

PRE-DEPARTURE CHECKLIST

PLAN

Have you:

- applied for and been granted your student visa?
- booked your flight to arrive in Melbourne a few days before international orientation?
- obtained some Australian currency for your arrival? (the suggested amount is AUD \$250)
- organised your **free airport pick-up**?
- checked what you **can and can't bring into Australia**?
- left copies of your passport, visa and other important documents at home?
- booked temporary accommodation close to your VU campus?
- familiarised yourself with the overall cost of living in Australia and set yourself a realistic daily budget?
- created a financial plan to cover your living costs or tuition fees?
- talked to someone about how you are feeling about leaving home? It's okay to feel sad, tired, excited, frustrated, unhappy and confused – you may even be experiencing these feelings all at once.

PREPARE

- Bring some things with you that will help you feel close to your family and friends, such as photos or special items.
- Bring some of your favourite home recipes.
- Register for **orientation**.
- **Get yourself ready for Australia and University life.**
- Become familiar with the academic writing style in Australia by reading English language academic articles, journals and textbooks.
- Improve your English skills by practising your written and spoken English

PACK

Make sure you bring:

- a valid passport
- your student visa and entry permit
- a copy of your electronic Confirmation of Enrolment (COE)
- your VU acceptance form
- any proof of payment
- your letter of scholarship award (if applicable)
- adaptor plugs for electrical items
- a bilingual dictionary.

If applying for course credit/advance standing, please bring details of your academic history, including:

- outlines for past courses taken
- assessment method
- contact hours
- subject duration
- textbooks used
- evidence of sufficient funds to support yourself during your study, such as a scholarship offer or bank statement.

Please bring other official documentation, such as:

- international driver's licence (with English translation if required)
- national ID card
- certified copy of your birth certificate (with English translation if required)
- certified copies of your children's birth certificates if they are travelling with you (with English translation if required)
- marriage certificate (if applicable and with an English translation if required)
- written references in English from a previous employer
- previous landlord, if you or your family had one, and if you are considering renting
- a copy of your resume in English
- written references from a previous landlord in English
- medical records, especially a vaccination history for yourself and any family members travelling with you, and of medicine that may be needed in Australia.

Please carry contact details for:

- **Victoria University**
- **ToGoTo** (if you have applied for airport reception)
- your embassy or consulate in Australia
- your accommodation provider
- your Study Abroad Advisor if you are a study abroad or exchange student.

CLOTHES AND CLIMATE

Before you pack, consider Melbourne's changing weather. Its climate has four distinct seasons:

- Summer (December, January, February) – 14–25 degrees Celsius with high temperatures of 25–40 degrees.
- Autumn (March, April and May) – 11–20 degrees Celsius.
- Winter (June, July, August) – 6–14 degrees Celsius, but can be near zero at night.
- Spring (September, October, November) – 10–20 degrees Celsius, and this is usually the wettest season.

EXCESS BAGGAGE

You will need to balance what to pack with the amount of baggage you can manage and the weight limits imposed by your airline. To avoid paying extra excess baggage fees:

- check your maximum baggage weight limit with your airline carrier before you finalise your packing
- consider freighting your baggage separately to your permanent address in Melbourne
- For more information on what you can and cannot bring into Australia, visit **Excess Baggage**.

MEDICINE

Did you know that restrictions apply to medicines and medical devices when you're coming into Australia, and that different restrictions may apply in other countries? **Find out more.**