

Study Abroad and Exchange Student Guide



Part 1 - Overview and Key Tasks

- Welcome
- Study Abroad & Exchange Program Overview
- Key Timeline
- Accessing Macquarie Systems

Part 2 - Study Planning and Enrolment

- Designing your Study Plan
 - Enrolment Considerations
 - Enrolment Timeline
- Enrolment Process
 - Understanding Unit Categories
 - Special Waiver Request Process
- Timetable Creation and Deadlines

Part 3 - Pre-Departure and Arrival

- Pre-Departure and Travel Checklists
- Accommodation Options
- Getting to Know Campus
 - Getting Involved on Campus
 - Macquarie Support Services

Part 4 - Summary and Resources

- Troubleshooting and Contact
- Resources List

Overview and Key Tasks

Welcome to Macquarie University

Welcome to Macquarie! We are delighted that you have chosen to study with us as part of your Study Abroad or Exchange experience.

This guide provides everything you need to plan, enrol, and prepare for your time at Macquarie — from choosing your units to arriving on campus and settling into life in Sydney.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Macquarie's Study Abroad and Exchange programs allow international students to:



Study for one or two sessions and receive full academic credit.



Experience Australian academic life and culture.



Choose from hundreds of subjects across all faculties.



Enjoy world-class facilities and a diverse student community.



Study just minutes away from bushwalks and beaches.

TIMELINE

Planning is essential to a successful program. Follow this timeline to stay on track:

3–4 MONTHS BEFORE SESSION START

Receive offer, accept, and apply for student visa.

2–3 MONTHS BEFORE SESSION START

Finalise unit preferences and obtain home university approval.

6 WEEKS BEFORE SESSION START

Arrange OSHC (health cover), accommodation, and flights.

2–3 WEEKS BEFORE SESSION START

Access eStudent and request Special Approvals if needed.

ORIENTATION WEEK

Finalise enrolment, get student ID, and attend welcome sessions.

WEEK 1

Attend classes and confirm study load.

NAVIGATING MACQUARIE SYSTEMS

You'll use several key systems during your studies:



OneID: Your single login for all university systems.



eStudent: For enrolment, study plans, and special approvals.



iLearn: Your learning management system for coursework and resources.



Service Connect: The central portal for student support requests.



Student Email: Official communication channel (check regularly).

TOP TIPS

Always access university systems through students.mq.edu.au.

Search [Service Connect | Macquarie University](#) for information and processes.

Submit inquiries via the [Service Connect portal](#).

Plan early so that you make the most of your experience abroad!

Study Planning

Enrolment Considerations

Study planning

When planning your units (subjects), ensure your selections meet:

- Home university requirements for credit transfer.
- Macquarie's enrolment rules and unit availability.
- Visa conditions requiring a full-time study load.



Visa conditions

- You must maintain full-time enrolment (3–4 units per session).
- At least 75% of your program must be taken on campus.
- Keep your contact details up to date in eStudent.



Strategies for success

- Choose units that match your background and interest.
- Avoid timetable clashes.
- Plan early and with back-up options to avoid disappointment.
- Confirm credit transfer with your home university.



Enrolment Timeline

Stage	Action	Timing
Pre-departure	Shortlist units and check restrictions	3–4 months before session
Enrolment opens	Add units via eStudent	6 weeks before session
Special Approvals	Submit waiver requests	Before orientation
Orientation Week	Finalise study plan	Week before classes
Census Date	Last day to withdraw without penalty	Week 4 of session

Questions?



Understand visa conditions

Learn how to satisfy the requirements of your student visa.



Plan your course

Explore unit types, structures and content on our website.



Special Waivers (Approvals)

Read our knowledge articles about waivers and enrolment.



Enrolling in units

Watch our video tutorials with step-by-step instructions.



Calendar of dates

Find session start and end dates, enrolment deadlines and exam periods.

Understanding Enrolment



Open Access Units

Access Type:
Open

You can enrol in these units without restrictions.

These units are available to Study Abroad and Exchange students and are generally introductory-level, on campus, and for credit.

See OPEN ACCESS UNITS LIST



Approval Required Units

Access Type:
Conditional

You can apply to enrol, but you must be approved first. Submit a Special Approval (Waiver) Request via eStudent to be considered for enrolment in these units.



Closed Units

Access Type:
Not Allowed

You cannot enrol in these units under any circumstances. These include PACE units, internships, research projects, or restricted professional placements.

See CLOSED UNITS LIST

1 PLAN

Add units to your Study Plan in eStudent

2 ENROL

Enrol into your chosen units

3 SCHEDULE

Design your timetable based on availabilities

Submitting Special Waiver Requests

In eStudent, add your chosen unit to your study plan

Select 'Request Waiver/ Special Approval'

Submit!

Upload supporting documents

If approved, you will be eligible to enrol in your chosen unit!

Feeling stuck?



Plan your course

Explore unit types, structures and content on our website.



Special Waivers (Approvals)

Read our knowledge articles about waivers and enrolment.

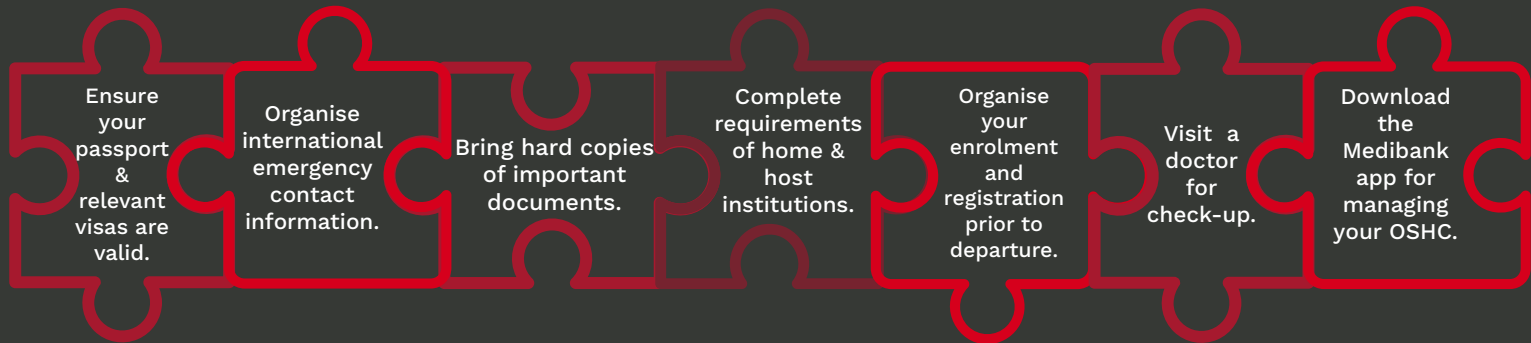


Enrolling in Units

Watch our video tutorials with step-by-step instructions.

Pre-Departure & Arrival

Before you travel, organise your affairs...



...and arrange accommodation.

Accommodation Options

To book accommodation on campus:

- Research options on the university's website.
- Search "Accommodation MQ" for details.



On campus and residential colleges:

- Central Courtyard
- Dunmore Lang College
- Robert Menzies College
- Morling Residential College



Private providers:

- Student Village North Ryde
- Dayman Apartments
- Iglu Chatswood

Contact providers directly to explore options.



Private servers:

- Domain
- Real Estate
- Flatmates

Research options online through third party websites or in apps.

At the airport...

Travel Checklist

- ☐ Check passport, visa, COE and OSHC validity
- ☐ Fill prescription medications
- ☐ Arrange accessibility support
- ☐ Arrange airport pick-up and accommodation
- ☐ Check enrollment status
- ☐ Save emergency contacts
- ☐ Pack a suitcase!

Visit the Study NSW International Student Welcome Desk at Sydney Airport.

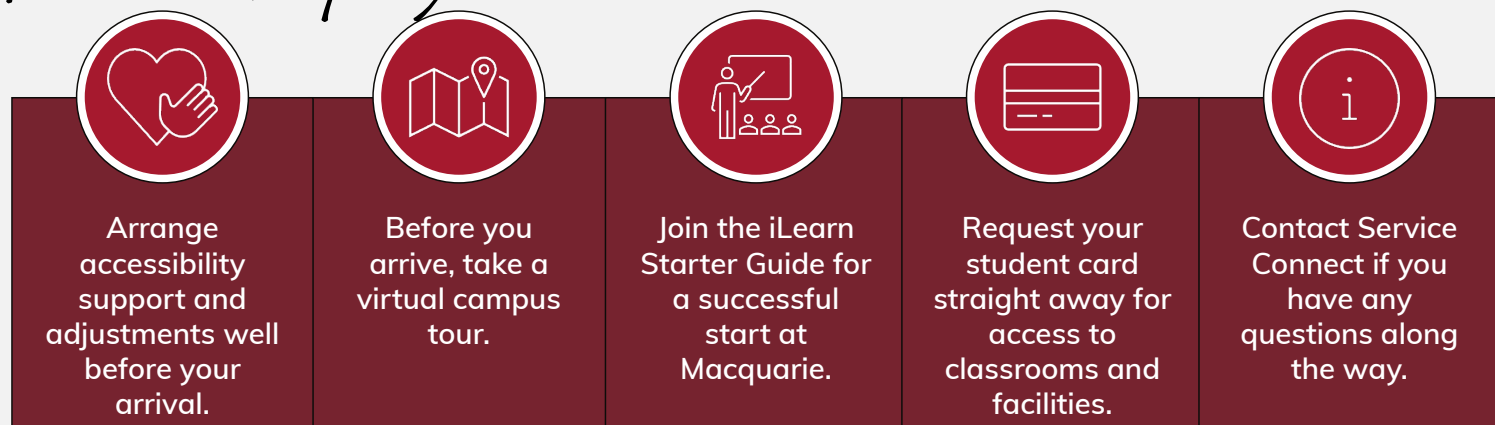
Get an opal card from the airport train station or convenience stores.

Purchase a pre-paid SIM card at the Sydney airport upon arrival.

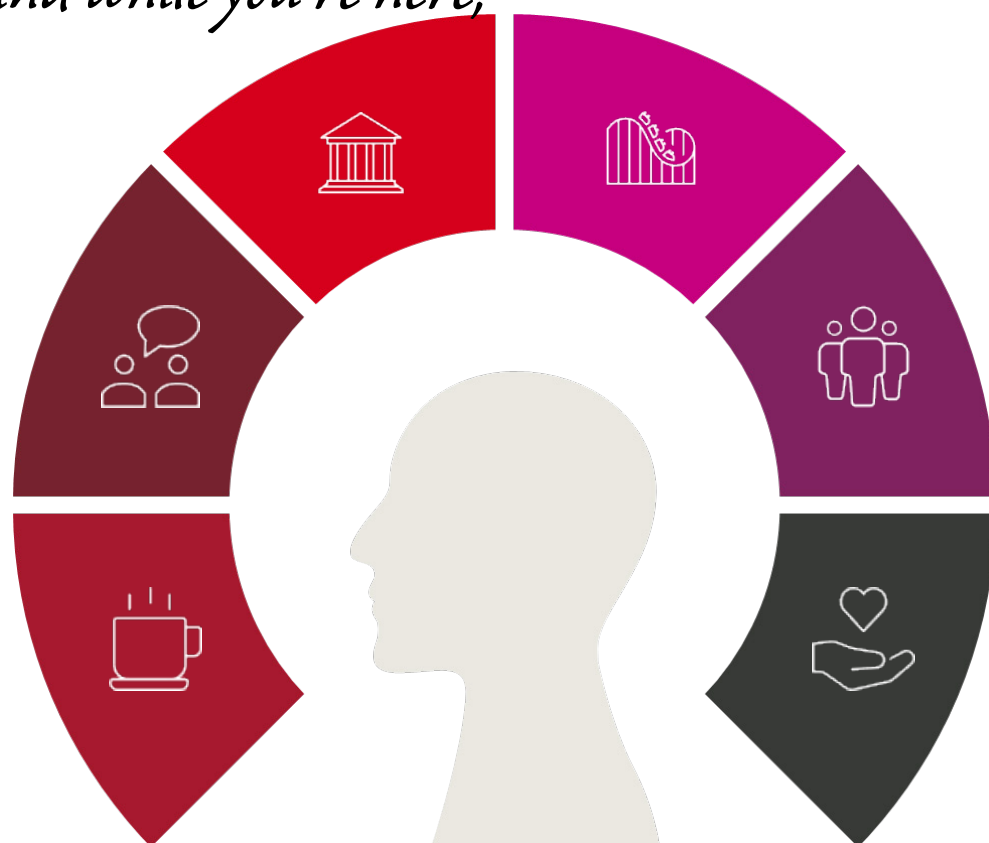
Book airport pickup through Macquarie at least 3 days in advance.

Getting to Know Campus

Get involved before you arrive...



and while you're here,



- 

Student groups
More than 130 student groups, clubs and societies that allow you to connect with others who share similar interests
- 

Peer mentors
Peer mentors can answer your questions about starting uni and guide you through your first session.
- 

Student representative committee
Chat with student representatives if you have ideas or need to raise issues affecting students.
- 

Community events
Get involved through on campus and online events.
- 

Diversity and inclusion workshops
Regular workshops that foster a safe and inclusive environment for staff and students, where everyone can thrive and be their authentic selves.
- 

Support and services
Personal support and services are available for students and can be accessed at any time.

with support along the way.

Accessibility and disability	Study	Welfare	Health	Wellbeing
Assess your needs and identify available supports	Academic and English language support, numeracy support	Support students in difficult academic, emotional, social or financial situations	General practice clinic, specialist clinics and medical services	Counseling and mental health support services

Resources List

For detailed information on our university community, services and operations, please search through the articles and tutorials available on our [website](#) and through [Service Connect](#). See the following resources signposted for ease of reference:

[Student Visa Conditions](#): All international students in our Study Abroad and Exchange programs are required to have a valid student visa. See this page for details regarding Student Visa conditions.

[Overseas Student Health Cover](#): Student visa holders are required to have an OSHC. Macquarie's chosen provider of OSHC is Medibank. See this page learn more.

[Accommodation](#): see an overview of on- and off-campus accommodation options. Contact all providers directly for further support.

[Calendar of Dates](#): Find session start and end dates, enrolment deadlines, exam periods and more for the academic year.

[Course Handbook](#): See the Course Handbook for unit overview, level, offerings, pre-requisites, learning outcomes, learning and teaching activities.

[Open Access Units List](#): Check the open access units list to see which units you may enrol in without having received special approval. These units don't have restrictions to enrolment.

[Closed Units List](#): Check the closed units list to see which units are not available to Study Abroad and Exchange students.

[Unit Guides](#): information about staff contacts, learning outcomes, assessment tasks, delivery mode and resources.

[Accessibility Services](#): Accessibility and disability support should be arranged at the time of enrolment so that the University has adequate time to implement the required support.

[Support services](#): Macquarie University employs a robust support system including services for student needs in academics, technology, health, wellbeing, counseling, and accessibility.

We look forward to welcoming you to Macquarie University.
You are joining a global community that values curiosity, inclusion, and lifelong learning.
We wish you an inspiring and successful study experience in Sydney!