Section 2
Arriving in Adelaide
Arranging travel

You need to make your own travel arrangements to Australia. However, we provide a free meet and greet service, which you can book at www.flinders.edu.au/international/airport. Your course start date is on your Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE) and in your offer letter from the International Office. This is the date when you need to be here to start classes or attend compulsory orientation activities. You need to be settled in, and ready to focus on work by your start date.

We recommend you arrive in Adelaide at least two weeks before your start date so you have time to find permanent accommodation. Normally the ISSU airport reception service is available four weeks before your start date.

Whilst we recommend you arrive at least two weeks before your start date, in Semester 1 some students take up to four weeks to find suitable permanent accommodation. If your permanent accommodation is at Flinders Living, the Flinders Medical Centre Flats or with a recognised provider of student accommodation, please arrive in time for orientation.

Students who plan to find permanent accommodation after they arrive in Adelaide should book their temporary accommodation when they book their plane tickets. For students commencing in first semester, please note that Adelaide is the host to many annual and biannual festivals and events in February and March each year. These Festivals include Fringe Festival, Adelaide Festival, WOMADelaide and the CLIPSAL 500 Adelaide V8 Super cars race.

This is an extremely busy time in Adelaide with many international Festivals and events and many new students arriving. There are plenty of activities for you to enjoy and meet other new students at this time. Please remember that temporary accommodation and travel bookings will need to be arranged well in advance of the commencement of semester.

### 2014 University important dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Year 2014</th>
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<tr>
<td>University Orientation</td>
<td>24–28 February</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Orientation</td>
<td>28 February</td>
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<td>Semester 1</td>
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<td>Weeks 1–14</td>
<td>3 March–20 June</td>
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<td>Mid Semester Break</td>
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<td>Assessment</td>
<td>21 June–5 July</td>
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<td>Mid-Year Break</td>
<td>7–27 July</td>
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<td>Semester 2</td>
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<td>International Orientation</td>
<td>18 July (Friday)</td>
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<td>University Orientation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weeks 1–13</td>
<td>28 July–7 November</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid Semester Break</td>
<td>22 September–5 October</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td>8–22 November</td>
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A full list of Academic and Critical Enrolment dates can be found at: www.flinders.edu.au/current-students/dates/dates_home.cfm
The International Student Services Unit (ISSU) and important dates

Before you arrive

ARRIVAL SERVICES
The International Student Services Unit (ISSU) employs a team of current students who will meet you and your accompanying family members at the airport and take you to your temporary accommodation. We provide this service free of charge to commencing students, and you can book it at www.flinders.edu.au/international/airport (see page 13 for more information).

TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION
You also need to book your temporary accommodation, and you will find a range of options to choose from at www.flinders.edu.au/living/short-term-private/temporary/

Backpacker accommodation, which can be in dormitory-style accommodation is normally the cheapest option, and may be suitable for single travellers.

Australian caravan parks have on-site cabins, which can be suitable for couples or families.

Hotels, motels and serviced apartments vary in price. Flinders Living offers limited temporary accommodation and it is normally only available between December and mid-February.

FLINDERS ARRIVAL BRIEFING (FAB)
Next, book a Flinders Arrival Briefing (FAB) session. Book your FAB before you travel to Australia. The FAB is an essential starting point so you know about campus services, more about orientation, how to obtain your student ID and your Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) card and you have a resource you can look back at during your studies if you have any concerns or issues either at university or in the community.

ADMISSION AND ENROLMENT
After you return your ‘acceptance of offer’ to Flinders, Enrolment Services staff will admit you to your degree. You will receive an email at the address you provided on your application, including web links so you can enrol online. We encourage you to enrol early, so you have the widest possible choice of tutorial and seminar times. The links cover activating your Flinders Authentication Name (FAN)*, reading your course rule, selecting topics then enrolling in them and registering for classes.

If you are not confident in completing your enrolment online, it is okay to wait until you are in Australia to finalise your enrolment. We have a fully staffed Enrolment Support Centre located in the Central Library, and the team there will help you.

If you have a conditional offer, you will not be able to enrol until you meet its conditions and provide the required evidence to the International Office.

* The day after you have activated your FAN, you can log into the University’s computers and use your student email and the internet.

PLANNING YOUR ARRIVAL DATE
Flinders University provides International Student Orientation before the commencement of classes. We work hard to make sure you will be well equipped to achieve the best possible success in your studies. As you read through this guide, you will see that there is a lot of information for you to understand and consider as you move through your studies. This guide outlines what you need to know, but it is impossible to understand and recall everything. Once you are concentrating on your studies, you will feel less stressed if you are already comfortable with the institution, its staff and its services.

Arriving early to attend orientation gives you the chance to:

- See and talk to the most important people you will need to know at the institution
- International Student Services Unit staff
- International Office staff.
- Course or Academic Adviser,
- Religious/Cultural/Ministry staff,
- Accommodation staff
- Counsellors

Backpacker accommodation, which can be in dormitory-style accommodation is normally the cheapest option, and may be suitable for single travellers.

Australian caravan parks have on-site cabins, which can be suitable for couples or families.

Hotels, motels and serviced apartments vary in price. Flinders Living offers limited temporary accommodation and it is normally only available between December and mid-February.
• Meet and get advice from your Course Adviser
• Meet representatives of Student Associations and Clubs
• Find your way around the campus Library, Computer rooms and facilities, Recreation and eating areas, Clubs and Associations, Classrooms)
• Meet other international students who may share your classes and understand your concerns or fears. Knowing another face on campus as you become more comfortable with the routines can really help you avoid any feelings of isolation.
• Find your way around the public transport/City/to and from your accommodation.
• Feel as though you already know some of the things local students know before you get to meet them at orientation activities later.

You need to be enrolled before you can get your student card. You will need your student card to buy concession tickets for public transport and show it to your bank as evidence of your student status.

When you arrive

WHAT TO DO FIRST ON CAMPUS

Report to the International Student Services Unit (ISSU). Our office is in Room B10 of the Union Building (map ref 25).

You can collect your Red Bag if we didn’t meet you at the airport. Also, if you haven’t already booked your FAB or ISSU Orientation, you can do that on an ISSU computer.

ISSU International student orientation activities

There are a variety of orientation activities and information sessions. We highly recommend you attend these sessions.

Following are the activities we strongly recommend you attend. In order to book any of these sessions, please visit the following link or contact ISSU.

www.flinders.edu.au/internationalarrival

ORIENTATION PROGRAM

You will no doubt have many questions when you first arrive in Adelaide. Sign up online and attend orientation to have your questions answered and receive valuable information and tips to ensure that your transition to the University, the city of Adelaide and Australia is informed and enjoyable. The program offers information about:

• Accommodation and renting
• Personal Safety
• Adjustment and Adaptation
• Knowing Australia
• Student Support Services
• Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC)

FLINDERS ARRIVAL BRIEFING (FAB)

You only need to attend one FAB and the dates for Semester 1 are on page 9. Semester 2 dates will be confirmed in April 2014. At the session you will receive an information package and all the details you need for your Orientation Program, how to enrol if you didn’t complete this before you arrived and how to get your student card. To book into a FAB session see:

www.flinders.edu.au/internationalstudents/fab

TOURS

It can be difficult to explore a new environment alone. Sign up for and attend a Tour run by our A-Team (current students) with other students who are new to the University. You can visit the city of Adelaide on the City Tour, Marion shopping centre on the Marion Tour, Glenelg and Glenelg beach, Port Adelaide and Cleland Wildlife Park. The ISSU also offers a Kangaroo Island Tour as well as a Great Ocean Road and Grampians Tour.

UNIVERSITY WELCOME

There is a formal welcome event for all students on the University Plaza on the first day of Orientation Week, Monday 24 February 2014.
Semester 1, 2014 Orientation and Tour Dates

The following is a list of dates and times for each activity and information sessions being held in Semester 1, 2014.

Please book at: www.flinders.edu.au/internationalarrival

FLINDERS ARRIVAL BRIEFING (FAB)

These sessions start at 1pm. Students must check in at the ISSU by 12:50pm. You only need to book into one FAB session.

Friday 31 January
Wednesday 5 February
Wednesday 12 February
Monday 17 February
Tuesday 18 February
(Nursing & Midwifery students at Sturt)
Wednesday 19 February
Friday 21 February
(Exchange & Study Abroad students)*
Monday 24 February
Tuesday 25 February
Wednesday 26 February
Thursday 27 February

* A 10am session for Exchange students and 1:00pm session for general students

UNIVERSITY-WIDE ORIENTATION

24—28 FEBRUARY 2014

Flinders University runs a comprehensive orientation program for all commencing students. Your first priority is to attend scheduled course-specific orientation, and you can check session times on the website listed below, which provides the most up-to-date information on activities:

www.flinders.edu.au/future-students/support/orientation/orientation.cfm

You should also plan to attend the international student orientation on Friday 28 February and the EXCELebrate academic program, which offers sessions throughout Orientation Week.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION

FRIDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2014
North Lecture Theatre 1 [map ref 31]

Get ready for an information-packed day with prizes, quizzes and opportunities for interaction with other new international students. You will find out more about your Overseas Student Health Cover, consolidate the information you have learnt about your rights as a tenant and the law in Australia and meet representatives from the Flinders University Students’ Association. In addition, you’ll get some helpful hints about making the most of your time in Australia. All of this information will help you make the most of your time as a student.

CITY TOUR

Tuesday 21 January
10am
Tuesday 11 February
10am
Friday 21 February 2pm
Thursday 27 February
10am

MARION TOUR

Thursday 20 February
3:00pm
Wednesday 26 February
10:30am

GLENELG TOUR

Saturday 22
February 2:30pm

OTHER TOURS

Port Adelaide Tour
Sunday 23 February
Cleland Wildlife Park
Tour Sunday 2 March
Kangaroo Island
Tour 29–30 March
25–27 April

Grampians and Great Ocean Road
12–15 April
What should I do if I cannot arrive before my course starts?

Our experience shows that students who arrive after semester begins face a number of difficulties: they may miss classes because they are looking for a place to live; they miss out on orientation activities and don’t understand how the ‘system’ works; they can feel frustrated and anxious; and, they do not achieve to their academic potential. If you cannot arrive in time to enrol and find a place to live before classes start, you need to consider your options very carefully. If you are concerned that you will not arrive for the beginning of semester, and want to know your options, please contact your Assessment Officer and discuss the matter. Their contact details should be in your offer letter. Please note some programs do not allow late commencement under any circumstances.

Documents

Prepare a folder of official documents to bring to Australia, including:

- Valid passport and student visa documents
- Offer letter from Flinders University
- Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE) issued by Flinders University
- Receipts of payments (e.g. tuition fees, OSHC, bank statements etc.)
- Insurance policies
- Original or certified copies of your academic transcripts and qualifications
- Other personal identification documents, e.g. birth certificate, ID card, driver’s licence
- Medical records and/or prescriptions
- Confirmation of Appropriate Accommodation and Welfare (CAAW) if you are under 18 years of age.

If you are travelling with your family you will need to include their documents as well. Keep all documents in your carry-on luggage. In case you lose the originals, make sure that copies can be left behind with family and sent to you.

What to bring

Students are often surprised by how strict Australian Customs Services and quarantine can be. If you are in doubt about whether your goods are prohibited or not, declare it on the incoming passenger card which you will receive on the plane. Students have received on-the-spot fines for not declaring items. Visit the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) webpage to find out what needs to be declared when entering Australia: www.daff.gov.au/biosecurity/travel/ant-take

Let your family and friends know “What can’t be mailed to Australia?” www.daff.gov.au/biosecurity/mail/ant-take

Australian Quarantine and Border Protection (AQBP) screens all international mail sent to Australia. AQBP will remove high-risk quarantine items from parcels. Therefore it is important to let your family and friends know what items cannot be sent to you in Australia. Anything they send by mail must be declared on the postal declaration label.

TIP: many of your favourite foods are available in Australia’s major cities. These foods have to pass strict quarantine conditions before they are allowed into Australia.

Baggage allowances flying into Australia will vary according to your carrier, flight class and country of origin. Please check with your carrier prior to departure. Economy passengers are generally permitted 1 x checked luggage (20kg) and 1 x carry-on (7kg) for international flights and domestic flights within Australia. This will significantly limit the amount of things you can bring. Therefore, it is essential to think the packing process through very carefully. You will be able to purchase most things upon arrival in Australia but the price may be higher than in your own country.

If your luggage significantly exceeds the airline limit it will be much cheaper to send the excess as unaccompanied baggage. Ask your travel agent or airline how to do this. Personal effects and belongings that you have owned for 12 months or more can be brought into Australia without attracting duty or sales tax. Students can bring items such as desktop or laptop computers and similar electronic equipment duty free into Australia, provided Customs is satisfied that you will take these items with you on departure. Other goods you have owned for less than 12 months must not exceed a combined value of $900 (or $450 if under 18 years of age). This is your duty free allowance. See www.customs.gov.au/site/page4352.asp for more information.

SEASONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Summer in Australia is from December to February, autumn from March to May, winter from June to August, and spring from September to November. In Adelaide, the hottest months are January and February.

If you arrive in June or July, the coldest months of the year, you may need to bring or buy winter clothing and blankets. You may also need to buy a heating appliance once you arrive.

CLOTHING

On most campuses, students usually dress informally. Jeans or slacks with t-shirts or blouses, sneakers or “running shoes” are almost standard dress. Shorts are often worn during the summer months and sandals are the most common footwear. Men and women commonly wear shorts and sleeveless t-shirts in summer.

A sports coat or suit and tie for men and appropriate dress for women is necessary for some functions such as formal dinners, a graduation ceremony, student dances or balls. For festive occasions, you may want to bring traditional dress and accessories.
Other Items You Might Need to Include
(Most can also be purchased in Australia)
- scientific or graphics calculator
- camera
- micro recorder for lectures
- spare spectacles or contact lenses
- your optical prescription
- photos of friends and family
- swimming costume
- small gifts from home
- alarm clock
- bath towels, bed sheets, pillow cases
- dictionary (bilingual)
- small sewing kit
- music CDs or mp3 player (iPod)
- sporting equipment
- toiletries
- umbrella
- laptop or tablet

The standard voltage for electrical items in Australia is 240V. Electric plugs have three flat pins, one of which is an earth pin. You may need to buy an adaptor or have the plugs changed when you arrive.

Please note: In the picture below, the red dot indicates that the switch is on and power is flowing through that socket.

Bringing Your Computer
Visitors including students can bring items as desktop or laptop computers and similar electronic equipment duty-free into Australia provided Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS) is satisfied these items are intended to be taken with them on departure.

To satisfy the ACBPS Officer that you will be taking the computer out of Australia you should bring along a statutory declaration (a written declaration witnessed by the certifying authority in your country) stating that the computer is for use during your studies in Australia, and that you intend to take it back with you when you complete your studies. You may be required to give an undertaking under Section 162 to this effect and provide a cash security to ACBPS upon arrival. This money will be returned to you in your home country by mail after you have left Australia. When you leave Australia, you must give all papers and receipts to ACBPS. Officers can then confirm that you have left with your computer.

Your cash deposit can only be returned to you with this documentation.

Mobile Phones and Laptops
If you are considering bringing a mobile phone, laptop or any communication devices, we suggest that you visit the Australian Communications and Media Authority www.acma.gov.au before making any purchases. Some students have brought in their own laptops with internal modems only to discover that they were unable to use their modem in Australia. Any external or built-in modems must be Austel Approved in order to function in Australia.

Health Requirements
Australian health laws may require vaccination or immunisation against certain diseases before leaving your country. The Australian Embassy or High Commission in your country will advise you of any requirements.

Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) is compulsory for most international students travelling to Australia on a student visa. If you are a Belgian or Norwegian student, you are not required to buy OSHC. If you are a Swedish student with insurance from the Swedish National Board of Student Aid (CSN International) or the Swedish Legal, Financial and Administration Agency (Kammarkollegiet) you are also exempt from the requirement to buy OSHC. You will find more information about OSHC and other health matters in Section 3.

Pharmaceutical Goods
International students cannot use the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, which allows Australian citizens to buy prescription items at a subsidised cost. If you require ongoing medication, adjust your budget.

People are allowed to bring up to three months’ supply of medication into Australia. Check the Therapeutic Goods Administration site at www.tga.gov.au/consumers/travellers.htm about which prescription drugs you can bring and in what quantities.

Declare your prescription drugs to ACBPS Officers and show your script and a letter from your doctor.

Disability Support
If you have a health condition (e.g. chronic pain, depression, anxiety) or disability (e.g. learning disability, vision or hearing impairment) the Disability Advisor (DA) at Flinders may be able to provide some assistance with your studies. The DA provides a free, confidential service to all students. You must bring documentation of your disability from your home country—the DA cannot assess your level of disability or impairment. Please email: disability@flinders.edu.au for further information.
YOUR HAND LUGGAGE
Your hand luggage should include a document folder; plane ticket; valuables like laptops, camera; and any necessary medicine for an existing complaint.

There are security regulations about carrying liquids, aerosols or gels in your hand luggage. Read information at: www.travelsecure.infrastructure.gov.au

On your flight
Wear comfortable, layered clothing so that you are able to make adjustments according to the local weather. Remember, if you are flying from a northern hemisphere winter into the Australian summer it will be very hot so wear lightweight clothing underneath, and have a pair of sandals or lighter shoes in your hand luggage if you need cooler footwear. Alternatively extra clothing may be required on-hand if flying into the Australian winter season.

Before landing in Australia passengers are given an incoming passenger card to fill in. This is a legal document.

You must tick ☐ YES if you are carrying any food, plant material including wooden souvenirs or animal products.

This includes fruit given to you during your flight. If you have items you don’t wish to declare, you can dispose of them in quarantine bins in the airport terminal. Don’t be afraid to ask airline staff if you have any questions.

If you are carrying more than AUS$10,000 in cash, you must also declare this on your incoming passenger card. It is strongly recommended however, that you do not carry large sums of cash but arrange for an electronic transfer of funds into your Australian bank account once it has been opened (see page 17 for more information).

Entry into Australia

AUSTRALIAN IMMIGRATION
When you first arrive in Australia you will be required to make your way through Australian Immigration (follow the signs for Arriving Passengers as you leave the plane). An Immigration Officer will ask to see your completed incoming passenger card (given to you on the plane) along with your passport and student visa evidence. The Immigration Officer will check your documents and may ask you a few questions about your plans for your stay in Australia.

BAGGAGE CLAIM
Once you have passed through the immigration checks you will move to baggage claim (follow the signs) and collect your luggage. Check that nothing is missing or damaged. If something is missing or damaged go to the Baggage Counter and advise them of your problem. Staff at the Baggage Counter will help you to find your belongings or lodge a claim for damage.

DETECTOR DOGS
At the baggage carousel or while waiting in line to pass through immigration, you may see a Quarantine Detector Dog screening luggage for food, plant material or animal products.

If you see a detector dog working close to you, please place your bags on the floor for inspection. These dogs are not dangerous to humans and are trained to detect odours. Sometimes a dog will sit next to your bag if it sniffs a target odour. Sometimes dogs will detect odours left from food you have had in the bag previously. A quarantine officer may ask about the contents of your bag and check you are not carrying items that present a quarantine risk to Australia.

AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

Once you have your luggage you will go through Customs.

Be careful about what you bring into Australia. Some items you might bring from overseas can carry pests and diseases that Australia doesn’t have.

You must declare all food, meat, fruit, plants, seeds, wooden souvenirs, animal or plant materials or their derivatives.

Australia has strict quarantine laws and tough on-the-spot fines. Every piece of luggage is now screened or x-rayed by Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) biosecurity officers, detector dog teams and x-ray machines. If you do not declare or dispose of any quarantine items, or make a false declaration, you will get caught. In addition to a $340 on-the-spot fine, you could be prosecuted and fined more than $66,000 and risk 10 years in prison. All international mail is also screened.

Some products may require treatment to make them safe. Items that are restricted because of the risk of pests and disease will be seized and destroyed by the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS).

For more detailed information about bringing in food, animals, plants, animal or plant materials or their derivatives visit: http://www.daff.gov.au/biosecurity/travel/cant-take

ARRIVALS HALL
You will be able to leave the restricted area and enter the Arrivals Hall once you have cleared Customs. Here you will find a number of retail and food outlets along with public telephones, an information booth and money exchange facilities. If you arrive on a weekend, you may like to exchange money here as most banks are not open on Saturdays and Sundays.
**ISSU meet and greet service**

Flinders University offers a free meet and greet service to all new international students. We can meet you at Adelaide Airport, the interstate train terminal or the bus station.

We train and employ a group of students—both local and international—to be our arrival team (the A-Team). You will know them because they will be carrying a sign with Flinders University on it, as well as wearing a Flinders t-shirt or sweater.

If you are arriving on an international flight, the A-Team member will wait for you at the International Meet and Greet point on Level 0 (see: www.adelaideairport.com.au/air-travel/passengers/maps). If you are arriving on a domestic flight, the A-Team member will wait for you at the baggage reclaim area.

If you are arriving at the Adelaide Keswick Rail Terminal, the A-Team member will wait for you on the platform.

If you are arriving at the Adelaide Central Bus Station, the A-Team member will wait for you in the terminal building, or at your bus arrival area.

Most new students fly into Adelaide Airport, five kilometres from the city centre and nine kilometres from Flinders. Bus and train stations are located close to the city.

To book your arrival meet and greet service, you can go to the online form and submit your application at: www.flinders.edu.au/international/airport

If you are unable to access the online Meet and Greet Booking form please contact the ISSU by email: issu@flinders.edu.au or telephone +61 8 8201 2717

If you miss a domestic connecting flight or if your flight has been delayed and there is no one to meet you, don’t panic! Approach the Information and Tourist Bookings Booth located on the ground level of the terminal opposite international arrivals and ask if they will telephone the University on 8201 2717 during business hours or 8201 2880 after hours to let us know you have arrived. We will then arrange for someone to meet you.

Public telephones accept coins of the following denominations: 10, 20 and 50 cents and 1 dollar. If you do not have any coins, please ask if you can change a $5, $10 or $20 note at an airport shop or in the Foreign Exchange Bureau.

**MAKING YOUR OWN PLANS?**

If you will use another service to go to your accommodation, or you are being met by friends, you can find out how to get to Flinders University, or from your temporary accommodation to Flinders University by public transport at: www.adelaidemetro.com.au/jp/plan

For your University destination, please type in Registry Rd, Bedford Park SA 5042

**Keeping in contact**

Before you leave home, provide your family and friends and Flinders University with details of your flights to Australia and where you will be staying when you arrive. If these details change, remember to inform everyone. Once you have arrived in Australia, let your family and friends know you have arrived safely. It is important to always let someone know where you are and how to contact you by phone, email or post.
Banking and personal finances

Please read this section carefully and discuss any issues raised in this section with your bank or financial institution in your home country before you leave. All banks operate differently and you should be aware of all fees, charges, ease of access to your funds, and safety of the way in which you will access those funds.

Quick facts

- Australia’s currency is the Australian dollar ($).
- A dollar equals 100 cents.
- Our coins are 5, 10, 20 and 50 cent, $1 and $2.
- Our notes are $5, $10, $20, $50 and $100.
- Do not travel with large amounts of cash.
- If you bring more than AU$10,000 in cash into Australia you must declare it on the travel information form issued to you on the plane.
- You can pre-open a bank account.

Your budget

It is essential to work out a practical budget for your time in Adelaide and to allow for unexpected emergencies, or at least agree with your family what you might do if this occurs.

While you are preparing to leave your home, take time to sit down and think through all of the expenses you are likely to have. Consider factors such as whether or not you will drive in Australia, or if you plan to travel in the holidays. Be realistic about the cost of accommodation, as these prices are rising rapidly because there are few vacancies and much competition.

Remember that your health insurance (see Section 3) does not cover spectacles, contact lenses, dentistry; or allied health services such as physiotherapy, and only provides limited rebates for prescription medicines.

Also, let your family or sponsor know about due dates for the payment of tuition fees for your future semesters at Flinders. Tuition fees for first semester are due on 10 March and tuition fees for second semester are due on 10 August.

A good rule of thumb is that you will need half the luggage you plan to bring and twice the money!

How much to bring

You will need between $3,000 and $6,000 to cover expenses for your first month in Adelaide. This money will be used to pay for your temporary accommodation and the costs of establishing yourself in permanent accommodation. Temporary accommodation could cost you between $30 a night in a basic backpacker dormitory to well over $150 a night in some hotels. To establish yourself in permanent accommodation you will need to pay a bond (or deposit) and two weeks’ rent in advance on your accommodation (total of four–eight weeks’ rent), plus pay phone, electricity and gas connection fees, as well as household set-up costs (see Section 3 for more details).

You should bring between $500 and $700 in cash (include some small notes) or loaded on a cash card (to withdraw notes at an ATM) and the remainder as Travellers Cheques or transfer money to your credit card. Alternatively, you could arrange to transfer the remainder to a pre-opened bank account. Foreign currency drafts can take some time to clear and cost about AU$15 to process. It usually costs AU$7 per transaction to change travellers’ cheques.
Please note that it is not safe to bring large sums of money with you. Lost credit cards or travellers cheques can be replaced, but very few travel insurance companies will replace lost or stolen cash. Do not ask someone you have just met to handle your cash for you or to take your cash to make payments for you—not even to someone who may indicate they are studying at the same education institution.

If you open a bank account within six weeks of arriving in Australia, you should only need to produce your passport as identification. Telegraphic funds transfers from your home country should take no more than three days to clear. The University banks with the National Australia Bank (NAB), which has a branch with an Automated Teller Machine (ATM) on campus. Both the NAB and the ANZ Bank have an ATM at the Sturt Buildings. Bank SA has a branch and ATM at the Medical Centre.

Currency exchange

Only Australian currency can be used in Australia. If you have not brought some with you, you will need to organise some as soon as possible after arrival. You can do this at the airport. Once you have arrived in Adelaide, you can also change money at any bank or currency exchange. Places in the city where you can exchange foreign currency are listed below. A current passport or driving licence will be required for this service.

**AMERICAN EXPRESS**

Shop 32, Citi Centre Arcade, Rundle Mall, Adelaide.
Monday to Friday 9am–5pm Saturday 10am–2pm
Closed on Sundays and Public Holidays.

**HARVEY WORLD TRAVEL**

Level 2, Marion Shopping Centre
Monday–Wednesday 9am–5:30pm
Friday 9am–5:30pm
Thursday 9am–6pm
Saturday 9am–4pm
Sunday 11am–4pm

**TRAVELEX**

Shop 4, Beehive Corner, corner King William St and Rundle Mall
Monday—Friday 9am–6:00pm
Saturday 9am–5pm
Sunday 11am–3pm

**TO APPLY FOR AN ACCOUNT WITH NAB BEFORE YOU ARRIVE**

- Go to: www.nabgroup.com/ internationalstudent
- You need an overseas address
- Bring your passport to the NAB at Flinders University when you arrive. You can deposit money into your bank account from overseas using the BSB, account number and SWIFT Code that will be provided after you apply online
- It can be sent as a bank draft or Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)
- Banks charge a fee for transfers of money
- There is no restriction on the amount of cash you can bring into Australia, but please declare amounts over $10,000.

**Electronic transfer**

You can transfer money into Australia by electronic telegraph or telegraphic transfer at any time. This is a fast option and will take approximately 48 hours, but the bank will charge a fee on every transaction.

**ATMs**

Automated Teller Machines are located everywhere (including at the airport) and you can immediately withdraw cash from your overseas bank account at ATMs displaying the Cirrus Logo (if your ATM card has international access). Check this with your financial institution before leaving home.

**Credit cards**

All major international credit cards are accepted in Australia but repayments to many of these cards can only be made in the country where they were issued. Do not rely on being able to get a credit card once you arrive in Australia because this is very difficult due to credit and identification laws.
Managing my finances

Initial expenses
On-going expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>Estimated Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Temporary accommodation (seven nights in a hostel / motel)</td>
<td>210-700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental bond (four weeks rent @$250/week)</td>
<td>1,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advance rent (two weeks @$250/week)</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity connection</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone connection (landline)</td>
<td>60-300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas connection</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet connection (Set up cost/Bundle)</td>
<td>50-200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile phone and/or network sim card</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household items, e.g. furniture, crockery, etc.</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation (public transportation)</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textbooks and Educational Expenses</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incidental</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance—house, car, health</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>3,820–4,700</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Once you have established yourself in accommodation, you will need to budget for ongoing costs. This is an example of monthly expenses you may have if you live in single accommodation (costs will reduce if you are in shared accommodation):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monthly Expense</th>
<th>Estimated Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rent (four weeks rent @ $150 to $250/week)</td>
<td>600/1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food (four weeks @ $125/week)</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity (per month)</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas (per month)</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone (per month)</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet (per month)</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Phone (per month)</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Transportation (per month)</td>
<td>60 - 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entertainment (per month)</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational (per month)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance—health, house, car (per month)</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unexpected (per month)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
<td>1,860/2,300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Banking and ATM locations in Adelaide

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Institution</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANZ</td>
<td><a href="http://www.anz.com.au">www.anz.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Australia Bank</td>
<td><a href="http://www.nab.com.au">www.nab.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HSBC Australia</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hsbc.com.au">www.hsbc.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commonwealth Bank</td>
<td><a href="http://www.commbank.com.au">www.commbank.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westpac Bank</td>
<td><a href="http://www.westpac.com.au">www.westpac.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank SA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.banksa.com.au">www.banksa.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit Union Australia</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cua.com.au">www.cua.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit Union SA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.creditunionsa.com.au">www.creditunionsa.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People’s Choice Credit Union</td>
<td><a href="http://www.peopleschoicecu.com.au">www.peopleschoicecu.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Please note: This list is just a sample of some financial institutions in Australia For a comparison of accounts in banks throughout Australia see: www.banks.com.au/personal/accounts)
Setting up a bank account and Student Accounts

You can choose to open an account in any Bank, Credit Union or Building Society in Australia. Do your research to get the best deal. Many Banks and other financial institutions in Australia offer Student Banking Packages. These packages allow you a limited number of free transactions per month and generally have lower account keeping fees. For more information ask at the Branch before you open an account.

To open a bank account you will need:

• your passport (with arrival date stamped by Australian immigration)
• student ID card
• money to deposit into the account (this can be as little as $10)
• ask about their student banking package

Anyone who wishes to open a bank account in Australia must show several pieces of personal identification which are allotted points system. 100 points of identification is required to establish your identity as the person who will be named in the account. Your passport and proof of your arrival date in Australia will be acceptable as 100 points if you open an account within six weeks of arrival in Australia. After this time you will be required to produce additional documentation. As a student you will be able to open an account with special student benefits. Many banks have ‘Student Accounts’ which contain no or minimal fees for transactions that might normally be attached to regular savings accounts. You will also require the student ID card from your institution to prove you are a student and should have access to the benefits offered by a student bank account.

Most people in Australia enjoy the convenience of internet banking and/ or telephone banking, which enables them to manage their money, pay bills etc. from home. At the time you are setting up your account you can request these services from your bank.

Banking hours

Most bank branches are open from Monday–Friday, 9am–4pm (except on public holidays). Some branches have extended trading hours during the week and may be open Saturdays (check with your individual bank). ATMs remain open 24 hours a day. However, you should be aware of your personal safety if accessing cash from an ATM at night in quiet areas where there are not a lot of people around.

Bank fees

Bank fees are the price you pay for the products and services that banks offer. Different banks charge different fees for different products and services, and the best way to find out what fees apply is simply to ask your bank. Any fees that apply to your accounts are fully disclosed in information leaflets and terms and conditions that your bank can provide before you open your account. Some banks waive some fees if you are a full-time student. The way you do your banking may also affect the fees that apply, for example: internet banking rather than walking into a branch.

If you don’t understand any fee which has been charged, contact your bank.

Banking locations at Flinders

• Bank SA Branch: located Flinders Medical Centre
  Monday–Thursday 12noon–4pm; Friday 12noon–5pm
  has a 24/7 ATM.
• National Bank (NAB) branch near Registry Building. Open
  Monday–Thursday 9:30am–4pm. Friday 9:30am–5pm

ATM Locations:

• ANZ and NAB have 24/7 ATMs at the Sturt Buildings
• NAB has two 24/7 ATMs—Registry Building and Union Building (Blue Duck Café)
• Bank of Queensland ATM—inside the Central Library
• RediATM—Flinders Private Hospital
• Bank SA 24/7 ATM—Flinders Medical Centre
• Australia Post—Agency for most Banks

There are many Bank Branches and ATMs at Marion Shopping Centre which is a short bus or car trip from the University.
Accessing money from my account

Bank accounts offer lots of options for accessing your money. Some of the most popular options are described below.

AUTOMATED TELLER MACHINES — ATMs

ATMs can be used to withdraw cash from an account by using the ATM card which is available with most bank accounts. You can also use ATMs to get an account balance and transfer money into other accounts. Some ATMs also allow you to deposit cash and cheques into your account. Using the ATMs of your bank will generally cost less money than if you use another bank’s ATMs. Fees for using ATMs can vary between banks and between accounts.

USING AN ATM AND SAFETY

You will be given a Personal Identification Number (PIN) which you will enter into the ATM to access your account. It is the key to your account and it is important that you never tell anyone your PIN. A bank or reputable business will never ask you for your PIN. If anyone does, be suspicious, don’t hand it over and report the incident to the bank and the police. Be careful no-one is looking over your shoulder when you enter your PIN.

These general rules should be followed for ATM safety, especially at night:

- Minimise your time at the ATM by having your card ready when you approach the machine;
- Take a look around as you approach the ATM and if there’s anything suspicious, don’t use the machine at that time (report any suspicions to the police);
- If you don’t feel comfortable using a particular ATM, consider continuing on to another branch or using off-street ATMs;
- Do remember that EFTPOS can be used to withdraw cash at many other places, like supermarkets and service stations;
- If you simply want to check your account balance or transfer funds between accounts, telephone or internet banking can be used instead of an ATM.

If your ATM or credit card is lost or stolen (or if your PIN has been revealed to another person), notify your bank immediately. This will enable your bank to put a stop on your card immediately so that no one else can use it and get access to your money. Most banks have a 24 hour telephone number for reporting lost cards—it is a good idea to keep a record of this number handy at all times, just in case. If you don’t know the number, ask your bank.

(Source: Australian Bankers’ Association Inc.)

EFTPOS

Short for ‘Electronic Funds Transfer at Point Of Sale’, EFTPOS terminals can be found where goods or services are sold, for example: supermarkets, service stations, restaurants, doctors’ surgeries and gymnasiaums. You can pay for goods and make payments through EFTPOS using your ATM card, rather than paying with cash. At some stores, when you use EFTPOS you can also withdraw cash from your account at the same time. Some retailers put limits on how much cash you can withdraw with your purchase.

When paying by EFTPOS, you also use your PIN to access your account. The same rules apply about keeping the PIN confidential and never handing it over to anyone. Be careful no-one is looking over your shoulder when you enter your PIN. (See using an ATM and Safety above)

TELEPHONE BANKING

You can use telephone banking to transfer payments to and from accounts, get your account balances, get recent transaction information and pay bills. You need to register to use telephone banking and you will be given a password or an identification number allows you to access your accounts over the phone. Never give your password to anyone else.

INTERNET BANKING

Internet banking allows you to view and check your accounts, review recent transactions, apply for loans and credit cards, or transfer money and pay bills—all online. Most banks offer internet banking facilities, but you will need to register with your bank to gain access. You will then be given a password that allows you to use your accounts online. Never give this password to anyone else.

There are security issues that need to be considered when using internet banking. It is recommended that you install and keep up-to-date antivirus software and a firewall, update security patches and be suspicious of emails requesting you to hand over confidential information such as your internet banking logon password. Your bank will never ask you for this information, especially in an email.

In addition, many banks publish security guides on their websites and this provides important information on precautions that you can take to protect your information online. Never supply your personal account information if asked by email or other electronic communication. If you are unsure about any approach that appears to be from your bank to provide personal information, refuse to provide that information until you can attend your nearest branch to discuss the request over the counter with bank staff. There is no charge for discussing your banking options at a branch.
OVER-THE-COUNTER SERVICE
You can also go into a branch of your bank and, with the assistance of bank staff, conduct transactions including withdrawals, deposits, transfers, and account balance checks. If you do not have a branch close by, you may be able to visit an agency of your branch, such as an Australia Post outlet, to conduct certain transactions. Bear in mind that over-the-counter transactions usually incur higher fees than electronic transactions.

PAYING BILLS
Most bank accounts offer lots of easy options for paying bills. Transaction accounts with cheque book facilities allow you to pay bills by cheque, and most transaction accounts and savings accounts allow you to pay bills electronically (e.g. using facilities such as telephone banking, internet banking) and using direct debits.

A note of caution on direct debits — they are a convenient way to pay everyday bills, but always make sure you’ve got enough money in your account to cover the cost of the debit. If your pay or allowance goes into your account on a certain date, make sure your direct debit payments are scheduled to come out of your account after your pay goes in, or you might end up with an overdrawn account or a dishonoured payment — both can cost you money.

ACCOUNT STATEMENTS
Most banks will provide regular statements for your accounts (just how regular can depend on the type of account). On request, banks will provide statements on a deposit account at more frequent intervals, but this may attract a fee. Bank statements are your record of everything that has happened in your account over a given period—the withdrawals, deposits and transfers that were made, and any bank fees and government taxes you were charged. Telephone and internet banking can make it easy to check your statements, and some banks even offer ‘mini statements’ through their own ATMs.

Check your statements regularly to make sure you’ve got enough money in your account to cover your expenses and keep track of your spending, as well as make sure that all transactions made in your account are legitimate. Refer to your statements to see what fees you are paying on your bank accounts and why, and to see whether a few simple changes to your banking habits could help you to reduce the fees you pay (for example, using your own bank’s ATMs instead of other banks’ ATMs).

(Source: Australian Bankers’ Association Inc.)

Safety when carrying money
The first and fundamental rule of safety when you carry money is “Do not carry large amounts of cash!”

The second is “Do not advertise the fact that you are carrying money!”

• Divide your cash into different locations on your person (front pocket, coat pocket, shoes, etc.).
• Keep your wallet in one of your front pockets at all times.
• Do not carry cash in a backpack or back pocket.
• Divide your bank/credit cards and keep them in separate locations.
• Do not place money or valuables in lockers.
• Be very careful how you carry your bag, and never leave it open for someone to slip their hand inside.
Accommodation

Quick facts

• Flinders University does not book temporary accommodation for new students.
• Marion Holiday Park is near the University. The cabins are very expensive for single travellers but useful for families or groups travelling together.
• Glenelg has backpacker and motel accommodation and is on a direct bus route to the University. Allow 30 minutes travel for the bus journey.
• City accommodation is often on a direct bus route to the University. Allow 40 minutes time for public transport to get to the University.

Temporary accommodation

If you have not arranged long-term accommodation in Adelaide, it is essential to book temporary accommodation before your arrival. Please make your own temporary accommodation arrangements and bookings, as the University does not run a temporary accommodation booking service.

Information on temporary accommodation options can be found on the Flinders Living website at: www.flinders.edu.au/living — it is arranged into: ‘budget, backpackers and YHA’; ‘caravan parks’; ‘hotels, motels and serviced apartments’ and, ‘Flinders University Hall’.

Flinders University Hall is situated on-campus, but books out quickly for temporary accommodation, so you will need to apply early to ensure you have a confirmed booking. Marion Holiday Park is close to Flinders University and is listed under ‘caravan parks’. Many other students have chosen to stay in temporary accommodation in Glenelg (check both backpackers and serviced apartments) as it is a very popular beachside suburb. Options within the city centre are also worth exploring, as there are a number of direct bus routes from the city to Flinders.

If you have difficulty gaining access to the temporary accommodation website, please email flinders.living@flinders.edu.au to receive the information in an alternate format. You can also request this information by sending a fax message to Flinders Living on +618 8291 6006.

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?
The cost of temporary accommodation varies considerably. If you are happy to stay in a backpacker hostel, you might pay between $26 and $35 per night for a bed in a shared dormitory. It might cost between $90 and $200 per night to stay in an apartment. This charge may be for one or two persons, and the surcharge for a third person might be small. Most apartments have minimum stays of at least three nights and some offer discounts for stays of seven or more nights. Students starting their studies in Semester 1 will be arriving during the ‘high season’, so please be aware that many accommodation providers will be charging premium rates for their rooms.

WHEN SHOULD I BOOK?
If you are commencing study in Semester 1, you must book your temporary accommodation as soon as possible.

If you are commencing study in Semester 2, try to book your temporary accommodation at least two weeks before you travel to Adelaide.

FOR HOW LONG SHOULD I BOOK ACCOMMODATION?
We recommend that you book your temporary accommodation for at least a week. However, our experience is that students can take up to four weeks to find permanent accommodation, especially at the beginning of the year. You might want to consider booking up to four weeks of temporary accommodation.

Please book your meet and greet online from the following web link: www.flinders.edu.au/international arrival. If you have any difficulties with your booking, please email issu@flinders.edu.au for assistance.

This is very important, especially if you want us to meet you at the airport.
Long-term accommodation — on-campus

Many students choose to live on-campus for at least the first year to help with their transition to life in Adelaide. If you are considering doing this it is important to apply as early as possible.

FLINDERS ON-CAMPUS ACCOMMODATION

Quick facts

- If you want to apply for accommodation on campus through Flinders Living, or in the Flinders Medical Centre Flats, you need to apply before you come to Australia.
- If you plan to live in other rental accommodation, we recommend that you do not sign any agreement before you come to Australia and have seen the property for yourself.
- The information below gives details on applying for Flinders Living accommodation and Flinders Medical Centre Flats, and an overview of other rental options. There is more detailed information in Section 3.

ACCOMMODATION MANAGED BY FLINDERS LIVING

Students can apply to live in University Hall or the University Village in either the townhouses or the units. Flinders Living’s accommodation is open to all Flinders students and therefore provides an opportunity for international students to mix with Australian students from interstate and rural and remote areas of South Australia.

To apply for a place in any accommodation managed by Flinders Living, you need to apply online at: www.flinders.edu.au/living/on-campus/applications

Applications received before 15 November 2013 are given priority for first semester, and we recommend applying by 10 June 2014 for second semester accommodation. University Hall is very popular and there are often more applicants for accommodation than there are vacancies.

Please be aware that making an application does not guarantee you a place in either University Hall or other Flinders Living accommodation.

- Single semester residents are required to pay the full semester fee in advance with the acceptance of an offer of housing unless they contact Flinders Living in advance to set up fortnightly (every two weeks) bank transfers.

UNIVERSITY HALL

The Hall offers a communal environment for 240 students. All students have private lockable rooms with heating, a bed, desk, chair, telephone and internet connections and cupboards. You need to provide your own linen and blankets. Bathrooms are shared with other students. Three meals a day are provided on week days (except over the Christmas vacation) and on weekends and public holidays residents make their own meals using the kitchens provided in the Hall for residents’ use.

The Hall also provides resident tutors who are available to help students with academic and other problems. The cost is $348 a week for a single room for a 40-week contract period or $272 a week for a double room. Residents also pay an advance fee of $993 (for semester two, $735.50), which includes a refundable $350 bond.

DEIRDRE JORDAN VILLAGE

Flinders Living offers an attractive range of self-catered accommodation in its townhouses and units. These are located near University Hall and have a Community Centre as the hub of the on-campus residential community.

Townhouses

The 40 village townhouses are adjacent to University Hall, and provide accommodation for 109 students in a mixture of two and three bedroom apartments. The townhouses are fully furnished and there is a kitchen, a lounge/dining room, a laundry, a bathroom and two toilets. Each bedroom has a telephone and an internet connection. Students living in the townhouses are responsible for their own cooking and cleaning. Students provide their own linen (sheets and towels).

A number of the townhouses are reserved for postgraduate and senior students and it is not common for new students to win a place in the townhouses. These cost $221 per week for a 40-week contract plus a $950 (for semester two $650) fee, which includes a community fee and a refundable bond of $350.
**Units**
Flinders Living also offers a further 200 on-campus residential places in the village units. Each unit has five bedrooms, a kitchen and two showers and toilets. Each bedroom has a telephone and an internet connection. In addition to being fully furnished, these units are air-conditioned. The rent is $221 per week for a 40-week contract plus a $950 (for semester two $650) fee, which includes a community fee and a refundable bond of $350. Students supply their own linen (bed sheets and towels). Students from the village units have access to two on-site laundromats as well as a community centre.

**FLINDERS MEDICAL CENTRE (FMC)**
Flinders Medical Centre has very limited short and long-term accommodation available. This is a short walk from the hospital and the University and includes:
- Bedsit (single room) with shared bathroom and kitchen, cost $285 a fortnight (March 2013 rate)
- three bedroom flats shared with two other people, cost $510 a fortnight (March 2013 rate)

Hospital staff receive highest preference for these flats, followed by medical and nursing students then any other students. Competition for places is intense. Bed linen is provided when you arrive but residents must wash their own linen in the laundry provided.


Email your completed form to: sonya.mausolf@health.sa.gov.au or fax to +618 8204 5396, marking it ‘Attention: Accommodation Manager’.
Where to look for off-campus accommodation

INTERNET WEBSITES FOR ACCOMMODATION SEARCHES

If you are going to be looking for accommodation in the private rental market, you might also like to search the following websites so that you can have an idea of the type, cost and availability of accommodation in Adelaide.

FLINDERS WEBSITE

MULTI-AGENCY LISTINGS
www.realestate.com.au
www.homehound.com
www.domain.com.au

REAL ESTATE AGENTS' LISTINGS
www.ljhooker.com.au
www.philmcmahon.com.au
www.garyjsmith.com.au
www.raineandhorne.com.au
www.southernrealestate.com.au
www.toop.com.au
www.eldersrealestate.com.au

Suburbs close to Flinders University and accessible by public transport are Bedford Park, Clovelly Park, Edwardstown, Melrose Park, St Marys, Mitchell Park, Flagstaff Hill, Panorama, Pasadena and Sturt. Some students choose to buy a car, which broadens their options. The beachside suburbs of Brighton and Glenelg are popular.

Wednesday and Saturday are the best days for Rental Accommodation advertisements in The Advertiser, Adelaide’s daily newspaper. You will find rental information in the Classified Index in the Personal Notices page, near the back of the paper.

You could also contact a real estate agent, or visit their websites to look for rental properties.

WHERE DO STUDENTS LIVE?

Our students live in a range of suburbs, but the majority live close to the University or on-campus. About 6% of our current students live on-campus. The majority of students live in suburbs along the major transport corridors of South Road, Fiveash Drive, Goodwood Road or Sturt Road.


You can get directions from one place to another and print out a map using this tool.

REAL ESTATE AGENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agent</th>
<th>Suburb</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brock</td>
<td>Morphett Vale</td>
<td>8384 8911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magain Real Estate</td>
<td>Aberfoyle Park</td>
<td>8370 5999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magain Real Estate</td>
<td>Ascot Park</td>
<td>8277 1777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Century21 Real Estate</td>
<td>Brighton</td>
<td>8298 6999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Century21 Real Estate</td>
<td>Glenelg</td>
<td>8294 9544</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elders Real Estate</td>
<td>Brighton</td>
<td>82964966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LJ Hooker</td>
<td>Brighton</td>
<td>8358 1118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Professionals</td>
<td>Blackwood</td>
<td>8278 5122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gary J Smith 1st National</td>
<td>Plympton</td>
<td>8297 9622</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raine and Horne</td>
<td>Blackwood</td>
<td>8370 3611</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raine and Horne City</td>
<td>Glenelg</td>
<td>8376 8844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raine and Horne</td>
<td>Morphett Vale</td>
<td>83843888</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ray White</td>
<td>Colonel Light Gardens</td>
<td>8357 6999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ray White</td>
<td>Glenelg</td>
<td>8376 3733</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taplin</td>
<td>Glenelg</td>
<td>8295 4104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toop and Toop</td>
<td>Glenelg</td>
<td>8294 8888</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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CHOOSING WHERE TO LIVE

Most students want to live within walking distance of the campus but this is not always possible and is usually determined by availability and cost. Often it is more convenient and more cost-effective to live further from the campus but closer to shops and public transport.

SET UP COSTS

If you are planning to rent accommodation off-campus, you will need to pay between six and eight weeks’ rent in advance of which four or six weeks rent will be lodged as a security bond with the Tenancies Branch of Consumer and Business Services. If a house or flat costs more than $250 a week, a landlord can ask for six weeks’ rent as bond money. For example, an unfurnished house may cost between $260 and $550 a week in rent, which means you (and your housemates) could be required to pay up to $4400 for bond and rent. An unfurnished flat or unit may cost between $180 and $230+ a week (depending on location and condition), thereby requiring an initial payment of between $720 and $920 for bond and advance rent.

For more details see: www.ocba.sa.gov.au/tenancies/index.html

SHARE FLATS AND HOUSES

Most flats have two bedrooms. Most houses have two, three or four bedrooms. Share arrangements are usually between students, but sometimes include others (e.g. employed Australians). Good cooperative arrangements are essential.

In most cases, private rental properties are unfurnished and you will be expected to do your own cooking and cleaning as well as share the common household expenses. Use of household utensils and appliances is usually shared. The approximate rental cost for each person in a shared household will be between $130 and $160 each week (taken from vacancies listed with Flinders Living). In addition you will need to budget for household bills, food, transport and other personal expenses.

ROOMING HOUSES

There is a growing trend for people to buy and furnish houses, which they rent by the room. This is defined as a Rooming House, and there are some protections under law, for more information see: www.legislation.sa.gov.au/LZ/C/R/Residential%20Tenancies%20(Rooming%20Houses)%20Regulations%201999.aspx

This can be a good option for students because it means you do not have to buy your own furniture. The negative aspect of this accommodation is that you do not choose your housemates.

FURNISHED ACCOMMODATION

Furnished accommodation is not so common in the private rental market. It generally takes longer to find and costs you at least $20 a week more than unfurnished accommodation. There is also a great difference in the amount and quality of furniture provided. You should expect to find a stove/cooker in any accommodation, but in addition a furnished place may have a refrigerator, washing machine, wardrobes and beds. The kitchen may have basic cutlery, crockery and cooking utensils. The lounge furniture will probably be quite basic and you are unlikely to have a television.

SHOULD I TRY TO FIND A PLACE TO RENT BEFORE I COME TO ADELAIDE?

There are good and bad points when trying to rent a place or finding a room in a share house before you arrive in Adelaide. The big plus is that you have somewhere to live before you arrive, and you know how much you will need to budget for housing. The minus is that you won’t really know the condition of the house or flat, nor have a clear idea of whether its location is convenient to the University, transport and shops.

If you are thinking of renting a house or flat without having seen it, be very careful. Leases for properties are binding legal documents. This means you can’t change your mind when you arrive in Adelaide and see the property for yourself. There are penalties for breaching leases and you should read the information put out by Consumer and Business Services on renting. Failure to understand the conditions is not a defence for breaking the lease. For more details view: www.ocba.sa.gov.au/tenancies/index.html
HOW DO I FIND LONG-TERM ACCOMMODATION?

Unless you already have long-term accommodation at Flinders Living or the Flinders Medical Centre Flats, your first priority will be to find a place to live.

WILL I GET HELP FINDING ACCOMODATION

Flinders Living runs the accommodation service and you can ask the staff for information on leases, renting and finding long-term accommodation. As well as online computer listings, which are available all year round, Flinders Living runs a service where staff will help you contact real estate agents about rental vacancies. You can book transport to see vacant properties in the afternoons.

Details on when this service runs are updated on our web-page and you can check them at:

www.flinders.edu.au/international-students/services/airport-reception/

Staff in Flinders Living and the ISSU will help you to:

- look through accommodation listings
- phone up real-estate agents or landlords to make bookings to view properties and
- work out how to get there.

Students can book a car and driver to view rental properties. The booking needs to be made the day before, and the service is only available from 1pm–5pm Monday–Friday.

The Saturday service runs between 10am and 2pm. You must book at ISSU by lunchtime on Fridays to use the Saturday service.

If you have your own transport or can get to a property by bus, this is your best plan because it is more flexible.

We recommend you buy your own Adelaide street directory. They cost between $35 and $50. A street directory is very useful, not only for finding out where potential accommodation is located, but to find shopping centres, places of worship, entertainment venues, schools and sporting facilities.

NEED MORE HELP?

Flinders Living has an Accommodation Service to assist you to find suitable accommodation either on or off campus. The staff members are experienced in working with international students to help them secure satisfactory long-term accommodation.

The Accommodation Service maintains listings of available accommodation at the following website:

www.flinders.edu.au/housing

After you have agreed to the conditions of use, click on Private Accommodation Listings.

Staying with friends or family

If you know someone in Australia, this is a great way to settle into life here. Your friends or family can provide advice, support and encouragement in your first days in Australia. However, if you are under the age of 18 you must obtain approval from your education provider first. Please talk to an International Student Adviser at ISSU for further information.

How do I choose accommodation?

The amount you can afford to pay is probably the biggest factor when choosing your accommodation.

Include start-up costs when you are calculating your budget. For example, in private rentals, if your rent is $340 per week you may have to pay $1700 up-front, which includes two weeks’ rent in advance ($680) and a security bond equal to six weeks’ rent ($1020).

Start-up costs may include: bond; rent in advance; connection costs for utilities such as gas (due after you move in); furniture: bed, table, chairs, etc; white goods: fridge, washing machine; kitchen utensils: cutlery, crockery, pots and pans; linen: sheets, towels, tea-towels; bedding: pillows, quilts and blankets; fans/heaters; and food.
Remember your first ‘shop’ will be quite expensive, as you will be buying everything.

- Be realistic about your requirements. Every ‘absolutely essential’ feature you list may make it harder to find a place. Looking for somewhere to live involves making a compromise between what you want and the type of housing available and what you can afford.
- Check the availability of transport, shops, school access for your children and other services.
- Don’t be surprised if a number of other people are looking at the house too. Remember, at this stage you all have an equal chance of success.

When inspecting accommodation, ask yourself the following questions.

- Are there laundry facilities?
- Is there a telephone line already connected?
- Do the light fittings work?
- Is there a telephone line already connected?
- Do the toilet and shower all work?
- Is there damp or mould on the walls?
- Is there painting required?
- Is the place furnished? What kind of furniture?
- What kind of heating/cooling is there?
- Is it close to transport, shops, and campus?
- Will the area be noisy? Is it on a busy road?
- Is there good security?
- Will the landlord carry out any repairs before you move in?

If you are interested in renting the premises, tell the owner/agent as soon as you have decided. You cannot usually bargain over the rental cost unless the advertisement mentioned that rent is negotiable. Please take time and care when choosing a place to stay. Never sign anything unless you understand it fully. If you do not understand something, ask Flinders Living.

Types of off-campus accommodation

PRIVATE RENTAL
Private refers to housing owned privately by businesses or individuals who lease the accommodation to tenants. The private rental market provides a range of housing options.

The type of housing includes:
- Houses
- Flats

HOUSES
Houses usually consist of a lounge and/or dining room, bathroom, toilet, laundry, kitchen and anywhere between two and four bedrooms.

When you rent a house you are also renting the grounds and gardens and you may be expected to maintain them (check your lease for details).

The cost will depend on a number of factors such as location, size, and number of bedrooms and whether or not it is furnished. If you are looking to rent a whole house, you should be prepared to pay between $340 and $380 per week.

FLATS
Flats are smaller than houses and often have combined kitchen and dining rooms. Many flats have no separate laundry facilities. The majority of the flats in the immediate vicinity of Flinders University have two bedrooms. There are also a small number of furnished flats in this area.

As with houses, flat rentals will vary according to their location, quality and size. You should budget between $200 and $270 per week for one, two or three bedroom flats. Some of the terminology used may be confusing at first, as many of the terms are interchangeable. For example, a flat may also be called a unit, an apartment or a townhouse. The different terms point to different locations and styles.

A flat is usually located in a group that has dwellings on more than one level. Most groups have between two and five levels with up to 10 flats on a level.

A unit is a single storey flat. They are traditionally built in smaller groups of between two and eight.

A townhouse is a flat that occupies two levels, and these are located in small groups of between two and eight. As well as usually being larger than flats or units, townhouses often have a small garden or courtyard, making them suitable for small families.

Granny flats/bed-sits are self-contained one-bedroom flats. They are usually located at the rear of a house but are self-contained and have their own entrance. The owner often lives in the house. Gardens and grounds are usually maintained by the occupant of the house, but can sometimes be shared. Granny flats are not on the market very often, and vary in cost up to $280 per week.
FURNISHED/UNFURNISHED ACCOMMODATION

Furnished accommodation is relatively hard to find in Adelaide and may be slightly more expensive than unfurnished accommodation. If accommodation advertisements do not state the property is furnished this means that the rental will only include the very basics such as carpeting/poiled wooden floors/tiles etc, light fittings, curtains/blinds and the oven/stove and cupboards in the kitchen. If the rental accommodation has built-in wardrobes, it will usually be clearly stated in the advertisement. Therefore, it may be necessary to furnish the accommodation completely with everything from fridges to beds and wardrobes.

While this may be daunting to those who arrive with limited funds, furniture can be obtained cheaply in second hand shops.

Sharing a house or flat with other people is the most economical, flexible and popular form of student housing. Rates for share accommodation range between $120 and $180 per week, per person, depending on the total rent and the amenities offered. Usually each person has their own bedroom and the bathroom, kitchen and living room are for everyone to share and maintain. Moving into an existing share household can be less costly initially, but you may prefer to organise a group to start a new share house yourself.

Room only accommodation usually provides you with a furnished room with the use of facilities. It differs from sharing as the owner usually rents out the accommodation.

You need to ensure that the terms of your rental arrangements are clear, in writing, and are agreed to by both you and the owner.

If owner rents out at least three rooms, the section of the Act relating to Rooming House tenancies may apply.

For further details, check online at: www.cbs.sa.gov.au/wcm/rent/leasing/ or ask for help by calling the Residential Tenancies on 131 882 or asking for advice at Flinders Living.

In a house where the owner rents out only one or two rooms, the South Australian Residential Tenancies Act does not apply.

RENTING HOUSES AND FLATS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Renting houses and flats will always involve signing a legal leasing agreement, usually for a minimum tenancy of six months. Initial expenses are high because you must pay two weeks rent in advance and a security bond, which is equal to at least four weeks rent.

Signing a lease means you agree to certain rules and responsibilities. You need to understand these rules because if you break them it could lead to legal proceedings and the loss of large sums of money.

USEFUL LINKS:
www.homestaynetwork.org
www.AdelaideHomestaySearch.com

GENERAL RENTAL ARRANGEMENTS

- The landlord (usually the owner) or a real estate agent acting on the landlord’s behalf usually manages rental properties.
- Ring the landlord or real estate agent to arrange an inspection of the property. Some real estate agents will prefer you take a look at the outside of the property before making an appointment to view the inside of the property. This is a wise procedure as you can decide whether you want to live in the area and you can work out how easy it will be to get transport to the University and to shops.
TENANCY AGREEMENTS
You should never sign a lease unless you have read, understood and agreed to it. In share situations, it is desirable that all members sign the lease.

There should be two identical copies of the lease—one for the owner and one for you.

Be aware of the length of your stay in Adelaide; do not sign a lease for 12 months if you are only going to be here for eight months. If you leave before the lease expires, you are in breach of the contract and may be penalised financially. If you need help in understanding any of the terms in a lease agreement, please ask for help from Flinders Living before you sign the lease.

Negotiate with the owner/agent over the length of the lease before you sign anything.

There are two types of rental agreements (leases)—periodic and fixed term.

FIXED TERM TENANCY AGREEMENTS
Fixed term tenancy agreements are usually written tenancy agreements to rent the property for a specific period of time (normally six or twelve months). Agents and landlords usually use the standard form prescribed by the South Australian Residential Tenancies Act, but even a verbal agreement can be legally binding.

Rental Increases
If there is nothing in the agreement about rent increases, the rent will be the same for the full period of the agreement.

Ending your lease
The tenant may need to pay reasonable costs of re-letting if they want to leave before the end of the term.

PERIODIC TENANCY AGREEMENTS
Periodic tenancy agreements are for an unspecified period of time. It continues until either the tenant gives 21 days’ written notice or the landlord gives notice of termination on the prescribed form.

Rent increases
The landlord can only increase the rent every six months and must give 60 days’ written notice of rent increases.

Ending the lease
The tenant must give 21 days’ written notice to leave.

The landlord can give notice on the prescribed form, with varying periods of notice, as follows:
• Where the premises are required for his/her occupation, or for occupation by his/her immediate family—60 days
• Premises required for demolition—60 days
• Where the premises have been sold, to be given from the date of the signing of the contract of sale—60 days
• Rent arrears of at least 14 days or breach of contract—7 days
• Notice where no reason is given—90 days

SECURITY DEPOSIT/BONDS
A security deposit or bond is usually required by an owner or agent, and may not exceed the equivalent of four weeks rent for all properties under $250 per week. For properties above $250 per week, the land agent can ask for six weeks rent. The money is held in a trust fund with the Residential Tenancies Tribunal and a receipt should be issued to you within three weeks of payment. It is suggested that you offer your bond in a cheque made out to the Residential Tenancies Tribunal. The purpose of the bond is to guarantee the owner reimbursement if you leave the premises damaged or with rent in arrears. If you leave the property paid up and in good condition, your bond should be returned to you in full once you have left the property. If there is a dispute about the bond, contact the Residential Tenancies Tribunal immediately.
BOND MONEY AND RENT RECEIPTS
To avoid any disputes always ask for a receipt for your rent. If the owner refuses to write a receipt they are in breach of the Residential Tenancies Act. As long as the property is in good condition when you leave, you should get the entire bond refunded.

APPLICATION
If you find a suitable property you may need to submit an application form. Please be careful when signing this form as you may be obliged to take the property should your application be approved (these are known as binding contracts).
- Check with the landlord or real estate agent whether the application is binding or non-binding.
- Only fill out a form if you are definitely interested.
- Do not apply for more than one place at any one time, unless the agent has advised you that it is a non-binding application.

By signing a lease, the owner and tenant legally commit themselves to the rights and obligations of a rental agreement. Information about these rights is available from the Accommodation Service or from the Residential Tenancies Tribunal either online at: www.ocba.sa.gov.au or by telephoning 131 882.

SPECIAL CLAUSES/SCHEDULES ATTACHED TO LEASES
Read your tenancy agreement carefully. Some have clauses or schedules that are reasonable, whereas some do not comply with the law, and we recommend you read more information.

If you fail to meet reasonable requirements while you are renting you are most likely to receive a letter from the owner or agent asking you to comply with the requirements of the lease. If you fail to meet reasonable specifications when you leave, the owner or agent has the right to deduct from your bond the cost of hiring someone to (for example) clean the house or unit.

WATER
In a tenancy, water supply rates and charges are paid as agreed between the landlord and the tenant. In the absence of a specified agreement, the landlord will pay rates and charges for water supply of up to 136 kilolitres per year, and tenants will be responsible for any excess water consumption. If the landlord or agent managing your property advises you to pay excess water, ask to see a copy of the bill so that you can check the consumption details.

CONDITION REPORTS/INSPECTION SHEET
When you first move into your new accommodation you will be given an inspection sheet that includes a list of contents with a description of their condition. The landlord will usually fill out the form and give this to you to fill out your comments. It is wise to spend at least a week or two with this form, as it is easy to overlook faults within the property when you first move in. While you will not be responsible for normal wear and tear, tenants are responsible for damage caused to the property (even by guests). You will be required to leave the premises in a clean and undamaged state to ensure your bond is refunded in full. You should keep a copy of your inspection sheet so that you can refer to it when you are vacating your rental property.

An inspection sheet can be viewed on the Consumer and Business Services website.

REMEMBER—don’t be hasty in filling out your inspection form.
If you want to ensure your bond is refunded when you leave you must note all damage when you move in, even if this seems petty or you are worried about disagreeing with your landlord/real estate agent. For example a student lost a large part of her bond when she did not mention that the bathroom sink was cracked. A couple of months later the drains blocked in the bathroom so she poured drain cleaner down the sink. When she came home, the sink was broken. The student had to pay for a new sink out of her bond because she had an agreement that it was in good condition on the inspection sheet.

Please note: that copies of all relevant forms are available from the Accommodation Service free of charge.

Please note: Keep all documents such as your lease and condition report in a safe place, for example with your passport and other documents, as you will require these when you leave the property.

Things to watch out for during your tenancy
- Get your tenancy agreement in writing.
- Make sure you pay your rent on time and keep your receipts.
- Do not damage the property and keep it clean and tidy.
- Do not paint or alter the premises without obtaining written permission from your landlord.
- The landlord must give you proper notice before entering the premises and must not interfere with your privacy.
- The landlord must keep the premises in good condition, for example promptly fix plumbing problems.
WHAT DO I DO IF I HAVE A PROBLEM WITH MY LEASE/LANDLORD?
If you cannot resolve the problem between yourself and your landlord, you can apply to the Residential Tenancies Tribunal, which has the power to settle disputes. Call them on 131 882.

LEGAL RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS WITHIN SHARE HOUSEHOLDS
Sharing a house or flat is usually more complicated than living alone. While tenants still have to abide by the rules of the Residential Tenancies Tribunal, there are occasions where the rules are not entirely clear. Some examples of this are sub-letting the property, general household rules, and unwanted members of the household and appropriate action to be taken when one or more member of the household ends their tenancy.
For legal information read the Residential Tenancies Act, 1995 and if this does not answer your query, please ask for advice through Flinders Living (8291 6000), Student Assist (8201 2371) or ISSU (8201 2717).

CLEANING OBLIGATIONS
One of the most important obligations of the tenant in a Residential Tenancies agreement is keeping the premises clean and tidy.

CLEANING PRODUCTS
Grocery stores and supermarkets stock many different products for cleaning. It is important to read labels carefully in order to understand proper uses and dangers of the products. (Warning: Keep all cleaning products out of reach of children and do not mix products.)

CARE OF FIXTURES

KITCHEN—SINK, OVEN, STOVE, BENCHES
If they are greasy, you will need to use a cleaning agent suitable for all purposes and available in any supermarket, and wipe surfaces over carefully. It is best to do this once a week because oven grease is very difficult to remove once it has built up.

Don’t forget to wipe over any filters in oven hoods, or exhaust fans as well. Most landlords/agents are very particular with oil and grease, so pay particular attention to it when cleaning.

BATHROOM, TOILET, BATHTUB, WASHBASIN
The shower, bath and basin need to be scrubbed regularly to remove soap residue and prevent mould. You will need to use a scrubbing brush and cleaning agent. Wiping dry each time after use will reduce cleaning time. Turn on the exhaust fan each time you use the bathroom to reduce mould growth. If the weather is good, open the bathroom window when you are in the shower, but shut it before you leave the house. Students in general have a bad reputation for not cleaning toilets. Wear rubber gloves and use a long toilet brush and cleaning agent or disinfectant to clean the toilet.

WALLS
You need to try to clean obvious dirty marks and grease off the walls. Hot soapy water usually does the trick. Be careful when using cleaning agents as they may remove the paint or leave a stain.

STICKING THINGS ON THE WALLS
Most agents and owners are particularly concerned about damage to paintwork or wallpaper. As a result, they may restrict or even prohibit the use of blue-tak, sticky tape, sticky backed hooks, nails or screws to hang posters, pictures or paintings. Do not use any of these things to hang any item until you have asked the owner or agent whether it is alright to do so.

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CARPETS/FLOORS
You should vacuum carpets once a fortnight at least. Clean any spills immediately with soapy water or carpet stain removing powder. Floors need to be mopped and swept regularly too. Most leases require you to have the carpets steam cleaned before you leave.

WINDOWS/MIRRORS
Use a clean rag and window cleaner to clean mirrors and windows. Windows need to be cleaned inside and out. If the windows are dirty outside, you may want to clean them down before using window-cleaning fluid and wiping them over with a clean rag. Using crumpled newsprint/recycled paper to wipe glass/mirrors won’t leave streaks on them, which rags will leave.

REFRIGERATORS
Refrigerators should be defrosted periodically, when ice or frost in or around the freezing unit becomes evident. To defrost a refrigerator, one should turn it off, empty it, and allow the water from the melting frost to drip into a pan or the tray beneath the freezer. This may take overnight, but can be done more rapidly if one puts a pan of hot water in the freezer. When the ice has melted, one should empty the tray of water into the sink. It is not a good idea to use sharp instruments to chip off the ice as they may damage the freezer and your eyes. A solution of baking soda and water can be used to clean the inside of the refrigerator. Some refrigerators automatically defrost themselves. The cooling grills on the back of a refrigerator should be vacuumed periodically to remove dust build-up, to enable the unit to refrigerate more efficiently. A refrigerator that does not work efficiently will cost you more on your electric utility bill.

INSPECTIONS
The agent or owner will inspect your rental premises regularly. They must give you 7–14 days’ notice and arrange a time that is convenient for you. An inspection can take place once every 28 days. Below, you will find a checklist of the things you need to do before an inspection.

INSPECTION GUIDELINES
Before an inspection, you need to clean the house thoroughly. In addition to the things described above, you will need to:
• Wash the dishes and stack them neatly on the sink or put them away.
• Tidy the bedrooms and make the beds.
• Put the garbage outside.
• Put any dirty clothes in a basket or bag. Don’t leave them on the floor.
• Stack books neatly.
• Tidy the garden and ensure the lawns are mown.

These steps show the owner/agent that you are caring for their property, keeping the premises clean and tidy and that you are a responsible tenant.

GARBAGE COLLECTION
You can find out from your neighbours or local council (listed in the front of the White Pages) which day of the week you need to put out your rubbish bin. If you live in a small block of flats, there may be a shared bin which all tenants use. You will need to speak to the other tenants to find out the routine for putting the bin out for collection. Always put the bin out the night before as the garbage collectors often come very early in the morning. Most councils also run a recycling service on a fortnightly basis (every other week) and in the other week, they may run a ‘green waste’ collection service. If you rent a house and need to keep the garden tidy, you can throw away weeds and lawn clippings in your green waste.

Again, you should check with your neighbours or local council to find out the procedure and dates on which this service will run.

Full board

LIVING IN FULL BOARD ACCOMMODATION
Living in full board (home stay) with an Australian family or retired person can be a valuable experience for all involved. You will get to know Australians well, they will learn more about your cultural background and it is an excellent opportunity to improve your English language skills.

Living in full board requires a period of adjustment for both the student and the host family as you get used to each other and learn about each other’s cultural background. You will have to adjust to the family’s routine and house rules, while they in turn adjust to your customs.

We have prepared a list of information and advice on general rules of behaviour for students living in full board only with Australians. Please note these are guidelines only. Australia is a country of many different cultural traditions and you may notice that your host family is different from what you may have expected.

If you are not certain about how to behave, watch what other house members do. You can always ask them if you are unsure about anything.

For example you may ask family members questions such as: Is it OK for me to have a shower at 9pm? When do Australians usually go to bed? What time should I be home for dinner? May I watch television in the evening?
CLEANING
You will usually be expected to make your own bed, clean up any mess in your room and put your dirty clothes in the laundry or laundry basket ready for washing. There may be a cleaner employed to clean the house, or family members may be allocated certain tasks. Sometimes you will be expected to help with small jobs around the house just as other family members do. For example, you may be on a roster to wash the dishes after meals.

MEALS
Breakfast is generally any time in the morning that is convenient to various family members. All family members, even children, often make their own breakfast. All the food will be provided but you will probably be expected to prepare your own cereal, toast, drinks etc. Sometimes breakfast is prepared for you, especially if it is a hot meal.
Lunch is generally a cold meal. It could either be prepared for you, or you may be expected to prepare it yourself. For example, a cut lunch of sandwiches may be prepared for you to take to University. You will not be expected to come home for lunch and if you do, you have to prepare your own meal from the food provided.
Dinner is usually cooked by the home stay parent but you are expected to assist them.
Bringing my family

Most student visas allow you to bring your family members to Australia as your dependants and you should check your individual circumstances with the Department of Immigration and Border Protection. Family members include your spouse and your dependent children. Before bringing your spouse or children to Australia, you will have to prove that you can support them financially. The cost of supporting a family in Australia is very high. You may have to consider and discuss many issues with your family.

Quick facts

- Children from five to 18 years must go to school full-time.
- You will pay school fees for your children—$3,780 a year at primary school and $4,700 a year at secondary school (See schooling for any exceptions).
- Childcare in Australia is not subsidised for most international students.
- Childcare places are limited and many centres, including the University and Flinders Medical Centre Childcare centres, have long waiting lists. You can expect to pay at least $80 a day in a childcare centre or if you use family day care, the minimum rates are between $5.00 and $11.50 per hour.
- You must provide immunisation records for your children before they attend school or childcare.
- Arrange for translations of birth and marriage certificates by an official translation service.

Issues to consider

Before making a decision to bring your family to Australia it is important to consider the following issues:

- The additional cost of dual family or multifamily Overseas Student Health Cover (see page 54)
- The cost of airfares for your family to and from Australia;
- Possible higher rent for a larger home;
- Limited employment opportunities for your spouse;
- Extra costs for food, clothing and other necessities;
- The effect on you and your studies if your family is not happy in Australia;
- Whether your children will adjust to school in Australia;
- Waiting lists for childcare centres; and
- Whether to come alone to Australia first and arrange things for your family or to all come at the same time.

For more information see the DIBP website at: www.immi.gov.au/students

If you, your spouse or partner gives birth to a child in the period between lodging your student visa application and the visa being granted, you must advise DIBP immediately as having an additional dependant will affect DIBP’s visa assessment process. You should also let DIBP know if you marry or can show evidence of a de facto relationship in between the application being lodged and your visa granted.

If you plan to bring your family to Australia, even if they are not going to travel with you initially, we recommend you commence their visa application process before you leave home. The granting of visas to your dependants can take from one to four months after application, or longer in some countries.

It may take some time to find suitable accommodation for a family as well as arrange schooling or childcare while you settle into your studies.
Consider whether travelling to Adelaide by yourself and arranging for your family to join you later would be a better arrangement than everyone travelling to Australia at the same time.

EMPLOYMENT
If you are on a student visa and enrolled in a doctoral or masters-level program, your dependants can work full-time. If you are in an undergraduate program, graduate certificate or graduate diploma, they can work 40 hours in a two-week period. During the orientation program you will be given more information about employment conditions in Australia.

COST OF LIVING
DIBP asks you to show that you have $18,610 a year for your living expenses. If you are coming with family members, for DIBP purposes you must show an extra $6515 a year for a spouse, $3720 for a first child and $2790 for each additional child. DIBP advises you that you need an extra $8000 a year for children between five and 18 to cover schooling expenses. See: www.immi.gov.au/students/student-t-visa-living-costs.htm

CHILDCARE
Although Flinders University and the Flinders Medical Centre both operate childcare centres, they are very popular and do not give priority to the children of international students. It can take a long time to find a suitable childcare centre with a vacancy. Childcare is not subsidised unless you hold an Australian Government scholarship and it costs approximately $80 a day. Please note the subsidy will not cover all the costs.

IMMUNISATION RECORDS
If your child will be attending childcare or any pre-school, kindergarten or school, you will be required to produce evidence of immunisation. Therefore it is advisable to have these records available from your home country for when your family travels to Australia.

SCHOOLING
If you have school-age children, you will need to make arrangements for them to attend a school in Adelaide. Although school attendance in South Australia is only compulsory for children aged between six and 16, because you are on a student visa, your children must attend school between the ages of five and 18.

SA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
In South Australia's public school system, children of international students studying award courses are required to pay fees unless the parent holds one of the following scholarships:

• Australian government scholarships (e.g. AusAID or International Postgraduate Research Scholarship)
• South Australian government scholarships
• South Australian university scholarships
• Some scholarships awarded by the tertiary student’s home country, provincial or state government, or multilateral agency (e.g. United Nations, World Bank or Asian Development Bank). For these scholarships, you must:
  • study at Flinders University, the University of Adelaide or University of South Australia
  • reside in South Australia for the duration of your studies
  • be studying a higher degree by research (visa subclass 574)

If you are the holder of a relevant scholarship and have school-aged dependants, please go to the website: www.internationalstudents.sa.edu.au

Click on the subheading “Children of International Tertiary students” then click on “Children of South Australian Government endorsed scholarship holder”.

Download the new application form for dependants of eligible scholarships as well as the Tertiary Scholarship Verification form.

Only International Student Services Unit staff are authorised to complete the Declaration by Authorised Tertiary Institution Signatory on your behalf. When you come into ask for this to be signed, please bring evidence that you hold a scholarship. This is especially important in cases where your sponsor pays money directly to you and you pay your own University tuition fees. If you are planning to bring your family please send the Tertiary Scholarship Verification form and evidence of your scholarship to: issu@flinders.edu.au

If you are not the holder of a relevant scholarship as stated above and have school-aged dependants, please go to the website: www.internationalstudents.sa.edu.au subheading ‘Children of International Tertiary students’, then click on ‘Children of a full fee paying international tertiary students’.

Download the new application form for dependants and follow the steps.

For non-scholarship holders, the fees are $3780 a year for a child at primary school and $4700 a year for a child at secondary school. For each child attending school there is also an annual administration fee of $300 per year/ per child. The application and administration fee is $500 per family if all applications are processed at the same time. The fees are paid to International Education Services (IES) and you can request to pay in two instalments if you do this when registering your child(ren).
The fees can be paid from overseas or after you arrive in Australia, but your child cannot enrol at a school until the fees have been received. Fees can be paid by electronic transfer, credit card or bank cheque. Cash payments will not be accepted. Requests to pay by instalments must be made when you apply, not when you arrive in Australia.

Either before you travel to Australia or on arrival in Adelaide, you will also need to contact a primary or high school near you and enrol your child in that school. Contact details for South Australian state and private schools, both primary and secondary, can be found by clicking on the A–Z listing at the following web address: www.decs.sa.gov.au/decs_search/pages/locs

Primary schools that are close to Flinders University are Bellevue Heights, Clovelly Park, Darlington, Blackwood, Eden Hills and Marion. Secondary (or high) schools that are close to Flinders are Blackwood, Australian Science and Mathematics School, Brighton, Seaview and Pasadena.

**Education expenses for children**

As well as tuition, there are other expenses such as school books, subject levies, uniforms and school outings which must be paid for. Most schools also expect you to pay an annual contribution. This amount varies from $110 to $920 per annum and is payable directly to the school.

Indicative additional costs at schools for a year are:
- Stationery—$150
- School Excursions—$50–$100
- School Camp (if offered)—$100–$300
- School Uniforms—$250–$500, but second hand ones may be less

Children under 18 attending tertiary institutions are required to pay full tuition fees.

In addition to the fees charged by the department on behalf of the Government, some schools charge an additional amenities fee, which is set by the school council. While this is a yearly fee, it can be levied on a term basis.

Parents are expected to pay for the stationery their children require, as well as their school uniforms.

**Private schools**

There are a number of private schools in Adelaide and most of them are affiliated with a religious group. Private schools charge tuition fees and usually the dependants of international students will be charged fees at a higher rate than local students will pay. This is because private schools do not receive any funding from the State Government for the dependants of international students and as the private schools are part funded by Government they need to raise sufficient money to cover all of their costs.

If you are interested in finding out more about sending your child (ren) to a private school in Australia, please make direct contact with the school. Flinders is located in the southern region of Adelaide. You can search for private schools in Adelaide at www.private schoolsdirectory.com.au
English language needs

If your child(ren) do(es) not speak English as their first language, some principals may recommend that your child(ren) spend(s) up to a year in a New Arrivals Program, where intensive specialist English language support is provided. Bellevue Heights Primary School and Clovelly Park Primary School, which are both very close to the University, run New Arrivals Programs.

**Bellevue Heights Primary School**
7–19 Vaucluse Crescent, Bellevue Heights, SA, 5050
Phone: (08) 8278 7182
Email: bellevueps.sa.edu.au

**Clovelly Park Primary School**
1 Renown Place, Clovelly Park, SA, 5042
Phone: (08) 8276 5366
Email: info@clovellyps.sa.edu.au

If your child(ren) will be entering secondary school, the nearest New Arrivals Program is based at Adelaide Secondary School of English in Croydon —this is a significant distance from the University and would usually require that your child(ren) change(s) buses to reach the school from the southern side of the city.

**Adelaide Secondary School of English**
253 Torrens Road, West Croydon, SA, 5008
Phone: (08) 8340 3733 Email: adenglish@adsecenglish.sa.edu.au

A number of secondary schools also offer Intensive Secondary English Course (ISEC) programs, which students can enter for between 10 and 40 weeks before transferring to mainstream classes in the same school. For more information contact the schools listed above or telephone: +618 8226 2756

**2014 term dates**

**AT PUBLIC SCHOOLS**
Term 1: 28 January–11 April
Term 2: 28 April–4 July
Term 3: 21 July–26 September
Term 4: 13 October–12 December

*Please note: private schools have different term dates.*