



Pre-Departure Guide for Australia Awards Scholarship Students

2019

Australia Awards Management Teams:

<p>Sponsored Students Team Student Central Division of Student Administration</p>	<p>Australia Awards Office Crawford School of Public Policy</p>
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Australian
National
University

Welcome

Congratulations on receiving an Australia Awards Scholarship and for choosing to study at The Australian National University (ANU). We hope that your education will be rewarding and your experiences memorable. Welcome to ANU!

ANU has two dedicated Australia Awards Management teams who provide academic and welfare support for AA students. This includes meeting students at the airport on arrival, extended academic orientation to settle into university life at ANU, additional tutorials, assistance with finding accommodation and with travels, and guidance for students with dependents. These services bestow students an even greater chance to perform well, especially in their first year.

This guide aims to provide you with information about support, study, work and life in Canberra. There are also many useful links included for you to explore. On your arrival you will also be given a welcome pack which contains more information to help and guide you on your road to success.

Your primary contact is the Australia AwardsTeam where your Student Contact Officers are located.

If you have any questions you can contact us at:

Sponsored Students Team ANU Student Central

Division of Student Administration
Location: Student Central (Building 145)
University Avenue, Acton, Canberra
Opening hours: 8am – 6pm Monday –
Friday
Telephone: Monday to Friday, 9am – 5pm
Canberra time on:
Outside Australia: +61 2 6125 4581 or
+61 2 6125 4843
Within Australia: 02 6125 4581 or 02 6125 4843
Email: Sponsored.students@anu.edu.au

Australia Awards Crawford Team

Crawford School of Public Policy
Location: 132 Lennox Crossing
Acton ACT 2601
Opening hours: 9am – 5pm Monday – Friday
Telephone: Monday to Friday, 9am – 5pm
Canberra time on:
Outside Australia: +61 2 6125 3914 or
+61 2 6125 5448
Within Australia: 02 6125 3914 or 02 6125 5448
Email: liz.ingram@anu.edu.au



Contents

Welcome	2
Your Responsibilities.....	4
Pre-departure Checklist	4
Entering Australia.....	7
2019 Key University Dates and ACT Public Holidays	9
Accommodation at ANU	10
Cost of Living in Canberra	17
Child Care for Non-School Aged Children.....	18`
Schooling for Children.....	20
About Canberra.....	22
Student Lifestyle.....	24
Useful Links and Resources.....	26



ANU Campus Image courtesy ANU Flickr Image Library

Your Responsibilities

As an Australia Award Scholarship student, you should comply with all ANU, Australian Government, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and home organisation's rules and requirements around your study and scholarship.

The responsibilities listed below are in addition to any others specified in the contract you sign with DFAT, and those outlined in the Scholarships Handbook (download from <http://aid.dfat.gov.au/Publication>)

- Remain a full-time student and satisfy all course requirements.
- Remain in your original course. You cannot transfer between courses without DFAT approval.
- Complete progress reports at the end of each semester if requested – essential for research students
- Follow all conditions of your visa and ensure it is valid at all times.
- Work only as permitted by your visa.
- Update ISIS with any changes of address.
- Advise the Australia Awards Management Teams of any changes to bank account details.
- Advise the Australia Awards Management Teams if your family arrives in Australia, and again when they leave.
- Advise the Australia Awards Management Teams if you are leaving Australia at any point during your scholarship.
- Advise the Australia Awards Management Teams as soon as possible of any matter that is likely to affect your ability to complete by your award end date.
- Depart Australia within thirty days of either the release of final results, or the submission of the thesis. This often means you leave Australia before the end date of your award and before the end date on your visa.

Pre-departure Checklist

Before you leave your home country:

Accommodation and Arrival
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read the accommodation information included in this pack and make plans for your long term accommodation• Be aware of accommodation scams and never arrange to rent off-campus accommodation without first viewing the property• If you hope to secure on-campus accommodation apply online at http://rcc.anu.edu.au/apply.php• Advise the Australia Awards Management Teams of your arrival details so we can arrange to meet you at the airport• If you do not require temporary accommodation advise the Australia Awards Management Teams no later than 15 days prior to your arrival. (If you do not provide this advice, you will be responsible for all associated costs of the temporary accommodation).
Documents
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complete the Offer Acceptance Declaration (included in the pack) and return to our office by sending a scanned copy to Sponsored.Students@anu.edu.au and liz.ingram@anu.edu.au• Complete and return a completed temporary accommodation form• Send us a copy of your current passport and visa.• You should bring the following documents with you, and we suggest you make certified photocopies of all your important documents, leave a set at home, and have a set with you in your cabin baggage.• Your offer letter• Certified copies of your academic transcripts• References (work references, references from previous landlords and personal references may be useful)

- Any documents that may relate to an existing health condition
- A copy of your passport, visa details and credit cards to keep your luggage
- Driver's licence (if you intend to drive in Canberra) and a certified translation in English (if it is not written in English)

Long Term Accommodation

- Read the accommodation information included in this pack on page 10 and make plans as soon as possible for your long-term accommodation.
- You must apply for on-campus accommodation as soon as possible. **2019 applications are now open.**

Be aware of accommodation scams and never arrange to rent off-campus accommodation without first viewing the property.

Health

If you have a chronic medical condition requiring on going treatment see: <http://health.anu.edu.au/>.

Have a dental and optical check-up before you leave home as these are not covered by your Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC).

Bring a spare pair of glasses or contact lenses with you.

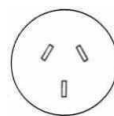
What to bring?

We recommend that you arrive in Australia with sufficient money to set up your accommodation and pay for daily expenses until you receive the first instalment of your living stipend from your sponsor organisation. Do check with your sponsor organisation what banking arrangements you may need to make and when you can expect your living stipend to be paid.

If you are moving into a catered Hall or College, ask if you need to bring your own bed linen. If you are renting off campus you will generally need to supply your own bedding and other furnishings; you can purchase these in Canberra in discount or second-hand stores.

If arriving between May to September during the cold season, bring sufficient winter and wet weather clothing with you. Temperatures in Canberra fall below 0 degrees Celsius at night during winter and you should be prepared for strong winds and heavy rain.

Electrical items may be more expensive in Australia. Do you need an electrical adapter? Australian plugs have oblique flat blades in an inverted V shape, with one acting as the grounder. Refer to photos below:



What else?

Make a list of people and their addresses you may need to contact in Australia and back home.

Pack items to be declared at customs separately (see quarantine information).

Arriving at ANU

- Provided we have accurate details of your arrival (including airline, flight number, date and time), a representative from the University will be waiting for you on arrival at Canberra airport. Australia Award scholarship staff will let us know your arrival details. Look for someone near the luggage carousel holding an ANU sign (before you collect your luggage). This person will transport you to your accommodation.
- If you are not able to arrive on the flight on which we were expecting you, or there is no one at the airport to meet you, please ring/email the Australia Awards Teams on:

- +61 2 6125 4843 or +61 2 6125 3914 between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday
Sponsored.Students@anu.edu.au and liz.ingram@anu.edu.au
- TBA after business hours

Transiting in Melbourne, Sydney or Brisbane Airport?

Onward flights to Canberra depart from the domestic terminal – about five minutes' walk (at [Melbourne Airport](#)), about five minutes by bus (for more information on charges see [Sydney Airport](#)), or a 10 minute bus ride (at [Brisbane Airport](#)) from the international terminal. Look for details of the transfer service when you arrive at the international airport. Don't forget to collect your luggage.

After collecting your luggage you may be able to check in at a domestic transfer counter in the international terminal (if your two tickets were issued at the same time), otherwise you will need to check-in again at the domestic terminal.

Money

Please ensure you have at least \$500.00 cash in Australian currency when you arrive, available to buy your first meals and purchases in Canberra on arrival.

You can change foreign currency in Sydney airport (all hours) or at the Travelex booth in Canberra airport (until 6pm), but note that the rates may be low. There is a Commonwealth bank branch on the ANU campus, but if you arrive after 4pm or on the weekend the bank will be closed.

Do not leave Canberra airport with only traveller's cheques or foreign currency in your pocket. Change some money at Canberra airport, or if you will arrive in Canberra after 6pm, change some money in Melbourne/Sydney/Brisbane airport.

If you intend to exchange foreign currency or send money by telegraphic transfer overseas do check the rates that different banks offer. Some banks offer student discounts if you present your Student ID card.

Accompanied Information

Regarding accompanied entry, it is strongly advised that students do not bring their family immediately to Australia with them, but wait at least six weeks before having family members join them in Canberra.

This gives you a chance to adjust to life in Australia, find suitable accommodation for your family, arrange OSHC family cover, and organise schooling and child care for your children. In the first week of the IAP we have scheduled sessions on how to upgrade your OSHC, find schooling and secure long-term accommodation off campus

OSHC cover with the University's preferred provider (Allianz Assistance) costs approximately \$2,138 for couples and \$3,300 for a couple with two children for a period of 12 months.

Please note that payment must be made upfront for the full duration of your family members' visa in Australia, *i.e.* if your family is accompanying you for a 4 year PhD program you will need to pay the premium for 4 years' coverage **upfront**. This is a significant cost and another reason that it is best if you do not bring your family until you have completed the first semester or year of your studies.

Entering Australia

Quarantine

There are important things you should know about travelling to Australia. The Department of Home Affairs (DHA) is responsible for maintaining Australia's biosecurity. People, animals and items travelling into the country are subject to requirements, which extend to mailing items to Australia and online shopping purchases.

If you are entering Australia to holiday, study or live permanently, it is a good idea to know what to expect when you arrive in Australia. <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/entering-and-leaving-australia/entering-australia>

Information below is adapted from the Australian Government's Department of Agriculture website. For latest update, please refer to travelling or sending goods to Australia <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/travelling/>

To help protect Australia's agricultural industries, unique environment, and human health status, Department of Agriculture officers screen incoming air and sea passengers, baggage, mail and cargo using x-ray machines, detector dogs, physical inspection, questioning and profiling.

If you are entering Australia to holiday, study or live permanently, it is a good idea to know what to expect when you arrive in Australia.

The airline line will provide you with an Incoming Passenger Card and you must complete it truthfully – it is a legal document.

Declare certain food, plant material (including wooden articles) and animal products on your Incoming Passenger Card. Items declared on your Incoming Passenger Card will be inspected to ensure they are not carrying any pests or diseases. If biosecurity concerns or pest and diseases are found, products may require treatment (at your cost) such as fumigation or gamma irradiation to make them safe. Items that cannot be treated will be seized and destroyed.

Travelling to Australia – Declare it!

If you have items you don't wish to declare, you can dispose of them in bins in the terminal.

If you fail to declare or dispose of any biosecurity risk items, or make a false declaration, you:

- will be caught
- may be subject to civil penalties
- may be prosecuted, fined more than A\$420,000 and imprisoned for up to 10 years and a get criminal record.

You will not be penalised if all items are declared, even if they are not allowed into Australia. If you are not sure, ask the officer on duty.

International mail

All letters, packages and parcels are now screened by quarantine to check that they do not contain prohibited items. Prohibited items will be removed from parcels and destroyed. Some articles may need to be treated to make them safe. Mail is screened by x-ray machines, detector dogs and quarantine officers at the international mail centres across Australia. Students must ensure that their families do not send quarantine risk items through the mail.

For more information: <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/travelling/bringing-mailing-goods#check>

International cargo

AQIS now also screens all cargo coming into Australia – including personal effects such as clothing, cutlery, food, books, bicycles, sporting equipment, dried flower arrangements, kitchen appliances, souvenirs and other items. Cargo sent by sea or airfreight may need an import permit or treatment, and packing materials and containers such as straw or egg, fruit and vegetable cartons are prohibited because they are a pest or disease risk.

Currency

If you are carrying **AU\$10,000** or more in cash, or the equivalent in a foreign currency, with you to Australia, you **MUST** declare the money on your incoming Passenger Card.

DO NOT RISK IT

To protect Australia's unique natural environment – with plants and animals that are found nowhere else in the world – as well as our \$22 billion agricultural industries, we all have to play our part. One item could have devastating consequences.

For more important information on what you can and cannot bring into Australia please refer to <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/travelling/travel-agent-resources/factsheet-travelling-returning>

When in doubt ALWAYS declare.



ANU Kambri Precinct – photo courtesy of the Canberra Times

2019 Key University Dates and ACT Public Holidays

Semester Dates

- Orientation Week for First Semester: 18 - 22 February 2019
- First Semester: 25 February to 31 May 2019
- Orientation Week for Second Semester: 15 - 19 July 2019
- Second Semester: 22 July to 25 October 2019

Teaching Breaks

- First Semester Teaching Break: 8 - 23 April 2019
- Mid-Year Break: 23 June to 21 July 2019
- Second Semester Teaching Break: 2 – 16 September 2019

Final Examination

Exam Period:

- First Semester: 6 – 22 June 2019
- Second Semester: 31 October – 16 November 2019

Results Release:

- First Semester Results – 4 July 2019
- Second Semester Results – 28 November 2019

Session Dates

- Summer: 1 January to 31 March 2019
- Autumn: 1 April to 30 June 2019
- Winter: 1 July to 30 September 2019
- Spring: 1 October to 31 December 2019

ACT Public Holidays (During Semester)

- Public Holiday for Australia Day: 28 January 2019 (Monday)
- Canberra Day: 11 March 2019 (Monday)
- Good Friday: 19 April 2019
- Easter Saturday: 20 April 2019
- Easter Sunday: 21 April 2019
- Easter Monday: 22 April 2019
- ANZAC Day: 25 April 2019 (Thursday)
- Reconciliation Day: 27 May 2019 (Monday)
- Queen's Birthday: 10 June 2019 (Monday)
- Labour Day: 7 October 2019 (Monday)

For more information about ANU principal dates, please refer to [University Calendar 2019](#).

For more information about Public Holidays, please refer to [Daylight Saving and Public Holidays in the ACT](#).

Accommodation at ANU

Temporary Accommodation

We will ensure that all students have temporary accommodation arranged for them from their arrival. However, you should not arrive in Canberra without plans for long-term accommodation as this is only a bridging arrangement organised for those who have requested it.

Temporary accommodation will be available for the first few weeks of the IAP for those students who may later wish to live off campus, or who are not able to move into their long-term accommodation on arrival.

Temporary accommodation will be arranged at the most convenient location we can secure at the time of year. Temporary accommodation costs may be at a nightly rate or special weekly rate, rather than a long-term weekly rate.

If you do not require temporary accommodation upon arrival in Australia you must advise our office no later than 15 days prior to your arrival. If you do not provide this advice, you will be responsible for all associated costs of the temporary accommodation

On-campus Accommodation for Unaccompanied Students

You must apply for on-campus accommodation as soon as possible. **2019 applications are now open.**

Demand for on-campus residential halls and colleges is extremely high and not everyone will be offered a place. Applications for residing on-campus are governed by University Accommodation Services (UAS) and information and the online registration form can be found at <http://www.anu.edu.au/study/accommodation>.

Do consider what you will do if you cannot secure the on-campus accommodation of your choice.

What options are available?

ANU offers a choice of on-campus accommodation for unaccompanied students. Residential Halls, Colleges and Lodges offer either catered accommodation (3 meals a day/7 days a week), flexi catered accommodation (16 meals per week) or self catered accommodation (cook your own meals).

In Self-catered Residences you will also share the kitchen area with your fellow residents or if you are in a catered Residence, you will have your meals in the dining room.

Single self contained rooms (your own kitchen and bathroom) are available if you prefer this style of accommodation and there are also a small number of double rooms which are suitable for couples. Please note that children are not allowed to live in student accommodation so if you are coming with your family, you will need to look at off-campus options.

For a full list of our Residences please see: <https://www.anu.edu.au/study/accommodation/student-residences>

When you apply for accommodation you will be able to select one residence as your preference but please remember that this is not always possible due to a high demand of accommodation. You should be willing to accept an offer from a different residence to ensure you secure on-campus accommodation, so it's important that you make your self familiar with all of the different living styles and costs and budget accordingly.

You can see an overview of tariffs at: <https://www.anu.edu.au/study/accommodation/cost-comparison>

How much does accommodation on campus cost?

For details on accommodation fees and charges, please see: <http://www.anu.edu.au/study/accommodation/cost-comparison>

You must also remember to budget for other accommodation fees (cleaning, laundry, utilities, etc.) as well as meals, transport, textbooks and entertainment expenses.

How to apply

Apply online at

<http://www.anu.edu.au/study/accommodation/advice-procedures/how-to-apply-for-student-accommodation>

Also see other useful information at <http://www.anu.edu.au/study/accommodation/advice-procedures>

Once you have been made an offer of accommodation, you will be asked to pay an acceptance fee to secure your room. This fee varies between individual Halls, Colleges and Lodges, but as a rough guide, acceptance fees can be approximately be between \$1900-\$2300 depending on location. The acceptance fees includes two weeks rent in advance, a refundable deposit, registration fee and residential community fee.

Off-campus Accommodation and Accommodation for Couples and Families

ANU residential Halls, Colleges and Lodges provide accommodation mainly for single students, with a very limited number of rooms for couples. This means that couples and families will need to find a house or flat to rent off campus. Single students may also prefer to seek off-campus accommodation for privacy, or to save on accommodation costs by sharing a rental property.

Please be prepared! Rental properties are in short supply and high demand in Canberra, and time and perseverance is needed to secure accommodation. **Be aware of accommodation scams: never arrange to rent off-campus accommodation without first viewing the property.**

If you are not single, you are strongly advised to arrive in Canberra alone and have your family join you later. There are important reasons for this. Firstly, short-term accommodation suitable for families is limited to hotels, which are very expensive. Secondly, the most suitable long-term family accommodation is an apartment or house and you should never arrange to rent this sort of accommodation without inspecting the property first.

What options are available?

Options for off-campus accommodation are:

- Renting a property for yourself (and your family, if they are accompanying you)
- Sharing a rental property with one or more unrelated people
- Boarding – renting a room with a local family, and the boarding fee may include utilities and/or meals

For more information on accommodation options and renting procedures, please see:

<https://www.anu.edu.au/study/accommodation/advice-procedures/housing-online>

<http://www.anu.edu.au/study/accommodation/accommodation-alternatives>

<http://www.anu.edu.au/study/accommodation/advice-procedures/renting>

Shared accommodation (known as 'share housing' or 'group housing') is a great starting point for single students new to Canberra as this can make renting off-campus more affordable. The benefits of a group house could include security, sharing expenses and domestic responsibilities and making new friendships. Some other factors you need to consider are the lack of privacy, personality clashes and social distractions that may affect your study.

How much does off-campus accommodation cost?

Rental prices can vary from around A\$300 to A\$500 per week or more for an unfurnished apartment or unfurnished small house in Canberra. Rentals in Queanbeyan (a town on the border of Canberra) are slightly lower – rent for a two-bedroom apartment will be around \$250 per week and upwards. Furnished accommodation will be about \$50 per week more than unfurnished.

You will need to consider other set-up costs such a rental bond (refundable at the end of the lease if you leave the property in a clean and appropriate condition), establishing utilities, and purchasing furniture. For example, a sample rental establishment budget could look like this:

A student renting a two-bedroom apartment at \$350 per week could be expected to pay as a minimum the following to set up a household:

Bond (2-4 Weeks Rent)	\$1,400.00
Rent in advance (2 weeks)	\$700.00
Telephone connection	\$150.00
Electricity connection	\$70.00
Gas connection	\$70.00
General establishment*	\$1,500.00

TOTAL setup Cost **\$3,890.00**

* This includes cost of buying furniture, linen, crockery etc.

* The setup cost does not include ongoing expenses for electricity, heating, lighting, food etc

Location and Transport

The location of the property can be a major factor in the rental price. Generally, you can expect to pay less in rent if living farther away from campus, however you need to factor in travel time and transport costs.

ANU is situated in Acton, next to Civic (the main City centre area) which is part of the Inner North area of Canberra. Nearby suburbs within easy walking or cycling distance (0-5km) to ANU include: Turner, O'Connor, Braddon, Ainslie, Reid and Campbell. These suburbs are often more expensive than the outer suburbs.

The outer suburbs are located around the Dickson, Belconnen, Gungahlin or Woden regions, which have big town centres for shopping, major bus stations and other facilities. The Dickson and Belconnen suburbs are popular options for students seeking cheaper rents, but you will need to consider if you wish to cycle 10-15kms to campus or to take public transport.

Many students cycle to or around campus as Canberra has an extensive network of cycle paths and on-road cycling routes. Further information on cycling can be found at <http://facilities.anu.edu.au/services/transport/cycling>.

Some of our students with a big family also consider living in Queanbeyan (on the border of the ACT) or Tuggeranong, which are away from the central area but affordable for the family. When you compare rental prices, please be mindful of the costs of transport and your time. Students with families will also need to consider the location and availability of schools for young children.

Public transport in Canberra

Public transport in Canberra is very accessible in most areas and reliable for those wishing to live further from campus. Check if your rental property is located near a bus stop or station and the frequency and number of buses to campus. Rapids are frequent direct bus and light rail routes that run between town centres and other key destinations. Rapids run at least every 15 minutes between 7am and 7pm on weekdays, and frequently at other times.

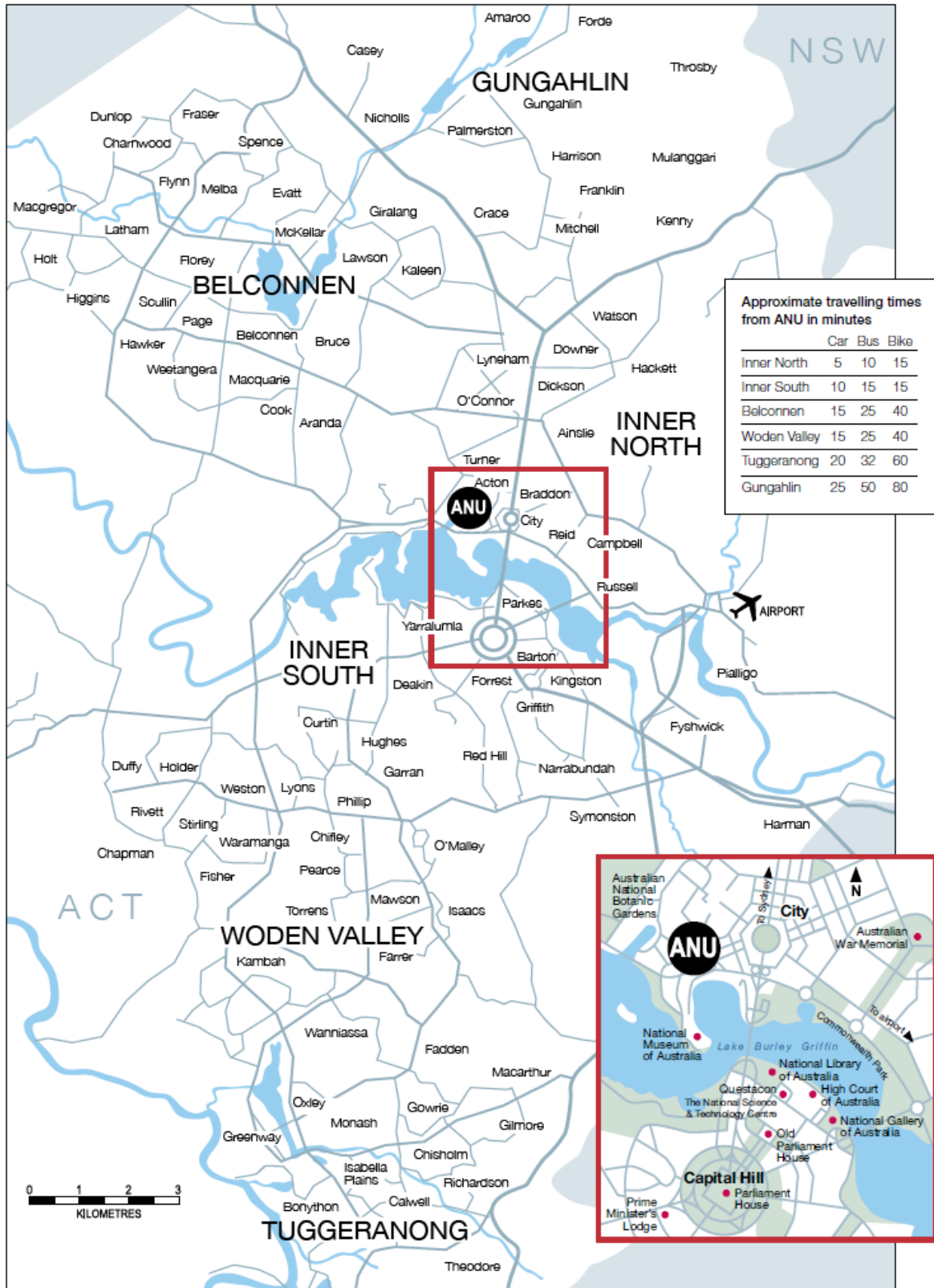
Visit the Transport Canberra (TC) website for bus fares, routes and timetables: <http://www.transport.act.gov.au/> TC was previously known as ACTION Buses.

TC uses 'MyWay', a smartcard prepaid ticketing system that offers discounted fares and other concessions for travellers. All single fares entitle riders to a free 90 minute transfer period. Find out more, including how to purchase a MyWay cards and fares here:

<https://www.transport.act.gov.au/tickets-and-myway/fares>



CANBERRA MAP



How do I find a rental property?

ANU Housing Online is a free service provided by the University Accommodation Services to assist the student and staff community of the ANU find rental accommodation – either in a group house or renting a whole house or unit to yourself. You will need to deal directly with the person offering the accommodation. Visit <https://housingonline.anu.edu.au> for more information.

Allhomes.com.au is another popular online listing of rental properties and group houses: <http://www.allhomes.com.au/ah/country/rent-residential> or <https://www.allhomes.com.au/share/>.

Don't expect to find something on the first day you start looking. Depending on the time of year you arrive, it can take weeks or even months to secure accommodation. The beginning of the year is the most difficult time. We suggest you start looking at rental listings even before you depart your home country to get an understanding of rental prices, locations and availability. Other popular real-estate websites include: [Domain](#), [Real Estate](#), and [Gumtree](#). Well-known real estate agents include: [Independent Property Group](#), [McGrath](#), [Luton](#) and [LJ Hooker](#).

Landlords rarely advertise more than one month prior to the occupancy date. How long the search will take will depend on your budget and your personal needs. Usually it takes between 3-6 weeks to find something suitable. You need to be proactive and take initiative to go out and search for the property you want. If you just wait for something to come to you, you will be disappointed and this can be very stressful.

Applying to rent a property

Once you have made a list of the rental properties you are interested in, you should contact each Real Estate Agent or landlord to make an appointment to view the property and ask for an application form.

Be prepared with any questions you have about the property. These questions could include:

- What is the address of the property?
- Is it close to a bus stop, bus station or shopping centre?
- Does it include white goods and/or other furnishings?
- How long is the term of agreement?
- Will the landlord consider groups?
- Is water included in the rental price?
- Is the property connected to gas for cooking or heating?
- What type of heating does the property have? (Gas, electricity or wood fireplace)
- Is there car accommodation?
- What is the total I need to pay up front to secure the property (bond and rent in advance)?
- When is the property available for the new tenant to move in?

Fill in the application form in advance and bring it with you to the property viewing. Check that you have the identity documents required for the application. Have your finances arranged and bring along a copy of proof of income (e.g. proof of living stipend or allowance from your sponsor organisation). Don't be afraid to attach any other supporting documents that you think may be helpful. Rental and personal references that can be verified locally will also be of assistance – this can include your friends, employer, supervisor, or previous landlord in Australia (if any). Make a good impression! Be well-groomed, well-presented and on time for the property viewing. Keep in touch with the agent to get progress reports on the status of your application.

The Australia Awards Management Teams can also assist by providing you with a rental reference if you are new to Australia – contact us at sponsored.students@anu.edu.au and liz.ingram@anu.edu.au for a reference letter to attach to your rental applications.

You may have to view a lot of properties and lodge many applications before you are successful. Don't be discouraged if you do not get the first property you like.

If you are successful in your application, you will need to sign a Tenancy Agreement with the landlord. A Tenancy Agreement is a legally binding document. Make sure that you read the agreement carefully and understand all of its terms and conditions. You will have to pay a bond when signing the Tenancy Agreement: this is a refundable deposit on your room or property. It can be up to the equivalent of 4 weeks' rent. The bond must be lodged with the ACT Office of Rental Bonds, where it is held until you vacate the property. If there are any problems at the final inspection, the bond will be held until the issue has been rectified.

You should receive an 'Inventory and Condition Report' (ICR), which is a report that outlines the condition of the property, and any furnishings and equipment attached to the premises. The agent will give you three copies of the report, check these very carefully and note any discrepancies on all three copies. The report must be returned within seven days of moving in. A copy will then be lodged with the Office of Rental Bonds together with your Bond.

The Agent or landlord may carry out an initial inspection of the property in the first four weeks and then twice within a twelve month period to check the condition of the property. The landlord must give you seven days' notice in writing before an inspection is carried out.

Please note that the Tenancy Agreement is a legally binding contract. If agreements are broken in other circumstances than stipulated, you may be required to pay costs related to the reletting of the property.

You can find more advice and resources at <http://www.anu.edu.au/study/accommodation/renting>.

The ACT Tenants' Union provides comprehensive information on renting in Canberra and it is essential to familiarise yourself with this information before you sign a rental lease: <http://www.tenantsact.org.au/>. The Tenants' Union also provides a Tenants Advice Service for free confidential legal advice to tenants.

The ANU Students' Association (ANUSA) also provides free legal advice for students: <https://anusa.com.au/services/legal/>

Short-term or Transitional Accommodation

There is a list of accommodation alternatives on University Accommodation Services site for students seeking short-term and transitional accommodation while searching for a rental property (bottom right of the page): <http://www.anu.edu.au/study/accommodation>

Another option is at **University of Canberra Village** – which offers self-catered, short-term accommodation all year round. Options range from self-contained single rooms to 6 bedroom apartments (where kitchen and bathroom facilities are shared with other residents), and offering reasonable rates. The Village is only a 15-minute drive (or approx. 25min bus ride) to ANU. For more information: <https://www.mystudentvillage.com/au/university-of-canberra-village/short-stays/>

Another budget short-term accommodation option is the **Canberra City YHA Backpackers Hostel**. It is located in the heart of the Canberra city centre and is only a 15-20 minute walk from the ANU Campus. For more information: <https://www.yha.com.au/hostels/nsw/canberra/canberra-city-backpackers-hostel/> Options include dormitory-style rooms to 5 bed family rooms. However, note that this type of lodging is most suited for temporary accommodation and that rooms are not equipped to facilitate studying or stays for more than a couple of weeks.

For alternative options also see:

- **Canberra Short-term and Holiday Accommodation** (offers a wide selection of fully-furnished units ranging from budget studio units/large 1 bedroom units to extra-large 2 bedroom units): <http://www.canbhol.com.au/>
- **Canberra Furnished Accommodation** (offers both budget and executive options): <http://www.canberrafurnished.com.au/>



Saraswati 1969 (in pool near entrance of Chancelry), Bronze, gift of the Indonesian government 1969 Courtesy ANU Flickr Image Library



Una 2013, Wolfgang Buttress Courtesy ANU Flickr Image Library

Explore ANU Download the [ANU Walks app](#) for detailed information on outdoor sculpture, heritage and sustainability features on the extensive 145 hectares of ANU campus.

Cost of Living in Canberra

Some students are unprepared for the cost of living while studying and find themselves to be in financial difficulty. It is important to be aware that ANU has extremely limited financial assistance schemes available to students.

While it is difficult to estimate the expense accurately, below is the minimum living cost used by the Australian Department of Home Affairs in assessing Student Visa applications (excluding tuition fees):

- Unaccompanied student: A\$20,290 per year
- Extra A\$7,100 per year for your spouse/partner
- Extra A\$3,040 per year for your child
- Schooling costs of A\$8,000 per year for each child, unless you are eligible for a fee exemption if sponsored by the Australian Government, or if you are undertaking a postgraduate research degree.
<https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/international-students/temporary-residents-and-dependants>

For more information please visit: <https://archive.homeaffairs.gov.au/trav/stud/more/student-visa-living-costs-and-evidence-of-funds>

Please note that these figures do not include the cost of child care or schooling for children, which can vary widely by state and school/facility. These figures are also merely an approximation of average costs across Australia and may not be an accurate reflection of your actual cost of living in Canberra.

As a general guide, we advise that single students should be prepared for the following living expenses:

Weekly expenses	On campus			Off campus
	Self-catered	Apartment style	Fully catered	Shared rental
Rent	Starts from \$226.90 onwards	Starts from \$241.10 onwards depending on room style	Starts from \$396.70 onwards	\$140 ⁽¹⁾
Utilities (e.g. electricity)	<i>included</i>	\$29	<i>included</i>	\$8 ⁽³⁾
Food ⁽³⁾	\$120	\$120	<i>included</i>	\$120
Photocopying, stationery ⁽³⁾	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20
Entertainment ⁽³⁾	\$28	\$28	\$28	\$28
Phone, internet ⁽³⁾	<i>included</i>	<i>included</i>	<i>included</i>	\$15
Mobile phone ⁽⁴⁾	\$7	\$7	\$7	\$7
Public transport ⁽⁵⁾	-	-	-	\$15
Incidentals	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$20
Total per month	\$1687	\$1860	\$1886	\$1492
Total per year	\$20,251	\$22,324	\$22,641	\$17,904

(1) Based on the cost of sharing a three bedroom house/unit with two other students at the median weekly rental price of \$420 in 2014.

(2) Based on the annual average electricity bill for a small household in 2014 shared between three students (<http://www.canberratimes.com.au/act-news/electricity-and-gas-prices-up-almost-300-a-year-20140613-zs6en.html>). Note that not all rental properties include the cost of water in the weekly rent, and not all properties have a gas connection. You may need to budget separately for these.

(3) Based on "Final Report of the Survey of International Students' spending in Australia", University of QLD Social Research Centre, July 2005.

(4) Based on the minimum cost of \$30 per month for a monthly plan (does not include cost of the mobile handset).

(5) Based on the cost of 10 concession bus trips per week in 2015 with a MyWay fare card.

This is an approximation only and does not include other irregular expenses such as clothing, medical needs, or furniture etc.

The cost of living is dependent on your choice of lifestyle. In particular, prices for off-campus accommodation can

vary greatly depending on factors such as location, quality, transport, and facilities. Consider carefully what your needs and expectations are in planning your living expenses in Canberra and where you may be able to find savings. Some shops, services and facilities in Canberra may also offer discounts for tertiary students – bring your student ID card with you and ask if there is a discount.

You will also need to consider other significant education expenses such as textbooks, supplies, a personal computer, and the cost of fieldwork, if required in your program.



Balloon Spectacular in Canberra Image Courtesy VisitCanberra

Child Care for Non-School Aged Children

Child Care on Campus

There are four child care facilities on campus who provide priority placement to children of ANU students. There are also ANU School Holiday Programs. If you have non-school age children accompanying you, you should be aware that child care is expensive; apply early as waiting lists at centres are often long; maintain contact with the child care centre, emailing them every two weeks to remind them of your intent to place your child in their care.

Information about the various campus child care facilities is located below. Please note that fees are subject to change. For up to date figures always check with the centre:

Acton Early Childhood Centre

Acton Early Childhood Centre is a community-based long day care centre offering full-time and part-time child care to families of all members of the community. The centre provides a warm, caring, home-like environment in which each child is nurtured and encouraged to explore their full potential.

Location: 22 Balmain Crescent, Acton, ACT 0200

Hours: Monday to Friday, 7.45am – 6.00pm

Phone: (02) 6125 5554

Email: info@aecc.org.au

Website: www.aecc.org.au

Cubby House on Campus

Cubby House on Campus – Early Learning Centre (Cubby) provides high quality childcare in a small home like setting. Children are made to feel safe, supported and secure in a home away from home.

Location: 16 Balmain Lane, Acton ACT 2601

Phone: (02) 6125 2000

Website: www.cubbyhouseoncampus.com.au; info@cubbyhouseoncampus.com.au

Fees: Registration Fee: AUD65 (one-off)
Membership: AUD30
Daily rate: AUD100.00 per day
Late Fee: AUD5 for every 5 minutes
Admin Fee: AUD10 per week per family

Heritage Early Childhood Centre

Heritage Early Childhood Centre provides high quality, flexible child care in a comfortable and secure family atmosphere. It is a small, community-based child care centre catering for 57 children between 6 weeks and 5 years of age. Parents are welcome at the centre at all times as we encourage a parent-staff partnership and parent involvement in the centre's programs and management.

Location: 75 Lennox Crossing, Acton ACT 0200

Hours: Monday to Friday, 7.45am – 5.45pm

Phone: (02) 6249 8851

Email: hecc@anu.edu.au

Website: www.heritageecc.com.au

Fees: Fees are currently \$126.00 per day and are payable fortnightly in advance via Debitsuccess.

Waiting List: It is important that email and mobile phone details are up to date on the application as an email and text message will be sent to offer a place when one becomes available. Offers must be accepted or declined within 2 working days by calling, emailing or visiting the service. Failure to respond results in offers becoming inactive.

University Preschool & Child Care Centre

The University Preschool and Child Care Centre is a community-based not-for-profit child care centre which is fully accredited to national standards in child care service provision. We have small groups of children at each age level and an above average staff/child ratio. Our comprehensive program is planned and implemented by experienced and qualified early childhood personnel. The Centre employs a preschool teacher for the 3-5 year old groups.

Location: Lennox House (Blocks E and F), Lennox Crossing, Acton ACT 0200

Hours: Monday to Friday, 7.45am – 5.45pm

Phone: (02) 6125 4113

Email: unipresc@iimetro.com.au

Website: www.upccc.com.au

Fees:

- For Nursery and Toddler Sections \$605 per week (M-F), or \$123 per day for part-time enrolments.
- For Preschool Section \$590 per week (M-F), or \$121 per day for part-time enrolments.

Goodstart Early Learning ANU

The centre provides early learning and care for families of ANU staff, students and locals. All nappies, wipes and sunscreen are included in the daily fee.

Location: Building 147, North Road, Acton ACT 2601

Hours: Monday to Friday, 7.30am – 6.00pm

Phone: 1800 222 543

Email: aau@goodstart.org.au

Website: www.goodstart.org.au/centres/anu

We strongly encourage you to also consider other off-campus childcare facilities and options as there is no guarantee that you will be able to secure a place on campus.

Financial Assistance with Child Care Costs

If you are sponsored by the Australian Government, you may be eligible for financial assistance from the Australian Government with the cost of child care (this can include long day care, family day care, occasional care, outside school hours care, vacation care and registered care). Information on eligibility and the application process can be found at <https://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/child-care-subsidy/who-can-get-it/residence-rules>. You should be aware that even with government assistance is capped annually, and you will still be required to make a contribution to the cost of child care, which can be significant.

MyChild.gov.au

The mychild.gov.au website is Australia's online child care portal. On this website you will find information on different types of child care and how to get assistance with the cost of child care. You can also search a database to find child care centres in your local area. In many cases, you will also be able to find the services' vacancy and fee information. This site also has information and links to other useful websites about children's health and wellbeing, parenting and family support services. <http://www.mychild.gov.au/>

Parenting Rooms

There are parenting rooms on campus for ANU staff and students needing a place to nurse or attend to young children. The rooms provide a baby changing table, nappy disposal, and privacy screen for breastfeeding, comfortable chairs and kitchenette:

<https://services.anu.edu.au/files/guidance/Parenting%20Rooms%20on%20Campus.pdf>

Schooling for Children

Your Child's Schooling

According to the law, all school aged children in Australia regardless of residential status (that is, temporary or permanent), must enrol at the appropriate school level. In the ACT it is compulsory for children aged 6 to 17 years old to be enrolled at a school. In general, Australia Award dependants on Australia Awards Dependant Visas do not have to pay tuition fees to attend government schools up to and including Year 12. However school books, subject levies, uniforms and school outings must be paid for and most schools expect you to pay a modest annual contribution. Dependants attending tertiary institutions are required to pay full tuition fees.

After you arrive, the Australia Awards Management Teams can contact the ACT Department of Education and Training on your behalf to request confirmation of eligibility for school enrolment for your child.

A listing of ACT schools and enrolment information is available at: http://www.det.act.gov.au/school_education

2019 ACT School Term Dates

Term 1	4 February to 12 April
Term 2	29 April to 5 July
Term 3	22 July to 27 September
Term 4	14 October to 16 December

In the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) the school levels for 2012 were:

Child's age	School level	School type
5 years old	Kindergarten	Kindergarten
6 years old	Year level 1	Primary School
7 years old	Year level 2	Primary School
8 years old	Year level 3	Primary School
9 years old	Year level 4	Primary School
10 years old	Year level 5	Primary School
11 years old	Year level 6	Primary School
12 years old	Year level 7	High School
13 years old	Year level 8	High School
14 years old	Year level 9	High School
15 years old	Year level 10	High School
16 years old	Year level 11	Secondary College
17 years old	Year level 12	Secondary College

For more information visit det.act.gov.au

English Language Requirements

There is no requirement for international students to be proficient in English language when they enrol in ACT schools. To make the transition to the ACT school system as smooth as possible for international students with little or no English, two options are available:

- Introductory English Centres (IEC) at both primary and secondary levels prior to entry into mainstream schools
- English language bridging programs where international students attend intensive English Language Classes as well as studying mainstream subjects with Australian students

These programs develop students' English language skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening. They teach specific study skills such as note taking, summarising, library skills and report writing. Information technology skills are also developed

For more information visit: http://www.det.act.gov.au/school_education/international_students

For NSW schools (relevant to residents in Queanbeyan), please see information about the application process and fees: https://www.deinternational.nsw.edu.au/study-options/study-programs/temporary-residents#How_to_apply_15840 and <http://www.deinternational.nsw.edu.au/media-assets/trp/application-dependants.pdf>

About Canberra

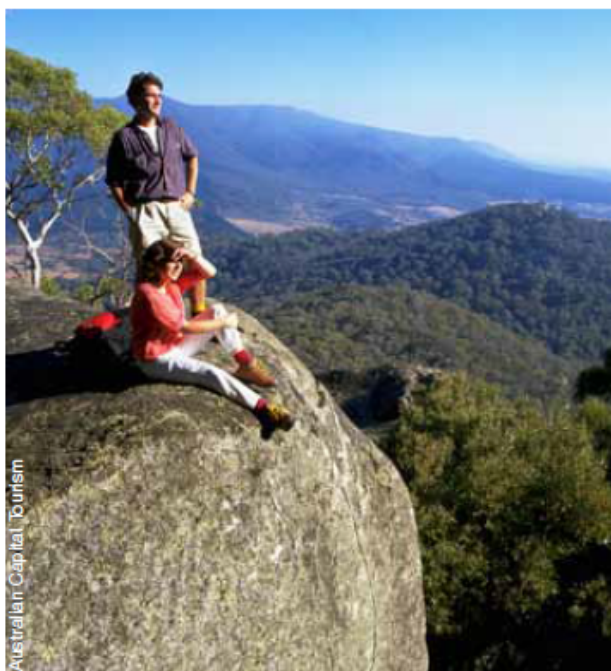
The Bush Capital

Canberra is a modern and vibrant capital – a cosmopolitan city that offers an exciting blend of urban living and nature. Nestled within the leafy surrounds you will find stylish restaurants, bars, cafés and nightclubs; boutique shopping and markets; galleries and museums; nature corridors, cycle paths and walking trails; and open architecture that complements and enhances the local environment.

ANU is not the only national institution in Canberra. As the seat of Australian Government, the city is home to national museums, galleries, memorials, collections, research institutions and attractions that hold the shared stories and knowledge of the nation.

Canberra also boasts a busy calendar of events, festivals, exhibitions and tours as well as regular social, sporting and recreational activities. As the Australian capital, Canberra is also home to diplomats and visitors from all over the world – adding greatly to the multicultural flavour and diversity of the city.

Situated on the ancient lands of the Indigenous Ngunnawal people, Canberra's name is thought to mean 'meeting place'. The Australian Capital Territory is close to the sparkling waters of the South Coast, the rural greenery of the Southern Highlands and the alpine peaks of the Snowy Mountains. The surrounding region also hosts historic townships, unspoilt wilderness, excellent wineries and gourmet produce. Canberra is 280 kilometres from Sydney and 660 kilometres from Melbourne.



Bushwalking at Gibraltar Rocks, in the Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve.

Canberra facts & figures*

- > Canberra's population of 350,000 people has a median age of 34 years.
- > The people of the ACT earn the highest average weekly salary in Australia.
- > Canberra consistently has the lowest unemployment rate of any Australian capital city.
- > More than half of the ACT is covered by native forests and woodlands, most of which are within protected conservation areas.
- > Canberra people have the highest participation rate in cultural and leisure activities in the country.
- > Canberra is a highly technological city, with 74 per cent of ACT households having broadband internet connection (the highest proportion in Australia).

* Figures from Australian Bureau of Statistics and Australian Capital Tourism.

Getting around

Canberra has excellent roads and is a safe place in which to drive, but you don't need to own a car to get around. The capital has a reliable and regular bus network that covers the length and breadth of the city. There is also a comprehensive network of bicycle paths, which criss-cross the urban areas and surrounding nature reserves. If the ride gets too much for you, most major bus routes now have on-board bike racks fitted. Cyclists using these racks are given a free journey. Many people also take the opportunity to enjoy Canberra's stunning scenery by using one of the many walking paths and trails.

Four special seasons

Canberra's landscape is never dull – with four distinct seasons creating dramatic pictures and shifting colours year round.

During spring, the city explodes with colour as trees and flowers reveal their blooms. Spring brings fresh mornings, bright sunny days and brisk nights.

Summer in Canberra is a time to get out and enjoy the outdoors as well as the natural beauty of the surrounding areas. The many pools, rivers and swimming holes around the city become popular places, as do its lakes. Days are warm to hot, followed by mild and pleasant nights.

Autumn is a time of incredible change – the landscape is awash with leaves in shades of red, yellow and orange. The days are pleasantly mild and the nights cool.

Winter in Canberra can get chilly, though it rarely snows in the city. Even on the coldest days, frosts and the occasional fog clear to sunny days. Canberra winters are also quite dry. The Snowy Mountains, a few hours south of the city, are the destination of choice for skiers and snowboarders.

AROUND CANBERRA

The Australian Capital Territory is close to the sparkling waters of the South Coast, the rural greenery of the Southern Highlands and the alpine peaks of the Snowy Mountains. The surrounding region also hosts historic townships, unspoilt wilderness, excellent wineries and gourmet produce. Canberra is 280 kilometres from Sydney and 660 kilometres from Melbourne.

The Snowy Mountains, a few hours south of the city, are the destination of choice for skiers and snowboarders during winter and bushwalking enthusiasts during spring and summer to enjoy the natural alpine scenery and to climb Australia's highest peak. Fishing, horse riding and mountain biking are also very popular sports in this terrain.

The South Coast, just two and a half hours drive away is a fantastic place to relax on the pristine white beaches, enjoy a whale and dolphin watching cruise, discover quaint and historic towns while tucking into the fresh seafood available.

The Tidbinbilla Nature reserve, just a half hour drive is fantastic place to encounter Australia's wildlife at their natural setting at where are no fences separating the animals and the visitors. Meet endangered animals and learn about the program to bring them back from the brink of extinction.

visitcanberra.com.au/en/Canberra-and-surrounds.aspx



Robertson Cheese Factory, Southern Highlands



Kangaroo, Pebbly Beach, Murrumbidgee National Park



Snowboarding, Thredbo, Snowy Mountains



Koala

Student Lifestyle

Life outside the classroom

Life for ANU students isn't all about study. ANU thrives on balance and Canberra provides plenty of opportunities to get out, get active and get social. No matter where you are, there's something to do. Here's a start.

Get active

The ANU Sport and Recreation Association run lunchtime sporting competitions, including indoor soccer, touch football, ultimate disc, volleyball and basketball. The campus is a great place to explore with many walking tracks, sports grounds and open space. Lake Burley Griffin and the International Sculpture Park are also close by, and there are plenty of cycle paths to take you there.

Get social

As well as a huge range of sporting clubs, the ANU Students' Association oversees many societies of culturally minded people. It doesn't matter if you play chess, sing in choirs, debate or like to recreate medieval times, there is a club for you. And if your particular interest isn't on the list, you can start your own club.

Get live

The ANU Student Union is one of the best venues in town, with local, national and international bands playing there every week. You could also try one of the many theatrical performances around town, including a number performed by student drama groups. The Street Theatre is next to the University campus and doubles as a popular venue to meet friends for coffee during the day.

Get some culture

As the national capital, Canberra is home to some quality international galleries and museums, with new exhibitions opening throughout the year. Some institutions have special entry and membership deals for students. There are also a number of galleries on campus, including the School of Art Gallery and the Drill Hall Gallery.

Get thrifty

Every Thursday is Market Day on campus, where you can buy everything from cheap books to funky clothes. There are also some great markets around town, including the Gorman House Markets, for those who like to be creative, and the Old Bus Depot Markets, for anyone who is interested in good produce and craft.

Get into the scene

There are plenty of outstanding restaurants and cafes around campus and in the city. If you are a night owl, you could check out the music at one of Canberra's many nightclubs, or catch a movie at one of the nearby cinemas.

Get out of here

For the more adventurous, the Canberra region is an outdoor haven with everything from white-water rafting, abseiling and mountain-bike riding to snow skiing, canoeing and horse riding. If you prefer bright city lights, Canberra is only a few hours from Australia's biggest city, Sydney.

The cycling capital

Canberra is a two wheeled city with a superb and safe network of on- and off-road cycle paths. Around 40 per cent of Canberrans regularly ride to work, university or school and for general recreation. Facilities for cyclists include:

- > over 250 kilometres of off-road, purpose built cycle paths — equivalent to around 10 per cent of the road system
- > on-road cycling lanes on major thoroughfares
- > bike paths which pass through many nature parks and reserves
- > weather-proof and secure bike lockers for hire at bus interchanges
- > free on-board bike racks on main bus routes.

Many ANU students find that cycling is a cheap and environmentally friendly way of getting around the campus and the city. There are a number of student groups which organise group rides, both on- and off-road, include mountain-biking treks. There are also many locations on the ANU campus to leave your bike, including security-coded covered bike sheds.





Mount Ainslie overlooking the parliamentary triangle, *Courtesy Australian Traveller website*



Old Bus Depot Markets, held every Sunday
Courtesy [OBDM website](#)



Parliament House during the Enlighten Festival,
Courtesy Parliament of Australia photo gallery



Pod Playground at dusk, National Arboretum Canberra
Photo by Martin Ollman



Australian National Botanic Gardens *Courtesy of Lushpup Images*

Useful Links and Resources

Before You Arrive

Read all important information about Australia Awards – ANU:

<https://www.anu.edu.au/students/program-administration/fees-payments/dfat-australia-awards>

Seek accommodation advice and information:

<http://www.anu.edu.au/students/services/accommodation>

Prepare for Academic Life

Get ready for your study program:

<http://www.anu.edu.au/students/program-administration>

Check your class and exam timetables:

<http://timetable.anu.edu.au/>

Everything you need to know about academic integrity and plagiarism at ANU:

<https://www.anu.edu.au/students/academic-skills/academic-integrity>

Purchase academic textbooks and course materials:

<http://www.coop-bookshop.com.au/bookshop>
<http://www.harryhartog.com.au/>

Seek help for disability and access issues:

<https://www.anu.edu.au/students/contacts/access-inclusion>

Get free and confidential academic help:

<https://academicskills.anu.edu.au/>

Make the most of our IT services – email, printing, and free software etc.:

<http://itservices.anu.edu.au/>

Check out the Information Literacy Program for all students:

<http://anulib.anu.edu.au/training/>

Check out the Graduate Information Literacy Program for postgraduates:

<http://anulib.anu.edu.au/training/tailored-programs/>

Find out what study resources and facilities the ANU Library offers:

<http://anulib.anu.edu.au/>

Confidential and impartial advice to help students resolve problems:

<https://www.anu.edu.au/students/contacts/dean-of-students>

Make the Most of Student Life

Access services and join student clubs and societies at the ANU Students' Association:

<http://www.anusa.com.au/>

The Postgraduate and Research Students' Association:

<http://parsa.anu.edu.au/>

Join the ANU gym and sport & fitness activities:

<http://www.anu-sport.com.au/>

Events on campus, including public lectures, seminars and exhibitions:

<http://www.anu.edu.au/events>

Campus Facilities and Services

ANU Campus Map:

<https://services.anu.edu.au/files/guidance/ANU%20Campus%20Map%202019.pdf>

Find out more about campus facilities:

<https://www.anu.edu.au/about/campuses-facilities>

See what shops and facilities are available in Kambri:

<https://kambri.anu.edu.au/>

Academic Colleges

ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences (CASS):

<http://cass.anu.edu.au/>

ANU College of Asia and the Pacific (CAP):

<http://asiapacific.anu.edu.au/>

ANU College of Business and Economics (CBE):

<https://www.cbe.anu.edu.au/>

ANU College of Engineering and Computer Science (CECS):

<http://cecs.anu.edu.au/>

ANU College of Law (CoL):

<https://law.anu.edu.au/>

ANU College of Health and Medicine (CHM) and College of Science :

<http://science.anu.edu.au/>

Your Health and Wellbeing

See a doctor at the ANU:

<https://www.anu.edu.au/students/contacts/medical-services>

Get free and confidential counselling:

<http://counselling.anu.edu.au/>

Find religious support and services for all faiths:

<http://www.anu.edu.au/chaplaincy/>

Find a prayer location for Muslim students:

<http://isact.org.au/mosque/>

<https://www.facebook.com/msaanu.org/>

Support for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer students:

<http://anuqueerdepartment.com/>

Safety

Download the ANU OK app:

<https://www.anu.edu.au/news/all-news/stay-safe-on-campus-with-new-anu-ok-app>

Find out more about safety and security on campus:

<https://services.anu.edu.au/campus-environment/safety-security>

In case of emergency:

<https://services.anu.edu.au/campus-environment/safety-security/emergencies-security>

On Campus Night Bus:

<https://services.anu.edu.au/campus-environment/safety-security/on-campus-night-bus>

Emergency + Smartphone App:

<http://www.triplezero.gov.au/Pages/EmergencySmartphoneApp.aspx>

Life in Canberra

Visit Canberra website to find out things to do and major events in Canberra:

<http://visitcanberra.com.au/>

Info on moving to/living in Canberra:

<http://www.canberrayourfuture.com.au/>

ACT Government Information Portal to find out information of services and newsletter on Canberra:

<http://www.act.gov.au/>

The International Student Guide to Australia:

<https://insiderguides.com.au/international-student-guides/> and <http://www.studyabr.com.au/>

Guide to Canberra:

<https://www.australia.com/en/places/canberra-and-surrounds/guide-to-canberra.html>

Dining Options Guide- Halal:

<https://www.agfg.com.au/restaurants/canberra/halal-category>