

Date of published 11TH July 2020

Australia to open borders for one group: International students



While Australia's borders remain firmly closed to overseas visitors, the government plans to make a notable exception as it races to save its fourth-biggest export: Education.

In time for the new semester, the authorities are working on a plan to allow 350 international students to be flown into Canberra, the nation's capital, later this month to resume classes. Under a trial programme that could be rolled out nationally, the universities and territory government will foot the bill for their two-week mandatory quarantine in hotels.

It's a sign of just how reliant Australia's higher education sector has become on overseas students, who make up roughly a quarter of all enrolments - the second-highest ratio in the world after Luxembourg - and 40 per cent of student revenues due to the higher fees they are charged.