Thank you for considering Australian Catholic University (ACU).

We understand selecting a university is an important decision for a family to make. This guide is designed to introduce you to ACU and the services and facilities we provide, so you can help your child make the right decision about their university education.

ACU is an Australian government-funded, public university that welcomes students of all beliefs, nationalities and cultures. Our history is built on 155 years of tradition in educational excellence. Since then we have grown into a vibrant, modern and multicultural institution which is one of the fastest growing universities in Australia and one of the largest Catholic universities in the English speaking world.

An ACU education sets us apart from other universities. The difference is our degrees are centred on our core curriculum. This means our students are given every opportunity to undertake community engagement projects and programs that broaden their world view, build their capacity for meaningful engagement and enhance the dignity and well-being of others. As a result, our graduates are highly competent in their chosen fields, ethical in their behaviour, with a developed critical habit of mind, and a commitment to serving the common good.

We hope you find the information in this guide helpful. If you have any questions, just get in touch with us and we will be more than happy to assist.
WHY CHOOSE ACU?

ACU GRADUATES ARE IN DEMAND
We boast a 93% employment rate for our graduates*. Our reputation and strong industry links offer invaluable practical experience through work placements, internships and volunteering programs, ensuring they are career ready.

MULTICULTURAL
ACU welcomes students of all beliefs, nationalities and cultures. Currently we are home to more than 3,300 international students from 96 nationalities. Our campuses are vibrant and diverse environments where all our students can feel at home.

HIGHLY RANKED
We are ranked by QS World University Rankings and highly ranked by The Good Universities Guide 2016 for graduate starting salary, getting a full-time job and staff qualifications. This assures our students receive a high quality academic and social experience.

SIX GREAT CAMPUSES
With six campuses located in the most exciting cities in Australia, our students have the opportunity to transfer between campuses so they can experience more of our beautiful nation.

AFFORDABLE
ACU is one of the most affordable universities in Australia. With accredited and recognised courses, we offer an excellent return on an investment for your child’s future.

GLOBALLY CONNECTED
We have extensive links with more than 200 institutions in over 40 countries, opening a world of opportunity for study abroad experiences. Over 1,000 ACU students choose to go overseas each year as part of their degree.

SUPPORTIVE
Our campuses and class sizes are small, which means lecturers know students by their name, not a number. We provide welcoming campus environments where our students can meet life-long friends. Our personalised support services ensure they can make the most of their university life.

OUR GRADUATES MAKE A DIFFERENCE
Social responsibility and community engagement are at the heart of ACU’s mission and teaching. This enhances our students’ academic experience so they can build strong skills that make a difference in the world around them.

THE BEST PEOPLE
ACU’s faculties are led by world-leading academics. We are not only the largest educator of nurses and teachers but also have top criminal lawyers, recognised business professionals and internationally recognised artists amongst our academic staff.

A PLACE OF HEALTH AND WELLBEING
The health and wellbeing of our students is very important to us. We provide opportunities for our students to engage in a healthy and balanced social life with a host of events, clubs and societies, sports and sporting events.

* Employment rates are within four years of graduation and of those ACU graduates available for full-time employment, Graduation Destination Survey, 2015
OUR CAMPUSES

BRISBANE
STUDENT POPULATION: 5,738
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS: 7%

• ACU’s Brisbane campus offers a real campus experience, with easy access to the city
• Affordable and welcoming city, ideal for international students
• Great weather throughout the year.

Location
Brisbane is Australia’s fastest-growing city and known for its clear sunny days and warm weather. It’s a relaxed and friendly city of parklands, botanical gardens, shopping centres, art galleries and restaurants. It is also close to the world’s most amazing rainforests and stunning tropical reefs.

Overview
The campus is set on 40 hectares of beautifully landscaped grounds with historic buildings. It boasts an Exercise Science Gym with state-of-the-art facilities, sporting ovals, 25m swimming pool and cafes.

Getting there
Brisbane campus is located 12 kilometres from the city centre. It is one kilometer from Banyo train station which is serviced by the free ACU student shuttle bus.

MELBOURNE
STUDENT POPULATION: 10,089
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS: 10%

• ACU’s Melbourne campus is conveniently located close to the Melbourne city centre
• Great cafes, restaurants and shopping.

Location
The Melbourne campus is conveniently located next to Melbourne’s central business district. It is a short walk from popular Brunswick and Smith streets, known for their cafes, shops and art galleries. Some of Melbourne’s finest parks, gardens and recreational facilities are in walking distance.

Overview
The main campus building is a multi-storey modern complex that provides students and staff with purpose-built facilities. It features a gym, cafes, library, arts and multimedia spaces, and bookstore.

Getting there
Melbourne campus is close to Parliament train station, six tram routes and 20 bus routes. The campus also features secure bike parking.

SYDNEY - NORTH SYDNEY
STUDENT POPULATION: 10,850 (BOTH CAMPUSES)
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS: 13%

• Large cosmopolitan city with access to beautiful beaches
• Consistently voted one of the world’s most liveable cities*
• Offering greater employment opportunities.

Location
The North Sydney campus is located close to North Sydney’s central business district full of eateries, shops and transport. Sydney is a large multicultural city surrounded by the harbour, beautiful beaches and national parks. It has fine hot summers and cool sunny winters, ideal for those seeking an outdoor lifestyle.

Overview
The campus is centred around a large outdoor grassed courtyard and student recreational area, ideal for socialising and relaxing. The small and friendly campus features a library, bookstore, and cafe.

Getting there
North Sydney campus is a five minute train ride from Sydney’s CBD, and five minute walk from North Sydney train station. North Sydney is also well serviced by buses.

SYDNEY - STRATHFIELD
STUDENT POPULATION: 10,850 (BOTH CAMPUSES)
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS: 13%

• A vibrant multicultural hub located near Sydney’s central business district
• Close to some of Sydney’s best arts, culture, food, and shopping
• Cosmopolitan lifestyle with great transport.

Location
The Strathfield campus features historic buildings and landscaped grounds and is located just 14 kilometres from the Sydney city centre. Strathfield is a multicultural hub in Sydney’s innerwest. This area of Sydney boasts a cosmopolitan lifestyle where arts, culture, food, and shopping are part of everyday life.

Overview
The campus features rugby and soccer ovals, a cricket pitch and a central lawn that provides a common meeting space and area for student activities. This campus also includes a library and specialist facilities.

Getting there
Strathfield campus is a 20 minute train ride from the city centre, and an eight minute ride on the free ACU student shuttle bus from Strathfield train station.

OUR CAMPUSES

BALLARAT

STUDENT POPULATION: 948
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS: 5%

• Gain a unique Australian experience
• Friendly, local community in a peaceful rural setting
• ACU’s Ballarat campus is conveniently located near the town’s commercial centre.

Location
Ballarat is a beautiful rural town located in Victoria’s Central Highlands region. Ballarat has a similar climate to Melbourne, with slightly cooler temperatures in winter. The delightful old buildings and trees reflect the town’s history and provide a peaceful learning environment.

Overview
The campus is set in beautiful gardens offering quality teaching facilities including simulated nursing labs, computer labs, a library, canteen, visual art rooms, gallery, bookshop, gym, and student accommodation.

Getting there
Ballarat campus is just a one-hour drive from Melbourne and is connected by train and coach services.

CANBERRA

STUDENT POPULATION: 1,204
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS: 4%

• Blend of urban living and Australian nature
• International city with a multicultural environment
• ACU’s Canberra campus provides a warm and friendly environment.

Location
Canberra, the national capital, is an international city with more than 70 embassies and high commissions. Canberra provides excellent facilities for study, including access to the National Library - the largest in Australia. It is a cycle friendly city with warm, dry summers and cold winters.

Overview
This is one of ACU’s smaller campuses. With approximately 55 friendly staff on site, students enjoy an intimate, welcoming campus environment. Campus facilities include a swimming pool, canteen, and computer labs.

Getting there
Canberra campus is five kilometers from the city centre and well-serviced by public transport.
LIVING IN AUSTRALIA

One of the biggest challenges your child will face when moving to study in a new country is managing a budget. There are several ways they can reduce their living costs by:

- sharing accommodation and meals with other students
- avoiding suburbs that are close to the CBD or the beach
- shopping carefully.

Rent costs are based on sharing a privately rented house. Initial expenses for the first few weeks for temporary accommodation will be higher than those listed in the table, until suitable permanent accommodation is found.

www.acu.edu.au/int_living_costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COST PER WEEK</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation</td>
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<td>Food</td>
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<td>Transport</td>
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<td>Extras</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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Please note: all costs are in Australian dollars and can vary greatly depending on location. They are a guide only.

OVERSEAS STUDENT HEALTH COVER

The Australian government requires all international student visa holders and their dependants to obtain health insurance for the duration of their visas. For any person that is not a student visa holder, they do not need Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC).

For more information please visit:
www.acu.edu.au/int-health

Please note: OSHC will not cover any pre-existing conditions (i.e. those which existed within 18 months before the student began study). The university’s preferred OSHC provider is Allianz Global Assistance:
www.oshcallianzassistance.com.au

VISAS

Your child must have a valid visa to enter and study in Australia. They may use a Visitor’s Visa to undertake up to 12 weeks of study. A Working Holiday Visa or Work and Holiday Visa will allow your child to study up to 16 weeks. If they intend to study for a longer period, a Student Visa will be required. For more information on how to apply and what visa types might be suitable, please contact your nearest Consulate, Australian Embassy or High Commission. You can find your nearest one at:
www.border.gov.au

EMPLOYMENT

Under Australian immigration regulations, international students with a student visa may work up to 40 hours per fortnight during the term time and full-time during holiday breaks. If your child does not have a student visa, they need to check the conditions of their visa to see whether work is permitted.

Please visit: www.acu.edu.au/working-in-aus

For further information on working in Australia please visit: www.border.gov.au

“As an international student, it is nice to have a family away from your real family. I’ve met so many new people, some of which are now good friends...”

Mariola Andrade
Poland
One of the most important decisions to make during your child’s stay in Australia is choosing the accommodation. We have outlined the various housing options available to suit different lifestyles and budgets.

**ACU STUDENT ACCOMMODATION**

Sydney: The Miguel Cordero Residence, located close to Sydney’s CBD, offers modern and appealing fully furnished apartments and studios. The residence is a living and learning community, giving students the support to excel at university and meet new people.

Ballarat: The Camillus Residential Village, located just four kilometres from the campus, offers modern fully furnished accommodation with central heating. Organised social activities and events, onsite support and a social recreation room make this residence feel just like home. For more information, please visit: [www.acu.edu.au/student-accommodation](http://www.acu.edu.au/student-accommodation)

**STUDENT ACCOMMODATION**

Managed Residences and specialised student apartment accommodation are available near most ACU campuses. With this kind of accommodation, the rent usually covers utility bills and, in many cases, wi-fi access. For more information, please visit: [www.acu.edu.au/int_accom](http://www.acu.edu.au/int_accom)

**RENTAL ACCOMMODATION (SHARED AND PRIVATE)**

**Temporary housing**

You may like to book short-term accommodation for your child’s arrival in Australia, particularly for the first one or two weeks. This option provides them with housing on arrival while searching for permanent accommodation once they have settled in.

**Private/shared housing**

Sharing a property with others will cost approximately AU$150-$300 per week (excluding utilities and food). We do not recommend securing private or shared housing before their arrival in Australia as it is best for them to view each property in person. For more information, please visit: [www.acu.edu.au/int_accom](http://www.acu.edu.au/int_accom)

**HOMESTAY**

Homestay accommodation offers your child the unique experience of living with a local family. By living with an Australian family, they will gain a better understanding of Australian life and culture. For more information, please visit: [www.homestaynetwork.org/acu-students](http://www.homestaynetwork.org/acu-students)
SCHOLARSHIPS AND FEES

SCHOLARSHIPS
ACU offers many scholarship opportunities that can greatly assist students realise their potential. Our scholarship options include:

• ACU scholarships
• Australian Government scholarships (Australian Awards Scholarships and Endeavour Awards)
• scholarships offered by private companies
• scholarships offered by international foundations
• scholarships offered by your local government.

For the most up-to-date information on scholarships, grants and prizes, please visit: www.acu.edu.au/int_scholarships

FEES
ACU is one of the most affordable universities in Australia. Your child will receive an education of the highest quality at a competitive price. Any degree from ACU represents an excellent investment in their future.

Our tuition fees are based on the number of units they study each semester. An average study load is four units (40 credit points) per semester. Tuition fees also include:

• support from International Student Advisers
• orientation program
• access to student services and facilities
• study skills assistance.

Tuition fees do not include the cost of textbooks, Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) and living costs. Some courses may also require the purchase of additional items such as uniforms for nursing courses.

Tuition fee increases
Tuition fees may increase by up to three per cent each year for the minimum duration of your child’s course as listed on your Confirmation of Enrolment (COE). No guarantee is made for tuition fee increases beyond the minimum duration.

For more information, please visit: www.acu.edu.au/int_fees

“The opportunities such as the wide range of scholarships and access to support has allowed me to feel privileged as an international student. I have been able to immerse myself in the university and city culture, especially coming to a country for the first time alone.”

Sophia Andres
2015 International Student Scholarship (ISS) winner
SAFETY AND SECURITY
ACU provides round-the-clock security on campus. We also have a hotline for students seeking after hours assistance.

24-hour security guards
Each campus has 24-hour security with on-site security guards who perform regular patrols. All our security guards are trained in first aid.

SafeZone App
SafeZone is a free app that connects your child with ACU security if they need help on campus. The app can be used to call security, request first-aid, or raise the alarm for emergency help. SafeZone is monitored 24/7, meaning help is always available. The app will also send notifications and updates if there is an emergency or incident on campus.

Offices and after-hours hotline
ACU International Offices are located on the Brisbane, North Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne campuses. A Student Assistance Hotline (1800 180 391) is available after hours.

See more at: www.acu.edu.au/safety-in-aus

ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES
Our goal is to ensure all our students have the best opportunities to realise their full academic potential. The following services are available on each campus:

Academic Skills Unit
Each campus unit offers development, assistance and opportunities in the areas of Academic Language and Learning, and Maths and Numeracy.

Academic Skills Workshops
These highly interactive and practical workshops allow students to explore higher level academic skills for writing, time management, exam preparation, oral presentations and more.

Academic Skills Advisors
Advisors are available for face-to-face, over the phone or online consultations. The advisors assist students with maths and numeracy, and academic language and learning.

See more at: www.students.acu.edu.au/services_And_support/academic-skills

Careers Advisors
Advisors assist students with career decisions and goals, developing employability skills, employment searches and preparing employment applications. A variety of workshops and online resources are also available.

See more at: www.acu.edu.au/int-services

HEALTH AND WELLBEING
We offer an extensive range of services and programs designed for our international students. They are guided by our friendly team of International Student Advisers. Some of the key support services provided are:

- counsellors
- accommodation advisory services
- campus life staff dedicated to events, student networking, mentoring programs and social activities
- associations, clubs and societies
- disability services
- airport pickup services
- international orientation
- campus ministry

See more at: www.acu.edu.au/int-services
WHO IS AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT?
International students are not permitted to study online or at a location outside Australia. International students are those who:
- study on-campus in Australia using a student visa or a temporary visa with study rights
- are NOT citizens or permanent residents of Australia
- are NOT citizens of New Zealand.

1. Verify international student status
Check conditions of international students. *(See box above)*

2. Select a course
Consult the course guide or browser for the latest information. Up to three courses can be applied for.
www.acu.edu.au/courses

3. Check entry requirements
Check compliance of all course requirements including English language.
www.acu.edu.au/courses

4. Apply to ACU
Applications can be made through our secure electronic application form.
www.acu.edu.au/international/how_toApply

5. Letter of Offer and acceptance
If the application to ACU is successful, either a Provisional Letter of Offer or a Letter of Offer will be sent. A Provisional Letter of Offer requires additional information and supporting documentation to be provided. The completed Acceptance Form is to be sent back to ACU to confirm a place.

6. Confirmation of Enrolment
Upon receipt of fees and signed acceptance, the University will issue an electronic Confirmation of Enrolment (eCoE).

7. Apply for Student Visa
All students can apply for a Student Visa online or from the nearest Australian High Commission, Consulate, Embassy or Diplomatic Post. Once the student visa has been approved, travel arrangements need to be finalised.

8. Pre-departure
A Pre-Departure Guide will be sent providing information on everything students need to get settled in Australia.

9. Arrival and orientation
Arrive in Australia in time for orientation which is compulsory for all students. Students will then be issued with their ACU ID and able to finalise enrolment.
If you have further questions about ACU, there are a number of ways to get more information.

VISIT US ONLINE
Our website provides details about our courses, campuses, student support services and accommodation.
www.acu.edu.au/international

CONTACT US
study.international@acu.edu.au
www.acu.edu.au/int_contact
Phone enquires +61 3 8676 7040

VISIT US IN YOUR COUNTRY
ACU staff attend international fairs and events regularly. For a full list of upcoming events visit:
www.acu.edu.au/int_events

FIND AN AGENT
ACU has an extensive network of global representatives. To find a representative near you visit:
www.acu.edu.au/Int_agents

INTERACT WITH US:

FACEBOOK
www.facebook.com/ACUinternational

BLOG
blogs.acu.edu.au/international

YOUTUBE
www.youtube.com/ACUinternational

WECHAT
ACUCHINA

Information in this publication is correct at time of printing (September 2016) but is subject to change. The University reserves the right to amend, cancel or otherwise modify without notice, the content of any matter in this publication, and may withdraw any courses offered therein, or impose limitations on enrolment in any course. For up to date information please see www.acu.edu.au/international

ACU prides itself on the high quality academic and support services provided to its students and conducts its activities in accordance with the Education Services for Overseas Students Act (ESOS) 2000: https://internationaleducation.gov.au/Pages/default.aspx

ACU and the courses offered by the University are registered on the Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS). CRICOS Registration: 00004G

ACU85 A Guide for Parents of International Students