

To
The Visa Officer,
Australian High Commission
New Delhi, India

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

I am writing this "Statement of Purpose" letter to answer any questions that may arise as a result of my decision to study Diploma and Advanced Diploma of Information Technology at Australian Harbour International College in Sydney, Australia. The overall course lasts 129 weeks, begins on May 23rd, 2022, and ends on November 10th, 2024. In this letter, I will provide a quick overview of myself, including my family, academic background, reasons for choosing Australia over other countries, why I chose Australian Harbour International College and this specific program, and my future goals.

Introduction

My name is Ambika Guragain, and I am a permanent resident of Haldibari-01, Jhapa, Nepal, with the passport number 00745381. I was born on October 28th, 2002. My family consists of four members: myself, my father (Mr. Guru Prasad Guragain), my mother (Mrs. Ganga Guragain), and my older brother (Mr. Gagan Guragain). We are a joyful, caring, and supportive family. I consider myself fortunate because my family has always supported and led me throughout my life.

I've always enjoyed learning and have been an active student. Because I am passionate about computers and associated technology, I chose science as my high school major. I've always been fascinated by all the things we can do with computers. I was unaware of the science that underpins the technological sectors and how they operate. My interest in science and technology has grown steadily since my school days, and I am now ready to turn the magic of that moment into a career. I finally opted to pursue my studies in Diploma and Advanced Diploma of Information Technology at Australian Harbour International College in Sydney, Australia, based on my interests and after extensive discussions with my parents and lecturers.

Academic Background

In terms of my educational background, I attended Shree Goldhap Sunshine Boarding School in Haldibari 01, Jhapa until I completed my secondary school. In the year 2019, I completed my Secondary Education Examinations [SEE]. After completing my SEE, I joined Liverpool International Secondary School, New Baneshwor, Kathmandu for higher secondary education in the science stream. I was able to get a GPA of 3.36 in 12th grade (2021), completing my secondary education.

After completing my high school, I began preparing for the International English Language Testing System [IELTS] in order to continue my education in Australia. In the IELTS exam held on January 20th, 2022, I received an overall score of 7.5 (Listening 8.5, Reading 8.5, Writing 6.5 & Speaking 6.0)

Why not Nepal?

Nepal is where I was born and raised. I have around 15 years of study experience in Nepal. Since the beginning of my high school education, I've been learning more and more about the educational system of this country. As it is a developing country, Nepalese education is more theoretical than practical. And the courses I've chosen focuses more on practical aspects, which most colleges and universities in this area do not provide. In addition, Nepal's educational system falls short of the global level, which includes the cutting-edge technology that I want to learn. This is why I believe that earning an international course leads to greater academic performance, foreign exposure and new ideas.

There are some of the well-known IT colleges in Nepal like Softwarica College (<https://softwarica.edu.np/>), Islington College (<https://islington.edu.np/>), Texas International College (<https://texasintl.edu.np/>), Nepal College of Information Technology (<https://www.ncit.edu.np/>), The British College (<https://www.thebritishcollege.edu.np/>) etc. and the programs they offer are, BSc CSIT (Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Information Technology), BE Computer, BE IT, BE Software, Bachelor of Computer Application (BCA), BSc (Hons) Ethical Hacking and Cyber security, etc. The above-mentioned colleges directly offer bachelor level programs in IT but don't provide a promising learning environment. Besides, the curriculum in Nepal is not as updated as it should be and qualifications are also not recognized in the world job market.

Also I did further research on universities of Nepal like Tribhuvan University (<https://tribhuvan-university.edu.np/>), Kathmandu University (www.ku.edu.np), Pokhara University (<https://pu.edu.np/edu/>), and Purbanchal University (<http://purbuniv.edu.np/>). Because all courses are taught in the same way, with more than 80% theoretical content and fewer than 20% practical content, IT professionals in our country confront a technical skills shortage. The courses haven't been updated in a long time, resulting in everyone having the same level of information and study proficiency from a long time. In addition, the labs, instruments, and materials aren't advanced enough for students to learn in a balanced setting. Nepalese educational institutions lack a conducive learning atmosphere, which is critical for personal development and growth. Because the syllabus is entirely theoretical, I will not be able to effectively testify to my expertise in the workplace. This made me fearful of not being accepted into good companies looking for experience.

Due to the lack of resources and practical knowledge, Nepalese students lag behind students from developed countries like the USA, Australia, Canada, etc. in the international job market despite

having the same level of qualification. The teacher's position here is multifaceted, but they are outdated in terms of expertise. They, too, teach with an exam-oriented attitude. My qualification will not be globally recognized if I pursue further education in Nepal. However, an international qualification opens the door to success with new ideas, diverse cultures, information, different experiences, and personalities. Furthermore, Nepalese tech giants like Leapfrog Technology Inc. (www.lftechnology.com), Braindigit IT Solution Pvt. Ltd. (www.braindigit.com), and F1 Soft International Pvt. Ltd. (www.f1soft.com) emphasize individuals with an international qualification. As a result, with sound mind, I intend to pursue my further studies in Australia rather than Nepal.

Why not other countries?

It wasn't simple to pick one destination out of a plethora of possibilities. I did some research into all of the possible international destinations and was able to obtain facts that led me to choose Australia over all of them.

- **The U.S.A.:**

The high value of the US dollar, 1 USD = 121.54 NPR versus 1 AUD = 89.96 NPR, was the first thing that struck me. Although the quality of education in Australia is equivalent to that in the United States, tuition fees and living costs in the United States are significantly greater. In addition, we also have to take SAT or GRE examinations in order to get into prestigious education providers with good scholarships which is a major hassle, not to mention the low visa rate. There are only two main intakes, and processing time could take longer than six months, causing me to lose nearly a year of my life, which I am not prepared for.

- **The U.K.:**

Many people consider the United Kingdom to be a risky place to study. In the year 2019/20, the police in the United Kingdom registered roughly 6.43 million offences. The United Kingdom has its fair share of fake or fraudulent education providers and the government has shut down around 100 of them over the years, with more popping up on a daily basis. Furthermore, because their currency, 1 Pound = 161.52 Nepalese rupees, the cost of living and tuition costs is extremely high. I chose Australia over the United Kingdom because of the higher expense and the uncertainty of finding a legitimate college.

- **Canada:**

During the winters in Canada, temperatures can drop to -30 degrees Celsius. Winters last about 6–8 months on average. Because Nepal is in the temperate zone and I was born and raised here, the cold would be unbearable and I believe it would take me years to adjust. Meanwhile, I'm concerned that my studies and health will be harmed. Although Canadian cities are densely populated, their transportation infrastructures are not as well developed as those in Australia. Furthermore, Canada has a relatively limited intake date, which lengthens the processing period.

- **Most of the European and Asian Countries:**

Most European nations, such as Finland, Germany, France, Spain, and others, have excellent colleges, but I would need to learn their original language, which may take nearly a year. As a result, I would lose a year, and the language barrier would still continue to plague me in my daily life. And the same goes for Asian countries such as Japan, China, and India.

Why Australia?

Top colleges, beautiful scenery, exciting cities, several oceans, and a mild and cool temperature all drew me to Australia. At over 1,100 institutions, the country offers a varied range of courses (22,000) ranging from sports science to political science and IT, engineering, health and medical, and fitness and health. In the English-speaking world, it is currently the most popular study destination for Nepalese students.

We can locate a number of Nepalese people studying in a variety of Australian institutes and colleges who are there to obtain a decent qualification and a career in Australia. Because of these surroundings, I will be able to have greater comfort, which will undoubtedly make my stay more comfortable because I will feel more connected to my neighborhood. The Australian government also has a welcoming approach toward overseas students, as well as a high level of care and a favorable opinion of them. Australia is an English-speaking country, so communication will be easy, and the temperature will be ideal for me, as Australia's climate is similar to that of Nepal.

A degree from Australia would undoubtedly assist me in obtaining a good career in my home country. I would be exposed to more inventions and scientific advances because I will be living in Australia. And because of the technological disparity, we can say that Australian education is a few years ahead than that of Nepal's. In Australia, IT is already at its pinnacle, whereas in Nepal, it is only getting started. Because Nepalese degree is not internationally recognized, even Nepalese companies prefer to hire people with international certifications. With my commitment, I'm confident that studying in Australia will help me find a high-level job in my native country. In contrast to Nepal's exam-oriented theoretical education, Australian education focuses more on practical aspects, which would help me improve my professional performance in the future.

Furthermore, the Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) Act, enacted exclusively in Australia and New Zealand, assures quality education and safeguards the rights of international students studying in Australia, which was a significant factor in my decision to choose Australia over other nations. Similarly, the Australian government strictly supervises and promotes high-quality education and training services. Furthermore, Australia is the best example of a country with political stability, calm atmosphere, low crime rate, few human rights violations, and a high emphasis on human rights so that political or other issues in the country do not disrupt international

students. The Tuition Protection Service is also a fantastic innovation (TPS). It is an Australian government effort aimed at assisting international students whose education providers are unable to completely fulfill their program. The TPS assures overseas students that they can either complete their studies in a different course or with a different education provider, or obtain a refund of their tuition payments that have not been used. So, all of these great elements and decisive concepts have convinced me that Australia is the best destination for me to study in the future and that, if given the chance, I will lead my career to success.

Why Sydney?

According to QS Best Student Cities 2019, Sydney is the 9th best city in the entire world for international students. There are 628,247 international students in 2020 (source: www.internationaleducation.gov.au), with about 8%, or 50,259, being Nepalese, which will undoubtedly help me make new friends and not feel alone. Sydney is the largest city in Australia, with a beautiful harbor and a strategic location. It is one of the South Pacific's most important ports. Infrastructure and transportation are well-managed, and the environment is very friendly. I've been enthralled with the low cost of living and the safety of the city. Sydney is blessed with pleasant weather. And also, according to the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), the city has been listed among the top 10 most livable cities in the world. Sydney is by far the most well-known city, hosting a variety of intriguing festivals and events as well as numerous world-famous sites. As a result, learning in such a multicultural, peaceful, safe atmosphere with quality education and a rich lifestyle would undoubtedly provide me with opportunities to develop as a person as well as fulfill my professional objectives.

ABOUT COE: As I have paid tuition fees of the first year for Diploma and Advanced Diploma of IT, My college has issued me a COE for May 2022 intake. So, I will be studying these courses in AHIC for the time allotted.

Why Australian Harbour International College (AHIC)?

I researched about a month to decide what college to choose for my study. As I want to study in Sydney, I only retrieved information of colleges from there. I participated in different seminars and college fairs. I discovered a few colleges that offer courses in information and technology, such as Kingston College Australia (KIA) <https://kingston.nsw.edu.au/>, Sydney School of City Management (SCCM) <http://www.sccm.edu.au/>, Australian Technical and Management College <https://atmc.edu.au/>, etc.

A comparison of a few colleges with AHIC is provided below:

Name of the institution	Fee AUD	Course	Remarks
Kingston Institute Australia http://www.hibt.nsw.edu.au/	15,300 15,300	Diploma of Information Technology- 78 weeks Advanced Diploma of Information Technology- 78 weeks	The Course Period is too long.
Sydney City College of Management www.sccm.edu.au	15,000 29,000	Diploma of Information Technology- 65 weeks Advanced Diploma of Information Technology- 104 weeks	Course is too long and also the fee is expensive than AHIC.
Australian Technical and Management College http://www.atmc.edu.au	11,750	Diploma of Information Technology- 52weeks	Advanced diploma course isn't available.
Australian Harbour International College https://ahic.edu.au/	16500 11000	Diploma of Information Technology- 77 weeks Advanced Diploma of Information Technology- 52 weeks	Provides my desired course at an affordable fee at a convenient location

Australian Harbour International College (AHIC), is a low-risk provider that offers the courses of Diploma and Advanced Diploma in IT with an overall fee of AUD 16,500 and 11,000. AHIC is well-equipped with modern technology, and the presence of strong student mentors, accessible academic instructors, and staffs are all contributing elements in my decision to attend. It pledges to give each international student individual attention. The AHIC is the perfect fit for overseas students like me because of its small class sizes and inexpensive tuition rates, highly technologically friendly environment, convenience of access from various locations, and flexible course format.

Moreover, the college's founder is a Nepali native, and the majority of the faculties and staffs are also Nepalese. This is an advantage for me in choosing this college because it will be much easier for me to interact with them. The employees there, are really pleasant and have assisted me with

all of the procedural processes. After reading all the testimonials and reviews, I believe AHIC is one of the best places for unique learning and social experiences.

Australian Harbour International College is centrally located in the most popular city, Sydney. The lectures in Harbour College are maintained with Lecture rooms with fully equipped facilities that are regularly checked and ensure its efficient operation. Students have unlimited access to the assessment facilities, materials and equipment. It also hosts a large number of students from 25 different countries and trainers from 13 countries. AHIC is a renowned provider of VET with VQF. It also provides the students with learning pathways that suit the best with the desired outcomes of the students. Since it is located in the center of Sydney, it is easy to commute. It also specializes in overseas student's education and prepares a safe environment to help them enhance their knowledge. Also, it offers my intended course at affordable cost and has excellent education service and facilities.

I researched through the college's official website, even collected the references from my seniors studying there and received positive feedback. My interested field of study is IT, which requires modern lab facilities, opportunities for 'hands-on' experience and practice as well as an excellent student support system which is all provided by AHIC for international students. AHIC specializes in international student education, provides a multicultural learning environment for students from over 35 countries. Staffs are dedicated to looking after all needs of students ensuring that the students feel welcomed, comfortable and supported. It has excellent facilities and technology resources along with the advanced learning and teaching methodology. The college is conveniently located in the heart of Sydney, making transportation easier. It offers reasonable course fees and duration with the flexible payment options. It has small sized classes ensuring individual attention towards students, flexible class timetable, assignment-based assessment and extra learning support system along with weekly support tutorials for each course. After enough contemplating and making research with other colleges, I found that AHIC best suits my needs, provides quality education to the students, well designed course curriculum, good student support service, and reasonable tuition fees. Finally, I decided to go for AHIC for my study.

Why VET?

Due to its impoverished status, Nepal lacks skilled manpower. Nepal will need tens of thousands of skilled workers to become a developed country. For a nation to develop, technology is critical. A country cannot conduct large initiatives or programs that are at the heart of development if it does not have access to technology. I decided to pursue a VET course because of our country's present needs and my growing passion to understand how technical devices work. Furthermore, because VET courses are technical in nature, they allow us to comprehend and apply skills. Studying VET will provide me with sufficient time to learn about the Australian educational system and adjust to their lifestyles, as the courses are not particularly demanding.

Why Diploma and Advanced diploma of IT?

I believe these courses are essential component for IT success since it provides a lot of foundational knowledge. VET courses will allow me to study in a small-sized classroom rather than a big, crowded hall at a university, allowing me to receive more personal attention from the tutor/teacher and thus enhance and expand my knowledge. Another important reason for choosing diploma and advanced diploma courses is that I believe these courses will serve as a bridge between Nepal's and Australia's educational systems, making my studies and work life easier once I complete my course.

COURSE STRUCTURES

- **Diploma of Information Technology**

This course is 77 weeks long, with 13.5 hours of face-to-face instruction on campus and 6.5 hours of online instruction every week. This course consists of six core units and fourteen optional units.

CORE UNITS

- Promote workplace cyber security awareness and best practices
- Lead and facilitate a team
- Match ICT needs with the strategic direction of the organization
- Manage client problems
- Apply IP, ethics, and privacy policies in ICT environments
- Originate and develop concepts

ELECTIVE UNITS

- Produce ICT feasibility reports
- Install an enterprise virtual computing environment.
- Design, build and test network servers.
- Manage network security
- Use network tools
- Research and review hardware technology options for organizations
- Configure an internal gateway
- Implement secure encryption technologies
- Work collaboratively in the ICT industry
- Create technical documentation
- Install, operate and troubleshoot medium enterprise routers
- Install, operate and troubleshoot medium enterprise switches
- Establish and maintain client user liaison
- Gather data to identify business requirements

- **Advanced Diploma of Information Technology**

This course is 52 weeks long, with 13.5 hours of face-to-face instruction on campus and 6.5 hours of online instruction every week. There are six core courses and ten optional units in this course. This qualification reflects the role of individuals in a variety of information and communications technology (ICT) roles who have significant experience in specialist technical skills, or managerial business and people management skills.

CORE UNITS

- Interact with clients on a business level
- Manage IP, ethics, and privacy in ICT environments
- Plan and monitor business analysis activities in an ICT environment
- Promote workplace cyber security awareness and best practices
- Apply critical thinking for complex problem-solving
- Manage team effectiveness

ELECTIVE UNITS

- Identify and resolve network problems
- Lead the evaluation and implementation of current industry-specific technologies
- Design and configure desktop virtualization
- Develop technical requirements for business solutions
- Implement secure encryption technologies
- Design, build and test network servers
- Install, operate and troubleshoot medium enterprise routers
- Install, operate and troubleshoot medium enterprise switches
- Use network tools
- Evaluate vendor products and equipment

Career Outcomes

- Network administrator,
- IT administrator,
- IT Operations administrator,
- network services administrator,
- network operations analyst,
- network security coordinator or Network e-business coordinator
- e-security specialist,
- ICT security specialist,
- IT security specialist,
- systems/network administrator,

- network security analyst,
- senior network administrator,
- Systems security analyst.

Future Plans:

After completing my diploma and advanced diploma in AHIC, I will have to return to my original country because all of my family members are here. Apart from that, I am the youngest son of my parents, and I come from a traditional Nepalese family in which children are supposed to look for their parents. After I finish my course in Australia, I want to work as a certified, technologically savvy person in my own nation. Because Nepal is at the forefront of the computing and technology fields, a course taker from one of the Australian reputable institutes, such as myself, may be a wonderful asset to any firm, college, or even the government here in Nepal. Because of the tremendous shortage of IT specialists in this area, I will be in high demand wherever I go.

I want to return to Nepal and carve out a career in the computer industry, and I believe that studying abroad will help me accomplish this. With a course that will be valued by Nepalese companies, I am certain of landing an enviable job in a tech-oriented Nepalese organization. My country, Nepal, has made major technological developments in the domains of information technology and telecommunications in recent days. As a result of this expansion, IT officers are expected to increase by 28.8% in the coming year, while network and systems analysts and support specialist employment is expected to increase by 43.1 percent through 2030. With such expectations in mind, I am convinced that course takers with an international course and advanced exposure, like myself, will have a wealth of professional options. I'd like to work for IT firms such as Deerwalk (www.deerwalk.com), Verisk Nepal (www.verisknepal.com.np), Techminds Network (www.techminds.com.np), Leapfrog Technology (www.lftechnology.com), etc., as well as ISPs such as NTC (www.ntc.net.np), NCELL (www.ncell.axiata.com), World Link (www.worldlink.com.np). I can work in industry sector as IT Support Services, Business Administration, IT Networking, Systems Analysis and Design, IT Programming etc. in job positions as Systems security analyst, network security administrator, ICT security specialist, IT security administrator, IT security analyst, Network e-business coordinator many more. The major reason that I can handle job responsibilities of various different sectors is because of the fact that the course in AHIC is composed of units with various specialization topics. This has led to open different career prospects in my country after completion of my course.

Working in these afore-mentioned companies would pay between NPR 50,000 and NPR 60,000 per month as an initial salary which shall be incremented with increase in experience. Hence, I think it will be a great opportunity for students like myself. The average salary of a chief information security officer is NRs.117,000. The average salary of an IT security analyst is Rs.96,300. (Source: <https://ictbyte.com/nepal/cyber-security-jobs-with-salaries-in-nepal/>)

Apart from the vast scope, it is my familial obligations that bind all of my future ambitions to Nepal. It is part of our tradition to stand by our aging parents and offer them all the assistance they require. I am certain that I will return to my own country with an Australian certificate and knowledge. Even if it's little, I would like to make a difference in my own country. I can see a variety of opportunities waiting for me as a skilled IT professional. However, rather than looking for instantaneous rewarding opportunities, I will be looking to craft myself with more technical and managerial skills and prove myself as a qualified course taker of AHIC.

Financial Declaration

My father, mother, and brother will provide financial assistance for my further education through their businesses and salaries.

My father (Mr. Guru Prasad Guragain) is a government employee, a teacher at a primary school (Bidhyasagar Adharabhut Vidhyalaya). He earns the sum of NRs. 572,035.20 as a salary and NRs. 200,000 yearly from his land, which is leased to a local entrepreneur. My mother (Mrs. Ganga Guragain) is also a teacher, but in a private school, where she makes NRs. 360,000 annually. My elder brother (Mr. Gagan Guragain) is a 42% shareholder of Job Consultancy (Name: Buddha Media & Consultancy Pvt. Ltd.) and earns the most in my family, NRs. 926,799.82. The overall yearly income of my sponsors is NRs 20, 58,835.02 which is equivalent to AUD 22,886.166. (Exchange rate: 1 AUD = NRs. 89.96)

In addition, Nepal Credit & Commerce Bank Ltd. (NCC) has sanctioned me an educational loan of NRs 40,00,000 which is equivalent to AUD 44,464.20 (1 AUD= NRs 89.96) as an education loan to assist me with the financial challenges I would have while studying in Australia. In addition, my father owns 5079.47 square feet of land, which is currently valued at NRs. 22,750,680 which is equivalent to 252,897.73 AUD (1AUD= NRs 89.96). I will not have any financial problems throughout my time in Australia because I have enough assets and income sources in my family.

Incentives to return to home country:

I am a genuine international student who intends to stay in Australia only for the duration of my studies. There are several reasons why I want to return to my homeland. As I stated previously, I have certain professional goals in Nepal that I must achieve, and I must return to fulfill them. Furthermore, I need to look after my ageing parents, and I am already aware of my obligation to care for my parents' family properties as they age. After completing my course, my morals won't let me live abroad leaving my aged parents back in my country. Therefore, it's my moral responsibility to return to my home country and to take care of them. My relatives, family, and friends are all in Nepal and I do not want to live in Australia and start from ground root level miles away from them.

Along with this, my home country still faces the lack of skilled professional manpower in the IT. I intend to return back to Nepal as a skilled manpower with enough knowledge and be responsible towards my family and nation. I also owe huge responsibilities towards my home country which leaves me with no reason to stay in Australia after achieving academic qualifications. I intend to make a difference in my own country even if it's little.

Immigration History

I've never been to another country. This is my first time; I am applying for student visa to Australia.

Visa Conditions

I am fully aware of an international student's responsibilities under the higher education visa subclass 500, which are as follows:

- 8104 ► I am permitted to work 40 hours per fortnight on a per-time basis.
- 8202 ► I need to maintain 80% of attendance.
- 8303 ► I must not be involved in any activities which are disruptive to Australian Community.
- 8204 ► I am not allowed to change my education provider until 6 months of the principal course.
- 8501 ► I must have valid Overseas Student Health Cover during staying in Australia.
- 8533 ► I must notify to college/DHA if I change the address/contact details within seven days.

Self-Declaration

I declare that the information provided above is complete and accurate. I'm also aware that providing false or misleading information could lead to my visa application being denied. If given the chance, I pledge to complete my course in the time allotted. For an international student, I will strictly adhere to the rules and regulations established by the educational institution and immigration.

Finally, I'd like to express my gratitude to the respected visa officer for taking the time to review my Statement of Purpose. I would be grateful for your consideration in giving me the opportunity to acquire my further studies and complete my selected course at Australian Harbour International College.

Yours Sincerely,

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XXXXXX Guragain
Email: grbimal11@gmail.com
Contact No.: +9779817913269, +9779824985505