

# Studying in Australia?

## We can make the move easier.

### Study in Australia checklist

Here are some tips to help you move to Australia with confidence.



### Prior to planning your move

#### Education

- Decide on the course and institution you want to study at and apply for your course. To find out more visit [studyinaustralia.gov.au](http://studyinaustralia.gov.au)

### Three months before you leave

#### Banking

- Visit Commonwealth Bank's website to get tips about moving to Australia and to learn about Australian banking so you can get up and running as soon as you arrive.

#### Insurance

- Organise cover for your trip, including travel, life and health insurance.

#### Employment

- Looking to work while you're studying? Check the visa requirements – there can be strict restrictions about whether or how much you can work.
- Consider updating your resume/ curriculum vitae.

#### Travel

- Book your flight if you haven't done so already.
- If moving a large amount of items book your shipping company so items can be shipped by sea (which is cheaper). Make sure to time the arrival of your belongings as if they arrive before you do you may need to pay for storage.
- Apply for an International Driving Permit if you need one. To find out more visit [austroads.com.au](http://austroads.com.au)

#### Mail

- Start to keep a list of the companies you get mail from so you can notify them when it comes to updating your address.

#### Immigration

- Check you have a valid passport and the expiry date is in line with your visa's restrictions.
- Check/apply for any necessary visas and make note of any restrictions e.g. you may need to prove access to funds or proof of health cover. To find out more about student visas visit [immi.homeaffairs.gov.au](http://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au)

#### Accommodation

- Research accommodation options in Australia. Many educational institutions will be able to provide you with advice on different accommodation options. It's worth visiting the website of the institution you've enrolled in or contacting them directly.

### One month before you leave

#### Banking

- If you've already opened an Australian bank account consider transferring money to it before you arrive. You'll need a BSB and Account number and also your bank's SWIFT code. Commonwealth Bank customers can find this information on their welcome letter. Fees may apply.
- Change some cash into Australian dollars before arriving in Australia or ensure you have some way of accessing your cash in Australia.

#### Documentation

- Make copies of your important documents (certified copies are best for official documents) e.g. tax information including any tax identification numbers, passport, birth certificate, visa, vaccination records, driver licence and International Driving Permit, airline tickets and itinerary, handover files from dentists, schools and doctors.

#### Email and mail

- Notify contacts/companies of your new postal address.
- Register for email updates for any services you're keeping, and consider changing from paper statements and communications to emails from your local bank or service providers. That way you won't miss anything no matter where you are.

#### Health

- Check any prescription medication you need is up to date.
- If you're bringing prescription medication with you, check it can be brought into Australia – you may need to obtain a letter from your doctor.

#### Travel

- Check luggage allowances with your airline.
- Start working out what you're going to pack. It's worth checking your airline's luggage allowances and starting to pack your main suitcase early so you can ship items if you have too much to take.
- Make a list of all subscription services you want to cancel before your move including internet, TV streaming services, mobile phone providers, utility providers and gym memberships. Many require notice to be given in advance.
- Confirm all airport transfer arrangements.



## One week before you leave

### Travel

- Finish packing and weigh luggage to ensure it meets the airline's allowance.
- Consider including power adapters for electrical items.
- Check what items can and cannot be brought into Australia (quarantine rules are stricter than most other countries for food, plants and animal products). To find out more visit [smarttraveller.gov.au](https://www.smarttraveller.gov.au)
- Pack valuables in your carry-on luggage including original documentation and any paperwork you may need to prove you meet the visa requirements e.g. bank statements to prove your financial position.

### Home matters

- Pay any outstanding bills.
- Redirect your mail.

## When you arrive in Australia

### Banking

- If you opened a bank account before you left your home country, visit your nominated Commonwealth Bank branch to activate your account. Otherwise, visit your nearest Commonwealth Bank branch to open an account.

Ensure you bring with you:

- Your current passport (original document required).
- If you have tax residency outside Australia you'll also need to provide your Tax Identification Number (TIN) for each country of foreign tax residency.
- Proof of your student status – either a Letter of Enrolment or Student Card.

### Taxation

- Register for a Tax File Number (TFN) – you'll need one if you're planning on working. It can also save you paying too much tax if you open a bank account. To find out more and to apply for a TFN visit [ato.gov.au](https://www.ato.gov.au)

### Local knowledge

- Visit the Student Services office at your chosen educational institution for campus information.
- Explore your local area to familiarise yourself with the transport, shops and other services that are available.

### Driver licence

- Visit your nearest roads authority office to obtain a driver licence if required. To find out more visit [austroads.com.au](https://www.austroads.com.au)

### Health

- Depending on your circumstances, you may be eligible for free or subsidised healthcare through Medicare. To find out more visit [medicareaustralia.gov.au](https://www.medicareaustralia.gov.au)

**Things you should know:** As this information has been prepared without considering your objectives, financial situation or needs, you should, before acting on the information, consider its appropriateness to your circumstances. Terms and Conditions for our banking products and services are available from [commbank.com.au](https://www.commbank.com.au) and should be considered before making any decisions. Fees and charges may apply. Commonwealth Bank of Australia ABN 48 123 123 124.