效，有效期为3年。

本协议经双方协商可予以延期。任何一方可以书面方式提前6个月通知另一方终止本协议。

本协议于2011年04月07日在堪培拉签订，一式两份，每份均用中文和英文写成，两种文本同等作准。

澳大利亚政府

代表



中华人民共和国政府

代表



澳大利亚教育、就业和劳资关系部
第二常务副部长

布霓婕

中华人民共和国驻澳大利亚大使

陈育明 阁下

