

Pre-Departure & Arrival



Travel Insurance

Students are advised to take out at least 4 weeks travel insurance before departure. Your travel agent should be able to help you organise this.



Booking Your Flight

International flights to Australia can be fully booked particularly from December to February and in May to July. Once your course application has been fully processed and the course tuition fees paid in full and your student visa granted, you should make a flight booking to Australia.

You **MUST** arrive well before your course commencement date.



Preparing Your Finances

Please refer to our living expenses section to get an idea of how much it will cost you to live in Melbourne.

It is a good idea to arrive with some Australian money. It is recommended to bring approximately AUD\$250 in cash (notes and coins), and may be AUD\$500 to AUD\$1000 in traveler's cheques or as a bank draft.

*Any amount **over \$10,000 AUD** must be declared or you risk having them confiscated by Australian Customs and being interviewed by the Australian Federal Police*

It also helpful to have a credit card, especially in emergencies. The most common credit cards used in Australia are Visa and MasterCard. Some shops and restaurants will also accept American Express and Diners Club credit cards.



Packing Your Bags

Baggage

Make sure you pack and can actually carry all your baggage by yourself. All boxes should be securely tied and easy to carry. If you have applied for airport reception arranged by AEP or your school, please inform us on the amount of baggage you will be arriving with.

Clothing

Australians tend to dress casually most of the time. Many students wear jeans, t-shirts, shorts and casual shoes. Some occasions, such as a celebrations or a job interview, you will need to dress up. If you are unsure how to dress for an event, ask a friendly Australian for advice. All Australian cities has fabulous shopping destination - from bargain factory outlets and markets to stylish boutique shopping. Therefore it is not difficult to shop for clothes for all seasons when you arrive.

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Household Items

Electrical household appliances can be easily purchased in Australia new or second hand. Department stores such as Kmart, Big W and Target are sensible places to buy good value household goods. You can even try eBay or other online shopping.

If you bring these items with you to Australia but you must be aware of Customs Regulations. You may need to pay customs duties. An alternative to carrying the items with you to Australia would be to arrange to freight them over to Australia once you have found a place to live.



Personal Computers

All schools have computer laboratories with full facilities (printer, scanner, etc) for your use.

If you prefer to bring your own computer, consider bringing only the central processing unit (CPU) and buying the peripherals in Australia. You will need a receipt for the computer if you are carrying it with you to Australia. Note that customs duties on computers apply.

Normally you can bring your own laptop without any problem.



Packing and Preparing Important Documents

Ensured you have packed all necessary documents you may need for enrolment, including:

- Letter of Offer
- Letter of Acceptance
- Receipt for payment of deposit
- Electronic Confirmation of Enrolment (eCoE)
- Passport
- A photocopy of the photo page and the visa page of your passport and/or e-visa
- Current Health Cover card (if you are a current student in Australia)
- Any documents to support conditions on your offer letter that you need to satisfy before enrolling in your course, for example original or certified copies of academic transcripts, syllabus or IELTS (English Language) test score?
- Airline Ticket





International Arrivals

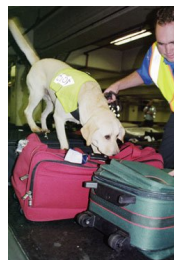
On the plane you will be given an Incoming Passenger Card to complete. You will need to fill in your flight details and customs information. Make sure you have your passport and Incoming Passenger Card ready for the Entry Control Point. When you have passed through the Entry Control Point, you will collect your baggage and exit via Customs and Quarantine (AQIS).

There are two exit points/channels after you have collected your baggage. You may proceed through one of these two channels: If you have any goods to declare, you must walk through the Red Channel or, if you have nothing to declare, you can proceed through the Green Channel.

Australian Customs Regulations

Message from Australian Quarantine Inspection Services (AQIS)

To help keep Australia free from serious pests and diseases, strict quarantine laws are in place at all Australian international airports and mail centres. Don't worry if you see AQIS detector dogs sniffing your bags at the baggage collection area. These dogs are looking for quarantine items such as food, or plant or animal products.





Arriving in Australia

Before your aircraft arrives in Australia you will be given an Incoming Passenger Card to fill in. This is a legal document and you must tick YES if you are carrying any food, wooden material, plant material or animal products. If you are unsure about items you are carrying, declare them anyway, by ticking yes.

In many cases items will be returned to you after inspection. However, any item that has a pest or disease risk will be withheld. Depending on the quarantine risk, some items can be treated to make them safe (you will have to pay a fee) while other quarantine risk items may need to be destroyed or returned to your home country (again, you would have to pay for this).

All luggage is screened using a combination of detector dogs, x-ray machines and physical inspection of bags upon arrival in Australia . If you fail to declare any quarantine items or make a false declaration: you could be fined up to A\$220 on the spot or you could be prosecuted and fined up to A\$66,000 and/or risk 10 years imprisonment

Once you're here

Australian Quarantine screens ALL international mail sent to Australia. Quarantine 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. 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.

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