



What's it like to live in Sydney?

Be immersed in our diverse and vibrant city

Rated as one of the world's most livable cities, Sydney has a warm climate, thriving culture, great cafes and pubs, and is surrounded by beaches and national parks. We love our city and we're excited to give you the insider info on living here.

What's on

Sydney is thriving with creativity. We love these online guides for the best places to eat, drink and play.

[Broadsheet](#)

[Concrete Playground](#)

[Lonely Planet](#)

Transport

Sydney has a network of ferries, trains and buses to get you from A to B. Our campus is just five minutes walk from North Sydney train station, transporting you into the city in around 10 minutes.

[Transport NSW](#)

Sydney uses an Opal Card system – you simply tap on at the beginning and off at the end of your journey to determine the cost of the trip. If you don't have an Opal Card you can use your credit card to tap on and off.

[More information about the Opal Card system can be found here](#)

Accommodation

You'll need to take responsibility for finding your own student accommodation.

Some things to consider:

- / Costs vary depending on the suburb and type of accommodation
- / Additional expenses may be incurred such as a rental bond, and utilities bills including gas, electricity and internet connection
- / The distance from our campus and accessibility to public transport
- / Easy access to shopping facilities, hospital and other amenities

There are many different types of accommodation available. Here are some links to get you started.

Student-Only Accommodation

[YHA](#)

[Iglu](#)

[Arundel House](#)

[Amber Student](#)

[Unilodge](#)

[Scape](#)

Shared Accommodation

[Flatmate Finders](#)

[Gumtree](#)

Homestay Accommodation

[Homestay Network](#)

[Global Experience](#)

[2Stay](#)

[Homestay Plus](#)

[For more information about accommodation in Australia visit Study in Australia](#)

Costs of living

Find out more about how much it costs to live and study in Sydney using this online calculator:

[Insider Guides Cost of Living Calculator](#)

Knowing the average living costs in Australia is an important part of your financial preparation. Below are some of the costs associated with living and studying in Australia (all costs are in AUD) which have come from the Study in Australia website here.

The costs below are an approximate guide only. Please be aware that these costs can vary depending on your location.

Accommodation

Hostels and Guesthouses
\$90 to \$150 per week

Shared Rental
\$85 to \$215 per week

Homestay
\$235 to \$325 per week

Rental
\$165 to \$440 per week

Boarding schools
\$11,000 to \$22,000 a year

Other living expenses

Groceries and eating out
\$80 to \$280 per week

Gas, electricity
\$35 to \$140 per week

Phone and Internet
\$20 to \$55 per week

Public transport
\$15 to \$55 per week

Car (after purchase)
\$150 to \$260 per week

Entertainment
\$80 to \$150 per week

Minimum cost of living

The Department of Home Affairs has financial requirements you must meet in order to receive an International Student Visa for Australia. From 1st February 2018 the 12 month living cost that you must be able to cover is:

You- \$20,290

Partner or spouse- \$7,100

Child- \$3,040

All costs are per year in Australian dollars. [To convert to your own currency, click here](#)

The Australian Government provides information and guidance on managing your finances. [You can read more here](#)



Climate

Sydney enjoys a sunny climate with mild winters and warm summers, perfect for enjoying the great outdoors.

Summer (December – February)

18.6 – 25.8°C (65.5 – 78.4°F)

Average humidity rises to 65%

Autumn (March – May)

14.6 – 22.2°C (58.3 – 72°F)

Winter (June – August)

8.8 – 17°C (47.8 – 62.6°F).

Sydney's rainfall is generally highest in June

Spring (September – November)

11 – 23°C (51.8 – 73.4°F)

Emergency Information

The assistance and emergency networks in Australia are widespread and well equipped for all emergencies. Fire, Ambulance, and Police services will be able to provide you with any emergency health and safety assistance you may need.

Wherever you are in Australia, if there's a life-threatening emergency, call 000 (zero zero zero). It's a free call, even from your mobile phone. The operator will ask which service you need:

Police

Fire

Ambulance

If you're not sure just tell the operator why you are calling and they'll guide you. If you're not confident with English, tell the operator your preferred language and you will be connected to a translator.

It is important to remain calm. The operator will ask questions, such as: where are you located, what is the emergency, and how many people are involved.

Here are some examples of when you should call 000:

- / Someone has been seriously injured or is in urgent need of medical help
- / Your life or property is being threatened
- / You have just witnessed a serious accident or crime

Will I be supported?

Living in Australia will be a very different life experience for some students, with different laws, culture and customs. To support you while you study with us we provide information on the following services you can access;

- / Support and welfare services
- / Legal services
- / Emergency and health services
- / Facilities and resources
- / Complaints and appeals processes
- / Student visa conditions that relate to the course you are studying
- / Employment rights and conditions, how to resolve workplace issues and the role of the Fair Work Ombudsman

We're passionate about providing a positive experience and supportive learning environment for our students. Sydney Design School recognises that all people learn differently and acknowledges that some students may require additional support.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with our team on +61 2 9437 1902 to talk further.

[For a full list of our policies please visit our Student Support page here](#)

How do I study and work in Australia?

The Australian Government is committed to ensuring you have an excellent education experience in Australia. Their fact sheet for international students contains important information about your rights and responsibilities while studying in Australia, including;

- / Choosing and enrolling in a course of study
- / Support services available in Australia
- / The rights and responsibilities of students on a student visa
- / Working in Australia
- / Making complaints and getting help

[You can find the fact sheet here](#)

[For more information about studying in Australia visit Study Australia](#)

If you'd like to join us, you'll need to ensure that you are eligible to study in Australia before applying. Please note all immigration requirements are your personal responsibility. Failure to comply will require Sydney Design School to report any breaches of your visa conditions to the Department of Immigration and Citizenship.

[More information on immigration matters is available at the Department of Home Affairs](#)

Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS)

Sydney Design School operates according to The Education Services for Overseas Students Act (ESOS Act). This legislation has been established to ensure a high quality learning experience in Australia. For more information, visit the government website Australian Education International here.

Visa compliance

Once you have received your visa, there are requirements you must meet in order for it to remain valid, including;

- / You must remain enrolled and maintain satisfactory course progress and attendance
- / If you wish to change your qualification level you will need to apply for a new international student visa
- / Provide your Australian address to us so that we can contact you, and advise us if you change address
- / You must continue to be able to support yourself financially while you're in Australia
- / Do not breach the working conditions applicable to your visa

Visa help and assistance

The Department of Home Affairs website provides all information in relation to visa requirements, responsibilities and compliance. More information here.

Our international student support staff can provide you with assistance about the type of visa you'll need for your course.

Education agents can also help with your visa application and paperwork (as well as your course application)

Working in Australia

You are limited to 40 hours of work per fortnight when your course is in session and unlimited hours in out of session periods. This is to ensure that you are mainly focused on your studies. Work conditions for student visa holders can be found on the Department of Immigration and Border Protection website here.

Australian workplace laws provide basic protection and entitlements for all workers in Australia, including workers from overseas. International students have the same entitlements to minimum wages and conditions as Australian workers, as well as superannuation and workers' compensation under Australian workplace laws. Find out more about minimum wage requirements and conditions at Fairwork here.

Australian laws also protect you from being discrimination when you are applying for a job, about to begin a job, or any time during your employment. For more information about discrimination at work, visit Fairwork here.

The Fair Work Ombudsman (FWO) helps employers and employees to understand their rights and responsibilities at work. The FWO can also investigate suspected breaches of workplace laws. To find out what you should be paid and learn more about your minimum workplace entitlements you can visit Fairwork here or call 13 13 94 from 8am to 5.30pm Monday to Friday inside Australia (except public holidays).

Talk to us about a future in interiors

Ready to enrol?

Simply email your completed and scanned enrolment form, a certified copy of your passport and your motivational statement to our team. If English is your second language you must also provide evidence of an academic IELTS (International English Language Testing System) showing an overall score of at least 6 or equivalent.

We will assess your application and eligibility and request a video call to find out a little more about you, why you are passionate about interiors and to discuss your enrolment in more detail.

The next step?

If you are offered a place, we will issue a Letter of Offer which you must return signed and pay a deposit of AUD \$2,490. You will then receive a Confirmation of Enrolment which you can use to begin the visa application process.

Prior to commencing your study you will need to provide evidence of your visa and Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC).

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