

# PARENTS' MAGAZINE

FUTURE STUDENTS 2013

**JAIMIE McGLASHAN** –  
Bachelor of Science student,  
with her parents Russel and Jan.

SEE PAGE 13



**DEAKIN**  
UNIVERSITY AUSTRALIA

Worldly



# WELCOME

**You've helped them with so many things in life. Now, helping your student make important life choices about their future can be a time of immense pride for many families.**

For students, it's a time of working out what they want out of life and how they can make their dreams a reality. While it's true that not all jobs require a university education, increasingly, many professions are looking for further education. Choosing a course that your student finds interesting not only increases their employment and earning prospects, but can also lead them into a long-term and satisfying career path. Of course, we all want to support them as much as possible. We at Deakin will do everything we can to help your student not just adjust, but thrive on the challenges of university. Just as we know you will too.

But if university life is a distant memory, or possibly something you haven't experienced, it can be hard to know how best to guide your student. This Parents' Magazine is for you, the parents, guardians, partners and loved ones who will play such a critical role in every student's success. Through this magazine, we hope to give you an up-to-date perspective on the exciting journey on which your student is about to embark.

**The Deakin team**

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# LEARNING THE LINGO

Applying for university can seem like entering a different world – one with a language all of its own. Here are some of the terms you're sure to get to know as your student goes through uni. For more, you can always visit our online glossary at: [deakin.edu.au/glossary](http://deakin.edu.au/glossary).

## ATAR

The Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) is a ranking of Year 12 results, which measures your student's overall academic achievement compared with all other final year students in Australia (excluding Queensland).

## BACHELOR'S DEGREE

An undergraduate award. Normally the first university qualification studied.

## CENSUS DATE

This is the date when enrolments in a unit are finalised. It is the last date your student can apply for HECS-HELP, FEE-HELP or SA-HELP or withdraw from a unit without being liable for certain fees or having the unit recorded on their academic transcript.

## CREDIT POINT

Each unit of study (or subject) is worth a set number of credit points, usually, though not always, 1 credit point for each unit. A full-time study load is usually 4 credit points per trimester, for two trimesters a year (or 8 credit points in a year).

## FACULTY

An organisational division within a university (such as the Faculty of Arts and Education). Deakin has four faculties, each Faculty is divided into several Schools.

## HECS-HELP

The Higher Education Contribution Scheme-Higher Education Loan Program (HECS-HELP) is a loan scheme to help Commonwealth-supported (partially Government funded) students pay for tuition costs. Repayments are made through the Australian taxation system once annual income exceeds the minimum threshold for repayment.

## iLECTURE

A lecture streaming service that gives your student online access to recorded lectures via *CloudDeakin*.

## MAJOR SEQUENCE

A group of units studied in sequence during your student's degree. A major sequence must include at least 6, and up to 8 credit points.

## PREREQUISITES

The VCE subjects or other requirements that current Year 12 and non-Year 12 applicants must complete to be eligible for selection into a course.

## STUDY SCORE

A score of 0–50 that shows how a VCE student performed in a particular subject compared with others in the same year. It is calculated from a student's results in assessments and examinations in that subject.

## TRIMESTER

Deakin has three trimesters each year, and each trimester runs for 12 weeks. A full-time study load usually includes trimesters 1 and 2. Study in Trimester 3, over summer, is not compulsory, it just provides another option for students who want to spread out their study load or complete their studies sooner.

## TUTORIAL

A class where a small group of students discuss study materials and ideas with a tutor.

## UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE

Usually the first degree obtained in a given discipline area. An undergraduate student is usually someone studying for their first degree in a given discipline.

## UNIT

A Deakin subject or unit is normally one trimester long and most have a value of 1 or 2 credit points.

## VTAC

The Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) is the organisation that administers the application process for all Victorian universities and TAFE institutes, visit [www.vtac.edu.au](http://www.vtac.edu.au).

# PATHWAY TO SUCCESS

Choosing a university course can be a challenging task. Even if your student is certain about which course they want, it pays to have a back-up plan. As well as including other courses that your student might be interested in, a back-up plan should consider alternative pathways to your student's first preference.

These might include applying for the same or a similar course at a different campus and then requesting a transfer to your student's top preference after the first year. This would depend on your student achieving a certain grade point average and availability of transfer positions.

Deakin also offers the Associate Degree of Arts Business and Sciences (Deakin at Your Doorstep) for students who might benefit from a supported entry to university study. Students who successfully complete this course may qualify for up to 18 months' credit towards approved Deakin degrees.

In addition, Deakin has a range of formal pathway programs and special credit arrangements with partner organisations including the Box Hill Institute, Melbourne; The Gordon, Geelong; and South West Institute of TAFE, Warrnambool; the Chisholm Institute, Melbourne; and the Melbourne Institute of Business and Technology (MIBT). In addition, the University also recognises prior study from other education providers.

For more information about pathways into Deakin, please visit [deakin.edu.au/study-at-deakin/apply/alternative-pathways-to-deakin](https://deakin.edu.au/study-at-deakin/apply/alternative-pathways-to-deakin).

# APPLYING TO UNIVERSITY

Once your student has chosen the courses they are interested in, the next step is applying for a university place. Most undergraduate applications for Deakin University are submitted online through the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC), (unless stated otherwise in the admission guidelines). However, if your student is applying for a course starting in Trimester 2 or 3 they can apply directly to the University. A small number of Trimester 1 and Deakin at Your Doorstep courses require students to apply directly to the University.

## APPLYING THROUGH VTAC

Your student should lodge their application online at [www.vtac.edu.au](http://www.vtac.edu.au). VTAC applications open in August of each year and timely applications close at the end of September. VTAC will continue to accept late applications up until early December, however the later your student applies the more expensive the application processing fee is.

The VTAC website contains details on Deakin University on-campus courses, prerequisites, extra requirements, selection modes, how to apply and other important information.

Application dates are online at [www.vtac.edu.au](http://www.vtac.edu.au) or phone VTAC on 1300 364 133.

Please note, key application dates for some states and New Zealand applicants are different from Victorian applications.

Check all of the entry requirements carefully. Many courses have prerequisites and some have additional requirements that your student will need to complete to be eligible for selection into that course. For example, to be eligible for selection in the Bachelor of Forensic Science students must have achieved VCE units 3 and 4 – a study score of at least 25 in English (ESL) or 20 in any other English and a study score of at least 20 in mathematics (any).

Extra requirements for school leavers generally include Year 12 prerequisites.

Extra requirements for non-school leavers may include: extra forms (VTAC Personal History online), tests (Special Tertiary Admissions Test, STAT, or Australian Law Schools Entrance Test, ALSET) or an interview.

Consider whether your student should apply for special consideration. We're committed to providing equity and access for individuals and groups who might not otherwise enjoy the benefits that flow from participation in higher education. To apply for entry under Deakin's Access and Equity Program, submit an application through VTAC's Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS). You can find out more at [deakin.edu.au/access-equity](http://deakin.edu.au/access-equity).

## RECEIVING AN OFFER

VTAC has three main offer rounds:

- early round – released in November 2013
- round 1 – released in January 2014
- round 2 – released in February 2014.

Please visit the VTAC website [www.vtac.edu.au](http://www.vtac.edu.au) closer to the time for specific dates.

Your student can view their offer on the VTAC website via their VTAC user account during the month specified above. Details of their offer will then be mailed to them the following day. Deakin will also send an email advising them of further details of their offer. Round 1 offers are published in the press provided they have granted the necessary permission. Most offers are usually made in round 1.

## DEFERRING STUDIES

Your student may not want to start studying straight away, preferring to travel, work, volunteer, or simply have a break. Most courses allow students to postpone their studies, but still retain their University place, for up to two years.

Students can apply for deferment after receiving an offer, using the online form at [deakin.edu.au/study-at-deakin/apply/enrol-defer-withdraw-or-transfer](http://deakin.edu.au/study-at-deakin/apply/enrol-defer-withdraw-or-transfer). Students must lodge this form within five days of receiving their offer.

## DIRECT APPLICATIONS

Deakin accepts direct applications for a number of courses both on and off campus for Trimester 2 and 3 as well as for a small number of Trimester 1 courses.

More information can be found at [deakin.edu.au/study-at-deakin/apply/apply-for-a-course-undergraduate](http://deakin.edu.au/study-at-deakin/apply/apply-for-a-course-undergraduate).

For more information about the application process, please phone 1300 DEGREE (1300 334 733).

# TEACHING AND LEARNING

Studying at university is different from studying at secondary school or TAFE. There are different expectations of students, different time commitments, and new ways of teaching and learning. For students, getting used to these changes is an important part of the first-year experience. For parents, guardians and partners, being aware of these new circumstances can help you understand and support your student in their new uni life.

Uni students are treated as independent adult learners. As such, we communicate directly with students. This might seem different from the secondary school experience. Although parents are welcomed into the Deakin community, it is up to each student to choose whether to share details of their enrolment (such as academic progress). However, parents, guardians and partners can access general information and resources about uni life on the Deakin website. A great place to start is [deakin.edu.au/parents](http://deakin.edu.au/parents).

Tertiary study requires students to be self-motivated, to plan and complete their assignments on time, and to use a range of learning resources to further their knowledge. Students have the benefit of being taught by a range of experts and typically encounter at least two teaching staff for each unit (subject) they take. For example, a student might have a lecturer who presents weekly lectures in a lecture theatre filled with students and a different tutor who leads smaller weekly tutorials.

There's also a CloudDeakin online space set up for each unit, through which students can interact with teaching staff and other students.

Available across many Deakin courses, learning via the cloud gives students the opportunity to learn in a more engaging way while also offering them flexibility for juggling study, work and social commitments. It complements, rather than replaces, the more traditional teaching methods such as lectures and printed materials.

In 2013, Deakin is looking at how to use these technologies to make the learning experience not only more effective and engaging, but to also prepare students for the jobs and skills of the future. Work has now begun to prepare some of Deakin's high-demand programs to offer a 24/7, media-rich, interactive digital environment connecting students with staff, mentors and peers – even potential employers.

Although students might enrol in university full time, they don't necessarily attend the campus every day. More often, their contact hours are spread across the week or are compressed into a few full days. Many students also enrol off-campus, and others take advantage of Deakin's flexible learning options and take some units online. Typically, a full-time undergraduate student enrolls in up to four units per trimester. These usually require three to four contact hours on-campus (or online), during which time the student attends lectures, tutorials, 'pracs' or practicals, labs, workshops or seminars. For each unit, students are typically expected to complete at least 10 additional hours of work (outside of class time) each week. Some students take advantage of the learning spaces on campus to do this work. Others find it more productive to work at home. If your student seems to go to campus sporadically, or tends to study at home a lot, this may simply be a reflection of their timetable for that trimester.

Students are given a broad range of assessment tasks at uni. These include essays, exams, group assignments, quizzes, presentations, internships, research projects, reports and creative pieces. For one unit, they might have three assessment tasks scheduled across the trimester.

At Deakin, we recognise that the transition to tertiary study can be challenging at first. For this reason, there are Student Support Offices in each Faculty, where students can seek help from course advisers. There are also many other general support services and a wealth of helpful information online at [deakin.edu.au/students](http://deakin.edu.au/students).



## HOW IS TERTIARY STUDY DIFFERENT FROM SECONDARY SCHOOL?

	SCHOOL	TAFE	UNIVERSITY
<b>CONTACT HOURS</b>	30	25-35	8-25
<b>LENGTH</b>	Normally six years (VCE two years)	Six months to two years	Three-six years depending on the choice of course
<b>CLASS STRUCTURE</b>	25 students, one teacher per subject	Classes and workshops, 12-20 students, one teacher per subject	Lectures up to 700 people, more than one lecturer per subject
<b>TUTORIALS AND PRACTICALS</b>	Practicals dependent on subject	Dependent on course	15-30 people, one subject teacher (tutor) complementary to lectures

age and learn

Uni students are treated as independent adult learners. As such, we communicate directly with students. This might seem different from the secondary school experience.

For more information about university assessment, go to [deakin.edu.au/current-students/study-information/exams-assessment/results-key.html](https://deakin.edu.au/current-students/study-information/exams-assessment/results-key.html).

# MANAGING THE COSTS OF STUDY

Going to uni is a learning experience, not just because of the courses, but because of the personal growth that comes with what is, for many students, their first taste of financial independence.

Paying for fees, study materials and living expenses can seem a lot to juggle. But for those who need it, extra support is available.

At Deakin, we offer different types of support to students. Due to privacy issues and the sensitivity of financial information, we often request that we speak to students directly. However, we are more than happy to speak with a student's parents or guardians if requested and if we have written approval from the student.

In many cases, getting some advice and budgeting assistance can make a big difference. Our Student Financial Assistance office can help your student prepare a budget, and develop their financial literacy. For many, this is the best possible support, as these skills won't just help them at uni, but for life.

If your student needs a little extra to cover expenses, our interest-free student loans can help with the cost of study-related expenses, such as course-related equipment or text books. Eligible students may also be able

to use these loans to pay for a range other expenses, so long as they can demonstrate that they are study-related, for example, the costs of travelling to take part in a work placement.

If your student does find themselves in financial need, they may be eligible for a student grant. These are limited and offered on the basis of need.

It's worth encouraging your student to keep an eye out for scholarship opportunities throughout the year too. We recommend students check out our scholarships website at least once a month, particularly during the first half of the year, [deakin.edu.au/study-at-deakin/scholarships-and-awards](http://deakin.edu.au/study-at-deakin/scholarships-and-awards).

Don't forget to consider other means of financial support outside of uni. Most students also work part time to support themselves while they study. Centrelink also offers support to eligible students through Youth Allowance, Austudy, ABSTUDY and Student Start-Up Scholarships. You can find out more at [studyassist.gov.au/sites/StudyAssist/StudentIncomeSupport](http://studyassist.gov.au/sites/StudyAssist/StudentIncomeSupport).

Information about financial assistance and services for students is online at [deakin.edu.au/current-students/services/student-loans/index](http://deakin.edu.au/current-students/services/student-loans/index).

## TUITION COSTS FOR COMMONWEALTH SUPPORTED PLACE (CSP) STUDENTS

Depending on the course, an Australian Commonwealth supported undergraduate student at Deakin in 2013 can expect to pay between \$5868 and \$9792 per year of study. There are several fee levels or 'bands' and different courses attract different costs. How much a student pays depends on the course and subjects in which they are enrolled. These fees will change for 2014.

Eligible students may obtain loans via the Higher Education Contribution Scheme-Higher Education Loan Program (HECS-HELP). Repayments are made through the Australian taxation system once your annual income exceeds the minimum threshold for repayment. In 2013 this is \$49 095. Alternatively, eligible students can pay their contribution upfront and receive a discount. For more information, please visit [studyassist.gov.au](http://studyassist.gov.au).

STUDENT CONTRIBUTION BAND	2013 STUDENT CONTRIBUTION
<b>BAND 3</b>	
Dentistry, Medicine, Veterinary Science, Law, Accounting, Administration (including Public Relations), Economics, Commerce	\$9792
<b>BAND 2</b>	
Mathematics, Statistics, Computing, Built Environment, Other Health, Allied Health, Science, Engineering, Surveying, Agriculture	\$8363
<b>BAND 1</b>	
Humanities, Behavioural Sciences, Social Studies, Clinical Psychology, Foreign Languages, Visual and Performing Arts, Education, Nursing	\$5868

Please note: Deakin does not offer all study areas as listed in the table above.



A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a black smartphone in their back pocket. The person is wearing a dark brown t-shirt and blue denim jeans. The background is plain white.

## NEED MORE DETAIL?

We've got some great finance tools for parents and students. Our budget calculator can help you and your student balance their expenses and income:

[deakin.edu.au/current-students/services/student-loans/budget/index](https://deakin.edu.au/current-students/services/student-loans/budget/index).

Or if you're after more detailed information about study costs and support services, you can download our Financial Planning for Tertiary Study brochure here:

[deakin.edu.au/parents](https://deakin.edu.au/parents).

# SOCIAL NETWORK

Your student's first year at university isn't just about making the grades – it's also about making social networks.

By joining a club or being part of the Deakin student community, your student will not only make new friends but also establish important connections that will help keep them engaged with university life.

There's a range of clubs, events and activities on offer through the Deakin University Student Association (DUSA) and, each year, the Student Services Carnival (held in Week 3 of Trimester 1) also provides valuable information about the services that can help Deakin students succeed.

Rebecca Lever, Team Leader, Transition, says university can be a daunting journey for some and even the best-prepared can sometimes struggle.

'However, we know that students who have strong social connections and support are far more likely to not only persist with their studies, but to enjoy their university experience.'

She adds that it's also 'extremely important' for students to establish a good study and life balance.

'They need to place enough importance on things that help them to cope academically like exercising, catching up with friends, doing some part-time work. All these social links are hugely important in maintaining a good balance and contribute to being a successful student.'

Each Deakin Faculty also offers other networking opportunities like mentoring, study tours, student societies, and work and overseas exchange experiences that are all aimed at enriching your student's university experience.

Deakin's online social networking sites – such as Twitter, Facebook, YouTube and Google Plus – also provide students with a familiar and user-friendly platform through which students can engage and interact, says Rebecca.

'Most faculties and services try really hard to connect with students via the web and a range of social networking channels, including Facebook and Twitter, and Deakin has made its first official foray into mobile apps with the Wordly app launched in late 2012.'

To join the conversation on Twitter, follow us on Facebook or watch us on YouTube, visit [deakin.edu.au/social-media](http://deakin.edu.au/social-media).

## WHAT DO OUR STUDENTS SAY?

### MELISHA FERNANDO

**Bachelor of Nursing – Melbourne Burwood Campus**

'Meeting new friends and studying together can improve on your studies. My advice is immerse yourself in whatever Deakin has to offer, get involved today and when you look back you will be proud of the decisions you made.'

### CLARA NG

**Bachelor of Teaching (Primary) – Melbourne Burwood Campus**

'Being part of DUSA has been the most rewarding experience in my university life. Not only do I learn many new skills, I also enjoy the company and working alongside fellow volunteers who are very friendly, funny and we share the same passion in volunteering and giving back to the community.'

### BRONWYN MAWBEY

**Bachelor of Nursing – Geelong Waterfront Campus**

'The many friends met in classes through various group activities helped me ease into university life. I made further friends through volunteering at the Deakin University Student Association (DUSA). These are friendships and memories that will last a lifetime.'

### CHRISTOPHER GRIENTI

**Bachelor of Laws – Warrnambool Campus**

'In second year I was selected to become a committee member of Deakin University Commerce and Law Society (DUCLS). Through this I developed great relationships with the committee members of the respective societies across the other Deakin campuses, and also the staff of the Business and Law faculty.'

# MENTORS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Sometimes when you start something new, having someone you're comfortable with who can help answer your questions can make all the difference.

Deakin offers new and experienced students the chance to come together through a range of mentoring programs aimed at helping new students with specific subjects, as well as more general study skills and university knowledge.

There are subject-specific study groups, known as Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS), where students who have excelled in a subject help others who are studying the same unit. Deakin also runs Students Helping Students Drop in Stations, which help new students to develop their study skills.

Students can also take part in a range of faculty-specific mentoring programs, which partner new students with a more experienced mentor. Mentors like Ashlee Curtis, who helped 15 first-year students while she was completing the third year of her Bachelor of Psychology.

'When I started uni, it felt very different to high school – I had questions and didn't know who to ask,' explains Ashlee. 'Having a peer mentor provides you with someone for those questions.'

She says some of the challenges for new students include practical things like understanding the structure of university, how lectures and tutorials work, and finding classrooms, but also academic skills like correct referencing of assignments.

But peer mentoring doesn't only benefit the student.

'It helped me gain essential leadership skills,' says Ashlee, who has since gone on to complete her honours year and take on a PhD.

Find out more at [deakin.edu.au/current-students/study-support/students-helping-students/peer-mentors](https://deakin.edu.au/current-students/study-support/students-helping-students/peer-mentors).

'When I started uni, it felt very different to high school – I had questions and didn't know who to ask.'

Ashlee Curtis, psychology student and mentor.

A photograph of two young women with long dark hair, looking intently at a laptop screen. The lighting is warm and orange-toned. The woman on the left is slightly out of focus, while the woman on the right is in sharper focus.

# SUPPORT FOR YOUR STUDENT

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We aim to support every student, to give them the best possible chance of success regardless of background, finances, or level of ability. We do this through services and facilities that cater for the needs of all students, as well as services catering for students with special needs. Here are just a few examples of the many types of support we offer. For more, visit [deakin.edu.au/study-at-deakin/student-life-and-support](https://deakin.edu.au/study-at-deakin/student-life-and-support).

## ACCOMMODATION

Having a student move away from home for the first time can be a daunting process. Deakin's on-campus student accommodation at the Melbourne Burwood Campus, Geelong Waurin Ponds Campus and Warrnambool Campus, is particularly suited to first-year students who may not have lived away from home before. Find out more at [deakin.edu.au/studentlife/residences/index](https://deakin.edu.au/studentlife/residences/index). Our Off-Campus Housing Service helps students find safe, student-friendly accommodation. We strive to educate and inform students and their families about housing options as well as tenancy rights and responsibilities. We have an intimate knowledge of the local area, local landlords and the types of students in various properties. This means we can help students studying similar courses or coming from similar backgrounds to link in together, where possible. Visit [deakin.edu.au/houseme](https://deakin.edu.au/houseme).

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‘Through the Off-Campus Housing Service I did get my home sooner than I had expected and considerably cheap.’

– Lawal Adams, engineering student.

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## DISABILITY RESOURCES AND SUPPORT

Does your student have a health condition or disability that may affect their study? The Disability Resource Centre (DRC) provides information and services to help them succeed. The centre promotes inclusive practices across the University, as well as arranging adjustments to suit students' needs, such as alternative assessment/exam arrangements; extra writing time or rest breaks; academic support workers, like note-takers; and sign interpreters. Visit [deakin.edu.au/disability](https://deakin.edu.au/disability).

## FLEXIBLE LEARNING SPACES

What makes a learning space flexible? Sometimes students need somewhere to get together and work in groups, compare study notes over lunch, or use a computer – or perhaps they just want to catch up with friends. Featuring study pods and workshop rooms, our flexible learning spaces have different zones for different types of study-related and recreational activities. But they can also be adapted to suit the needs of particular students, with movable layout and furniture. Early opening times and late closing times mean that students can also access them when they need to, before or after class.

## INSTITUTE OF KOORIE EDUCATION

The Institute of Koorie Education's unique community-based learning model delivers Deakin degrees to Aboriginal students while they live in their communities and travel to campus six times per year for study intensives. This model gives students access to the intellectual life of the University while maintaining regular contact with their families and communities. Visit [deakin.edu.au/ike](https://deakin.edu.au/ike).

## MEDICAL CENTRES

We offer confidential, bulk-billed medical and nursing health care and advice to students across all campuses. Visit [deakin.edu.au/current-students/services/health](https://deakin.edu.au/current-students/services/health).

## STUDY SKILLS

Despite past academic success, sometimes students need extra guidance developing the type of study skills that will help them do well at university. We offer study advice in a range of areas including time management, note-taking, avoiding plagiarism, critical thinking, writing essays and reports, referencing, class presentations, exam preparation, and more. Visit [deakin.edu.au/study-success](https://deakin.edu.au/study-success).

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‘Study assistance has helped me to grow in complete confidence that I am capable of producing all kinds of academic writing styles if I put my mind to it. It's also given me a sense of professional development that I can apply to all of my studies and future career.’

– Erzsebet Bodor Smith, Bachelor of Arts (Media and Communication) student

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## TRAVEL, PARKING AND SECURITY

All campuses have several parking permit zones and some have a limited number of free parking spaces. Students will need a current permit to park on campus during business hours. Find out about parking locations and permits at [deakin.edu.au/visitors/parking](https://deakin.edu.au/visitors/parking). Deakin University Travelsmart provides information on car sharing, carpooling, intercampus travel, walking, cycling and public transport, giving students a number of travel options. For more information on transport to Deakin visit [deakin.edu.au/travelsmart](https://deakin.edu.au/travelsmart). Security officers are based at every campus 24/7. The security escorting service ensures the safety of students and staff by accompanying them to any location on campus, including car parks and student residences. This is a free service.

Like many of life's milestones, starting university is both a beginning and an end. While it's the end of a long journey that began when your student first started school, it's also the first serious steps toward their professional life and independence.

# UNIVERSITY AND BEYOND

At Deakin, career preparation begins from day one with advice and assistance available through the University's Jobshop. Mr David Essex, Manager for Careers and Employment, says a crucial first step is to ensure new students quickly engage with university life.

'This includes not only study but joining clubs, societies and making connections. Students who are engaged in this way are usually motivated to succeed,' he explains.

While research shows that most students attend university to boost their career prospects, Mr Essex says that, sometimes, the competing pressures of a student's time, money and social life get in the way.

'In terms of career preparation, it's important for students to have a good balance between study and work while keeping an eye on their goal. This is important because increasingly, employers are looking for "well-rounded graduates" who can demonstrate a range of personal skills and attributes beyond their degree.'

First year students are often keen to find out what career options their course is leading to but they also want to know what is realistic, says Mr Essex.

'Some students develop particular interests that they wish to pursue as a career, which may have nothing to do with the subjects they are studying. For other students, corporate responsibility, a sense of ethics or environmental issues may be the most important factors when choosing a potential career path or employer.'

He says it's the role of the Jobshop to know both the students and the employers.

'We clarify what is important to students in choosing their career path and we provide them with the tools and techniques to make a convincing job application based on their strengths and how they match the employer's requirements. With employers, we ensure we know when they are recruiting, what they are looking for and make sure this information is accessible to Deakin students via employer events and the Jobshop job portal.'

And for students who struggle to find their professional pathways, Deakin's career consultants are on hand.

'Usually we work with the student to build up a picture of their skills, attributes, aptitudes, preferences and values, or in layperson's terms "who are they and what is important to them". This provides a valid basis for looking at occupational areas or further study,' says Mr Essex.

Study at Deakin will also offer your student a range of work experience options that include internships, industry-based learning (IBL) and work-integrated-learning programs (WIL). These are forms of learning that take place with an employer and Mr Essex says they provide important advantage in securing a career.

'Usually the longer experience – IBL – is full time, paid and offers more credit points towards a degree but it's not available on all courses. Internships are usually around 100 hours in duration and can be spread over a trimester.

WIL is an umbrella term for any work-based learning and can include practicums, placements and industry projects. Usually students undertake this kind of study in their second or third year but it is not a bad idea to think about getting relevant voluntary or part-time work in their first year. This helps in understanding the workplace and competing for course-related vacation work programs.'

Mr Essex says it's important that parents point their students in the right direction for career advice.

'Please make sure the advice you give them is current and don't hesitate to refer them for free professional careers advice at the Deakin Jobshop.'

For more information please go to: [deakin.edu.au/jobshop](http://deakin.edu.au/jobshop).



'Studying abroad is by far the most exciting and beneficial part of my studies so far.'

– Jaimie McGlashan,  
Bachelor of Science  
student

# A TRULY WORLDLY EDUCATION

**University education is all about broadening your horizons. One way your student can do this is through Deakin's overseas study opportunities – which can be study tours of just a few weeks or longer term study exchanges of one or two trimesters.**

Bachelor of Science (Mathematical Modelling) student Jaimie McGlashan has studied abroad in Alaska, as part of a trimester-long exchange program, and in Chile as part of a shorter study tour.

'I studied on exchange at the University of Alaska, Anchorage, in the peak of their winter 2012,' she says. 'I completed four units so I didn't sacrifice anything of my degree and Alaska was absolutely amazing.'

Chile was part of a Deakin Study Tour where Jaimie took one subject. 'We studied eCommerce at Universidad del Desarrollo in Santiago, as well as visiting relevant industries and learning a bit of Spanish.'

The experience she gained from the two trips is priceless, she says. 'Studying abroad is by far the most exciting and beneficial part of my studies so far.'

'Experiencing new cultures and discovering new places to me is more than anything you can learn in a class – it changes your perspective and opens up so many opportunities.'

Jaimie advises other students to take as many opportunities as possible. 'There are so many study tours, internships and grants available. Keep your eyes open for them and don't be afraid to apply.'



Ross Parry

Likewise, Bachelor of Civil Engineering student Ross Parry encourages other students to embrace the opportunities available through Deakin's overseas study programs.

'I've been fortunate enough to have had the opportunity to take part in what was possibly the best two weeks of my life with the Delegation on Engineering in China and Hong Kong as part of the International Scholar Laureate Program in 2011. It was so awesome!'

But Ross had more adventures later in the same year, when he set off for what he says was 'the trip of a lifetime,' to study for a semester at Kansas State University in the USA.

'To live and study as an American College student was an absolute dream come true and something that I will never forget,' says Ross.

Not surprisingly, Ross has started 2013 with more travel, taking a three-week cultural exchange to Pukyong University in South Korea and in June he'll head to the Himalayas on a two-week volunteering expedition.

Find out more about exchange opportunities at Deakin: [deakin.edu.au/current-students/student-exchange/exchange/index](http://deakin.edu.au/current-students/student-exchange/exchange/index).

# WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Our website for parents and partners is perfect for family and friends wanting to support students through their university studies. Here you'll find a range of resources tailored just for you.

Keep up to date with what's happening at Deakin University using our handy calendar. Not only does it have critical dates for things like trimesters and exams, it's also packed with tips for parents and partners to help you support your student.

Download the calendar and explore our other resources at [deakin.edu.au/parents](http://deakin.edu.au/parents). If you've still got questions, you can always email us at [enquire@deakin.edu.au](mailto:enquire@deakin.edu.au) – we'd love to hear from you!

## IMPORTANT DATES

**YEAR 10 AND PARENTS  
INFORMATION EVENING**  
WARRNAMBOOL CAMPUS  
18 April

**THE AGE VCE EXPO**  
CAULFIELD RACECOURSE, MELBOURNE  
2–5 May

**YEAR 10 AND PARENTS  
INFORMATION EVENING**  
GEELONG WATERFRONT CAMPUS  
29 May

**PARENTS INFORMATION EVENING**  
MELBOURNE BURWOOD CAMPUS  
24 July

**OPEN DAYS**  
WARRNAMBOOL CAMPUS  
4 August

GEELONG WATERFRONT CAMPUS  
11 August

GEELONG WAURN PONDS CAMPUS  
11 August

MELBOURNE BURWOOD CAMPUS  
25 August

**VCE PARENTS AND NON SCHOOL  
LEAVER VTAC SESSION**  
GEELONG WATERFRONT CAMPUS  
11 September

**CHANGE OF PREFERENCE  
ACTIVITIES**  
16–22 December

### VTAC APPLICATION PROCESS

Early August*	VTAC applications open
Early August*	SEAS, scholarship and timely VTAC applications open
Late September*	Timely VTAC applications close
Early October*	SEAS applications close
Mid October*	Scholarship applications close
Early November*	Late VTAC applications close (late fee applies)
Early December*	Very late VTAC applications close (very late fee applies)
December*	Change of Preference

\* Please check dates on the VTAC website [www.vtac.edu.au](http://www.vtac.edu.au).

## deakin.edu.au

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