

M*** L***** R***** G*******

500 · Student · Colombia · Offshore (outside Australia) · refused 11 Sept 2026

Preliminary · pending RMA review

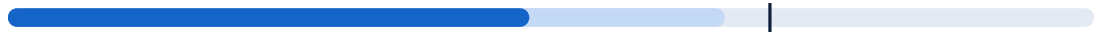
Medium confidence

The refusal turned mainly on an unproven career reason for another English course and concern that the student's study history looked like ongoing residence rather than a short, necessary study plan.

In simple terms

The officer accepted that the student has work and family ties in Colombia. The problem was that the file did not prove that this 25-week English course was the step needed for the claimed career move. The form also gave inconsistent answers about the English level needed for that job. Because the student had already studied English in Australia before, the officer became concerned that another ELICOS course was being used to extend time in Australia.

48 , 66



File at lodgement 48 · Achievable with the fixes 66. Readiness of the file on the OneVisa pre-assessment scale. It is not a probability of approval.

3 errors **4 warnings** **6 of 7 findings were fixable before lodging**

Your second chance is a stronger new application

You applied from outside Australia, so there is no appeal. You can apply again with a rebuilt file.

What the decision says

The officer's reasons, quoted, with what each one means.

The course-to-career link was not proven

Decisive

"I am concerned that the applicant has not provided convincing evidence of how the course would lead to this outcome. Accordingly, I am not satisfied that the course would be of value to the applicant's future."

The file said the student needed advanced English for a future role, but it did not include independent proof showing that this exact course was necessary for that career step.

The immigration history made the officer doubt the temporary study purpose

Decisive

"Given the length of time the applicant has already spent in Australia, and their previous application for temporary residence, I am concerned the applicant intends to use the student visa program as a way to maintain residence in Australia."

Because the student had already held a student visa for English study in Australia, the officer wanted a much stronger explanation for why another English course was needed now.

Home-country ties were noted but were not enough on their own

"The applicant has provided evidence of economic and personal ties to Colombia, including employment in the public service and two dependent children. I note, however, that such ties do not in themselves demonstrate that the applicant intends to stay in Australia temporarily for the purpose of study."

Work and family ties helped, but they did not answer the bigger question: why this study, in Australia, now, and how it clearly fits the student's next career step.

What the officer did not question

- The student has employment in the public service in Colombia.
- The student has two dependent children in Colombia.
- The student has economic and personal ties to Colombia.

What OneVisa would have caught before lodging

Problems that better preparation of the same profile would have removed.

Error

Study & career link

Linked to the refusal

No objective proof that C1 English was required for the claimed career step

The file said C1 English was the only missing requirement for a specialised Ministry role, but it did not include a job advert, official recruitment rule, civil-service requirement, or employer letter confirming that point. This was the main gap behind the refusal.

Where: Q242 Course and career: "Reaching C1 English is the only requirement I lack..." with note "No job advert, requirement or employer letter attached."

Check: evidence required for each key claim

Error English level [Linked to the refusal](#)

English target answers contradicted each other

The form said the target level was C1, but also said the target level for the job was B2, while another answer said the Ministry requires C1. This inconsistency weakened the course-to-career explanation.

Where: Q227 Target level: C1; Q230 Target level for the job: B2; Q238: "The Ministry requires C1 English".

Check: answer consistency check

Error Study & career link [Linked to the refusal](#)

A second stand-alone ELICOS course was not explained as clear progression

The student had already completed an ELICOS course in Australia in 2025 at the same provider, then applied for another 25-week ELICOS course. The file did not explain why another stand-alone English course, rather than a packaged pathway or award course, was the necessary next step.

Where: Previous travel: prior subclass 500 for ELICOS at the same provider from February 2025 to September 2025; current course: General and Academic English, 25 weeks.

Check: Genuine Student statement review against the form

Warning Ties to home country [Linked to the refusal](#)

Home-country ties were only partly documented

The file showed public-service employment and two children in Colombia, but it did not include approved leave, a guaranteed return to the current role, or custody material showing who would care for the children during the course. That limited the weight of the ties evidence.

Where: Q220: "I can request unpaid leave"; Custody documents: "Not provided".

Check: evidence required for each key claim

Warning Financial capacity

Key financial and family documents were uploaded without certified translations

Bank statements, property certificates and the children's birth certificates were listed in Spanish without certified translations. Untranslated documents are harder for an officer to rely on.

Where: Funds evidence language: "Spanish — no certified translation attached (14 pages)"; children birth certificates listed as Spanish and untranslated.

Check: translation completeness check

Warning

Study & career link

The application was lodged very close to the course start date

The visa was lodged 11 days before the course start date. That left little time to correct gaps, add translations, or rebuild the study explanation before classes began.

Where: Date lodged: 6 August 2026; course start date: 17 August 2026.

Check: lodgement lead-time alert

Contradictions in the file

Answers that contradict each other. The officer finds them unaided.

The form said the target level for the job was B2, but elsewhere said the Ministry requires C1 and that C1 was the only missing requirement.

What was structural

Risks that come from the profile itself. Better wording does not remove them, but a new plan can.

Repeat ELICOS is intrinsically harder to justify

A second stand-alone English course after a prior English course in Australia is always harder to present as study progression than a packaged pathway or an award course.

Previous Australian study history will stay in the record

Any future student application will be assessed against the student's prior stay in Australia and prior student visa history. Better wording cannot remove that history; it can only be answered with stronger evidence and a more coherent course choice.

Other findings

Warning

Immigration history

Linked to the refusal

Previous Australian study history increased scrutiny

A prior student visa and a second application for more English study made the temporary-study purpose harder to prove. This was a profile risk, and the file needed stronger evidence to answer it directly.

Where: Refusal letter: concern about time already spent in Australia and a previous application for temporary residence.

Score area by area

Dark blue: the file as lodged. Light blue: with the fixes. The mark is the threshold each area has to clear.

Financial capacity

55 > 68



Tuition was paid in full and savings, salary and property were declared, but 14 pages of funds evidence were in Spanish without certified translation.

Study & career link

35 > 65



The file claimed that C1 English was the only missing requirement for a Ministry role, but no job advert, official rule or employer letter was attached. The application was also for a second stand-alone ELICOS course after prior ELICOS study in Australia.

Ties to home country

62 > 74



The student showed a public-service role, two children, a small business and properties in Colombia, but there was no approved leave evidence and no custody pack for the children staying behind.

English level

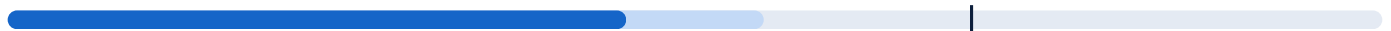
42 > 66



No recent English test was listed. The form said the target level was C1, but also said the target level for the job was B2, while another answer said the Ministry requires C1.

Immigration history

45 > 55



The student previously held a subclass 500 visa for ELICOS in Australia in 2025 and then applied again for another ELICOS course at the same provider.

What holds the case up

Documented ties to Colombia existed

The officer expressly noted public-service employment and two dependent children in Colombia.

There was a declared financial base

The file listed savings, salary income and property, and tuition was paid in full.

The student stated a return plan

The form consistently said the student planned to return to Colombia after the course and continue a public-service career.

The adviser read

This refusal is mainly a Genuine Student evidence problem, not a complete rejection of the student's ties to Colombia. The officer accepted the public-service employment and the existence of two dependent children. What the file lacked was objective proof that another 25-week English course in Australia was the necessary next step for the student's career. The claim that C1 English was the only missing requirement for a Ministry role was central, but it was unsupported by a job advertisement, official recruitment rule, employer confirmation or other third-party evidence. The inconsistent English targets in the form made that point weaker.

The second pressure point was immigration history. The student had already completed ELICOS in Australia with the same provider, so a second stand-alone ELICOS enrolment needed a very clear progression story. That story was not built strongly enough. Some supporting evidence was also harder to rely on because key documents were listed as untranslated Spanish documents. Because the application was made and decided offshore, the letter gives no ART merits review rights. Recovery therefore depends on whether a new application can present a much more coherent study path and a fully evidenced career reason.

Where to act

Each risk placed by its impact on the outcome and by how much can be done about it.

1	Unproven course-to-career link	Impact 5/5 · Actionability 5/5
2	Contradictory English targets in the form	Impact 4/5 · Actionability 5/5
3	Second stand-alone ELICOS after prior Australian ELICOS	Impact 4/5 · Actionability 3/5
4	Untranslated supporting documents	Impact 3/5 · Actionability 5/5
5	Lodgement only 11 days before course start	Impact 2/5 · Actionability 5/5

What to do now

Recommended: new application

The letter says there are no ART merits review rights because the application was made and decided while the student was outside Australia. That makes a fresh application the practical path, but only after the file is rebuilt and a Registered Migration Agent confirms that the new course choice, evidence set and timing are coherent. A new application must declare this refusal and answer it directly.

Evidence to add

- Official proof that the target role or promotion really requires C1 English, such as a job advert, recruitment rules, civil-service standard or Ministry guidance
- An employer or industry letter explaining how the proposed study fits the student's next career step in Colombia
- A revised Genuine Student statement that explains why the 2025 English study was not enough and why the next course is the correct progression

- Certified English translations for all Spanish financial, property and family documents
- Approved leave or return-to-work evidence from the current public-service employer
- Childcare or custody evidence showing who will care for the children during the student's temporary absence
- If the study path changes, documents for the new course showing clear academic or professional progression

Before you reapply

- The next application must declare this refusal and address the reasons for it directly.
- A second refusal on the same stand-alone ELICOS story will be much harder to recover from.
- Do not re-lodge until the English requirement evidence, translations and employment/ties documents are complete.

A study plan that answers the refusal

A packaged pathway to a vocational or higher education course connected to environmental management, public administration or international relations, with English support built in, would read more coherently than another stand-alone ELICOS enrolment.

Lodge at least 10 weeks before the course starts.

Action plan

Ordered by what each action adds to the overall score.

- | | | |
|----------------|--|---------|
| +12 pts | Collect third-party proof that the claimed future role really requires C1 English and that the student otherwise meets the role criteria. | Student |
| +10 pts | Choose a study path that shows progression, ideally a packaged English-plus-award pathway tied to environmental or public-service work. | Agency |
| +8 pts | Rewrite the Genuine Student answers so the English target, job target, prior Australian study and return plan all say the same thing. | Agency |
| +8 pts | Obtain employer documents confirming approved leave or return rights and explaining how the study supports career progression in Colombia. | Student |
| +6 pts | Translate all non-English evidence with certified translations and upload it in a clear, indexed bundle. | Agency |
| +5 pts | Add childcare or custody evidence for the children and show how their care and financial support will continue during the study period. | Student |
| +4 pts | Move to a later intake so the next file can be prepared and checked at least 10 weeks before the course starts. | School |

What the student must be able to explain

- Why was the 2025 English study in Australia not enough for the student's career goal?
- Why does the next step need to be another stand-alone English course, rather than an award course or a packaged pathway?
- What exact job, promotion or recruitment stream is the student targeting in Colombia, and where is the written rule that requires this English level?
- If one answer said the job target is B2, why is C1 now necessary?
- What evidence shows the current public-service role will still be available after the student returns?
- Who will care for the children while the student is away, and what documents prove that arrangement?
- How will the student use this study immediately on return to Colombia?

For next time

A repeat ELICOS case is a clear risk signal before a CoE is issued. Where a student has already studied English in Australia, the file should not move forward unless the course-to-career link is proven with third-party documents, the English target is consistent across every answer, and the next course shows visible progression. If the narrative depends on a future job or promotion, the file needs the rule, advert or employer letter that proves it. Non-English evidence should be translated before lodgement, and the intake should allow enough lead time to quality-check the whole story.

Plan my new application

A Registered Migration Agent reviews this analysis with you and plans the new file: course, evidence and timing.

<https://secondchance.onevisa.ai/r/demo?lang=en>