



# Pre-Arrival Guide



## Congratulations!

At KCA Education (KCA), first and foremost, we want you to succeed.

Our learning environment has been created with this philosophy in mind to deliver a platform for you to maximise and find your true potential. We are committed to providing you with the necessary tools for you to achieve, and reach, your goals.

The process of choosing the right training provider is the first step towards your success. We invite you to read over our website and handbook and make an informed decision with complete confidence our institute is the right fit for you.

This pre-arrival guide is designed to provide you with a summary of information that may be of use prior to your commencement with us. Further information about KCA, your course and requirements can be found in our Student Handbook. Collectively these guide will assist you in your transition to studying in Australia!

Many of our staff have faced similar challenges as international students themselves which allows us to tailor our institute accordingly to ensure the transition into Nextgen Australia is as seamless as possible for you. This means you benefit from our collective experiences and we can help you adjust into your new life.

We are a Registered Training Organisation (RTO), registered by the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA). All qualifications taught at the Institute are nationally recognised (in Australia) giving you more flexibility when looking at further studies and are delivered to the highest standards of Australian education.

It is our responsibility and duty to you as our learner to provide an Institute which will equip you with broad minded thinking to help you grow both personally and professionally. During your time with us we will support you and offer our assistance to ensure a smooth passage to completion of your studies.



## Leaving Home

Leaving home to travel a long distance to study whilst exciting, can be somewhat daunting. We have developed this guide to assist you, our newest international students to have smooth transition to life and study in Australia.

Life in Australia may be very different to your home country and may take some getting used to. Australia is famous for its multiculturalism and is very accepting of people from other cultures. Each city is very different, and we encourage you to do some travelling while you are here.

Make sure you pack adequate clothing for the weather, bring a warm coat for winter and loose/cool clothing for summer.

### Climate and clothing

**Sydney** has a temperate, humid climate with abundant sunshine.

Summer (December – February)	Average temperatures range from 18 – 26 degrees
Autumn (March – May)	Average temperatures range from 14 – 22 degrees
Winter (June – August)	Average temperatures range from 8 – 17 degrees
Spring (September – November)	Average temperatures range from 13 – 22 degrees

**Brisbane** has a subtropical climate with warm or hot weather for most of the year. Brisbane's climate is very sunny, with quite dry winters and most rainfall is during summer in the form of spectacular thunderstorms and sticky, humid weather.

Summer (December – February)	Average temperatures range from 20 – 30 degrees
Autumn (March - May)	Average temperatures range from 16 – 25 degrees
Winter (June – August)	Average temperatures range from 10 – 21 degrees
Spring (September – November)	Average temperatures range from 16 – 26 degrees

**Perth** enjoys a Mediterranean climate with warm, sunny weather for most of the year. It has a higher than average sunny weather and very little rainfall in summer. Rainfall comes mainly in winter, but rarely. Perth can be windy, especially in the hotter months. On a few days of summer, temperatures rise above 40 degrees, but these days are quite rare.

Summer (December – February)	Average temperatures range from 16 – 30 degrees
Autumn (March – May)	Average temperatures range from 13 – 25 degrees
Winter (June – August)	Average temperatures range from 8 – 18 degrees
Spring (September – November)	Average temperatures range from 10 – 22 degrees

### Electronics

Appliances in Australia use 200 volts and 60 Hz. You can buy adapters to fit the Australian power points for your existing electronic items.



## Money

Be sure to have cash for essential items when you arrive in Australia, it is recommended to bring about A\$500 cash.

The Australian currency is the Australian Dollar. Australian coins are available in the following denominations:

- \$0.05 = 5 cents
- \$0.10 = 10 cents
- \$0.20 = 20 cents
- \$0.50 = 50 cents
- \$1.00 = 1 dollar
- \$2.00 = 2 dollars



Australian bank notes are available in the following denominations:

- \$5.00 = 5 dollars
- \$10.00 = 10 dollars
- \$20.00 = 20 dollars
- \$50.00 = 50 dollars
- \$100.00 = 100 dollars



Most ATMs (cash machines) dispense twenty- and fifty-dollar notes. Some shops and other outlets will not accept \$100 notes, so it is best to carry smaller notes. Debit and credit cards are widely accepted. Check with your bank at home to see if you will be charged a fee to use your debit and/or credit card in Australia.

Please refrain from carrying large sums of cash on your person for safety reasons.

## Checklist before you leave home

- ☒ Apply for your international **student visa** (<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-finder/study>)
- ☒ Check your **passport** is valid for the intended length of your study period in Australia
- ☒ Book your flight to arrive in time for enrolment and orientation
- ☒ Leave a copy of your passport, visa and other ID with parents/relatives or friends
- ☒ Organise to have a full **medical** check-up and organise any prescribed medications or immunisations you may need
- ☒ Ask your doctor to write a letter (in English) to explain any medications
- ☒ Visit the website of your **Overseas Student Health Cover** provider and read information about your health coverage while in Australia
- ☒ Book your **flights**
- ☒ Purchase **travel insurance**
- ☒ Arrange your student **accommodation** (may be temporary) before you leave your home country
- ☒ Organise to have at least A\$500 available to you on arrival in Australia
- ☒ Make a note of the **contact details** of your country's embassy in Australia
- ☒ Review Australian quarantine policies and understand what you can and cannot bring into Australia
- ☒ Pack a **document folder** containing your offer letter, Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE), certified copies of existing academic transcripts and education history documents, identification documents, important contact numbers, details of pre-arranged accommodation and transport and important medical records
- ☒ Note the dates for your Orientation program
- ☒ "Like" the KCA Education Facebook page

## When you arrive in Australia

### Airport

Upon arrival into an Australian airport, you will be given a customs and quarantine form to complete. Answer each question carefully and honestly, as fines for violations are very high.

Australia has strict regulations to ensure against disease and pests. Declare or dispose of all quarantine items including all food or anything made from wood, plant or animal material that you have with you. Do not bring any parcels that have been packed by others. If you have items that must be declared to customs, it is wise to pack them together in easily accessible luggage. For new items have the receipts ready also. For more information, refer to Australian Customs Services (<https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/>)

When you disembark, proceed to the entry control area where you will present your passport, immigration card and custom statements. Once your papers have been returned to you, proceed to the baggage hall to collect your luggage.

In most major airports there are international student welcome desks that are staffed by local and international student volunteers who greet students and offer orientation advice including maps and information about accommodation and transport.

### Transport

There are numerous transport options once you have arrived in Australia, that are easily accessible from the arrival terminals, including taxis, public transport (bus or train), hotel shuttle bus services, Uber or private transfer.

### Banks

The major banks in Australia include the Commonwealth Bank, ANZ, Westpac, National Australia Bank, in addition to many other smaller banks such as Bankwest, Suncorp etc.

To open a bank account, you will need your passport, a Letter of Offer and Letter of Acceptance along with proof of your current address in Australia.

### Goods and services tax (GST)

GST is a broad-based tax of 10% on the supply of most goods, services and anything else consumed in Australia. Most prices shown include GST, but if you are not sure, just ask.

### International Money Transfers

Money can be transferred from your home country to Australian bank accounts. Please be advised that banks can put holds on large international money transfers, sometimes up to three weeks, ask your bank how long the transfer will take and be sure you keep copies of all your transaction records.



## Checklist once you arrive in Australia

- ✓ Phone your family to let them know you have arrived safely
- ✓ Arrange permanent student accommodation
- ✓ Provide KCA Education with your new contact details within 7 days of arriving
- ✓ Advise your OSHC company of your new contact details and get your membership card
- ✓ Open a bank account in Australia
- ✓ Buy a transport card and familiarise yourself with local public transport
- ✓ Purchase a mobile phone or Australian sim card
- ✓ Apply for your Australian Unique Student Identifier (USI) and notify Kirana Colleges (Australia)
- ✓ Apply for a Tax File Number (TFN) ([www.ato.gov.au](http://www.ato.gov.au)) if you plan to work in Australia
- ✓ Attend orientation
- ✓ Contact Student Support at any time, if you have any questions or concerns
- ✓ Refer to your International Student Handbook of which you will receive at Orientation

## Important Websites

- [www.kca.edu.au](http://www.kca.edu.au)
- <https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/>
- [www.ato.gov.au](http://www.ato.gov.au)
- [www.study.sydney/](http://www.study.sydney/)
- [www.studybrisbane.com.au](http://www.studybrisbane.com.au)
- <https://transportnsw.info/>
- <http://www.study.sydney/live/accommodation>
- <https://www.fairwork.gov.au/find-help-for/visa-holders-and-migrants>
- <https://allianzassistancehealth.com.au/en/living-in-australia/general-practitioners-video/>
- <https://www.surflifesaving.com.au/rip-currents>
- <https://insiderguides.com.au/cost-of-living-calculator/>

## Campus Maps – Sydney Olympic Park

8 Figtree Drive, Sydney Olympic Park



## Sydney CBD

269 Sussex Street, Sydney CBD NSW 2000





