

Media Release

The Hon Martin Pakula MP
Minister for Industry Support and Recovery
Minister for Trade
Minister for Business Precincts
Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events
Minister for Racing



Tuesday, 23 November 2021

STUDY MELBOURNE HUBS IN VIETNAM, MALAYSIA TO OPEN

New Study Melbourne Hubs opening in coming weeks in Vietnam and Malaysia will boost Victoria's connections with overseas students and promote our leadership in international educational technology and innovation.

The Study Hubs in Ho Chi Minh City and Kuala Lumpur will provide international students who are offshore with support and study facilities and promote Melbourne and Victoria to prospective students.

The Study Hub in Kuala Lumpur opens today with Ho Chi Minh City's Study Hub opening on 1 December. The hubs were announced as part of the Andrews Labor Government's \$33.4 million *International Education Short Term Recovery Plan*, with additional funding provided in the *Victorian Budget 2021/22*.

Victoria is a popular study destination for students from Vietnam and Malaysia, with around 8,800 Vietnamese students and 7,700 Malaysian students enrolled in Victorian institutions. About a quarter of these students are currently offshore with the first overseas students expected to return to Victoria from 1 December.

The Study Hubs will provide networking events and activities, access to support services and programs and information about Melbourne and Victorian institutions for prospective students.

Securing trade, investment and partnership opportunities in edtech is also a core focus of the Study Hubs as they bring together edtech companies, investors, researchers and education providers in the search for new, high-quality edtech solutions for the South East Asia region.

Victoria is the only Australian state or territory to provide its international students with offshore Study Hubs, with its inaugural hub in Shanghai launched in April this year. Study Melbourne also operates a virtual hub in India, with plans to open a physical space in Bangalore.

Growing Study Melbourne's international footprint will help rebuild and revitalise the international education market. International education contributed a peak of \$13.7 billion to the state's economy and supported around 79,000 Victorian jobs prior to the pandemic.

To learn more about the Study Melbourne Hubs visit studymelbourne.vic.gov.au/Hubs.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Trade Martin Pakula

"We're looking forward to welcoming back students from Vietnam, Malaysia and elsewhere, and our Study Hubs are a great way to spread the message about the opportunities that exist in Victoria."

"We're a leader in edtech and the hubs will also help Victorian companies make connections in markets that have increasing demand for high-quality edtech solutions."