THE 2015/16 PRE-DEPARTURE GUIDE
for undergraduate and postgraduate international students

Make tomorrow better.

international.curtin.edu.au
Congratulations on being offered a place at Curtin University. This guide will provide the information you need to accept your offer, prepare to leave home and begin your studies at Curtin.

Please bring this guide with you to your pre-departure briefing session. If you are not attending a pre-departure briefing session, please read this guide carefully before your departure.
ARMING AT CURTIN

EXPERIENCE CURTIN
When you accept your offer and arrive in Perth, you’ll become part of a multicultural community and discover the pristine beaches, vibrant nightlife, warm weather and cosmopolitan lifestyle that make the city one of the most desirable places to live in the world.

As the largest university in Western Australia and one of the most international universities in the world, Curtin gives you the chance to make friends and develop global networks for travel, employment and further study.

For more information, visit international.curtin.edu.au

STUDENT SUPPORT

Curtin International
Curtin International (Building 102) has specialist staff who can assist you with:
- course information
- eligibility for entry into university courses
- the application process
- course changes
- study options

Student Central
Once you have enrolled in your course, you should contact Student Central (Building 101) for matters relating to:
- OSHC registration/renewals
- visa renewals
- tuition fees.

START
Visit the Student Transition and Retention Team (START) in Building 103 for answers to all your questions and for any help you may need while you are a student at Curtin. START will help you make a successful transition into university by helping you to find the support you need, including ways to improve your study skills and academic support.

The START Curtin Mentoring Program has been developed to help new students make a successful transition into university. All new first-year students are eligible to participate in the program. Your mentor will be a senior student who is studying the same course as you, and who is able to assist you during your first semester of study.

International student advisers
International student advisers are part of START, and are located in Building 103. They are available to assist you with any personal or academic issues that may affect your studies at Curtin. However big or small the problem, they provide a confidential service to support you while you are away from home. To make an appointment, please contact the START team via email or telephone, or visit Student Central (Building 101).

Tel: +61 8 9266 2662
Email: start@curtin.edu.au

Housing Services
housing.curtin.edu.au

The Housing Services Office, located in Building 103, will help you find a place to live. There is on-campus accommodation for over 1,000 students as well as a range of off-campus options.

Student wellbeing hotline
life.curtin.edu.au/student_wellbeing_service.htm

At Curtin, we believe you will learn best when you feel healthy, safe and happy. We have established a student wellbeing hotline (available during office hours) and email inbox that is strictly confidential and will assist with any issue, incident or activity that might threaten or affect your sense of wellbeing.

Tel: 1800 244 043
Email: studentwellbeing@curtin.edu.au

Curtin Careers Centre

The Curtin Careers Centre can assist you to maximize your time at university and reach your employment goals. Our services include career counselling, workshops and presentations, employer events, a mentoring program, career resources and an online jobs board.

SAFETY ON CAMPUS

Curtin Security
Your safety is our priority. Curtin Security (security.curtin.edu.au) conducts regular patrols of the campus 24 hours a day, every day of the week. Students are encouraged to use our safer pathways, the campus’ main network of paths patrolled between 4.30 pm and 12.30 am each weekday during semester. Campus bus services are also available after hours to take you to your car or public transport.

Visit properties.curtin.edu.au/security/safecampus.cfm for more information.

The SafeZone app
SafeZone is a free app for all students and staff, available for Android and iOS. SafeZone connects you directly to our security team when you need help or first aid, in a convenient and fast manner. The app is currently available for use within the grounds of our main campus.

To learn more about SafeZone, visit properties.curtin.edu.au/security/safezone.cfm

Think Before
The Australian Government has developed the Think Before safety initiative to help you keep safe as you settle into life in Australia. Get safety tips sent straight to your mobile with free Apple and Android apps. For more information, visit thinkbefore.com.au
ACADEMIC SUPPORT
UniEnglish
unienglish.curtin.edu.au
UniEnglish is a confidential online English language analysis tool that will help you identify your strengths and weaknesses, draw up a language development plan and find out how to obtain English language support at Curtin.

UniEnglish is quick to complete online and is available to all Curtin students. There are four sections – reading, listening, writing and speaking – and you can do them separately or together. Results for the reading and listening sections are available instantly online. The writing and speaking sections are assessed individually by qualified English language professionals. UniEnglish is a tool for you to use as part of your personal language development strategy. It is voluntary, free of charge, and accessible from any computer with internet access.

For more information, contact:
Donna Butorac
English Language Proficiency Officer
Tel: +61 8 9266 7839
Email: Donna.Butorac@curtin.edu.au

The Learning Centre
learningcentre.curtin.edu.au
The Learning Centre (TLC) is located on the second floor of Building 303, offering learning support programs that enhance students’ academic performance at all levels. These programs cover areas including preparing research papers, general grammar and punctuation, writing for various academic areas, note-taking and critical reading skills.

All seminars are conducted by expert lecturers in a relaxed and supportive environment.

For more information, contact TLC:
Tel: +61 8 9266 3825
Fax: +61 8 9266 3051
Email: tlc@curtin.edu.au

Post Entry Language Assessment (PELA) All commencing students in every faculty at Curtin undertake a Post Entry Language Assessment (PELA). Further information can be found at policies.curtin.edu.au

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES
Curtin Student Guild
guild.curtin.edu.au
The Curtin Student Guild is a group of elected students who represent Curtin students on all major university boards and committees. The Guild ensures students’ voices are heard and their rights are spoken for.

There are more than 70 clubs registered with the Guild, representing international, religious, sports, academic and special interest groups.

PRE-DEPARTURE CHECKLIST

This checklist will guide you through accepting your offer and preparing to study at Curtin.

1. ACCEPT YOUR OFFER
Ensure all conditions on your offer are met pg 6
Complete the Streamlined Visa Processing checklist and return the signed Acceptance of Offer form statement pg 6
Pay your deposit on your tuition fee pg 7
Provide a copy of the personal details page of your passport pg 7
Pay your Overseas Student Health Cover pg 8

2. APPLY FOR YOUR STUDENT VISA
Receive your Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE) pg 7
Lodge an application for your student visa pg 10

3. BOOK YOUR AIRLINE TICKET
Make your booking as soon as you have accepted your offer, and remember to arrive in Perth in time for O-Week pg 32

4. COMPLETE THE ONLINE AIRPORT RECEPTION BOOKING FORM
Conditions apply, so please check if you are eligible pg 18

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Become familiar with Curtin’s policies and procedures pg 29

7. GET INFORMED ABOUT CURTIN’S SERVICES AND FACILITIES
Find out about the services available to you at Curtin pg 2
Remember who the important contacts are at Curtin pg 33
YOUR OFFER

YOUR OFFER PACKAGE

Letter of Offer
Your Letter of Offer is your official notification that you have been offered a place in a particular course at Curtin. You will need to bring your Letter of Offer with you to Curtin to be able to enrol.

Acceptance of Offer
The Acceptance of Offer accompanies the Letter of Offer and should be completed, signed and returned to Curtin with payment of your tuition fee deposit and Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) fees (if required). Signing the Acceptance of offer shows that you have read, understood and agree to the terms and conditions of the offer, as well as Curtin’s international Student Refund Agreement (see page 20).

Student number
You will be allocated a student number in your Letter of Offer that you should quote in ALL correspondence with Curtin.

BEFORE ACCEPTING YOUR OFFER

Before you accept your offer or pay your fees, you must:
• meet ALL conditions on your Letter of Offer, regardless of the deposit due date (unless advised otherwise by Curtin International).
• check with your nearest Australian High Commission or embassy, or the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP), concerning country assessment levels and Streamlined Visa Processing (see advice opposite).

Conditions of offer
If you have conditions listed on your offer in most scenarios you should not pay your deposit until all conditions have been made. For example, if you have a condition on your offer that states ‘Evidence of completion of a course currently being undertaken must be provided’ you should not pay the deposit until you have provided evidence of completion.

If you have not met the conditions on your offer and need to request an extension of payment, or due to time constraints you are unable to meet all conditions prior to finalising your student visa application, please contact Curtin International for advice. CI-Enquiries@curtin.edu.au

Submitted documents
Please be aware that all supporting documentation and certified documents you submit with your application will be stored electronically by Curtin. As such, please do not submit original documents.

Country assessment levels
There are three assessment levels in the student visa program. They serve to align student visa requirements to the immigration risk posed by applicants from a particular country studying in a particular education sector. Each country is assigned an assessment level, and the higher the assessment level, the greater the evidence an applicant is required to demonstrate to support their visa application. For more information, visit immi.gov.au/students

Streamlined Visa Processing (SVP)
Curtin participates in the Streamlined Visa Processing (SVP) arrangement, which has necessitated the implementation of a range of measures to test the genuineness, suitability, and financial capacity of applicants.

Students applying for a visa under SVP will be deemed by the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) a lower immigration risk, with the rigours of the student visa application process being comparable to Assessment Level 1.

When requesting a Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE) you will be asked to complete Curtin’s SVP checklist and declaration. This will have been sent to you along with your Letter of Offer.

Students with disabilities
Students with disabilities or medical conditions are advised to discuss their individual needs with the University’s counselling staff before accepting their offer.

HOW TO ACCEPT YOUR OFFER

To accept your offer, you must:
• complete, sign and return the Acceptance of Offer Form
• provide a photocopy of your passport details
• pay the tuition fee deposit
• pay for your Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) membership
• complete and sign the SVP checklist, along with supporting documentation (where required)
• complete and return a Local Carer Form (signed by your parents or guardians) (only if you are under 18 years of age).

Students under 18 years of age
If you are under 18 years of age when you commence your studies at Curtin, your parent or guardian will need to nominate an approved local carer by completing the Local Carer Form, available from international.curtin.edu.au

Your carer will have responsibility for your welfare in Australia until you turn 18, in accordance with Australian Government legislation pertaining to the care and welfare of students under 18 years of age.

You will also need to complete the carer documentation required by the relevant Australian authorities when you apply for your student visa. For further information about requirements for students under 18 years of age, visit the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) website at immi.gov.au

Nominated carers who are not DIBP-approved relatives must provide evidence of a Working With Children (WWC) Check. Details on how to obtain a WWC Check can be accessed from the Department of Child Protection website at check.wcc.wa.gov.au

Note: the documentation required for students under 18 years of age can take up to six weeks to be processed. If the correct documentation is not provided, the student will not be able to enrol at Curtin.

Payment
You can pay your deposit and OSHC fee directly to the University through Curtin ePay. Curtin ePay allows you to complete your transaction online via credit card or through Peer Transfer (International Wire). For more information on these services please visit fees.curtin.edu.au

If you would prefer to pay via bank draft please quote your student number at all times and send through payment to:

University Fees Centre
Curtin University
GPO Box U1987
Perth, Western Australia 6845

Please allow enough time for the clearance of bank drafts as some can take up to eight weeks to process. Inability to pay fees on time due to money being held in a fixed term deposit account will not be accepted as a reason for late payment.

Note: the University will only process OSHC payments for Allianz Global Assistance. Curtin’s preferred provider (see page 8 for more information).

Electronic Confirmation of Enrolment
The electronic Confirmation of Enrolment (eCoE) is an important document you will receive from Curtin International after you have met all your enrolment conditions, and your signed Acceptance of Offer, a photocopy of your passport details, your signed SVP form, payment of your deposit and OSHC fee, and your Local Carer Form (if necessary) have been
The Australian Government requires all international students to:

- purchase OSHC in order to be granted a student visa
- be covered by OSHC for the length of their student visa
- purchase OSHC from a registered health provider, approved by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing
- pay OSHC before they leave home that will cover them from when they arrive in Australia.

APPROVED PROVIDERS

- Allianz Global Assistance
  oshcallianzassistance.com.au
- Medibank Private
  medibank.com.au
- BUPA Overseas Student Health Cover
  overseasstudenthealth.com
- Australian Health Management Group
  ahm.com.au/oshc
- nib OSHC
  nib.com.au

Curtin will only process payments for Allianz Global Assistance. If you wish to use another provider, you will need to make your own payment arrangements and show evidence of the payment to Curtin International and immigration when you apply for your visa.

You should compare alternative OSHC providers to find one that suits your budget and needs. For further information regarding all government-approved OSHC providers, visit international.curtin.edu.au

WHAT DOES MY OSHC COVER?

OSHC providers allow students to claim 100 per cent of the government set fee for a standard medical consultation. OSHC does not cover dental treatment, optical treatment or physiotherapy. We strongly recommend you take out additional private health cover with your provider to cover these services.

Most standard OSHC premiums do not cover treatment for pre-existing disability or medical conditions during the first 18 months of membership.

Students with disabilities or medical conditions who are granted student visas may have to obtain additional health insurance or have extra funds available to cover medical expenses.

Allianz Global Assistance can provide you with an ‘extras’ product known as StudentPlus. You can visit the Allianz Global Assistance website or talk to an Allianz Global Assistance representative on campus to find out more information about this product.

WHEN DOES MY MEMBERSHIP START?

OSHC will be activated when you land in Australia; however, it is important to note that a qualifying period may apply for some services. If you renew your visa offshore or take a leave of absence from your studies and have a new visa issued from abroad, you will be subject to another qualifying period for some services.

HOW LONG DO I NEED TO PURCHASE OSHC FOR?

All international students pay for OSHC for the duration of their student visa. Visa-length OSHC ensures you will not have to pay any premium increase for the length of your course, subject to goods and services tax (GST). You will be entitled to a refund of any outstanding balance if you leave Australia before you intended, provided there is at least one month remaining before your health cover expires. You should pay the premiums for OSHC when you accept your offer.

WHERE CAN I GET HELP WITH MY OSHC?

Allianz Global Assistance has a representative located at Student Central on campus (Building 101). This representative can assist you with any queries and process claims up to A$100 in value.
In most cases, international students require a student visa in order to study in Australia. You should apply for your visa after receiving your CoE from Curtin. Student visa conditions include the requirement to undertake a full-time study load. At Curtin, this equates to 100 credits per Semester.

Your student visa will:
• be entered into your passport or emailed to you if you apply online
• be issued for the duration of your course of courses
• enable you to re-enter Australia for the duration of your course.

APPLYING FOR YOUR VISA
The student visa application process varies greatly, and is dependent on a number of factors including your nationality, the country in which you are submitting your application, and the course or courses you are applying for.

Please refer to immi.gov.au/students for up to date information.

Note: please ensure you allow enough time for your visa application to be processed so you can arrive at Curtin in time to attend orientation. You must be present for the full duration of the orientation program. See page 32 for dates.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
The Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) will examine students with disabilities or medical conditions when their student visa applications are processed. Student visa applications require disclosure of pre-existing disabilities or medical conditions. Nondisclosure may result in your visa application being unsuccessful.

TRAVELLING ON A STUDENT VISA
If you return home during the semester break, it’s important that you are mindful of your visa expiration date. If your student visa expires while you are outside Australia, you will need to submit a new visa application offshore, which could delay your return to Australia.

VISITOR’S VISA
Students who arrive on a visitor’s visa are not permitted to study in Commonwealth Register of Institutions and courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS) course that is longer than three months.

Students may be allowed to apply for a student visa while in Australia. Please check immi.gov.au for up to date information.

TRANSFER BETWEEN INSTITUTIONS
International students must complete at least six calendar months of their principal course before transferring to another institution. If a student visa has been issued for two or more courses as part of a package, the student must complete the first course and six months of the principal course before transferring to another institution. Students enrolled at an Australian institution other than Curtin who wish to transfer to Curtin prior to completing their first six months of study must obtain a release letter from their current institution before withdrawing.

The release letter must be presented together with Curtin’s acceptance of offer documents. Further information about the conditions that apply to requests to transfer to other institutions can be seen at esos.curtin.edu.au/student_enrolment

If you are currently studying at an institution in Australia (other than Curtin) and hold a student visa, you will need to obtain your CoE document for visa renewal or apply for a new visa under a different subclass. Staff at Curtin International will be able to assist you with this.
BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME

WHAT TO BRING?

Your passport
You are advised to check your passport expiry date before departure as renewing a passport in Australia can take some time.

Documents
You must bring the following documents with you to Curtin:
- Letter of Offer – do not lose this document as you will need to present it when you enroll
- original or certified copies of your qualifications
- driver’s licence (if any)
- medical history or prescriptions required for ongoing medication.

Clothing
Most days, students wear comfortable, casual clothes such as jeans, t-shirts and skirts. Everyday wear is acceptable clothing for classes at Curtin. September to March are the warmer months, with average temperatures ranging from 18 to 38 degrees Celsius. April to August are generally colder months, with average temperatures ranging from 7 to 19 degrees Celsius. A warm, waterproof jacket is necessary during these months.

Equipment
Most accommodation, except homestay, will not include equipment such as cooking utensils, sheets and blankets. You may choose to bring some of these items with you. Alternatively, products can be purchased from a wide variety of stores. Secondhand household items are also available at cheap prices.

Note: electricity in Perth is 240v50 cycles AC. Adaptors are readily available in Perth.

PLAN YOUR FINANCES

Establishment costs
We recommend you arrive in Australia with at least A$800 and have easy access to a further A$2,500 for your first week in Australia. We advise you use traveller’s cheques, bank drafts or money orders to avoid carrying large amounts of cash. It may be useful to have a credit card to allow access to funds for establishment costs.

The A$2,500 can be used to pay for costs associated with finding permanent housing such as bond money, rent in advance (usually two weeks) and power, gas and telephone connections.

Living expenses
You can expect to pay, on average, around A$470 (single) and A$820 (family) per week for living expenses. Living expenses vary depending on financial resources, tastes and interests. Students and parents are advised to set out a budget that caters for individual needs.

Note: do not send money for living expenses with tuition fee payments. The University does not disburse student living allowances and will not refund the money.

WEEKLY GROCERY GUIDE ($A)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loaf of bread</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2L hi-lo (semi-skimmed) milk</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1kg rice</td>
<td>3.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 free-range eggs</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500g supermarket’s own brand pasta</td>
<td>1.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>185g tinned tuna</td>
<td>4.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1L orange juice</td>
<td>1.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1kg apples</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 pack teabags</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1kg potatoes</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500g minced beef</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>1L orange juice</td>
<td>1.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1kg carrots</td>
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<tr>
<td>200g jar instant coffee</td>
<td>4.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500g margarine spread</td>
<td>5.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>250g butter</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1kg bananas</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>420g tin baked beans</td>
<td>0.65</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: prices are an approximation correct at time of printing and are subject to change.
Students wishing to transfer money from overseas will need to:

- include the SWIFT code, account number and BSB number of the account into which they wish to deposit funds.
- Please refer to the courses website courses.curtin.edu.au for related incidental fees. For other fees and charges, contact your relevant teaching area or visit fees.curtin.edu.au/other.cfm

**Text and reference books**
You will also need to budget around A$150–400 per semester for text and reference books. Cheaper, second-hand books are available from the Student Guild’s Secondhand Bookshop and from students who advertise on noticeboards around campus.

**Parking fees**
Curtin has recently implemented a new pay-as-you-go system for parking fees on campus. There are different fees for long-term and short-term parking. For the most up-to-date information, visit parking.curtin.edu.au

**Motor vehicle expenses**
Students intending to purchase a motor vehicle will incur additional expenses such as petrol, insurance and licence costs. It is also advisable to purchase motor vehicle insurance in case of an accident or theft.

**School-aged dependants**
Dependants of international students can be enrolled in either government (public) or non-government (private) schools in Western Australia, providing the school has the capacity to accept them. A visa for the dependant/s will need to be obtained through the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) or a representative. Both public and private schools require the payment of full school fees. Public school fees vary for dependants of undergraduate students, postgraduate students and some scholarship students. It is important to understand these costs BEFORE your dependants arrive in Australia.

The fee structure is the same for all public schools, but varies considerably for private schools. A list of public schools is available at det.wa.edu.au/schoolsonline/home.do

**Health insurance**
Please note: if your child is enrolled in a public school and requires learning difficulty, disability or English as a Second Language (ESL) support (usually not relevant for children 6 years of age and under), please be aware that fees can range from A$1,500–$3,000 per child per year, depending on the child’s requirements.

This will be an additional charge to the relevant school fees and will be determined by the enrolling school. The student – not Curtin or the Department of Education of Western Australia – pays these associated costs. Your child should commence English language training prior to their arrival in Australia.

If your dependant has a learning difficulty, disability or special needs, special needs programs are costed on the basis of the child’s requirements in accordance with the Department of Education’s inclusive education standards. The assessment is undertaken by relevant department specialist staff. Your dependant may need to move to a school specifically designed to provide the required support. This will be an additional charge and the student (not Curtin or the Department of Education of Western Australia) pays these associated costs. Costs can range from a few thousand AUD to $30,000 per year.

**Master and PhD students**
There are different schooling arrangements and costs for dependants of master and PhD students.

Dependants of postgraduate international students (master by coursework or research and PhD only) on subclass 573 and 574 visas can be enrolled in selected public schools in Western Australia at local student rates, provided the school has been registered and has the capacity to accept them.

Dependants of these students are entitled to be placed in the government school system in Western Australia under the same conditions as Australian students while studying in Perth. Minimum school charges may apply, ranging from A$560 (primary schools) to A$500 (secondary schools) per year per child; however, you do not have to cover the full cost of school fees.

For all private school enrolments, you must contact the private school direct for enrolment processes and school fee rates. For a list of private schools, visit www.des.wa.gov.au/Non-government_schools/List_of_schools

Note: King Abdullah Scholarship students, including those studying a master or PhD degree, are required to pay full school fees (see school fees table).

Visit international.curtin.edu.au for more information about visa processing and enrolments for dependants. You can also contact the International Sponsored Student Unit on +61 8 9266 3348 or issu@curtin.edu.au

**Transferring money to Perth**

Students transferring money from overseas will need to:
- complete either a telegraphic transfer or bank draft
- include the SWIFT code, account number and BSB number of the account into which they wish to deposit funds.

Note: bank drafts take six to eight weeks to process unless the draft is in Australian dollars and drawn on an Australian bank. There may be fees involved with both transactions.

**Opening a bank account**
If you need to open a bank account, you will need to visit a bank branch and take your passport with you for identification. You are not able to open an Australian bank account while overseas.

- If you need to open an Australian bank account while overseas.
- You are not able to open an Australian bank account while overseas.
WHEN YOU ARRIVE

AIRPORT RECEPTION SERVICE
Curtin provides an airport reception service for international students who are starting their studies at Curtin for the first time. This service is offered to students who have had their own accommodation arrangements at a hotel in the Perth central business district (CBD) only.

We do NOT transfer students to private accommodation OR Curtin on-campus accommodation. If you have on-campus accommodation, you will need to arrange your own transport to the residence. You should also contact the residence manager directly to arrange a check-in time.

Airport reception is only provided during peak admission periods prior to the intakes for first and second semester. The airport reception service is available to Curtin students only. If a family member is travelling with you, they will need to make their own arrangements for transport to the hotel.

As conditions apply to the airport reception service, please email airport@vc.curtin.edu.au to find out if this service is available to you.

How to book the airport reception service
To use the airport reception service, please complete our online Airport Reception Booking Form once your travel details have been finalised.

Finding permanent accommodation
If you do not have permanent housing arrangements, a staff member from the Curtin Housing Services Office will meet you in the foyer of your hotel the next working day after you arrive to assist you to find permanent accommodation.

English Language Bridging (ELB) and ELICOS students
Airport reception for ELB and ELICOS students is separate to the University and is coordinated by Curtin English.

For more information, contact the Curtin English Customer Service team:
Tel: +61 8 9266 7617
Fax: +61 8 9266 3186
Email: English.enquiries@curtin.edu.au

ARRIVING AT PERTH

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Quarantine
Australia has a unique environment, free from many of the pests and diseases found elsewhere in the world. If you are visiting Australia, you must be aware of Australian quarantine laws.

When you arrive in Australia, you will need to complete an Incoming Passenger Card. This card must be read carefully and completed truthfully. It is important to remember the Incoming Passenger Card is a legal document and any false declaration can lead to prosecution resulting in a heavy fine or imprisonment, or both.

All animal and plant products, including food items, must be declared for inspection and will be returned in most cases. No matter how small or trivial your items may seem, they are potentially harmful to Australian flora and fauna.

If you are carrying A$10,000 or more cash – or the equivalent in foreign currency – with you to Australia, you MUST declare the money on your Incoming Passenger Card. You are also required to declare the money to any Australian Customs officials if questioned upon arrival. Failure to declare this money may result in the money being seized, and you may also be arrested and prosecuted.

Note: this information is intended as a guide only.

Excess baggage
Most economy class passengers have a baggage limit of 20 kilograms. Further information regarding excess baggage requirements is available from travel agents or your airline.

ARRIVING AT CURTIN
You must arrive in Perth in time to attend O-Week. You will attend an enrolment briefing relevant to the faculty with which you will be studying, where you will receive important information about how to enrol in your course. Remember to bring your Letter of Offer and original or certified copies of qualifications for your Credit for Recognised Learning (CRL) application if applicable.

See page 32 for orientation dates.

It is your responsibility to ensure you:
• arrive in Perth in time to settle into your permanent accommodation, attend O-Week, and enrol in classes. If you fail to do so, your enrolment could be delayed until the following semester and you might have to pay a late fee or return home at your own expense.
• inform the University of a local address within seven days of your arrival in Australia.

All drugs and medicines should be declared for inspection, especially products that:
• contain substances that are prohibited without a permit (including narcotics, amphetamines, hallucinogens, barbiturates, vaccines, anabolic and androgenic steroids, growth hormones, and erythropoietin (EPO))
• are regarded as performance enhancers in sport.

Medicines that should be declared include prescribed medications, non-prescription, complementary, alternative, herbal and traditional medicines; vitamins and mineral preparations; and nutritional and dietary supplements. Do not carry illicit substances into or out of Australia. Penalties for drug offences in Australia are severe and could result in a jail term.

For more information about Australian quarantine laws, please contact the Australian High Commission or embassy in your country or visit the Biosecurity in Australia website at.gov.au/biosecurity/australia/about

If you have any questions about quarantine laws when you arrive in Australia, ask to speak to a quarantine officer after you have collected your baggage. You will find them helpful and understanding.

Note: this information is intended as a guide only.

Excess baggage
Most economy class passengers have a baggage limit of 20 kilograms. Further information regarding excess baggage requirements is available from travel agents or your airline.

ARRIVING AT CURTIN
You must arrive in Perth in time to attend O-Week. You will attend an enrolment briefing relevant to the faculty with which you will be studying, where you will receive important information about how to enrol in your course. Remember to bring your Letter of Offer and original or certified copies of qualifications for your Credit for Recognised Learning (CRL) application if applicable.

See page 32 for orientation dates.

It is your responsibility to ensure you:
• arrive in Perth in time to settle into your permanent accommodation, attend O-Week, and enrol in classes. If you fail to do so, your enrolment could be delayed until the following semester and you might have to pay a late fee or return home at your own expense.
• inform the University of a local address within seven days of your arrival in Australia.

All drugs and medicines should be declared for inspection, especially products that:
• contain substances that are prohibited without a permit (including narcotics, amphetamines, hallucinogens, barbiturates, vaccines, anabolic and androgenic steroids, growth hormones, and erythropoietin (EPO))
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DURING YOUR STAY

GETTING SETTLED
Remember to contact your family and friends back home and let them know you have arrived safely. Inform them of your travel details, where you are staying and how they can contact you by phone or post. Be sure to keep them updated if you move house during your studies, as Curtin is unable to release information about your address to your family and friends.

INTERNET ACCESS
You will have access to computer and internet facilities while studying at Curtin. The Perth campus has a wide selection of computer labs where you can study, browse the internet and access your email. There are free wireless zones across the campus where you can log on to the internet using your own laptop or PDA. You will have your own account with personal login details.

WORKING WHILE YOU STUDY
Your international student visa permits you to work up to 40 hours per fortnight during semester and unlimited hours during semester breaks. Examples of places in which you can find work are restaurants and retail outlets, although competition for such work is strong. Part-time work may distract you from your studies and you should not rely on part-time work to pay for your tuition fees or other living expenses.

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PUBLIC TRANSPORT
Getting around Perth
Buses, trains and ferries in Perth are operated by Transperth, the Western Australian Government’s transport system. Full-time students are eligible for significant concessions on bus and train fares. Tickets are interchangeable on all types of public transport and are valid for one-and-a-half hours from the time of purchase. The cost will vary depending on the number of travel zones covered and you should carry the correct amount in change or purchase a SmartRider card from a newsagent.

SmartRider cards
The Transperth SmartRider card is a multiple-use electronic ticket you can use on all forms of public transport in Perth. A SmartRider costs A$5 for concession users and A$10 for standard users. As a full-time Curtin student, you are entitled to Transperth concession fares.

SmartRider cards can be purchased from Transperth InfoCentres and any authorised SmartRider retail outlets, including the Curtin Bookshop on campus. To obtain tertiary concession status, you must register your SmartRider online via OASIS and activate it by travelling on any Transperth service within seven days of your registration.

Note: the Department of Immigration and Border Protection may cancel a student’s work rights if their academic performance declines.

Tax file number
The Australian Federal Government requires anyone working in Australia or with an Australian bank account to have a tax file number. Banks must be provided with a tax file number to ensure the correct tax is charged on any interest earned on an account.

Tax file number application forms are available from Student Central. Forms must be lodged at the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) and you must take your passport and student ID card with you. You can also apply online via the ATO website at ato.gov.au/individuals.

Getting to and from Curtin
A range of bus and train services are available between Curtin, the Perth city centre and surrounding areas.

Key bus routes
Curtin to Perth city centre—72 and 75
Curtin to Cannington Train Station—34 and 72
Curtin to Canning Bridge Train Station—100 and 101

Timetables are available at transperth.wa.gov.au or at Guild reception (Building 106F).

DRIVING IN PERTH
You can drive in Western Australia with an overseas driver’s licence for as long as it remains valid in the country of issue. If your overseas licence ceases to be valid or expires, you must apply for a Western Australian licence to continue driving.

You must carry your overseas driver’s licence when driving in Western Australia and produce it for inspection at the request of any member of the police. If your overseas licence is not written in English, you should carry your international driving permit or an approved English translation of your licence with you when you drive. If you are driving with an international licence, you should ensure your insurance policy covers you in the event of an accident. Some students have had insurance claims rejected by their insurance company because they did not have a Western Australian driver’s licence.
MEDICAL SERVICES
You will have access to high-quality medical services and facilities while you live in Australia, and will receive a rebate from your Overseas Student Health Cover for the services covered under your policy.

If you are sick, you should make an appointment to visit a general practitioner (GP). You will need to book an appointment in advance; however, last minute appointments may be available if you ring early in the morning (between 8 am – 8.30 am).

There are GPs, physiotherapists and counsellors located in Building 109, as well as an on-campus pharmacy where you can purchase both prescription and over-the-counter medicines. For more information, visit healthservices.curtin.edu.au

Medicines
Pharmaceutical products in Perth can be quite expensive compared to other countries. Medications such as antibiotics and antihistamines will require a doctor’s prescription and may cost approximately A$20 for a course (a course of antibiotics usually runs for five days). Some milder antihistamines may be bought over the counter and cost around A$12.

You can purchase pain relief tablets such as paracetamol or aspirin without a prescription from supermarkets.

COUNSELLING SERVICES
The University provides support for international students with pre-existing disabilities or medical conditions and those who become disabled or require the services of a counsellor while studying in Western Australia. Curtin has committed confidential support services for students with disabilities and medical conditions. Please contact University Counselling Services on +61 8 9266 7850 or visit counselling.curtin.edu.au

HEALTH SCREENINGS (HEALTH SCIENCES STUDENTS ONLY)
As a condition of access to the health department facilities, all clinical and laboratory students in the Faculty of Health Sciences must be screened and vaccinated against a range of infectious diseases. Without full vaccination, you may be excluded from clinical practice and therefore unable to finish your studies. For information about these vaccinations and to download the relevant forms, visit healthsciences.curtin.edu.au/current_students/immunization

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES
It is your responsibility to:
• understand and comply with all relevant laws, statutes, rules, by-laws, guiding ethical principals, policies and procedures relating to your rights and responsibilities as a student. For more information, visit students.curtin.edu.au/rights
• participate constructively in your learning experience
• be aware of information on course requirements, unit requirements and academic progress
• behave in an appropriate manner in classes, showing respect for both staff and fellow students
• act honestly and responsibly in relation to academic matters and the use of University facilities at all times
• recognise that cheating, plagiarism and fabrication or falsification of data are not acceptable
• adhere to the proper use of copyright material
• act at all times with respect for the rights of others, and to accept and embrace diversity
• be available during the examination period (you should schedule any travel arrangements for after the examination period)
• switch off your mobile phone during lectures, tutorials and when in the library
• access OASIS (the online student portal) and check the Official Communications Channel (OCC) regularly
• pay tuition fees by the due date (if you fail to do so, you will incur an enrolment sanction)
• ensure all enrolment details are correct
• ensure your student visa remains current and reflects the specified length of the course you are enrolled in.
• maintain up-to-date contact details with the University, including Australian residential address and phone number
• notify the University within seven days of changing your residential address while you are a student at Curtin
• satisfy your course requirements and maintain a valid enrolment
• maintain your Overseas Student Health Cover (if your health cover expires, your benefits payable will be suspended).
WHO IS A SPONSORED STUDENT?
The University will organise OSHC membership with Allianz Global Assistance (Curtin’s contracted provider) unless your sponsor has made arrangements with another provider. Payments for OSHC need to be paid to Curtin by the student or the sponsor before the student or family arrives in Australia. Please refer to the payment instructions attached to your Acceptance of Offer.

ON ARRIVAL
You will need to make an appointment with the International Sponsored Student Unit (ISSU) as soon as you arrive at Curtin. The ISSU is a part of Curtin International (located in Building 102). You will meet with your designated support officer who will be communicating with your sponsor during your studies at Curtin. The ISSU support officer can be contacted via email at issu@curtin.edu.au

SPONSORSHIP VARIATIONS
If you wish to change your course, you must first seek approval from your sponsor. A new Sponsored Student Information Form must be completed and returned to Curtin International. Copies of this form are available at international.curtin.edu.au/forms.htm

OVERSEAS STUDENT HEALTH COVER (OSHC)
It is a student visa requirement that all students have visa-length OSHC before arriving in Australia. If the sponsor is paying for your OSHC, it will be indicated on the electronic Confirmation of Enrolment (eCoE) that the University will arrange OSHC membership.

PAYING TUITION FEES
It is your responsibility to provide your sponsor with a copy of your Letter of Offer, Acceptance of Offer and the Sponsored Student Information Form so they can make the first payment of the semester’s tuition fees as well as the Overseas Student Health Cover payment. Thereafter, the University will send all invoices for the tuition fees to the sponsor. You should inform your sponsor that they should not send a living expenses allowance with tuition fee payments, as the University does not disburse funds for student living expenses.

HOW TO APPLY AS A SPONSORED STUDENT
If you are being sponsored for your studies at Curtin, you must indicate this on your International Application for Admission Form. A Sponsored Student Information Form will be sent with your Letter of Offer and needs to be completed by your sponsor.

Please follow the instructions on this form for admission and visa processing. This form is also available at international.curtin.edu.au/forms.htm

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SPONSORED STUDENTS (NON AUSAID)

WHO IS A SPONSORED STUDENT?
A sponsored student is an individual who receives money to fund their studies from a private organization or foreign government. Individuals who receive money from relatives are not sponsored students.

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STUDYING AT CURTIN

STUDY LOAD
In order to meet student visa requirements, all international students must undertake and maintain a full-time study load in each study period. The normal study load of a full-time student is 100 credits per semester. You must pay for 100 credits per semester, unless otherwise stated.

New international students are required to pay the full amount indicated in their Letter of Offer as a requirement of accepting their offer. You should be aware that not all units are available each semester. If you fail a unit, you might not be able to satisfy the full-time study load.

Approval to reduce study load
International students are able to reduce their study load with approval in special circumstances; however, a reduced study load may result in an extended course duration that will incur additional visa and living costs.

Reduced study loads may be approved for the following special circumstances:

• students are undertaking a reduced study load as part of support programs (intervention strategies) are in place that will enable them to achieve satisfactory course progress
• a prerequisite unit is not available in the required study period.

Credit for Recognised Learning (CRL) prohibits full-time study being undertaken, as not all units are available in each study period. If a student has been granted approval to enrol in less than 100 credits per semester, they must complete a Request to Enrol in Less than 100 Credit Points in the Current Semester Form. This is available from Student Central and faculty student services offices. All forms should be submitted for approval at your faculty’s student services office. Claims based on medical grounds should be submitted together with supporting documentation such as a medical certificate. Financial hardship will not be considered as an exceptional circumstance.

PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS
An international student who obtains permanent resident status before the relevant census date is eligible to apply for a Commonwealth supported place and must pay the applicable student contribution amount in accordance with the Higher Education Support Act (HESA) guidelines. Permanent resident status is determined by the date stamped on the student’s passport, not the date on which the application for permanent residency was made.

Undergraduate students who obtain permanent resident status before the relevant census date must lodge a completed Request for Commonwealth Support and HECS-HELP Form prior to the date. Postgraduate students who obtain permanent resident status before the relevant census date must lodge a completed Request for FEE-HELP Assistance Form prior to the date. Lodge the applicable form, together with your passport, at your faculty’s student services centre.

A student who has obtained permanent resident status prior to the census date and has submitted the appropriate form by this date may be eligible for a refund, depending on the new fee liability. You will need to complete the Application for Refund Form to apply for a refund.

An international student who obtains permanent resident status after the census date will remain an international student for that semester, but must apply to be transferred to a Commonwealth supported place for enrolment in subsequent semesters.

A New Zealand permanent resident is classified as an international student and must pay international tuition fees unless they obtain Australian permanent resident status.

TUITION FEES
Semester tuition fees are calculated for students undertaking a normal full-time study load of 100 credits per semester. Where an international student is enrolled in an additional study load (more than 100 credits per semester), additional tuition fees will be charged. For further information on tuition fees, visit fees.curtin.edu.au

Fee calculation – taught units
Tuition fees are calculated and charged per unit, per study period. Units conducted over a full year are calculated and charged in full in the first semester of study. You should expect that the indicative semester course fee, as shown on the Letter of Offer, may vary from the actual tuition fee depending on the units (subjects) being undertaken in that study period. The indicative fee is only a guide and the actual tuition fee is not calculated until enrolment is completed. If the indicative fee is higher than the actual fee, any excess credit remaining after enrolment will be transferred to the following semester. If there is money owing to Curtin after enrolment, an invoice will be sent to your contact address. You must make the payment by the due date on the invoice. A late payment fee will apply and your enrolment may be cancelled if any outstanding tuition fees are not paid by the due date.

You may wish to browse the units available for your course online at courses.curtin.edu.au

You can then use the unit title or code into fees.curtin.edu.au/estimation.cfm for a more accurate idea of what you will pay when you arrive at Curtin.

Note: this is a guide for general use only. Unit fees may change.
Fee calculation - research fees
Master by research and doctoral degree students may enrol at any time during the academic year and submit a thesis for examination any time.

A research student’s tuition fee is charged based on the student's study load. The research fee is charged twice per year and the full enrolment period fee must be paid by the due date indicated on the invoice.

Initial and final determination of tuition fees for research students will be based on the date of enrolment and the date the thesis is submitted.

Fees will be recalculated after the thesis is submitted and you will be able to apply for a refund if credit is available.

Tuition fees will be refunded in accordance with these agreements.

Note: it is your responsibility to ensure the appropriate withdrawal from a course or unit form has been lodged with the University when you request a refund.

Refund agreement
The categories under which the University Fees Centre will assess an application for refund are laid out in the University’s International Student Refund Agreement. The Agreement stipulates the circumstances that determine the levels of reimbursement a student applying for refund is eligible to receive. The Agreement is supplied to you with your Letter of Offer and can also be accessed online at fees.curtin.edu.au/refunds_forms.cfm

Please refer to fees.curtin.edu.au/refunds.cfm for the most up-to-date information as the policy is subject to change from time to time.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
ESOS legislation and the National Code of Conduct
The ESOS Act 2000 has obligations for education providers to ensure that students receive information and have appropriate support whilst studying in Australia. Students are also required to meet requirements of their student visa, and ensure that they comply with these requirements.

You can see specific information about the ESOS Act 2000, your enrolment responsibilities, University responsibilities and access information resources and forms at esos.curtin.edu.au

Diversity policy
Curtin recognises, respects and values the diversity of its students, staff, and the Curtin community. The University’s diversity policy and supporting procedures outline its commitment to valuing diversity and cultural sensitivity in teaching and all other areas of the University’s operation. It recognises and builds on the many different cultures and backgrounds making up the Curtin community.

If you feel disadvantaged on the basis of difference, you can discuss your concerns confidentially with staff in Ethics, Equity and Social Justice.

Equal opportunity policy
Curtin complies with equal opportunity legislation set in place by the Government of Western Australia, and is committed to ensuring all students are treated fairly while studying at Curtin.

Code of conduct
Understand the rights you have as a student and the expectations the University has of you. The booklet Student conduct—your rights and responsibilities explains your rights and responsibilities and is available from students.curtin.edu.au/rights/conduct.cfm

Grievance procedures
Curtin has official procedures in place to assist students in resolving concerns about academic and other matters. Complaints can relate to academic disputes, the behaviour of staff and other students, or anything else you feel has breached Curtin’s Code of Conduct. Any person is entitled to lodge a complaint with the Curtin University Professional Standards and Conduct Unit (PSCU), through a form available at complaints.curtin.edu.au

Once you have completed the complaints form, you will receive a complaint ID number and a copy of your notification via email, after which your complaint will be assessed and progressed accordingly.

International student conciliator
The Department of Education Services of Western Australia has appointed a conciliator for international students studying in Western Australia. The conciliator has an independent grievance handling and dispute resolution role, and can be contacted on:

   Tel: +61 8 9441 1900
   Fax: +61 8 9441 1901
   Email: conciliation@des.wa.gov.au

For more information, visit des.wa.gov.au/international_education/disputes

If a complaint is not resolved to the satisfaction of an international student, the matter should be discussed with a student adviser or the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, International.

Ombudsman Western Australia
Students can also ask for an internal and external review of their complaint from the Ombudsman Western Australia. For an outline of the process, visit ombudsman.wa.gov.au/Complaints/Overseas_Student_Complaints.htm

PRIVACY ACT – RELEASE OF ACADEMIC RESULTS AND STUDENT INFORMATION
Under government law, Curtin is not able to disclose academic performance details, enrolment information or personal details to any unauthorised persons, including family members, unless the student has given written consent. Academic results cannot be released to students until the official release date.

In accordance with the Privacy Act 1988 and the Privacy Credit Code, your personal information or academic results may be released under the following circumstances:

- if you or a third party consent;
- if the release is directly related to your enrolment or studies;
- where the University is required to do so by law or a court order;
- if disclosure is in the student’s best interest.

If you feel your academic results or personal information has been breached, you can discuss your concerns confidentially with your student advisor, or the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, International.
**AUSSIE WORDS**
- ARVO: afternoon
- BARBIE: barbecue
- BATHERS: swimming costume
- BROLY: umbrella
- BYO: bring your own (drinks)
- CHOOK: chicken
- DELI: convenience store
- DOONA: quilt
- EFTPOS: electronic funds transfer at point of sale (like Delta or Maestro)
- Esky: chiller box for drinks
- Flat White: coffee with milk
- Footy: Australian Rules football
- Long Black: coffee without milk
- Pressie: gift
- Sunnies: sunglasses
- Thongs: flip-flops

**IMPORTANT DATES**
Most courses at Curtin operate on a semester basis. The first semester commences in February and ends in June, while the second semester starts in July and runs through to the end of November. A mid-year break separates the two semesters.

While the majority of Curtin courses commence in the first semester, there are some courses that offer second semester enrolments.

Note: there are also courses that operate on an academic calendar other than the semester mode outlined below, for example, the trimester – an accelerated study program (three trimesters per year). Please check your Letter of Offer to verify the study mode of your course.

### SEMESTER 1, 2015
- **Orientation week**: 23 – 27 Feb
- **Five teaching weeks**: 2 Mar – 2 Apr
- **Tuition-free weeks (Easter)**: 6 – 17 Apr
- **Seven teaching weeks 20 Apr – 1 Jun**
- **Study week**: 8 – 12 Jun
- **Examinations**: 15 – 26 Jun

### SEMESTER 2, 2015
- **Orientation week**: 27 Jul – 31 Jul
- **Four teaching weeks**: 3 – 28 Aug
- **Tuition-free week**: 31 Aug – 4 Sep
- **Three teaching weeks**: 7 – 25 Sep
- **Tuition-free week**: 28 Sep – 2 Oct
- **Five teaching weeks**: 5 Oct – 6 Nov
- **Study week**: 9 – 13 Nov
- **Examinations**: 16 – 27 Nov

### SEMESTER 1, 2016
- **Orientation week**: 22 – 26 Feb
- **Semester begins (start of classes)**: 29 Feb
- **Semester ends**: 24 Jun

### SEMESTER 2, 2016
- **Orientation week**: 25 Jul – 29 July
- **Semester begins (start of classes)**: 1 Aug
- **Semester ends**: 25 Nov

Note: the above dates are correct at time of printing but may be subject to change. The 2015 dates are to be confirmed.

**IMPORTANT CONTACTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service/Unit</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CURTIN INTERNATIONAL (FURTHER INFORMATION FOR FUTURE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS)</strong></td>
<td>Tel: +61 8 9266 7331  Fax: +61 8 9266 2605  Email: <a href="mailto:study@curtin.edu.au">study@curtin.edu.au</a>  Web: international.curtin.edu.au</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CURTIN CAREERS CENTRE</strong></td>
<td>Tel: +61 8 9266 7802  Email: <a href="mailto:careers@curtin.edu.au">careers@curtin.edu.au</a>  Web: careers.curtin.edu.au</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CONCILIATION/ MEDIATION SERVICE</strong></td>
<td>Tel: +61 8 9441 1900  Fax: +61 8 9441 1901  Email: <a href="mailto:conciliation@des.wa.gov.au">conciliation@des.wa.gov.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>STUDENT CENTRAL (STUDENT SERVICES FOR ALL ENROLLED STUDENTS)</strong></td>
<td>Tel: +61 8 9266 3399  Fax: +61 8 9266 6108  Email: <a href="mailto:customer-service@curtin.edu.au">customer-service@curtin.edu.au</a>  Web: students.curtin.edu.au</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</table>

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