BACHELOR OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION 2013
As one of Australia’s most progressive universities, Deakin strives to provide pathways for students to participate in higher education and recognises that in today’s competitive work environment, a university degree can make a difference in providing career opportunities.

The Bachelor of Early Childhood Education degree offered by Deakin University is a 4-year undergraduate course, available to VCE school leavers and holders of Diploma of Children’s Services, or equivalent, and international students. Students may study full time or part time. The program is being offered in selected regional TAFE sites across Victoria.

Study opportunities in 2013 are at Dandenong, Portland, the Mornington Peninsula and Swan Hill locations.

**Benefits**

The Bachelor of Early Childhood Education provides a range of opportunities, including:

- career opportunities in childcare, preschool and primary school settings (subject to VIT approval)
- study and work at the same time in your local community
- a quality higher education pathway from Diploma of Children’s Services into Bachelor of Early Childhood (BECE)
- a highly specialised course in early childhood education (birth–8 years)

**COURSE DELIVERY**

- The Deakin at Your Doorstep delivery mode uses state-of-the-art video conferencing learning centres, specialised early childhood teaching staff and locally trained tutorial support officers.
- This course will be conducted in three regional partner institutions from 2013: 1. Chisholm – Dandenong and Mornington Peninsula campuses; 2. South West TAFE – Portland Campus; and 3. SuniTAFE – Swan Hill Campus.
- The delivery model of the BECE course is highly flexible and allows students to study and gain this qualification while continuing to work in early childhood education.
- This unique learning environment links students studying the course throughout Victoria, with immediate real time feedback from lecturing staff and one-on-one support from the relevant campus.

**THE COURSE PROVIDES:**

- options of studying without the expense of relocating to attend on campus at a university
- teaching and learning in a real life context, giving students opportunities to apply theory into practice and become fully prepared professional early childhood teachers
- supervised professional experience in a range of early childhood and primary school settings
- existing holders of Diploma of Children’s Services to upgrade their qualifications
- highly specialised content in early childhood (birth–8 years).
CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Graduates will have career opportunities as teachers in early childhood and primary school settings (subject to VIT approval).
- Scope in the future for career progression opportunities such as centre director, coordinator, pre-school field officer, or adviser in government programs.
- Opportunities also exist for employment in government agencies, community services or in not-for-profit organisations.

COURSE SUMMARY DETAILS

- Credit for Prior Learning: the degree provides a pathway for TAFE graded Diploma of Children’s Services (or equivalent) graduates allowing 25 per cent Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) in line with the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) standards (i.e. 8 credit points block credit).
- Students can choose to study the course over nine trimesters (three Deakin academic years), including supervised professional experience OR choose to study the course over four academic years (32 credit points over eight trimesters).
- Supervised professional experience: minimum 110 days – including early childhood and primary school settings.
- Delivery mode: mixed mode – online and face-to-face.
- Applicants: VET/TAFE Diploma of Children’s Services holders.
- Commencing: Trimester 1, March 2013.
- Teacher registration: Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT).*

*Subject to approval

DEAKIN AT YOUR DOORSTEP LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

To assist with the financial costs of further education, Deakin University will offer four $2000 scholarship to students studying the Bachelor of Early Childhood Education. One scholarship will be available at each of our partner TAFE campuses and all students enrolling in the course will be eligible to apply.

For more information visit the web site deakin.edu.au/doorstep. Copies of the scholarship application form will also be available at each of our TAFE sites.

Selection will be on the basis of:

- motivation and commitment to study
- career aspirations
- academic achievement and/or related experience.

Deakin also offers a range of generous scholarships for students from recognised equity groups to support them in their studies at the University. These include scholarships for students who may not otherwise have the opportunity to access higher education.

For more information on Deakin scholarships, please visit deakin.edu.au/scholarships.
CAMPUSES

South West TAFE, Portland
South West Institute of TAFE’s Portland Campus is located in the historical seaside town of Portland. The area is surrounded by national parks and rugged coastline, making it a popular tourist and fishing destination. The Portland Campus offers a wide range of innovative training and educational programs that have been implemented to support the needs of the industries and individuals of the local community.

The Portland Campus reflects the culture of the town – relaxed, friendly and accessible. Staff provide support and guidance to ensure students gain the most out of their studies with support services including the library, study skills tutoring, careers counselling, disability support, personal counselling referrals, accommodation and childcare assistance.

The campus also provides brand new training facilities equipped with the latest communication technologies including wireless networks and video conferencing.

Chisholm Mornington Peninsula Campus
Chisholm’s Mornington Peninsula Campus located at Rosebud offers a centre of learning excellence that is responsive to local needs and supports the region’s business and industry. It delivers educational and skills training designed to meet community, employment and business requirements.

The campus has excellent facilities including network wireless access throughout.

Chisholm’s Mornington Peninsula Campus provides industry relevant training and placement programs to enhance student learning.

Other services include the Chisholm shuttle, a public transport service linking the Rosebud town centre and main bus routes to the campus as well as a range of student support services including study skills, careers and employment advice, counselling, assistance and support.

Chisholm Dandenong Campus
Chisholm’s Dandenong Campus offers a centre of learning excellence that is responsive to local needs and supports the region’s business and industry. It delivers educational and skills training designed to meet community, employment and business requirements.

A large commercial and retail hub, Dandenong is located 35 km south-east of Melbourne. Chisholm’s Dandenong Campus is one of the Institute’s largest campuses, and is home to students from a range of cultures and backgrounds, which adds to the richness and diversity of the campus. Located close to shopping centres, cafes and recreational areas, students also enjoy on-campus facilities including wireless network access throughout the campus. A range of student support services are available including study skills, careers and employment advice, counselling, assistance and support. Chisholm’s Dandenong Campus offers a centre of learning excellence that is responsive to local needs and supports the region’s business and industry. It delivers educational and skills training designed to meet community, employment and business requirements.

Sunraysia Institute of TAFE, Swan Hill
Sunraysia Institute of TAFE (SuniTAFE) is the largest provider of vocational education and training services in north-west Victoria. The Institute offers more than 350 courses covering 33 industries across four campus locations – Mildura, Swan Hill, Robinvale and Mallee (Ouyen).

Swan Hill is nestled on the banks of the Murray River, and is home to SuniTAFE’s Swan Hill Campus. State-of-the-art facilities provide a learning environment strongly featuring heavy vehicle trade education and other vocational areas such as health, business and community services.

On-campus facilities include student support services such as study skills, a Koorie Unit, learning resources, counselling and referral services. Students also have access to the Swan Hill Regional Library.
COSTS
Indicative 2013 annual fee is $5870*. BECE students have access to a Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP) which means the government pays a portion of the tuition costs.

Commonwealth supported place (CSP)
A Commonwealth supported place is one for which the university receives some government funding. As such, students enrolled in these places are required to contribute only part of the cost of their course. To be eligible for a Commonwealth supported place you must be an Australian citizen, or a New Zealand citizen or a holder of a permanent visa who will be residing in Australia for the duration of your unit/s of study.

* The ‘indicative annual course fee’ cited has been provided as a guide only. It has been calculated on the basis of a typical enrolment of a student undertaking the course in 2013, and reflects the cost involved in undertaking a full-time quota of units within the specified discipline.

The actual fees charged by Deakin University will depend upon the discipline from which each individual unit is chosen, and may vary from the indicative course fee cited, particularly if units are chosen from a number of disciplines. The cost of each unit offered in 2013 can be viewed from the unit search at deakin.edu.au/current-students/courses/unit-search.php.

Please note that the fees per unit/credit point may increase annually due to rises in the cost of course delivery and service.

Deakin assumes no responsibility for persons relying on ‘indicative course fees’ to calculate the total future cost of their course.

How do I pay?
You can pay upfront at the start of each trimester and receive a discount, or use HECS-HELP (Higher Education Contribution Scheme) to deliver payment. Repayments are made through the Australian taxation system once your annual income exceeds the minimum threshold for payment. To check if you are eligible for HECS-HELP and to find out what your responsibilities are as a Commonwealth Supported Student please refer to the website www.studyassist.gov.au.

HOW TO APPLY
Do I apply through VTAC?
No. You apply directly to Deakin University by completing a Bachelor of Early Childhood Education application form available at deakin.edu.au/doorstep or via the Deakin online portal deakin.edu.au/apply. Hard copies will also be available at your TAFE site.

When can I apply?
You can apply directly to Deakin any time until 13 February 2013.

Mode of study
Mixed mode Intensives. Three times a trimester and online discussions and learning modules (intensives will be delivered to each of our TAFE sites via video conference). Full-time or part-time offered.

How will I know if I have been selected?
You will receive notification from Deakin with directions on how to accept or decline your offer.

How do I enrol?
You will attend the Bachelor of Early Childhood Education enrolment session scheduled at your TAFE. Details will be provided in your offer email.

How much time will I be studying the BECE each week?
Generally you would be expected to be engaged both in and out of class and each unit would require approximately 3-4 hours of study per week.

Professional placement
There will be a minimum of 110 days of supervised professional experience. These placements will be undertaken in educational settings other than your current workplace.
KEY DATES

Please refer to: deakin.edu.au/study-at-deakin/important-dates/trimester-dates.

How does the trimester system work?
There are three trimesters: Trimester 1 runs from February/March to June/July; Trimester 2 from June/July to October/November; and Trimester 3 from October/November to February. There is an intra-trimester break and an inter-trimester break between each trimester. Study in Trimester 3 is optional.

How many will be in my class?
This will vary at each TAFE site but approximately 20–25 students.

Where can I find out more information?
Please visit our website: deakin.edu.au/doorstep or email Cheryl Finnigan at c.finnigan@deakin.edu.au, phone 03 5563 3087.

Head to Deakin for early childhood education