

# Guide to university

for parents and caregivers



Parents and caregivers play an important role in providing guidance, information and support to their child as they plan their future and consider their further study options. It can be hard to know the best way to offer support to your child when it comes to choosing a course of study and a university, which is why we have created the *Guide to university for parents and caregivers*.

You'll find key information on preparing for university, choosing the right course and university, applying to university, costs of study, accommodation and more, to help you support your child in their decision-making and in their transition from secondary school to university and their future career.

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# Why choose university study?

University is an exciting new chapter for your child. It's a time to discover what they're passionate about, learn more about themselves and the world around them, and create the opportunities that will shape their future.

A university degree gives your child:

- the opportunity to develop invaluable life skills, such as communication, problem-solving and critical thinking skills
- increased job opportunities
- higher earning potential
- an exceptional learning experience – Deakin is consistently ranked first for student satisfaction in Victoria.



## Why you can confidently choose Deakin

### Top 2% university worldwide

Ranked in the top 2% of universities globally by all three international university rankings. *QS World University Rankings 2016–2017*, *Academic Ranking of World Universities 2016*, *Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2016–2017*

### 5-star rated university

Rated 5 stars for our world-class facilities, teaching and research. *QS Stars University Ratings 2016–2017*

### #1 university under 50 years

Victoria's #1 university under 50 years old. *Times Higher Education 150 under 50 Rankings 2016–2017*

### Most-satisfied students

Voted #1 for overall student satisfaction in Victoria eight years running. *Australian Graduate Survey 2010–2015*, *Graduate Outcomes Survey 2016–2017 (GOS)*, *Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching (QILT)*

### #1 university for skills development

Ranked the #1 university in Victoria for skills development. *2016 Student Experience Survey*

### #1 careers service in Australia

DeakinTALENT was awarded the most popular university careers service in Australia by the graduate recruitment industry in 2017.

# Support your child's learning

As parents and caregivers we always want what's best for our children. At Deakin, we understand that it's not always easy to know how to provide the best support to your child through their senior years of school, but your encouragement and understanding have a significant impact on their growth as a student and as a person.

## How to support your child

During the last years of high school, people start asking what your child wants to do with their life. It's also when grades start to matter, so it can be quite an overwhelming stage for your child. We've put together some tips on how to help your child stay focused and to start developing the skills needed for university.

- **Time management.** Encourage your child to draw up a timetable that shows when assignments are due and when they need to start working on them.
- **Study skills.** Help your child establish a daily routine with time for study and revision, free from distraction.
- **Healthy body, healthy mind.** Getting 30 minutes of exercise each day helps to improve mood, memory, concentration and study performance.
- **Stress management.** Help break assessments or projects into smaller, more manageable tasks.
- **Exam preparation.** Encourage your child to plan ahead for exams and develop regular revision blocks for each subject.
- **Career planning.** Talk with your child about the courses and careers that interest them and encourage them to gain work experience in these areas.

Also, don't forget to remind your child to put everything in perspective – and avoid letting the stress of exams and study overwhelm them. Finding the right balance is key.

For more information about the range of events on offer at Deakin please visit: [deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/events](http://deakin.edu.au/about-deakin/events).

## Tips to help your child choose a university

Choosing the right university or the right course is a big decision. Use these tips to help your child on the journey of choosing the right course and university.

- Don't rush the process, consider a range of options and outcomes.
- Attend as many Open Days as possible – it's not uncommon for students to choose a university without attending an Open Day and find it isn't the right fit for them.
- Choose a course that interests them – not a course to please others.
- Pursue a passion in further studies, not just a profession.
- Chat to students already attending university about their experiences.

## Choosing the right course

When it is time for your child to choose the degree they would like to study, it is important to remember that every course offers a number of graduate outcomes and no course has one single job attached to it.

Employers look at the academic achievements of potential employees, as well as looking for passion, flexibility and for those who are willing to learn new skills along the way.

Your child is more likely to thrive in a learning and work environment that they are passionate about. Encourage your child to consider a range of career paths that they could be interested in doing and to think about what they enjoy, not just what their friends are talking about.

## Choosing a university

There are a lot of things to take into account when choosing a university, including:

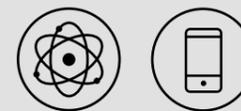
- courses on offer
- ATAR scores needed
- success of graduates
- location
- reputation
- student satisfaction
- support services
- work placement opportunities
- internships
- international study.

The best place to start is by comparing the course your child would like to take between different universities. It's a good idea to visit as many university open days as you can, as well as spending some time on university websites. When your child visits an open day or any other tertiary event, suggest that they talk to current students. University students often give you a real sense of the degree or course you're interested in, as well as the general vibe of the university.

For more information about our Open Days please visit [openday.deakin.edu.au](http://openday.deakin.edu.au).

Every child's learning style and passion is different. Please use this table as a guide to help your child find their study area of choice.

## Science and technology



Engineering  
Information technology  
Science  
Architecture and built environment

Engineering  
Information technology  
Science  
Architecture and built environment

Exercise and nutrition sciences  
Health and social development  
Nursing and midwifery  
Psychology

Business  
Science

Information technology

Exercise and nutrition sciences  
Health and social development

Information technology  
Science  
Engineering  
Architecture and built environment

## My child is good at

## My child wants to

Build/construct

Create

Help people

Work with money

Entertain people

Teach people

Innovate

## Humanities and creative thinking



Communication and creative arts

Communication and creative arts  
Business

Arts  
Education  
Law

Business  
Law

Communication and creative arts

Education  
Psychology

Communication and creative arts  
Business  
Education

# Applying to university

## Applying through VTAC

When your child is applying for tertiary study after the completion of their secondary studies their application will need to be made through the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC).

These applications open in August with timely applications closing at the end of September.

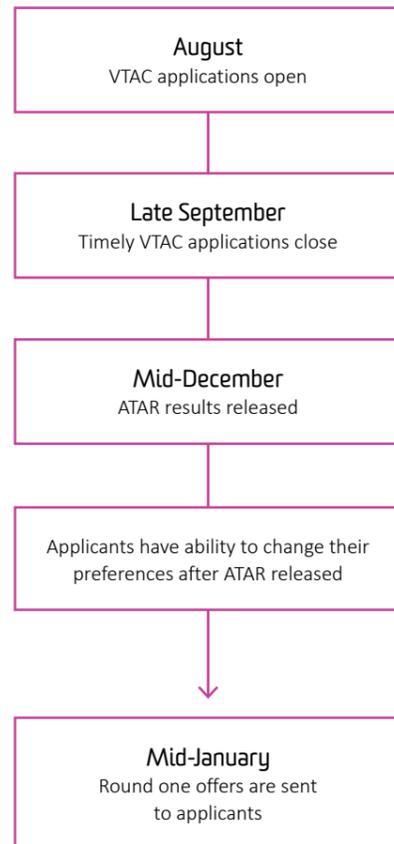
Your child can choose up to eight preferences as a part of their application. We always recommend including the course they most want to do at the top of their list of preferences.

[www.vtac.edu.au](http://www.vtac.edu.au)

## Entry requirements

Your child should check all of the entry requirements carefully. Many courses have prerequisites and some have additional requirements that your child will need to complete to be eligible for selection into that course.

Some courses will require information for an application to be assessed. In the *Deakin University Undergraduate Course Guide* and on the course page on the Deakin website you can find information about any supporting documentation that your child needs to include. For example, your child may need to submit a portfolio of previous work, personal statement, attend an audition or complete a non-academic assessment. Visit [deakin.edu.au/courses](http://deakin.edu.au/courses) for up-to-date information.



## Apply direct to Deakin

Deakin accepts direct applications for a number of courses for our Trimester 2 (July) and Trimester 3 (November) intakes.

Applying directly to Deakin does not have an associated cost and is a straightforward process. Supporting documents must also be supplied to the university so it is important that academic records are maintained.

Your child can apply directly to Deakin at [deakin.edu.au/apply](http://deakin.edu.au/apply).

It is important to note that all applications from Year 12 students looking to enter into Trimester 1 at Deakin, excluding the associate degrees, must be made through VTAC. Year 12 students are considered recent secondary applicants, which also includes students who have completed Year 12 in the previous two years. See the key university terms for more information.

## International students

As an international student, direct applications can be made through Deakin or with the help of one of our overseas representatives. Many courses accept applications throughout the year with intakes in all three trimesters, so use our step-by-step guide to apply now.

For more information about the English language requirements, accommodation and legal requirements for an international student, please visit [deakin.edu.au/international-students](http://deakin.edu.au/international-students).

## Special consideration

Deakin is committed to providing equity and access for students who might not otherwise enjoy the benefits of higher education. The Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS) works by adding a point bonus to your child's aggregate score. This brings their score up to the level we think they would have achieved if their circumstances had been different. The bonus scheme increases their chance of getting a course offer but does not guarantee it.

Reasons a student may be able to boost their score include:

- coming from a remote geographical location
- recognition as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander
- a non-English speaking background
- experiencing difficult circumstances
- having a disability or medical condition.

For more personalised information about your child's situation please speak to your child's careers teacher.

[deakin.edu.au/courses/special-entry-access-scheme](http://deakin.edu.au/courses/special-entry-access-scheme)

## Accepting an offer

Most Deakin offers are made by VTAC in round one, however, applicants are able to change their preferences after they receive their ATAR score and first round offer. This means that your child could receive an offer in the later rounds for any preference that is above the course they originally received an offer for.

Information about dates and offers from VTAC can be found on the VTAC website, [vtac.edu.au](http://vtac.edu.au). For Trimester 1, Deakin makes most of its offers in the first round of offers to applicants. For applications made direct to Deakin, offers are made via email. Timing varies depending on the course and time of year, but offers are generally made within 10 working days.

## Deferment

At Deakin, we understand that your child might want to have a break before starting their university course. We've made it easy for students to defer studies. Most courses allow your child to postpone their studies, but still retain their Deakin place for up to two years.

[deakin.edu.au/courses/how-to-apply/your-offer-and-enrolment-options](http://deakin.edu.au/courses/how-to-apply/your-offer-and-enrolment-options)

## Choosing units

Once your child has been accepted into Deakin they will need to enrol into their units (also known as subjects). Each course has its own structure and rules that your child will need to adhere to. Faculty advisors can assist your child in ensuring they choose the correct subjects.

## How to apply

For further information about how to apply to Deakin please visit [deakin.edu.au/how-to-apply](http://deakin.edu.au/how-to-apply).

## 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	Scholarships applications close
Early November	Late VTAC applications close (late fee applies)
Early December	Very late VTAC applications close
December	Change of preference
Mid-January	Round one offers released

\* Please check the VTAC website for specific dates, [vtac.edu.au](http://vtac.edu.au).

## How is the ATAR calculated?

A basic understanding of how the ATAR is calculated is important as it can reduce the anxiety for your child during their studies.

The ATAR is developed from an aggregate produced by adding:

- VTAC scaled study score in one of English, English language, literature or English as an Additional Language (EAL)
- the next best three VTAC scaled study scores permissible; and
- 10 per cent of the fifth and sixth permissible scores that are available.

For example, a student's chosen subjects may include English, Psychology, Art and Health + 10% of further mathematics and 10% of biology.

For further information about the ATAR calculation please visit [vtac.edu.au/results-offers](http://vtac.edu.au/results-offers).



# Pathways to university

There's more than one way to get into university. If your child's ATAR score isn't enough to gain them entry into their preferred course, it's important to know there are other avenues they can explore to begin their studies at Deakin.

## Pathways through Deakin

Taking a pathway through Deakin means your child can begin their learning journey at Deakin immediately, starting and finishing study at Deakin.

### Complete an associate degree<sup>^</sup>

A Deakin associate degree in arts or education lets your child study in a supported learning environment. It also offers a direct, guaranteed pathway to an arts, criminology or primary education\* bachelor's degree.

### Transfer between campuses<sup>^</sup>

Your child may start the course at a campus with a lower ATAR requirement, then transfer to their desired campus after first year.

### Transfer between courses<sup>^</sup>

Apply to study a course with similar subjects or majors, but a lower ATAR, and use this as a pathway into their desired course.

<sup>^</sup> Subject to availability and meeting academic requirements.

\* Applicants may be eligible for up to 18 months' (full-time study) Credit for Prior Learning and guaranteed entry into the Bachelor of Education (Primary), provided they successfully complete the non-academic selection tool prior to entry.

[deakin.edu.au/courses/entry-pathways](https://deakin.edu.au/courses/entry-pathways)

## Pathways through Deakin College

A Deakin College diploma can provide a fast-track pathway into Deakin undergraduate degrees.

Deakin College campuses are located on Deakin campuses, allowing your child to access Deakin facilities. Your child will also have academic and study skills support from the staff at Deakin College to ensure they are able to successfully complete their qualification.

[deakincollege.edu.au](https://deakincollege.edu.au)

## Pathways through TAFE

Deakin partners with the country's best TAFE institutions to offer a guaranteed entry program. Our guaranteed entry TAFE partners let you study at one of dozens of campuses across Victoria and Australia, and give your child credit towards their Deakin degree. If your child's academic performance meets the required standard then your child can be guaranteed a place at Deakin after they complete their TAFE course.

Our partners include:

- Bendigo Institute
- Box Hill Institute
- Chisholm Institute
- The Gordon
- Kangan Institute
- Melbourne Polytechnic
- South West TAFE
- TAFE NSW.

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

## Pathways through other institutions

If your child is currently studying at another university and wishes to transfer to Deakin to finish their degree, they can apply for credit transfer and recognition for previous study.

[deakin.edu.au/courses/entry-pathways](https://deakin.edu.au/courses/entry-pathways)

## Pathways through the workforce

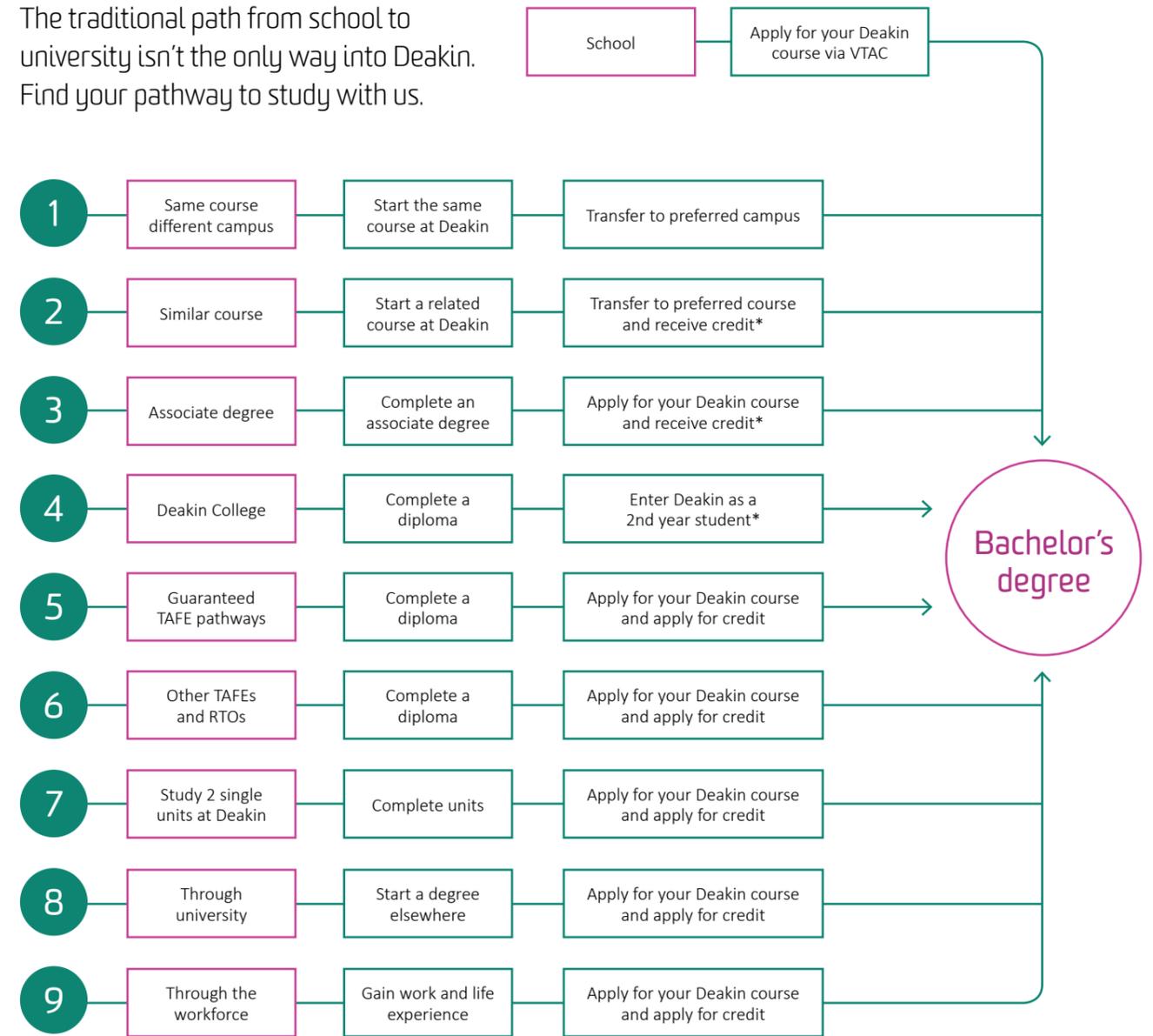
Deakin students come from all walks of life – not everyone goes straight to university after finishing high school. Your child may be able to gain entry to Deakin and/or credit towards a Deakin course, based on work experience or prior industry training.

[deakin.edu.au/courses/entry-pathways](https://deakin.edu.au/courses/entry-pathways)

## Try our Pathway Finder tool

There are many different ways you can get into an undergraduate course at Deakin. No matter your ATAR or education history, we're here to help you find your pathway to Deakin. Try our Pathway Finder tool and explore the options that may be available to you at [deakin.edu.au/courses/entry-pathways/pathway-finder](https://deakin.edu.au/courses/entry-pathways/pathway-finder) or call us on 1800 693 888.

The traditional path from school to university isn't the only way into Deakin. Find your pathway to study with us.



\* Subject to availability and meeting academic requirements.



# Getting started at university

## How is university different to secondary school?

There are a number of differences between studying at secondary school and at university. Most significantly, your child gets to choose what interests them, selecting a course and units based on their interests and goals.

Size is often the most significant difference felt by students, from the vastness of the university campus to the size of classes, and the number of students and staff. For most, getting started is fun and exciting, but it's not without its challenges. That's why at Deakin we lend a hand on many levels, from helping your child find

somewhere great to live, if needed, promoting the clubs and societies available, helping students connect with others, as well as find the best local spots to shop and eat. We can even help your child with finding a job, student finances, how to get involved at university, disability support and health services. On top of that, we provide excellent academic and study support, helping students keep on top of their studies and engaged in their learning.

To find more information about how Deakin can assist your child at the beginning of their studies, please visit [deakin.edu.au/life-at-deakin](http://deakin.edu.au/life-at-deakin).

	School	TAFE/RTO	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 to six years depending on the choice of course
<b>Class structure</b>	25 students, one teacher per subject	Classes and workshops, 12 to 20 students, one teacher per subject	Classes up to 700 people, more than one teacher per subject
<b>Classes, tutorials and practicals</b>	Practicals dependent on subject	Dependent on course	15 to 30 people, one subject teacher, complementary to lectures

## What if my child isn't 18 years old?

Deakin assesses an applicant's suitability for study based upon their academic ability and potential to succeed. We do not consider age when assessing academic suitability for a program and recognise that underage applicants can be academically qualified for a program of study at Deakin.

However, the University does have a duty of care to ensure that parents/legal guardians and underage applicants understand and are aware of some important elements of what it means to be studying at university as an underage student.

It is a requirement of enrolment that the parent or guardian of any student who is under the age of 18 years confirms their acceptance of the arrangements set out in the Deakin University Consent Form for Applicants who will be under the age of 18 on Commencement of their Course document. For more information visit [deakin.edu.au/parents](http://deakin.edu.au/parents).

The sample schedule here gives you a good idea of what your child undertakes in their first trimester at Deakin.

Week	Activity	Tips for your child
<b>Week 0</b>	Orientation Week, Faculty welcomes and social events.	Attend as many sessions, events and activities as possible – we know student success is increased with orientation.  This is your child's first chance to really embrace university life – learn all about their course, and meet staff and make new friends.
<b>Week 1</b>	Teaching period begins. Your child meets their lecturer and a unit outline is provided.	Create a trimester planner and a weekly study plan. Our student support team can help your child with this.
<b>Week 2</b>	Topic 1 Settling into classes and university life.	The unit will be set out for your child and they will start studying their first topic.
<b>Week 3</b>	Topic 2 Assignments begin, applying new learning skills from classes.	If your child needs help with study skills or assistance on a tricky assignment, there's plenty of support available. A great place to start is to access a writing mentor for advice.
<b>Week 4</b>	Topic 3	Make sure your child has set up learning resources and is sticking to a study plan.
<b>Intra-Trimester break</b>	One week duration	This is a great time for your child to catch up with friends, relax and to catch up on any reading materials they may have missed.
<b>Week 5</b>	Topic 4 Consolidating skills learnt throughout the trimester.	Classes resume and assignment feedback. If your child is unclear on any feedback on assessments, they can contact the lecturer or talk to a writing mentor. It's a good idea to seek help early on.
<b>Week 6</b>	Topic 5	Now is a great time to gather notes, readings and resources together.
<b>Week 7</b>	Topic 6 Exam timetable released.	It is a good time to start planning for exam revision.
<b>Week 8</b>	Topic 7	
<b>Week 9</b>	Topic 8	
<b>Week 10</b>	Topic 9	Classes and exam preparation.
<b>Week 11</b>	Exam preparation classes.	
	End of teaching period.	
	Study period takes place for one week.	
	The exam period begins after the completion of the study period. The exam period runs over two weeks.	
	After the exam period, there is an inter-trimester break of two weeks.	

## Helping your child succeed at university

Deakin provides extensive support structures to help your child achieve the best possible result while at university. Here are some hints for your child to help them get the most out of their university experience.

- **Time management.** Put time aside to study for each of your subjects every week.
- **Attend class.** Making sure you go to all classes and seminars.
- **Engage.** Develop friendships and social network at university with your peers, clubs, societies, mentors.
- **Purpose.** Having a clear goal or purpose for attending university.
- **Resourcefulness.** Engaging with Deakin's 'online environment' is critical to study success.
- **Work/life/study balance.** Make and plan time for study, social activities and work. Striking a good balance is important to your success.

# Our support services

We help our students to thrive throughout their studies at Deakin – we have a network of services, facilities and staff to make your child's university experience as positive and rewarding as possible.

- **Academic support.** Deakin offers new and experienced students the chance to come together through a range of mentoring and study skills programs aimed at helping new students with specific subjects, as well as more general study skills and university knowledge. Whether your child is having difficulties with an essay, mathematical equations or even referencing, they have access to a wide range of academic support and mentoring programs.

- **Medical centres.** Each of our campuses has a medical centre that is exclusive to Deakin staff and students.
- **Counselling.** Our counsellors are registered psychologists and social workers. The service is free and confidential.
- **Multifaith chaplaincy.** Multifaith prayer spaces are available at all campuses.
- **Disability services.** Deakin's Disability Resource Centre provides information and services to students with a disability, health or mental health condition.
- **Safety and security.** At each of our campuses, we have around-the-clock, on-campus security services to ensure students always get the assistance they need, when they need it.

- **Financial assistance.** Deakin provides financial assistance to eligible students in a number of ways, including grants, emergency food and travel vouchers and budget advice.
- **Childcare.** If your child has a young family there are campus-based childcare services they can access while studying. There are also dedicated parenting rooms on campus that has everything a parent needs.

For more information about the support services on offer here at Deakin please visit [deakin.edu.au/life-at-deakin/support-services](http://deakin.edu.au/life-at-deakin/support-services).

## DeakinSync

DeakinSync is your child's personalised digital study hub, where they connect with other students, learning and assessment experiences, teaching and support staff and potential employers. Your child can access enrolled unit sites, enrolment details, study tools and calendar.

Visit [deakin.edu.au/deakinsync](http://deakin.edu.au/deakinsync) for more information.



'Deakin has world class facilities, highly acclaimed teaching staff and a plethora of opportunities for its students. As importantly, I chose Deakin because even before I started my course I felt like I belonged.'

Catherine Dent  
Bachelor of Laws/  
Bachelor of International Studies student



## Career planning

Deakin's Graduate Employment division is dedicated to preparing students for the jobs and careers of the future. Through DeakinTALENT's programs and services your child can research different career options, hone their interview skills, as well as look for casual work while they study or look for a graduate job.

## Career success resources

These are a one-stop-shop for everything your child needs to know about confidently applying for jobs and internships.

## Career success workshops

Your child can register for workshops to receive hands-on support from our career consultants. This can be to assist with their CV and interview preparation amongst many others.

## Career coaching

Your child can book a 1:1 appointment to receive personalised support from a career consultant.

## Programs

There are a number of programs available for Deakin students to participate in that can assist increasing their marketability. This includes our Interns@Deakin program, where students can actually complete an internship with professional Deakin staff members.

## Jobs and internships board

Your child can search and apply for volunteering, casual or part-time roles, internships, full-time and graduate positions.

## Employer events

DeakinTALENT regularly interacts with employers around Australia and your child has the opportunity to register for these events. It gives your child the chance to meet and interact with some of Australia's greatest minds.

# Student life

Your child's time at university isn't just about studying. Building friendships and connections with others will help to support their success and overall satisfaction, as well as enhance their university experience. We offer a number of different opportunities for your child to create social networks and their own experiences.

## Deakin University Student Association

A range of activities and events are organised by Deakin, as well as by the student association (Deakin University Student Association – DUSA). Starting with orientation, your child will have the chance to meet students within their course or who are a part of the wider Deakin community.

## Clubs and societies

Deakin students have access to more than 120 clubs and societies across our campuses. We've got groups dedicated to everything from anime to basketball. From sports, health and personal development clubs to academic, religious, course and discipline-specific groups, there's sure to be a club or society to suit your child.

Clubs and societies are a great opportunity for your child to meet new people, try new things, share skills and discover their hidden talents.

[deakin.edu.au/life-at-deakin/student-life/clubs-and-societies](http://deakin.edu.au/life-at-deakin/student-life/clubs-and-societies)

## Sport and gyms

We have great sporting facilities across our campuses including gyms, fitness classes, basketball courts and sports ovals with pavilions.

## Books and merchandise

All of our campuses have bookshops and merchandise stores, meaning your child won't need to go far to find course material or Deakin-branded swag.

## We are the #1 university for skills development

Deakin has a strong reputation for producing highly skilled, work-ready and resilient graduates from a diverse range of backgrounds. Ranked the #1 university for skills development in Victoria\*, Deakin's course curriculum integrates real-world expertise with practical skills to give our students a competitive edge.

\* 2016 Student Experience Survey.



'The six months (overseas) were absolutely incredible. I was able to meet new people, as well as learn about crime and justice in America, which gave me a more holistic view of my law degree.'

Charlotte McFarlane  
Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Laws student



## Study overseas

Your child can study overseas with an international internship, exchange, study tour or volunteer placement. An international study experience will give them a competitive edge in the workplace and credit towards their degree by studying overseas at a Deakin partner university, located in more than 40 different countries.

There are a number of ways for your child to fund their overseas experience with Deakin. Some programs may have one or more funding opportunities attached. This means that your child can receive financing from Deakin to help them pay for their study overseas.

Your child will still be able to defer the cost of their study overseas but will need to pay for all living expenses, such as accommodation, travel and food.

[deakin.edu.au/life-at-deakin/why-study-at-deakin/overseas-study](http://deakin.edu.au/life-at-deakin/why-study-at-deakin/overseas-study)

## The most satisfied students – 8 years in a row

At Deakin, we pride ourselves on the satisfaction of our students and the success of our graduates. To us, the experience of each student matters, from the quality of teaching they receive to their ongoing employability.

When Deakin scores highly in a number of rankings year on year, it's thanks to many thousands of these great individual experiences.

Our students are the most satisfied students of all Victorian universities<sup>^</sup>, and have been for the past 8 years.

Visit [deakin.edu.au/life-at-deakin/why-study-at-deakin/student-satisfaction](http://deakin.edu.au/life-at-deakin/why-study-at-deakin/student-satisfaction) for more information.

<sup>^</sup> Australian Graduate Survey 2010–2015, Graduate Outcomes Survey – Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching 2016–2017.

# Accommodation

## Living on campus

For many students, starting university means moving away from home. This might sound daunting for you and your child, but living on campus is a really great opportunity for your child to immerse themselves in the Deakin experience. Not only will your child become part of a diverse and close-knit community, they will also be able to walk to their classes and enjoy everything the University has to offer with ease.

We have accommodation options at all of our campuses.

[deakin.edu.au/accommodation](http://deakin.edu.au/accommodation)

## Living near campus

If your child does not want to live on campus, Deakin also offers off-campus residential services that can help your child find accommodation and provides assistance with their rental applications. We also ensure that your child knows their rights and responsibilities, so that they are not taken advantage of.

To find our online database of rooms, houses and apartments for rent please visit [deakin.edu.au/houseme](http://deakin.edu.au/houseme).

## Benefits of living on campus

- Enhanced academic performance
- Close proximity to the University
- Pastoral care and support
- Dedicated 24-hour support staff
- Extensive orientation and transition programs
- Diverse social and cultural activities
- No fuss payment systems (utilities included in the rent)
- Student leadership opportunities

# Costs of university

The costs of study are an important consideration for you and your child. Both Deakin and the Australian Government provide some financial assistance to assist with the cost of studying at university.

## Fees

Depending on the course, an Australian Commonwealth supported undergraduate student at Deakin in can expect to pay between \$6444 and \$10,754 per year of study.\*

\* Fees based on 2018 figures.

## Government assistance

### Commonwealth Supported Place

If your child is an Australian citizen then they will be eligible to receive a Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP) within the bachelor's courses at Deakin. The Australian Government subsidises a Commonwealth Supported Place by paying part of the fees for the place directly to the university.

This means that your child will not have to pay as much for their university course.

### HECS-HELP Loan

Another Australian Government program that your child could be eligible for is a HECS-HELP Loan. This is available for those who are studying in a Commonwealth Supported Place and who meet the eligibility requirements as set by the Australian Government.

The Australian Government pays for your child's course upfront, which means they will not need to pay any lump sums to study their course at Deakin. Your child will begin paying back their loan in small increments once they meet the minimum income threshold set by the Australian Taxation Office.

[deakin.edu.au/fees](http://deakin.edu.au/fees)

## Deakin assistance

### Scholarships

Deakin offers a range of academic and access and equity scholarships to assist your child with their undergraduate studies. Each scholarship has varying closing dates, duration, value and contact information.

There are extra things that you can do to help your child have the best chance of getting a scholarship.

- Double-check the eligibility requirements
- Set aside enough time to complete the application
- Proofread their application
- Provide the relevant academic merit and supporting documentation
- Take note of the deadline.

Year 12 students can apply for Access and Equity scholarships through VTAC.

Your child can also apply for scholarships once they have commenced their studies at Deakin.

[deakin.edu.au/scholarships](http://deakin.edu.au/scholarships)

### Interest-free student loans

Interest-free student loans, for study related expenses, are available to students who are in financial need and are progressing satisfactorily with their studies.

A grant is awarded on the basis of financial need and in exceptional circumstances.

## Work-integrated learning (WIL) student support scheme

The WIL student support scheme can help ease the financial stress while completing a work placement and other work-integrated learning experiences. This allows your child to have that hands-on, relevant work experience, whether it is locally or overseas.

## Emergency cards

The Financial Assistance Office can provide emergency cards to pay for food and transport costs in emergency circumstances.

## Sample student budget

Studying at university is often the first time that your child will need to budget their finances. Your child can use this worksheet to help with working out study and living expenses.

### Study expenses

Student services fee (two trimesters)	\$
Internet	\$
Course materials/books/texts	\$
Course-related equipment/uniforms	\$
HECS-HELP	\$

### Household expenses

Rent/board	\$
Residential fees	\$
Household contribution/food/supplies	\$
Electricity	\$
Gas	\$
Water	\$
Telephone/mobile	\$
Furniture	\$
General establishment costs	\$

### Personal expenses

Takeaway food	\$
Medical/dental/optical expenses	\$
Personal costs (clothing/shoes)	\$
Entertainment/sporting/memberships	\$

### Transport expenses

Petrol/parking	\$
Public transport (fares/concession cards)	\$
Additional car costs (repairs/insurance)	\$
Total annual expenditure	\$
Average monthly expenditure	\$

# Key university terms

## Adjusted ATAR

The minimum ATAR that must be achieved to be considered for admission to a course or institution.

## Associate degree

The associate degree structure provides flexible pathways into tertiary education, and can be used as a guaranteed pathway into a range of target degrees (as approved by Deakin). Completion of an associate degree may give you up to 18 months' credit towards one of these target degrees. [deakin.edu.au/courses/entry-pathways/associate-degrees](https://deakin.edu.au/courses/entry-pathways/associate-degrees)

## Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR)

The ATAR is derived from the scaled scores achieved for senior secondary school subjects. The specific calculation used is different in each state and territory, but the result is designed to be nationally equivalent.

## Adjustment factor

Often referred to previously as 'bonus points' these are additional points that may be used in combination with an applicant's Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) to derive your course selection rank. Adjustments do not change your ATAR, but change your selection rank for a particular course or courses.

## Bachelor's degree

Usually three or four years full time or equivalent part time. In some courses you may choose one or more majors in specialised areas. It is the minimum tertiary requirement for many professional careers.

## Class

A presentation given by an academic to a large group of students on the subject area being studied. Traditionally known as a lecture.

## Combined course

A combination of courses in complementary areas, studied simultaneously, which leads to two degrees, e.g. Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Laws. This means you complete two degrees in less time than it would take to complete them separately.

## Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP)

A university place for which the government pays a proportion of the tuition costs.

## Computer requirements

To fully engage with the Deakin learning experiences, students need to have access to and be able to use internet-connected devices. There are minimum computer standards required for your computer, connectivity and your computing capability for effective study at Deakin. [deakin.edu.au/courses/how-to-apply/computing-requirements](https://deakin.edu.au/courses/how-to-apply/computing-requirements)

## Credit point

For each subject you successfully complete, you will receive the credit point value of that subject towards your studies. You must complete a specified number of credit points to obtain your degree. The number of credit points required varies for each course and is outlined online at [deakin.edu.au/courses](https://deakin.edu.au/courses).

## Credit for prior learning

Credit granted towards your Deakin course for relevant approved study, experience or work, satisfactorily completed at Deakin or elsewhere. There are two aspects to credit for prior learning:

- credit may be transferred to your Deakin program from completed or partly completed studies you have undertaken at other accredited institutions; and
- credit may be granted on the basis of knowledge and skills acquired through informal learning, e.g. in the workplace.

[deakin.edu.au/courses/credit-for-prior-learning](https://deakin.edu.au/courses/credit-for-prior-learning)

## DeakinSync

DeakinSync is your personalised digital study hub, where you connect with other students, learning and assessment experiences, teaching and support staff and potential employers. Access enrolled unit sites, enrolment details, study tools, your calendar. Visit [deakin.edu.au/deakinsync](https://deakin.edu.au/deakinsync) for more information.

## Defer

The approved postponement of study for a specified period prior to enrolment in a course. Most Deakin courses allow you to defer your studies for up to two years. [deakin.edu.au/defer](https://deakin.edu.au/defer)

## Discipline

Also known as a study area. You can browse courses at Deakin by interest area, such as Environment, Business or Sport, and within each interest area you will find a wider range of disciplines, such as wildlife and conservation biology, commerce or exercise and sport science. [deakin.edu.au](https://deakin.edu.au)

## Direct entry

When applications can be made directly to a higher education provider rather than through a tertiary admissions centre.

## Equity and diversity

Deakin values diversity and promotes inclusion. The Equity and Diversity Unit provides a range of programs and services to ensure all students have the opportunity to access university education and succeed in their studies and employment. [deakin.edu.au/equity-diversity](https://deakin.edu.au/equity-diversity)

## Extra requirements

These are requirements that you must meet, in addition to minimum tertiary entrance requirements, to qualify for entry to a course. Information about extra requirements is listed on the VTAC website ([vtac.edu.au](https://vtac.edu.au)) and in Victorian Tertiary Entrance Requirements (VICTER) publications.

## Faculty

An organisational division within a university; for example, the Faculty of Arts and Education is one of the four faculties at Deakin University. Within each faculty are several schools; for example, Deakin Law School is within the Faculty of Business and Law.

## Grade Point Average (GPA)

A GPA is an internationally recognised numerical calculation used to find the average result of all grades received over a defined study period. The GPA can be used for a variety of purposes, including as selection criteria for admission to a program or for assessing academic progress over a set period for progress review purposes.

## Graduate entry

A course that requires prior completion of an undergraduate degree for entry. Deakin's Doctor of Medicine is a graduate-entry course.

## Higher Education Contribution Scheme-Higher Education Loan Program (HECS-HELP)

HECS-HELP is a government loan scheme to help eligible CSP students pay for tuition costs. Repayments are made through the Australian taxation system once your annual income exceeds the minimum threshold for repayment.

## Honours

Honours is an additional year of specialised study, usually taken after you complete a bachelor's degree, or embedded as part of a bachelor's degree. Honours may provide you with a competitive edge in the job market or a pathway into a higher degree.

## International Baccalaureate (IB)

The IB diploma is an internationally recognised, comprehensive two-year study program designed for university entrance. Australian tertiary admission centres convert IB scores to a notional ATAR or QTAC Selection Rank, enabling IB students to be ranked for tertiary entrance alongside their peers. Deakin accepts IB diploma graduates as having satisfied the requirements for university entry. [www.ibo.org](https://www.ibo.org)

## Interest area

You can browse courses at Deakin by interest area, such as Sport, Business or Health. [deakin.edu.au](https://deakin.edu.au)

## Level

The year level at which units in your course are studied. Level 1 is equivalent to your first year of full-time study, level 2 is equivalent to your second year of full-time study, and so on. You can usually tell what level a unit is by looking at the first number in a unit's code.

## Major

An approved group of at least 6 (and up to 8) credit points of related units, normally taken in sequence at each level of a course.

## Minor

A minor is a group of related units in an area of study or academic discipline. Minors are shorter than majors and are usually four units long.

## Non-Year 12 applicant

There are three categories under which non-Year 12 applicants may apply to Deakin.

- Higher education study – applicants whose highest level of study enrolment since leaving secondary education is a higher education course, whether at a university or non-university provider.
- Vocational education and training (VET) study – applicants whose highest level of study enrolment since leaving secondary education is a VET course.
- Work and life experience (includes less recent secondary results) – applicants who left secondary education more than two years previously and have not undertaken VET or higher education study since then.

## Offer round/s

Refers to the series of dates on which offers of higher education places are issued to applicants throughout the year, whether through a tertiary admission centre or directly by a higher education provider.

## Overall position

The overall position (OP) refers to a Queensland student's position in a state-wide tertiary entrance rank order based on their overall achievement in senior secondary subjects. It indicates how well a student has done compared to all other OP-eligible students in Queensland. Students are placed in one of 25 OP bands from OP1 (highest) to OP25 (lowest). Queensland students seeking admission to higher education in other states can have their OP converted to an ATAR. Interstate students looking to study in Queensland can have their ATAR converted to a Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) Selection Rank. Queensland will adopt the ATAR instead of the OP for students who commence Year 11 in 2019 and beyond.

## Pathway

Pathways provide alternative entry options for getting into a course at Deakin if you do not meet the requirements for entry. Pathways to Deakin courses can include options such as TAFE courses or starting your course at a different campus. [deakin.edu.au/courses/entry-pathways](https://deakin.edu.au/courses/entry-pathways)

## Personal statement

The personal statement is a form where university applicants can bring to the attention of selection officers any relevant factors or circumstances that cannot be included in the application itself. For example, motivation to study, work experience, community experience, academic performance, languages other than English.

The personal statement can be accessed online once you have registered with VTAC. You can only submit one statement – so you should address all your course preferences and provide details to support your application, such as relevant work experience and your reasons for applying. It is also important that you submit the form by the specified closing date at [vtac.edu.au](https://vtac.edu.au). If a personal statement is required or will be considered, it will be listed in the VTAC course detail online.

## Postgraduate degree

A course of study usually beyond bachelor's level, including graduate certificate, graduate diploma, master's and research degree. In many cases, eligibility for entry to a postgraduate course requires you to have completed an undergraduate degree and/or have significant work experience.

## Prerequisites

The VCE subjects or other requirements that applicants must complete to be eligible for selection into a course. Information about prerequisites is listed on the VTAC website ([vtac.edu.au](https://vtac.edu.au)) and in Victorian Tertiary Entrance Requirements (VICTER) publications.

## Raw ATAR

The unadjusted ATAR of an applicant to which an offer of a place was made in the relevant year or year-to-date.

## Recent secondary education applicant

Current Year 12 (2018) applicant and Year 12 graduates from 2017 and 2016.

## Scholarships

Deakin offers a range of scholarships for commencing students that recognise and reward many accomplishments, from leadership skills to academic success, extracurricular achievements and commitment to study while experiencing personal hardship. [deakin.edu.au/scholarships](https://deakin.edu.au/scholarships)

## Selection rank

The ranking that tertiary admission centres and most universities actually use to assess admission to a course. A person's course selection rank can include their ATAR, any adjustments they are eligible for, such as equity or subject adjustments, other contributions calculated on the basis of work experience or previous non-secondary study, portfolio assessments, results of the STAT, other supplementary tests, etc.

## Semester

This is the method of organising some courses in Deakin's Faculty of Health and Faculty of Science, Engineering and Built Environment. Semester 1 runs from February to June; Semester 2 runs from July to November.

## Seminar

A class where a small group of students discusses study materials with a member of the teaching team.

## Single unit (non-award) study

Single unit (non-award) study provides access to a wide variety of university-level units, without students having to study a full degree. Some units have prerequisites or special requirements but most are open to all potential students and on completion can lead to further pathway options. [deakin.edu.au/courses/how-to-apply/single-unit](https://deakin.edu.au/courses/how-to-apply/single-unit)

## Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS)

SEAS is an umbrella program of special entry schemes governed by VTAC, and conducted by participating tertiary institutions, including Deakin, that provides entry for the disadvantaged into undergraduate courses. [vtac.edu.au](https://vtac.edu.au) and [deakin.edu.au/access-equity](https://deakin.edu.au/access-equity)

## Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT)

STAT is a test developed by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER). The purpose of the STAT is to assess an individual's ability to analyse information and think critically. The STAT is compulsory for non-Year 12 applicants applying for entry into any of Deakin's undergraduate law programs. For more information on non-Year 12 additional entry requirements, visit [vtac.edu.au](https://vtac.edu.au).

## Student Amenities-Higher Education Loan Program (SA-HELP)

SA-HELP is a government loan scheme for eligible students to defer all or part of the Student Services and Amenities Fee.

## Student Services and Amenities Fee

This is a fee higher education providers can charge for non-academic services and amenities, such as advocacy, sporting programs, legal advice and referral, health and welfare and disability support.

## 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 your results in assessments and examinations in that subject.

## Trimester

This is the method of organising the teaching year. At Deakin there are three trimesters for most courses: Trimester 1 runs from March to June, Trimester 2 from July to October and Trimester 3 spans November to February.

## Undergraduate degree

Usually the first degree you obtain in a given discipline area. For example, a Bachelor of Health Sciences. 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.

## Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE)

The VCE is a certificate that recognises the successful completion of Year 12 in Victoria. The VCE can provide a pathway to university studies, TAFE and employment.

## Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC)

VTAC is the centralised admissions centre for most undergraduate university courses in Victoria. [vtac.edu.au](https://vtac.edu.au)

## Victorian Tertiary Entrance Requirements (VICTER)

A publication produced by VTAC for Year 10 students who are considering applying for tertiary study in the future, to help plan their pathway towards tertiary study. The *VICTER 2021 Guide* will be most applicable for students completing Year 10 in 2018.

## Weighted Average Mark (WAM)

WAM is a calculation of all your relevant unit outcomes within a course. The WAM is weighted by taking into consideration the credit points of a unit and the result. Not all grades are used in the calculation of the WAM.

## Year 12 applicant

Applicants with recent secondary education, including current Year 12 (2018) applicant and Year 12 graduates from 2017 and 2016.

# Contact us

To find out more information about Deakin, you can phone us on 1800 MY FUTURE (1800 693 888), email [myfuture@deakin.edu.au](mailto:myfuture@deakin.edu.au) or visit [deakin.edu.au](https://deakin.edu.au).

## Important dates

A great way to explore Deakin is to visit one of our Open Days in the month of August.

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

Deakin also holds other events and information sessions throughout the year that may be useful for your child. For our full list of events please visit [deakin.edu.au/deakin-events](https://deakin.edu.au/deakin-events).

Your child can also find out more about Deakin's ATAR requirements and change of preference period by visiting [deakin.edu.au/choose](https://deakin.edu.au/choose).

## Social media at Deakin

 [facebook.com/DeakinUniversity](https://facebook.com/DeakinUniversity)

 [twitter.com/Deakin](https://twitter.com/Deakin)

 [instagram.com/DeakinUniversity](https://instagram.com/DeakinUniversity)

 Search Deakin University

1800 MYFUTURE (1800 693 888)  
[deakin.edu.au](https://deakin.edu.au)

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