

Insurance Requirements for PMSA and PMSLA Recipients

It is a condition of accepting your Prime Minister's Scholarship that you must have full medical and travel insurance coverage for the entire period that you are overseas. It is *your responsibility* to ensure that you have full insurance and to purchase this insurance before you travel.

The insurance you purchase must meet the following recommended minimum requirements. It is your responsibility to check that the insurance also meets any requirements of any overseas university you may be attending (please check with the host university as to their insurance requirements prior to purchasing insurance. Note that some universities will require you to purchase a specific insurance policy). Insurance should normally be purchased at the time of purchasing your airfare and must cover you for all travel and all destinations visited prior to and after your scholarship programme, including any non-study and vacation periods.

Note: A pre-existing condition of health is not covered by insurance unless you have applied to the insurer and received a notice of acceptance of such condition.

Recommended minimum provisions your insurance policy should cover:

- Amount of cover – NZ\$ 1,000,000 or more (a sum that exceeds any possible claim)
- Medical – Cover should include GP visits and prescriptions, major hospitalization, optical cover, emergency dental cover, cover for treatment following an accident, and emergency services such as ambulance and paramedics. It is preferable that no excess is applied to medical claims.
- Emergency evacuation/repatriation – this should include travel for medical professionals and family members who may need to fly to the country of study to accompany you home. “Unlimited cover” is ideal, as very large sums can be incurred in these situations.
- Mental illness – (medical costs and repatriation).
- Accompanying relative cover – should you become seriously ill (physically or mentally) during the period of scholarship, the insurance policy should pay for a close relative to fly to the host country on the first available flight. The accompanying relative cover should also include day to day accommodation and reasonable living costs in your country of study; travel home and back to your country of study for you if a member of your immediate family becomes ill or dies.
- Personal Effects – realistic limit to cover actual value of particular personal items (i.e. laptop computer, expensive musical instruments, sporting equipment).
- Personal Liability cover – NZ\$ 1,000,000 minimum to cover accidental damage you may cause to other people's property while you are away.

Travel insurance should cover for:

- loss or damage to baggage and other personal effects
- loss or theft of tickets, money and travel documents
- accident and injury
- disruption to travel plans
- cost of medical care in any “stopover” countries

In addition, the following requirements must also be met:

- The insurance commences from when you leave home to when you return home and applies 24/7.
- The insurer must provide 24/7 *emergency cover*.
- Cover sports activities – if you think this *might* be a possibility.
- The broker or agent promoting the policy is a reputable and established company with substantial experience in the travel and medical insurance business.
- The insurer (or re-insurer) is a reputable and established company with substantial experience in the travel insurance business. The credit rating must be no lower than BBB from Standard and Poors, or B+ from A M Best.

Preferred insurance providers: (but check their latest policy cover for your destination meets requirements)

Provider	Policy name
Studentsafe	Offshore
Southern Cross	TravelCare
1Cover	Comprehensive Overseas Travel Insurance