



THE UNIVERSITY
of ADELAIDE



The University of Adelaide

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

adelaide.edu.au

If you are reading this you might be a parent, a guardian, or a caregiver. Family situations vary, but the principle remains the same: those students who have well informed enthusiastic people supporting them will do better at uni and in life.

We understand that the transition from school to uni can be challenging. To assist students we offer a set of initiatives to help them meet the challenge. There are many popular mentoring and 'buddy' schemes across first-year programs.

It's important that these student-focused schemes are backed up with support from you. This support should begin when your child is in the senior years of high school and continue into their years as a university student. This guide covers the basics, and is complemented by the information sessions we host at schools and on campus.

We hope this brochure is useful and look forward to meeting you and your child soon.

BENEFITS OF A UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

A university education prepares your child for life.

As parents, what we want for our children is simple: for them to be happy, healthy and successful. A university education delivers more than a respected qualification and career preparation—it also prepares your child for life.

University study equips your child with the confidence to face challenges, think creatively and respond wisely; encourages excellence; expands their view of the world; and enables them to build networks with people who are shaping our future.

We know that our chosen career paths impact on personal happiness and success, which is why being aware of all the options is essential when helping your child make the right choices.



REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE AND LIFELONG LEARNING

The University of Adelaide offers a diverse choice of over 120 degrees for undergraduate students. There are a range of degree options, allowing for flexibility in course choices and for students to pursue their passions with success.

We pride ourselves on being an innovative and future focused university, and an Australian leader in research. Our research concentrates on real-world problems and current issues, and students learn from staff who are among the world's best in their fields.

Our learning delivery methods extend beyond lecture theatres and laboratories, with real world experience being an important component of our degrees. Your son or daughter will benefit from programs such as:

Internships are a popular option offered in the final year of a variety of degrees and connect our students with over 50 industry partners—from State Parliament to private industry. In some instances internships contribute towards degree credit.

Work placements are part of many degrees. They include a practical, real world component that allows students to gain valuable experience and build networks before they graduate.

Study Overseas provides our students with the opportunity to study part of their degree in another country. Studying abroad not only allows your child to travel overseas and experience other cultures, but develop global networks, and broaden their real world experience.

The university has exchange agreements with many prestigious overseas institutions.

Our **alumni networks** stretch across the globe and enable our current students and graduates to continue their interaction with the university, offering social activities and professional opportunities that encourage lifelong learning.

LIFE EXPERIENCE THROUGH STUDY OVERSEAS

All students will have the opportunity to study overseas through a range of programs, including student exchange, study tours and summer and winter schools.

There are many exciting opportunities in Europe, Asia, the Americas and Africa.

For information visit:
adelaide.edu.au/study-overseas



REASONS TO STUDY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

- We employ quality, innovative teaching staff, including Australian Learning and Teaching Council winners and world leaders in their fields of research.
- Our modern research and teaching facilities include the Barr Smith Library, 24-hour access computer suites, and state-of-the-art buildings, labs and lecture theatres.
- Our students benefit from free learning support in the form of academic writing and study skills development workshops, maths and stats assistance, and language development.
- We maintain strong links with the community that provide opportunities to gain practical skills through industry placements, work experience and networking.
- Financial support is available in the form of financial advice, student loans and an abundance of scholarships, including scholarships for rural, remote and Indigenous students.
- On-campus support services, including a health service, counselling service, accommodation service, learning and disability service, childcare centres, employment service and a program for elite athletes, most of which are free to enrolled students, are offered.
- The University of Adelaide has a consistent ranking amongst the top 1% of universities worldwide, and high ratings in the areas of staff-student ratio, student demand, research grants and research intensiveness in the Australian *Good Universities Guide*.
- We are members of the Group of Eight (Go8) universities, Australia's benchmark universities, leading the way in teaching and research.
- Our famous alumni include Nobel Prize winners; the first Australian space shuttle mission astronaut, Dr Andy Thomas; founder of visual effects industry leaders Rising Sun Pictures, Didier Elzinga; and even former Prime Minister, Julia Gillard.
- We have a strong commitment to creating an environment that welcomes and values peoples from diverse cultural backgrounds, and to principles of equity and justice.
- There are many opportunities for recreation, making new friends and staying active through involvement in student media and politics, clubs, sporting teams and at the on-campus gym.



PREPARING FOR AND APPLYING TO UNIVERSITY

There are several pathways to studying at the University of Adelaide.



Most students come to us having recently completed their Year 12 SACE, its interstate equivalent, or the International Baccalaureate.

Other students use their TAFE qualification to apply (and in most cases get credit for previous study), transfer from another university, enter via our University Preparatory Program, use their STAT score (Special Tertiary Admissions Test) or apply through the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Access Entry Scheme.

If your child is thinking about university study after completing Year 12, it's important to start considering careers and the relevant university degrees. It's not unusual for different universities to have different prerequisites and entry criteria for similar degrees, so it's important to do your research. Assisting your child carefully choose their Year 10, 11 and 12 subjects will help keep their options open.

Applying for entry

Applications for admission to undergraduate degrees at all universities in South Australia are made online through SATAC (South Australian Tertiary Admissions Centre).

Your child may apply for up to six different degrees, which should be listed in order of ideal preference. Even if there is only one degree they have a strong preference for, they should still list more than one program on their application. If your son or daughter is not offered entrance to their first preference degree, they may be accepted into a lower preference that could allow them to study similar courses and then transfer to their preferred degree after a successful first semester or first year.

Copies of the SATAC *Guide*, published in July each year are sent to all secondary schools for distribution to students. This guide provides comprehensive information on the tertiary institutions, degrees offered and application procedures, including cut-off dates for applying. Copies are also able to be purchased from most newsagents.

Important terminology

Selection Ranking scores are used to rank applicants applying to a university program. For your child to gain their South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) and a university aggregate (which is then converted to an Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank or ATAR) they must successfully achieve a minimum of 80 credits in four Stage 2 subjects, including the Research Project B.

Their results are calculated as a university aggregate and then converted to an ATAR, which is an indicator of how well they did relative to all students in their year Australia-wide. The ATAR is a ranking between 0 and 99.95.

Adjustment factors may also be added to your child's university aggregate before it is converted to an ATAR. Please refer to the latest on how adjustment factors are calculated and allocated by visiting adelaide.edu.au/study/undergraduate/how-to-apply/adjustment-factors

The combination of an ATAR (or any other equivalent entry pathway, such as the STAT) plus any adjustment factors creates what is called a 'Selection Rank'.

Cut-off scores are published every year for each degree. A degree's cut-off score is the ATAR of the lowest scoring applicant accepted into the same degree in the previous year. Cut-off scores vary each year due to changes in degree quotas, the competitiveness of applicants and/or applicant demand. Cut-off scores aren't related to academic difficulty but do provide some indication as to the selection ranking required to enter each degree.

Selection criteria

Aside from having a competitive ATAR, some degrees also have additional selection criteria, such as prerequisites, assumed knowledge, auditions, questionnaires, or interviews.

Prerequisites are subjects your child must have successfully passed at high school (or equivalent) to gain entry to an academic degree.

Assumed knowledge is the academic background that we assume students have. While studying these subjects is highly desirable, your child will not be excluded from being considered for a degree without these subjects.

Some degrees, such as the Bachelors of Dental Surgery/Medicine and Surgery/ Oral Health, require your child to apply for and successfully complete the UCAT (University Clinical Aptitude Test). The UCAT will replace the UMAT (Undergraduate Medical and Health Sciences Admissions Test) from 2019 onwards, for entry into university in 2020.



IF YOUR SON OR DAUGHTER RECEIVES AN OFFER, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THEY CAREFULLY CONSIDER THEIR OPTIONS AND THEN MAKE SURE THAT THEIR PLACE IN THEIR CHOSEN DEGREE IS SECURE.

Help them prepare with our Year 12 holiday program

All parents want their children to be well prepared for the important things in life. Our Professional and Continuing Education (PCE) unit conducts Year 12 Holiday program, a range of subject preparation, subject revision and study skills courses suitable for Year 12 students and advanced Year 11 students. These run during school holidays throughout the year.

Preparation and revision courses are offered in several subjects and conducted by experienced Year 12 teachers using our facilities. Class sizes are limited to allow for individual attention. A range of study skills courses include topics such as goal setting, motivation, time and resource management, study and exam skills, and stress management.

You can find more information on these courses at adelaide.edu.au/pce

Accepting an offer of admission or choosing to defer studies

The main round of offers of admission are made in mid-January, although there is also an early offer round in December for a limited number of degrees. Your child can check the SATAC website to see what offer they have received. Some applicants will need to respond to their offer. Additional rounds of offers are made in late January and early February. If your son or daughter receives an offer, it is important that they carefully consider their options and then make sure that their place in their chosen degree is secure.

For different reasons students may choose to defer their university studies for a period of time after high school. Deferment of studies for up to two years is available for almost all of our degrees. You can find more information about deferment on our website (go to adelaide.edu.au/study and search 'defer') and in the SATAC *Guide*.

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOUR CHILD STARTS UNIVERSITY

Student life at the University of Adelaide is both exciting and challenging, and it may take some time for your child to make the transition and settle in properly.

They'll be expected to take responsibility for managing their own time, attending classes, studying, researching and completing assignments.

The transition to life as a university student

Unsurprisingly, life as a high school student is quite different to life as a university student.

Your son or daughter is likely to have spent the last few years of their education in familiar surroundings, with their tasks assigned and explained by teachers they know well. They will have received regular feedback on their progress and capabilities, and have a sense of belonging to a clearly defined, supportive and structured learning community.

At university, students are treated as accountable adults who are responsible for their own work and time management.

When starting at university, your child may be separated from their school friends and mixing with unfamiliar people in an unknown and less structured learning environment. To learn the boundaries and rules at uni they need to be alert and ask questions; academic expectations may seem more complex; and issues including plagiarism assume greater importance. They may also receive less direction from lecturers and tutors than at school; and university staff will not chase them for incomplete or overdue coursework.

We have lots of programs and events to make the transition to university as smooth as possible.

Orientation Week, or O'Week as it is known, is a program of academic and social activities and information sessions aimed at helping your child get off to the best start. O'Week introduces your son or daughter to campus life: the University's services, resources, environment, and new ways of learning.

Please refer to the 'Support for our students' section to learn more about the full range of support services we can offer your child.

Study commitment

If your child is studying full-time, this usually means they will study four courses per semester. A full-time study commitment is made up of contact and non-contact time. While the proportion of contact to non-contact varies between courses, your son or daughter can expect to spend an average of 48 hours a week on full-time university study in total. Some students choose to study part-time allowing them to balance study with other commitments.

Contact time is the time your child spends in organised teaching sessions: mainly lectures and tutorials, although some courses will also include laboratory practicals, field trips and clinical/work placements. Some lectures are not compulsory, however students are strongly urged to attend regularly as course content is covered thoroughly in lectures. To get the most from lectures your child should take notes and do preparatory and follow-up reading.

There may be a large number of students at lectures so smaller tutorials and practicals are held to help develop a more in-depth and hands on understanding of course content. During tutorials your child will actively participate in discussions, and often take turns leading the discussion and presenting papers to the group.

Non-contact time is time spent studying at home or in the library, completing assignments, preparing for tutorials and revising for tests and exams.



MONEY MATTERS

Financial support that makes university education more affordable.

Nowadays there is considerable help with the financial costs of studying at university. Which means your financial situation needn't be a barrier to your child's education.

Commonwealth supported places are available in all undergraduate degrees studied at the University of Adelaide. A Commonwealth supported place is subsidised by the Australian Government and students either pay their student contribution—that is, their contribution towards the full cost of their studies—up front or defer payment by requesting a HECS-HELP loan.

HECS-HELP is an Australian Government scheme to help students in a Commonwealth supported place to pay their student contribution. Australian citizens and holders of Permanent Humanitarian visas are eligible.

For more information on HECS-HELP visit studyassist.gov.au

Centrelink, on behalf of the Australian Government, provides financial assistance to full-time students (and to a lesser degree part-time students) with approved circumstances. Allowances are subject to various criteria including:

- initial qualification criteria
- personal income and asset test
- parental/spouse income and asset test (where applicable)
- satisfactory academic progress.

If you think your child may qualify, contact Centrelink. During your child's studies, the Adelaide University Union's Education and Welfare Officers are available to help with advice and information on dealing with Centrelink and other student finance matters.

Grants and loans, ranging from short-term emergency loans and interest free student loans, are offered by the University of Adelaide and the Adelaide University Union.

For more information on available grants and loans, including eligibility criteria, please visit the University's website at adelaide.edu.au/student/student_loans

Scholarships and bursaries are available to both new and continuing students. Scholarships are not only for high achievers—they are also available to provide your son or daughter with an equal opportunity to study at university, no matter where you live or what your financial situation might be. We encourage your child to apply for any scholarships for which they may be eligible.

More information is available at adelaide.edu.au/scholarships

If your child is looking for part-time or casual work or needs financial advice while studying the Adelaide University Union is the peak student representative body and can help. Their website lists casual, part-time and one-off jobs from employers looking specifically to employ University of Adelaide students.





SUPPORT FOR OUR STUDENTS

Services to help your child's experience of university be a happy, healthy and successful one.

We believe that to be successful in their university studies students need access to high quality academic, administrative, counselling and support services. Your child can use a diverse range of our services during their time at university—free of charge.

Peer Networking programs are run across many of our faculties and schools. These provide opportunities for networking with other first-year students in the same study program, with the support of key academic staff, and peer mentors who've been through the experience.

The **Writing Centre** helps all students, no matter their skill level, in their development as writers through in person, one-on-one consultations and online feedback. We support all students through any and all stages of their writing process, from initial idea to final revision, and everything in between.

The **Maths Learning Centre** provides bridging courses, seminars, workshops and online resources, as well as a drop-in service where students can visit without an appointment for one-on-one assistance with their maths/stats.

Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS) provides weekly study groups in specific courses, facilitated by students who have excelled in those courses. The program has a proven track record of enabling students to achieve their best possible results, whether to simply pass or achieve a higher grade than

if studying alone. The program also helps students to develop academic skills for ongoing learning and success.

The **English Language Centre** offers a range of English language and cultural programs. These include the award-winning Pre-enrolment English Program, (which provides international applicants with a direct entry pathway to undergraduate or postgraduate study at the University of Adelaide) and Certificate IV in TESOL, for students who want to pursue a career in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages.

Our **Counselling Service** team of experienced male and female psychologists and social workers are available to assist your child with any issues that may be affecting their time at university and help them explore options to resolve these difficulties. This is a free and confidential service, which can include individual counselling, workshops, and crisis and trauma intervention.

Education and Welfare Officers can support your child with confidential, expert advocacy and representation in appeals or complaints, advice and assistance with financial hardship and Centrelink problems, and university grievances.

The **Disability Service** supports students with a wide range of temporary or ongoing disabilities. This includes learning disabilities, medical conditions, mental illness, brain injury, and short-term medical issues, such as a fractured limb. With a strong commitment to confidentiality, help may include physical or practical assistance, finding ways to improve study habits in the university environment, accessing specialised equipment, and making variations to exam formats. You child is encouraged to contact the Disability Advisor as early as possible in their academic career to discuss individual needs. If you have questions for the Disability Service, please visit adelaide.edu.au/disability/whotalkto for contact details.

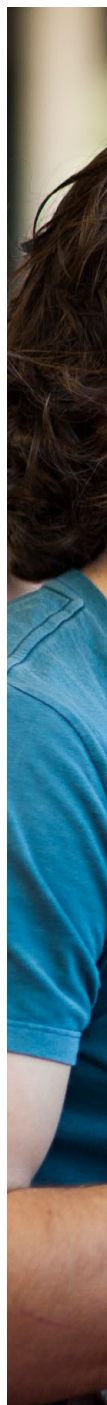
University Health offers comprehensive and confidential health care to students in a friendly and comfortable environment. Both female and male doctors are available and consultations are bulk-billed.

The **Accommodation Service** understands that having comfortable and affordable accommodation is vital to academic success. We can assist your child with finding accommodation whether they need to live away from home to attend university, or choose to live away from home. Options include university accommodation, residential colleges, student hostels and private rentals.

The **Accommodation Service** can also provide advice for people living away from home for the first time regarding the rights and responsibilities of tenants and landlords, and on practical issues such as connecting utilities, referrals and sharing a house.

Elite Athletes Support and Information Service helps student athletes balance their sporting and academic commitments. If your child competes at State or higher level in an approved sport, they are considered an eligible student athlete and may benefit from the university's flexible and responsive approach to study.

The **Careers Service** offers a wide range of programs and resources to help your child with career planning and progression. These include guidance with study and training courses, workshops on resumé writing, interview skills and career planning, individual appointments and counselling, careers events and job search websites.



FINDING A BALANCE

Enjoying life as a student

University life is not just about study!

We feel university should be an invigorating, inspirational place, where minds, attitudes, beliefs and social connections are challenged and transformed.

Your child is provided with opportunities to achieve work/life balance, make enduring friendships and enjoy this time of their life by attending events and participating in activities available through the Adelaide University Union and Adelaide University Sport.

Adelaide University Union (AUU), the key organisation influencing campus life and culture, provides everything from social events to student media (including Radio Adelaide and magazine *On Dit*).

The Fitness Hub is a place on campus where students and staff can escape and relax in a positive environment for individual and group exercise. Catering for all workout styles, the Fitness Hub has the latest in exercise equipment as well as group fitness classes to help you achieve your fitness goals.

The AUU's **Clubs Association** is a great way to meet people who share similar interests, whether that's engaging in friendly debate, playing video games or brushing up on language skills.

Also working hard on offering a physical balance to the university's intellectual life, **Adelaide University Sport** provides the best possible sport and recreation environment for the university community. There are almost 40 sports to choose from, ranging from Australia's largest university snow trip, through to bush walking, rowing and many more water, field and indoor sports.

In addition to newly built, high-tech teaching and research centres, we are developing our collaborative learning and social spaces, such as Hub Central where students can come together to study over lunch or a coffee, work on group projects, study solo, socialise or be entertained with special events while remaining on campus.



YOUR NEXT STEP

What now?

The best way to help your child make career choices is to encourage them to explore all their options.

Once your son or daughter has narrowed down their options, Ask Adelaide can provide answers to their queries related to degrees and courses. Detailed information on our degrees and related admission requirements can also be found on our website at adelaide.edu.au/degree-finder

By joining us at Open Day and other information sessions you'll not only get the chance to visit campus, but attend events that provide insight into available career opportunities in each field to help focus your son or daughter on what they really want to do. It's a great time for them to ask questions and chat to staff and students who've made similar career choices.

You can find out when these events are held by visiting our website, including the Open Day site: adelaide.edu.au/openday

FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES

The University of Adelaide SA 5005 Australia

ENQUIRIES future.ask.adelaide.edu.au

TELEPHONE +61 8 8313 5208

FREE-CALL 1800 061 459

 adelaide.edu.au

 facebook.com/uniofadelaid

 twitter.com/uniofadelaid

 snapchat.com/add/uniofadelaid

 instagram.com/uniofadelaid

© The University of Adelaide.
Published October 2018 2076.5
CRICOS 00123M

DISCLAIMER The information in this publication is current as at the date of printing and is subject to change. You can find updated information on our website at adelaide.edu.au or contact us on 1800 061 459. The University of Adelaide assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of information provided by third parties.