

# HOUSING MENTORING PROGRAM

## For new International students

### ARE YOU

A new international student starting a course at Victoria University?  
Looking for accommodation but don't know where to start?  
Someone who would you like to meet other VU students who have experience in looking for accommodation in Melbourne?

The Victoria University Housing Mentoring Program may be able to assist you.

### WHO ARE HOUSING MENTORS?

Housing Mentors are existing VU students, trained to provide practical support to new international students in finding accommodation.

### HOW DOES IT WORK?

- 1) Complete the [Housing Mentoring Program application](#)
- 2) You will be assigned to a Housing Mentor by email
- 3) You can start communicating with your housing mentor online.
- 4) When you arrive in Melbourne you can drop in to the Housing Mentoring Office (Building M the ground floor in Footscray campus, opposite to VU International Student Support Office)

### HOW LONG IS THE PROGRAM?

Housing Mentors will be able to assist you for 4 weeks at the beginning of Semester while you are looking for accommodation.

## **WHAT SUPPORT CAN I EXPECT FROM HOUSING MENTORS? HOW ARE HOUSING MENTORS DIFFERENT FROM THE STUDENT HOUSING OFFICERS/STUDENT WELFARE OFFICERS?**

Housing Mentors are students like you. They have experience in finding accommodation in Melbourne and understand what kind of issues you may face when you are looking for accommodation. They can provide support to you through sharing their own experience and by showing you the main places you will need to visit such as real estate agencies, train stations and the University student support services.

The Housing Officers/Student Welfare Officers can advise you on a range of housing options, rental trends, tenants' rights and responsibilities and help you resolve tenancy problems.

**Please note that Housing Mentors are guides only. They cannot look for accommodation for you, and they cannot sign your lease / rental agreement**

## **CAN I STILL GET ASSISTANCE FROM THE VU STUDENT HOUSING SERVICE?**

Yes you can. At any time you are able to either drop in or make an appointment to see the Housing Officer/Student Welfare Officer. Please e-mail your request to [housing@vu.edu.au](mailto:housing@vu.edu.au) or phone 9919 8801.

## **WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS TO ME?**

The program is designed to help you to:

- Make friends and contact and so you may feel less isolated
- Feel more connected to the University
- Potentially provide you with information in your preferred language

Drop in to ISA office  
Ground floor, Building M, Footscray Park campus  
Open 12.00 to 1.00 pm, Monday to Friday  
For more information please contact

Ok-Hean Chang  
Student Welfare Officer  
Email: [housingmentors@vu.edu.au](mailto:housingmentors@vu.edu.au)  
Phone: 9919 8801