Before You Leave

Moving to a new country provides different challenges. We understand that you may have questions about preparing for your stay in Australia. There are some important things you need to know before you leave that will make for a better experience when you arrive.

Pocket money

The amount of money you bring with you is a personal decision. The estimated cost of living for students in Adelaide is approximately AUD14,000 – 18,000 per year. You must make sure you have enough funds to cover your bond/rent and moving in expenses for your accommodation on arrival. You should also have money to cover expenses such as temporary accommodation (if applicable), meals and transport (public transport, taxis). However, you should not carry large amounts of cash with you. Check www.studyaustralia.gov.au for more information.

Health

Make sure your immunisations are up to date before you leave. Have a dental check-up also as this may be cheaper in your own country.

Clothing

Students dress casually for classes. November to March are the warmest months and you will be comfortable in casual clothing such as light pants, shorts, skirts, shirts and jeans. June to August are the coldest months and you will be comfortable in clothing such as jeans, trousers, skirts, jumpers (sweaters/ windcheaters/coat). A light waterproof jacket is also useful.

You should bring some nice clothes for going out to restaurants or nightclubs. Also bring clothing for sports and outdoor activities.

Electrical current

Electrical goods, such as computers may be cheaper to buy overseas than in Australia and can be brought with you. Appliances rated 220 – 240 volts generally perform satisfactorily with the mains power supply in Australia. To make sure that you are able to use all your electrical appliances bring a converter and an adaptor with you, or alternatively you can purchase an adaptor upon your arrival from travel stores or some supermarkets.

Resource

Please visit the University of Adelaide website to get more information regarding preparing to leave for Australia: international.adelaide.edu.au/living

We also recommend you visit the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) website www.agriculture.gov.au/travelling
Checklist

Use our checklist below to ensure that you do not forget anything and are well prepared for the exciting times ahead of you.

☐ Book flight to Adelaide
☐ Arrange to be met on arrival/airport pickup or transfer
☐ Arrange accommodation in Adelaide
☐ Passport and other documents
   Remember to bring your passport and any other form of personal identification you may need. For example your birth certificate and driving licence. Also bring certified copies of your qualifications.
☐ Confirmation of Enrolment
   Pack your acceptance letter and any College documentation in your hand luggage so that it is easy to access on arrival.
☐ Student Visa
   Ensure that your passport (with visa, if applicable) is stored in your hand luggage. You will need them when passing through immigration.
☐ Homestay/residential address details
   Remember to pack your homestay or residential address details in your hand luggage so they are easy to access on your arrival. You will need this information for the arrival card at immigration.
☐ Proof of Health and Travel Insurance
   You must bring proof of your travel insurance and health insurance with you and store this information in your hand luggage. Also keep a copy of each with your family at home in case you lose any documentation during your stay.
☐ AUD cash
   Store a reasonable amount of cash (around AUD200 – 300) on your body or in your hand luggage. Try to avoid counting or pulling out your money in busy public places.
☐ Travellers’ cheques in low denominations
   Store these cheques on your body or in your hand luggage. Try to avoid counting or pulling out your cheques in public places.
☐ Correct clothing
   Wear layers on your flight in case you get hot upon arrival.
☐ College emergency number
   If your flight to Adelaide is delayed, call Debbie Armstrong on +61 (0)4 0080 7815 so your airport pick-up can be re-arranged for you.
☐ Prescription medication
   Bring medical history or prescriptions required for ongoing medication. Pack medication carefully in full packaging in case you are asked questions at customs on your departure or arrival.
When You Arrive

Arriving at the airport of a foreign country can be a little overwhelming. Do not feel shy about asking airport staff for help, as most airport staff will be happy to help you.

Airport pick-up

If you prefer the convenience, or if you are under 18 years of age when you start at the College, the College will arrange an airport pick-up for a cost of AUD140.

To arrange an airport pick-up, contact your agent if they organised your enrolment for you or if you prefer, contact the Manager Student Services (Accommodation & Administration)

Mrs. Debbie Armstrong
debbie.armstrong@adelaide.edu.au
M: +61 (0)4 0080 7815

Provide your full name, the program you are enrolled in, arrival date, flight number and time and we will send you the confirmation of your airport pick-up.

Excess baggage

Further information regarding excess baggage requirements is available from travel agents or airlines.

Quarantine

Australia has a unique environment that is free from many of the diseases and pests found elsewhere in the world.
If you are visiting Australia, you must be aware of Australian quarantine laws. It is extremely important that all items of an animal or plant nature are declared upon arrival in Australia.

> On entering Australia by plane or ship, you are required to complete an incoming Passenger Card. You must read it carefully and complete the form truthfully.

> It is important to remember that the incoming Passenger Card is a legal document and any false declaration can lead to prosecution resulting in a heavy fine, imprisonment or both.

> ALL animal and plant products, including food items, must be declared for inspection and in most cases will be returned.

Bank account

Students wishing to transfer money from overseas will need to:

> Complete either a telegraphic transfer or bank draft

> Know and include the account number and BSB number for the account in which they wish to make a deposit

> Check with the relevant bank as to how long the transfer will take. Bank drafts can take 6-8 weeks to process and there may be fees involved for both transactions.

Students are not able to open a bank account in Australia while overseas. Students arriving in Australia who need to open a bank account will need to visit a branch, taking with them their passport for identification. A bank account will then be created immediately.

Both EFTPOS (Electronic Funds Transfer at Point of Sale) and major credit cards are widely used in Australia for money transactions.

Students will be provided with more specific banking information by the College at the time of orientation.

Airport pick-up

If you are under 18 years of age when you start at the College, unless you are travelling with a parent or guardian, it is compulsory to arrange an airport pick-up with the College.
Your First Day

Your first day will help you become acquainted with the College and studying in Adelaide. Please remember to bring your passport and current Australian address.

Orientation

What time do I need to be there?
On the first day of your course, please come to the College (Level 2, 132 Grenfell Street, Adelaide) at 8.30am to begin your orientation and classes.

What will I do at Orientation?
This orientation program includes specific information on:

> Enrolment into course of study
> Study skills
> Purchase of textbooks
> College and University services and facilities
> Shopping and recreational activities
> Details of local transport
> Student responsibilities
> Australian Tax File Number
> Overseas Student Health Cover
> Student ID card
> Campus tour
> Living in Adelaide
> Information regarding your homestay/hostel accommodation

What to expect?
Starting your studies in Australia may be a challenging experience. The requirements will include adjusting to new teaching styles, new requirements and new expectations. Requirements of your studies will include:

> Contributing to class discussions
> Being an independent learner
> Thinking creatively
> Expressing your views and feelings
> Asking questions
> Planning and managing your time effectively
> Completing all types of program assessment (i.e. essays/assignments/oral presentations)

Making friends

There are many opportunities to make friends with Australians and international students. Orientation week provides an excellent opportunity to meet other new students. By joining any of the University’s clubs and associations, you’ll meet others who enjoy the same sporting, religious, political or cultural interests.

Under 18 students

Australian law considers international students under the age of 18 to be minors and as such the College takes special care in their welfare and development. Students who are minors must stay in their approved accommodation until they turn 18 years of age. Students having any concerns or queries must liaise with the Student Services Coordinator who will assist with their welfare and general support arrangements.

You and a College staff member will meet on a regular basis to check how you are going. The College takes their responsibility to minors very seriously and regular checks are made that your circumstances have not changed.

What do I need to bring?

It is important that you bring your passport and details of your current Australian address — even if it is only temporary. This is required by immigration authorities. You will receive essential information during the orientation period and complete forms for our records.
Campus Facilities

Located in the city centre, our campus is a short walk from the University of Adelaide campus and close to Rundle Mall, the main shopping precinct and the heart of entertainment in Adelaide. Our campus provides a number of facilities for our students’ benefit.

Learning support
On campus learning support sessions are available to students who seek individual academic or English language assistance and feedback. Sessions may be booked with program teachers directly.

Student services
Our Student Services team organises activities and social events and is able to offer accommodation and transportation advice to students. Academic performance is monitored closely to assist students with any problems or questions they might have with regards to study skills and workload management. Students may also seek advice about career pathways, study options and university applications. Students may meet with our Student Services team at any time to discuss any problems or concerns that may arise. The College closely supervises all under-18 year-old students with regular meetings and reports back to parents.

Refreshments, food and socialising
With the university campus less than 5 minutes away on foot, our students are able to take advantage of the educational, recreational and social facilities on campus. Students can meet at Hub Central or UniBar.

Computer access
Computer suites and wireless internet are available to all College students. It is important to activate your account before you arrive. You will receive an email from the University of Adelaide to tell you how to activate your account. Please read this email and follow the instructions carefully.

Library
The Barr Smith Library is the main library of the University of Adelaide, located at the centre of the North Terrace campus. Our students have access to the library, its resources, systems and support services which include the University Librarian, research librarians, information literacy programs and of course – the membership and lending services*. The library physically holds (print and microform) in excess of 2 million items which support the research strengths of the University and the electronic holdings include access to an estimated 25 million journal articles, covering more than 20,000 e-journal titles.

Find out more or take a tour online at www.adelaide.edu.au

* lending services available to those studying Foundation Studies and Degree Transfer Programs only

Amenities
> University bookshop
> Image and Copy Centre
> Post Office
> Bank ATM
> Fitness Hub
Local Information

Adelaide is a cosmopolitan coastal city with a high standard of living and easily accessible public transport options.

**Transport**

An excellent public transport system of buses, trains and trams connect the inner city with suburbs of Adelaide. Full-time students are eligible for significant concessions on bus, train and tram fares. Tickets are interchangeable on buses, trains and trams. Students are advised to carry the correct fare in change, or purchase multi-trip tickets, widely available from newsagencies. Costs vary, depending on the number of travel zones covered. Visit www.adelaidemetro.com.au for more information. When buying concession tickets it is important to have your student card, which will be issued at orientation.

**Telephone and internet access**

You can access internet and email from the College and Library computers free of charge.

When you arrive in Australia it is very important to contact your family in your home country to let them know you have arrived safely. Please contact Student Services for assistance in calling home including purchasing international phone cards and joining mobile network providers.

There are a number of mobile network providers including:

- **Vodafone:** www.vodafone.com.au
- **Optus:** www.optus.com.au
- **Telstra:** www.telstra.com.au/mobile
Student Health

If you or a friend is seriously ill and needs an ambulance call 000. Stay calm and describe to the operator on the line what type of assistance you need (ambulance, fire or police) and your location.

You may be required to describe any symptoms. Explain as much as you can, do not worry if you are not confident with your English, say as much as you can, as clearly as you can.

Medicines

It should be noted that pharmaceutical products in Adelaide may be more expensive than in your home country. Medications such as antibiotics and antihistamines will require a doctor’s prescription and may cost approximately AUD25 for a course. Some milder antihistamines may be bought over-the-counter and may cost around AUD15. A pain-relieving tablet such as paracetamol or aspirin may be purchased without prescription at supermarkets.

Medical and Travel Insurance for Student Visa holders

The Australian government requires all students on Student Visas to join the Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) Scheme for the length of their visa. OSHC is a health insurance plan for overseas students in Australia.

This insurance covers:

- Visits to a doctor (approximately 85% of the scheduled fee)
- The total cost of hospital treatment provided that the treatment is in a public hospital and is provided by a hospital doctor
- Other medical services such as pathology and radiology
- Emergency ambulance transport

This insurance does not cover:

- Dental costs
- Physiotherapy
- Optical glasses, contact lenses
- Medical expenses for any pre-existing medical condition before you came to Australia, during the first 12 months of membership
- Treatment covered by provisions for compensation and damages or accidents
- Pre-screening in the first 12 months

Please see a College Student Services staff member or your OSHC provider regarding more information.

What do I do if I am sick?

In Australia, when you are sick, you need to make an appointment to visit a doctor near your home, or place of study. Your closest doctor can be found via yellow pages online (www.yellow.com.au) or the Student Services staff can help you find one that is convenient for you.

You must only go to a hospital if it is an EMERGENCY. Australians only go to the hospital emergency department when it is a life-threatening situation e.g. a serious accident, a broken arm or lost consciousness. If you call an ambulance or go to the hospital emergency department and it is NOT a life-threatening situation you will be charged AUD 500 – 1,000 and you will NOT get a refund from your health insurance.

Medical costs

Medical costs are at the discretion of your local doctor or hospital. Approximate prices in Australian Dollars are as follows:

- Visiting a doctor
  - 65 No insurance
  - 15 Insurance
- Dental treatment
  - 80
- New glasses
  - 180
- Prescription from a chemist
  - 15 min. per item
Laws & Customs

You may find that laws are enforced differently in Australia than they are in your home country. You must obey this country’s laws and respect its customs. It is important that you understand the laws, rules, and customs that you may encounter.

Laws

> No one under the age of 18 in Australia may buy or drink alcohol, including beer and wine. It is against the law to buy alcohol for someone you know is under the age of 18.

> Driving under the influence of alcohol is a serious crime and police make regular random checks.

> Buying, selling and using drugs is illegal.

> Under the national code, student information may be made available to Commonwealth and State agencies.

Customs

Customs are an accepted way of behaviour in a country. You need to know the customs of Australia to help you feel comfortable with people. Some important customs to know include:

> Please and Thank you: It is very important to use these words when asking or receiving gifts or favours.

> Women: Women in Australia are equal to men and should always be treated fairly. Men and women share equally in household work and childcare.

> Queues: Always stand in line and wait your turn when buying tickets, in a bank, post office or waiting for a bus. Keep to the left when standing on escalators or when walking/cycling on public pathways.

> Friendliness: Australian people talk to strangers in public areas. This is a great way to practise English, but caution should be taken. You should not give out your address and telephone number, or accept inappropriate invitations.

> Workplace Etiquette: Australians use a firm handshake when meeting someone for the first time. In the workplace, as with many situations, Australians will address one another using only first names. Eye contact is very important in conversation.

> Clothing: Clothing is an individual choice. Australian people dress for comfort, weather or social occasion.

Religion

While some Australian customs are influenced by English traditions and the predominant religion Christianity, Australia has a growing multicultural population with different religions and faiths.

There are places of worship of all religions and faiths in Adelaide, all accessible by public transport. You can get more information about local religious institutions from the College staff at reception.

Values in Australian Society

> Rights of the individual

> Equality of individuals independent of gender, race, religion or personal preferences

> Independence

> Punctuality

> Politeness

Your responsibilities

As an overseas student on a student visa, you have responsibilities to:

> Satisfy your Student Visa conditions

> Maintain your Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) for the period of your stay

> Meet the terms of the written agreement with the College

> Inform the College if you change your address or phone number

> Maintain satisfactory course progress

> Maintain a minimum of 80% attendance during your course

> If you are Under 18, maintain your approved accommodation, support and general welfare arrangements
Important Dates to Remember

Foundation Studies Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard (FSP) 17</th>
<th>Accelerated (FSPX) 17</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February Intake</td>
<td>July Intake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Break</td>
<td>14 Apr 17 – 21 Apr 17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>15 Jun 17 – 23 Jun 17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Break</td>
<td>3 Jul 17 – 21 Jul 17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Semester 2</td>
<td>24 Jul 17 – 15 Dec 17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Break</td>
<td>2 Oct 17 – 13 Oct 17</td>
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<td>Exams</td>
<td>4 Dec 17 – 8 Dec 17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduation</td>
<td>14 Dec 17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Jan 17</td>
<td>New Year</td>
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<td>26 Jan 17</td>
<td>Australia Day</td>
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<td>13 Mar 17</td>
<td>Adelaide Cup Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 Apr 17</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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<td>17 Apr 17</td>
<td>Easter Monday</td>
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<td>25 Apr 17</td>
<td>ANZAC Day</td>
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<td>12 Jun 17</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Oct 17</td>
<td>Labour Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 Dec 17</td>
<td>Christmas Holiday</td>
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<td>26 Dec 17</td>
<td>Proclamation Day</td>
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Degree Transfer Program

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<th>Extended (DTE)* 17</th>
<th>Standard (DTS)* 17</th>
<th>Accelerated (DTX)* 17</th>
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<td>October Intake</td>
<td>February Intake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridging</td>
<td></td>
<td>July Intake</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 Mar 17 – 23 Jun 17</td>
<td>23 Oct 17 – 9 Feb 18</td>
<td>20 Feb 17 – 1 Jul 17</td>
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<td>Exams</td>
<td>19 Jun 17 – 23 Jun 17</td>
<td>5 Feb 18 – 9 Feb 18</td>
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<td>Semester 1</td>
<td>Joins DTS Jul, 17</td>
<td>Joins DTS Feb, 18</td>
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<td>Exams</td>
<td>17 Jun 17 – 18 Nov 17</td>
<td>4 Nov 17 – 18 Nov 17</td>
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* Please note: Dates are dependent on the University of Adelaide (See www.adelaide.edu.au/student/dates) and may change. Students may need to remain in Adelaide after the end of semester for Replacement Exams.

Important information

The University of Adelaide College
132 Grenfell Street
Adelaide SA 5000 Australia
T: +61 (0)8 8313 3430
F: +61 (0)8 8313 3877
E: college@adelaide.edu.au

Emergency Number
(Police, Fire, Ambulance): 000

Useful website links
Australian Quarantine & Inspection Service
Australian Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade
www.dfat.gov.au
Bureau of Meteorology
www.bom.gov.au
Department of Immigration and Border Protection
www.border.gov.au

National Liaison Committee for International Students in Australia
nlc.student.org.au
About Adelaide
www.adelaidecitycouncil.com
www.southaustralia.com
www.studyadelaide.com

Please like our Facebook page to receive the latest news, events and updates around the College.

facebook.com/uniofadelaidecollege