

in association with

Curtin College



Curtin University

Curtin College Pre-Arrival Guide

Congratulations on accepting your offer at Curtin College! This is the beginning of an incredible journey that will not only bring you to a new country but also set you on the path toward a fulfilling and exciting career.

Once you've accepted your offer to study with us, it's time to do some important preparation to help make your journey to Curtin as smooth and stress-free as possible. Here's what you need to prepare before you arrive.

Make tomorrow better.

Before you go

Passport

Check your passport expiry date. Your passport must be valid for at least 6 months before your arrival in Perth

Student visa

International students require a student visa to study in Australia.

Once you have received your Confirmation of Enrolment from Curtin College you can proceed with the visa application. The visa grants you permission to remain in Australia for the duration of your course and allows for multiple re-entry throughout your studies.

Student visas are granted subject to certain conditions. You must:

- Attend a minimum of 80% of all classes
- Make satisfactory progress with your studies
- Obtain and maintain current Overseas Student Health Cover
- Keep the College informed at all times of your current address and contact details in Australia
- Not work more than 40 hours per fortnight
- Meet additional requirements applicable to minors if you are under 18

The process of applying for a student visa differs considerably, depending on your citizenship and the country where you are applying. For more information visit www.immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-finder/study.

Make sure you allow sufficient time for your visa application to be processed so that you can attend orientation at Curtin College.

Important documents

You will need these documents for orientation and throughout your stay in Australia. Please make sure you have the following available:

- Your Welcome Letter from Curtin College
- Certified copies of all relevant academic transcripts
- Confirmation(s) of Enrolment (CoE or eCoE)
- A copy of your Overseas Student Health Cover policy – also known as OSHC
- Other forms of identification such as your driver's license, proof of age card etc...
- Any medical records and prescriptions, if applicable
- Vaccination records relevant to your course (for more information visit www.curtin.edu.au/study/applying/fieldwork-statements/)

What to bring

The dress code at Curtin and around Perth is generally casual and informal. We suggest packing the following items:

- During the warmer months (November-March) opt for lighter clothing such as t-shirts, shorts/skirts, sandals and sneakers.
- In cooler months (May-September), bring warm garments like jeans, jumpers, a rain jacket, boots or sneakers.
- Consider bringing semi-formal attire for outings and networking functions that may be relevant to your course.

Don't forget sportswear, swimwear, and a hat for the summer season. The cost of clothing and footwear in Perth is comparable to Western countries but more expensive compared to Asian countries. Various discounted outlets and affordable clothing stores are available.

Also, don't forget to bring chargers for your phone, camera, laptop and other electronic devices, plus a converter for Australian power outlets. Australia uses standard 240 volts and our plugs have flat metal pins shaped like a 'V'.

Accommodation

Moving away from home is an adventure and where you choose to live is also part of the learning journey.

Perth offers a range of student accommodation options, all of which can suit different needs depending on what you are looking for and your budget.

To learn more about the different types of accommodation we offer visit curtincollege.edu.au/future-students/international/accommodation/

Please note that demand for accommodation is high in Australia. We recommend arranging your accommodation well before you arrive in Perth to start your studies.



Living expenses

Understanding the average cost of living in Perth is essential when it comes to your financial preparations. To aid you in your planning, there are various cost of living calculators available for use.

Visit costofliving.studyaustralia.gov.au/ to estimate your living costs.

Opening a bank account

In Australia, you have a variety of options available to effectively manage your finances. You can choose from nationwide banks, local credit unions, and building societies. To help you get started with your bank accounts, here are some tips.

- You can set up a bank account before or after you arrive.
- To open an account you will need to have your Electronic Confirmation of Enrolment (eCoE), passport, Letter of Offer and other forms of identification
- You may also need an Australian Tax File Number (TFN). You can find information about getting a TFN at the Australian Tax Office website.

Mobile phone

It is best to purchase a SIM card or Australian mobile number when you arrive in Australia, as using your home phone number will incur high costs. There are two types of mobile phone accounts you can choose from:

Prepaid

A prepaid service gives you flexibility because you control how much you spend and can stop using the service any time. Pre-paid SIM cards are sold in many shops and supermarkets, as well as by mobile phone providers. After an easy set-up process with the provider, you will have a working Australian mobile number which you can top up with credit as needed. You can usually top up your prepaid service online or at a range of retail outlets. Your mobile phone provider can provide details on how you can top up your service.

Contract

If you will be using your mobile a lot, and will be in Australia for a fixed period of time for study, a contract might work out cheaper for you. There are numerous mobile phone operators in Australia, and you can choose from a range of phone plans where you can get the handset with little (if any) up-front cost; you then pay a fixed price per month for a certain amount of calls, text messages and data.

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

You will need to bring your own personal device to all classes, including a mouse, camera, microphone and headphone. This is how you will access learning materials and participate in learning activities in and outside the classroom.

A laptop or notebook computer is widely regarded as the most suitable choice. This should be installed with software such as Microsoft Office, LibreOffice or OpenOffice to allow word processing, spreadsheets and presentations to be completed.

Antivirus software is also strongly recommended.

For Computing, IT and Engineering students the device must be a laptop using Windows and not an Apple machine, software used in the course cannot be installed on Apple devices.

Operating System

Windows at least 8.1, 10,
Apple at least High Sierra or later .

To ensure the latest programs and software are compatible, we recommend the current or previous version of any operating system.

Battery Life

Devices need to last through classes and coursework. It is recommended that the device can operate a minimum of 5hrs from a full charge. Students need to be responsible for the charging of their own devices.

See our device guidelines for more information.

Wi-Fi

Curtin College students can access Curtin College and Curtin University Wi-Fi while on campus.

Driving in Australia

You must have a valid driver's licence to drive in Australia and carry it with you at all times while driving. International students are regarded as temporary residents, which means that you are able to drive in Australia using your licence from your home country as long as it is current and valid. If your licence is not written in English, you must also carry a certified translation in English or apply for an International Driving Permit from your home country.

Register for a StudyPerth Welcome Pack

StudyPerth provides various services and resources to assist international students throughout their educational journey and help them make the most of their time in Perth. You can register for a Welcome Pack at www.studyperth.com.au/moving-to-perth/welcome-service/welcome-packs/. The Welcome Pack contains merchandise, vouchers, a SIM card and other useful resources to get you started in Perth.

On arrival

At the airport

Once you have landed in Perth, collect your luggage and make your way through Australian immigration and customs. As you walk out of the arrivals doors you can make contact with the StudyPerth Airport Greeters and collect your Welcome Pack, if you have registered for one.

Quarantine

Australia implements strict biosecurity measures to reduce the potential introduction of pests and diseases into the country. To ensure compliance, all travellers are required to meet certain requirements before entering Australia.

When arriving in Australia, you must fill out an Incoming Passenger Card (IPC), which serves as an official record of your entry. On this card, you must declare any food, plant material, and animal products you are carrying. This declaration is essential for both customs and quarantine inspections.

If you declare any of these items on your IPC, you will be directed to an inspection point upon arrival. At this point, a biosecurity officer will evaluate the declared goods.

If you prefer not to declare any items, you can responsibly dispose of them in the designated bins at the terminal before reaching the inspection points. You could be fined or prosecuted for carrying undeclared controlled goods.

After inspection, in most cases, your declared goods will be returned to you. However, certain items might require treatment to ensure their safety. Please note that some items are prohibited from entering Australia due to the potential risk of pests and diseases.

For more information on what you can and cannot bring into Australia visit www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity-trade/travelling/to-australia/.

Update your address

As an international student, it is mandatory to comply with your student visa requirements by informing Curtin College about your current Australian address and contact information within 7 days of your arrival or when you change your address.

You can do that on your Student Portal once you have activated your account.

Cultural adjustment

While there are numerous advantages to studying in a foreign country, it's important to be ready for the changes that come with transitioning to a new environment, whether that involves geography, culture, or a combination of both. Our student Counsellor is available to assist students in navigating these adjustments and providing support throughout their journey.

Working while you study

International students studying in Australia have the chance to work, which offers a valuable opportunity to immerse themselves in the local culture and engage with the community. International students are entitled to the same workplace rights and protections as other workers in Australia. Before commencing work, it is important to be aware of certain requirements:

- You must be paid at least the minimum wage
- You must pay tax on your income
- You must receive a payslip
- From 1 July 2023, you can work up to 48 hours every fortnight during term time, and unlimited hours during your holiday breaks
- Casual work means you don't have a fixed number of hours every week



Getting started at Curtin

Orientation

Our Orientation day occurs the week before your classes do. In Orientation, you'll be provided with information and advice relating to your studies and new environment. It is a great opportunity to make new friends, meet your lecturers and discover what facilities, services and support are available to you at Curtin College. You will also meet orientation leaders and student mentors, who are all successful students or recent graduates of Curtin College.

It is an activity-packed day, full of fun activities that will help you meet new people and get settled in. It's also your chance to learn more about your course and faculty so that you're prepared for an easy transition to tertiary studies.

Enrol in your units

After accepting your offer, you will receive an email with information about the opening of the enrolment period. It is crucial to enrol in your classes early to have the best options available, ensuring they align perfectly with your schedule.

Internet access

While on campus you can connect to the free WIFI. In Curtin College Building choose network 'Navitas-Students'

Student support

If at anytime you need assistance for any student-related matters, please contact support@curtincollege.edu.au



Contact us for more information

E: info@curtincollege.edu.au

W: curtincollege.edu.au



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