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Note
This guide should be read together with the:
- Resource Guide for International Students [enclosed]
- Swinburne Accommodation Guide: www.swinburne.edu.au/international/arrival/accommodation
- Online pre-departure information: www.swinburne.edu.au/international/arrival
Introductory Academic Program (IAP)

As a condition of your AusAID scholarship, you must complete an Introductory Academic Program (IAP) prior to commencing your course at Swinburne. Conducted over four to six weeks in January/February (for students commencing their main program in Semester 1) and June/July (for students commencing their main program in Semester 2), the IAP is an intensive orientation and academic preparation program designed to assist your transition to study at Swinburne and to help you successfully settle into the Melbourne environment and lifestyle.

Regardless of which campus you will study at, the IAP is only conducted at the Hawthorn campus – making the on-campus accommodation at Hawthorn an ideal choice for your temporary accommodation.

**Airport pick-up service**

The airport pick-up service is free for all newly enrolling Swinburne AusAID students. You will be met at the airport and transported to your temporary accommodation by Harlan, our service provider.

When the Student Contact Officer (SCO) at Swinburne is notified of your travel dates, temporary accommodation will be arranged for the awardee only. Accommodation is likely to be single room in a shared apartment.

We strongly recommend that you do not bring your family to Melbourne until you complete the IAP program or your first semester of study. This will allow you sufficient time to adjust to your new living environment, find suitable accommodation, and child care and/or schooling for your family.

If any family members or relatives are accompanying you to Melbourne, please inform the AusAID representative office in your country so a pick-up service can be arranged. You will be required to pay the transfer cost for all family members directly to Harlan’s driver, on arrival at Melbourne airport. The cost for this service will be advised at the time of booking.

For more information about arrival services, please visit: www.swinburne.edu.au/international/arrival

**Notes:**

If you would like to be met at the airport by Harlan and taken to an alternative address (such as a friend’s home), please advise the Student Contact Officer as soon as possible.

If you have arranged for a friend or relative to meet you at the airport and/or wish to cancel your airport pick-up, please inform the Student Contact Officer – at least 48 hours prior to your departure – so your airport pick-up arrangements can be cancelled.
Disclaimer: The housing information provided here for students should be treated as a guide only. Except for the Swinburne Residences and Apartments, the accommodation facilities referred to in this publication and elsewhere on our website are not owned or operated by Swinburne University of Technology (Swinburne), nor do they have any affiliation with the university.

It is students’ responsibility to make contact with providers, arrange inspections and to satisfy themselves as to the suitability of the accommodation being offered. Swinburne will not be responsible or held liable in any way to tenancy or any other agreements or negotiations between the provider and the student.

Temporary accommodation will be arranged for you for the first two weeks of your stay in Melbourne. If you would like the booking to be made for only one week, please advise the SCO via the Temporary Accommodation Advice form. Please return the form to the SCO according to the instructions on the form. A range of temporary accommodation is available for international students. When making a decision on your preferred temporary accommodation, please consider location, accessibility to public transport and amenities, and the cost and time required to travel on public transport.

Your temporary accommodation booking will be made on your behalf for the first two weeks of your stay in Melbourne

We recommend the following temporary accommodation options based on their price and convenience. Please note that the prices listed are indicative for 2012 and subject to change.

Unilodge @ Swinburne Place
The newly built student apartments at the Hawthorn campus offer temporary accommodation trial deals in January and July. Students can stay from one to four weeks in fully furnished, fully equipped apartments in the heart of the Hawthorn campus for approximately $288 per week. This excellent temporary accommodation option for new students is competitive with all other available options. After the initial four-week stay, students have the option to extend their contract to long-term at long-term accommodation rates. Given its location, residents will have immediate access to the university and all its services, as well as Glenferrie train station, tram stops, 24-hour supermarkets, numerous cafes and shops, banks and other services. For more information, please refer to the long-term accommodation section in this publication.

Swinburne Residential College (only available in January/February)
Located at the Hawthorn campus, the residential college is recommended because of its convenient location, close proximity to shops, transport and other amenities and the quality of services and facilities provided. There are single rooms with a shared bathroom, kitchen and lounge facilities. Rates are $50 per night/$340 per week including breakfast for the length of your stay. Like the Unilodge @ Swinburne Place apartments, residents benefit from having immediate access to the university and various amenities and services.

Hawthorn House
Located a one-minute walk from Hawthorn campus, Hawthorn House offers fully furnished quality accommodation for residents. The rate range is $220–$335 including utility bills. For further information visit www.studenthostel.net

Australian Homestay Network
Homestay means living with a local family or resident and allows for a cultural exchange between a local individual or family (called a Host) and a visiting international student. The student lives as a guest in the Host’s home. Homestay is a great way for students to learn English and experience the Australian lifestyle. Homestay is the safest and most successful way that a visiting student can begin their time in Australia.

What is included:

- Furnished private room in a caring family environment.
- Traditional homestay includes two meals per day Monday to Friday [breakfast and lunch] and three meals on Saturday and Sunday.
- Household utilities [electricity, gas, etc.].
- Homestay Host and student support.
- AHN 24/7 professional phone support.
- AHN insurance as per AHN Insurance Policy: www.homestaynetwork.org/public/ahninsurance

Conditions of Homestay:

- Homestay bookings should be made at least ten days prior to arrival.
- A placement fee to be paid by the student – A$230 (host training, system support, application process etc.).
- A minimum 28 day/4 week Homestay fee and the placement fee to be paid in advance prior to placement start.
Homestay fees vary depending on the type of meal and room options chosen by the student:
- You can expect to pay $270 per week for the first 28 days.
- For full options see www.homestaynetwork.org/public/melbourne-fee-structure

Family or friends
If you intend to stay with family or friends when you arrive in Melbourne, please advise Swinburne International of their details by returning the attached Temporary Accommodation Advice form. We can arrange for you to be met at the airport and taken to their address, free of charge. Please check the travelling distance from their home to Swinburne as Melbourne is a very large city. To locate Melbourne suburbs visit www.whereis.com.au

Notes:
- Your temporary accommodation will be booked on your behalf for the first two weeks of your stay in Melbourne. We recommend you allow at least two weeks to find long-term accommodation.
- You pay your temporary accommodation fees directly to the provider.
- Arrangements have been made with Unilodge @ Swinburne Place and Australian Homestay Network for the first payment to be made when you arrive in Australia and receive your Establishment Allowance.

You should submit the Temporary Accommodation Advice form (enclosed) as soon as you receive your travel/flight details from AusAID Post.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Temporary accommodation summary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>On campus</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unilodge @ Swinburne Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address: 24 Wakefield Street, Hawthorn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone: +61 3 9914 2900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facsimile: +61 3 9914 2901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:swinburne.place@unilodge.com.au">swinburne.place@unilodge.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilities: new apartments situated on Hawthorn campus, fully furnished and equipped, including TV, microwave, stove, fridge, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rates: approx $288 weekly per bedroom.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Swinburne Residential College (available Jan/Feb only)
Address: Wakefield Street, Hawthorn
Telephone: +61 3 9214 5555
Facsimile: +61 3 9214 5556
Web: www.swinburne.edu.au/residences
Email: residences@swin.edu.au
Facilities: Single room with access to communal kitchen, bathroom and lounge. Rate includes breakfast.
Rates: $50 per night/$340 per week.

Hawthorn House
Address: 3 Launder Street, Hawthorn
Telephone: 0423 811 368 (Jasmine Tan)
Email: hawthorn@studenthostel.net
Web: www.studenthostel.net
Facilities: High-standard college or apartment accommodation at reasonable rates. Apply via website.
Rates: from $280–$335 per week
Travel to campus: one-minute walk to Hawthorn campus.

For more information about temporary accommodation visit: www.swinburne.edu.au/international/arrival/accommodation
# Long-term accommodation summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Rental accommodation</th>
<th>Share accommodation</th>
<th>Full Homestay</th>
<th>On-campus accommodation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Approximate cost</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawthorn/Inner suburbs</td>
<td>$200–$350pw (1BR)</td>
<td>$130–$170pw plus bills</td>
<td>$265pw including three meals per day and bills (except telephone and internet)</td>
<td>$270–$300pw for Swinburne residential college</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outer suburbs</td>
<td>$180–$250pw (1BR)</td>
<td>$100–$150pw plus bills</td>
<td></td>
<td>$199–$348pw per person for on-campus apartment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$200–$350pw (2BR)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outer suburbs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$180–$250pw (1BR)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$200–$350pw (2BR)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Contract**                | Minimum 12 months   | Varies              | Minimum 4 weeks | Varies |
| **Description**             | Renting a vacant unfurnished apartment/house | Room in a flat/house shared with other tenants | Furnished room in a flat/house sharing with a local family | Single furnished room in a apartment or college |

| **Advantages**              |                     |                     |               |                          |
| Independent                 |                     |                     |               |                          |
| Can choose what you want    |                     |                     |               |                          |
| Cheaper                     |                     |                     |               |                          |
| Independent                 |                     |                     |               |                          |
| Meet new friends            |                     |                     |               |                          |

| **Disadvantages**           |                     |                     |               |                          |
| Must buy furniture          |                     |                     |               |                          |
| May have to find share mate |                     |                     |               |                          |
| Very difficult to break lease |                   |                     |               |                          |
| Living with other people who you don’t know and may have different lifestyle from you | | | | |
| Limited privacy             |                     |                     |               |                          |
| Have to fit in with the family lifestyle | | | | |

| **Procedure**               | 1. Locate property  | 1. Locate property  | 1. Apply online  | 1. Apply directly to the accommodation |
|                            | 2. Inspect property | 2. Inspect property | 2. Inspection    | 2. Receive an offer |
|                            | 5. Connect utilities | 6. Move in |               | |


For more detailed information about accommodation options, please visit Swinburne International website: www.swinburne.edu.au/international/arrival/accommodation

For further information about Homestay accommodation please contact AHN on 1300 697 829 or if calling from overseas +61 2 8905 0321 or email to info@homestaynetwork.org

To book a homestay please go to: www.homestaynetwork.org/student/join
On-arrival financial matters

**Contribution to Living Expenses (CLE)**

The AusAID Contribution to Living Expenses (CLE) is paid at a fixed rate (approximately $28,000 per year), commencing on the day you arrive in Australia. The CLE is paid on a fortnightly basis into your bank account.

The CLE may assist with ongoing costs relating to:

- Rent and associated expenses (e.g. electricity, telephone, everyday expenses etc.)
- Food
- Public transport
- Savings for trip home during your vacation.

**Establishment allowance**

The one-off Establishment Allowance (currently $5000) is to assist you with expenses related to your initial arrival. These may include:

- Public transport
- Food
- Temporary accommodation
- Bond for permanent accommodation (usually equivalent to one month’s rent)
- Textbooks, stationery etc.
- Furniture
- First month’s rent.

**Bank account**

To assist you with your immediate arrival expenses, a bank account can be opened (and ATM cards ordered) on your behalf with one of the major Australian banks. Your Establishment Allowance will be paid into this account.

You will have access to this account on the first business day (Monday–Friday) following your first IAP sessions on your arrival in Melbourne.

Please complete the Bank Account Authorisation form if you would like a pre-opened account.

You are advised to bring sufficient Australian currency with you to cover any costs which you may incur before you are able to access your funds through this account.

**Estimated cost of living**

Health-Overseas Health Cover (OSHC)

AusAID students are entitled to Essentials Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) through OSHC Worldcare. The Essentials package includes certain medical treatment and hospital stays such as no waiting period for both in-hospital and out-of-hospital treatment for psychiatric pre-existing conditions, no waiting periods for cover in relation to pregnancy services.

However, it does not cover ancillary health-related expenses such as dental, optical, physiotherapy and chiropractic etc.

Medical and dental fees are very expensive in Australia, so it may be cheaper for you to seek necessary treatment in your home country before you travel to Australia. Otherwise, please ensure that you have sufficient funds to pay for any expenses not covered by OSHC Worldcare.

Please note that additional insurance can be taken out at your own expense to give you extra coverage.

For further information on OSHC please visit www.oshcworldcare.com.au

If you intend bringing your family, you should carefully read the Scholarships Handbook – section 6.1.3 for information on OSHC requirements for your family.

Personal computers, internet access and electronics

If your prescribed course of study involves the regular use of a computer, then you are likely to need a personal computer to assist you with your studies. We recommend, where possible, that you bring your own computer with you to Australia.

We recommend: a current model laptop with LAN and wireless internet capabilities, 4GB (minimum 2GB) RAM, 300GB hard drive capable of running at least Windows 7. A brand new computer with the above specifications will cost approximately $1000–$2500. Students may wish to consider purchasing a secondhand computer instead.

Once you commence studies at Swinburne, you will get discounts when purchasing through the IT Procurement website.

All Swinburne students are provided with:

- a university email address
- free wireless access on campus
- access to the computer labs at the library for extended hours (usually 8.15am–8.30pm).

Electrical plugs

The standard voltage for electrical items in Australia is 240V. Electric plugs have three flatpins as shown in the picture below. Adaptors can be purchased in Australia.

The red dot indicates that the switch is on and power is flowing through that socket.
Family entry considerations

“The Australian Government does not provide any financial or other support for the dependants of AusAID scholars.”
Scholarships Handbook, February 2012 – section 5.1.4

We strongly recommend you do not bring your family to Melbourne until you have completed the IAP program or the first semester of study.

If your spouse and/or children intend to join you in Australia there is no additional CLE/stipend payment and you must ensure you have sufficient funds to support them for the duration of their stay with you in Melbourne. AusAID does not provide any financial assistance for families and dependants, this includes the cost of health cover. As such your family members are required to purchase their own health cover as per their visa requirements.

You are strongly encouraged to carefully consider the expenses associated with having family with you in Australia. It is important you consider the following issues:

- cost of airfares for your family to and from Australia
- cost of OSHC for family members
- higher rent for a larger home
- limited employment opportunities for your spouse
- extra costs for food, clothing and other necessities
- the effect on you and your studies if your family is not happy in Australia
- childcare and schooling costs
- whether your children will adjust to school in Australia
- waiting lists for childcare centres.

Childcare

Arrangements for childcare must be made for each child under the age of five years if your spouse is unable to care for the children. Childcare arrangements should be made prior to any child arriving in Australia. There are long waiting lists at certain centres and placements are NOT guaranteed.

Swinburne has a limited number of childcare facilities available at each campus: www.swinburne.edu.au/stuserv/childdcare

Childcare centres can also be found:

- Local councils:
  - Boroondara (Hawthorn campus)
  - Shire of Yarra Rangers (Lilydale campus)
  - City of Stonnington (Prahran campus)
  - City of Knox (Wantirna campus)
- Yellow pages business directory: www.yellowpages.com.au

When inspecting a centre, please make sure that it is a state-approved facility.

AusAID students may be eligible to receive assistance in the form of childcare benefits from the Australian Government (Centrelink Office). To qualify, you must first pass an income test and the childcare centre must be a state-approved facility, further details can be found at: www.fahcsia.gov.au

You will need to make these arrangements personally after you arrive in Australia.

Please visit the Centrelink website for more information: www.centrelink.gov.au

AusAID students with school-aged dependants who wish to have their family accompany them for the duration of their studies in Australia must ensure that they have made the following arrangements:

- Suitable childcare (day and after-school) arrangements for children under five years of age where the spouse will not be available to care for the children.
- Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE) for primary or secondary school-aged dependants (six to 17 years of age).

It is compulsory for any child between six and 17 years of age in your care during your studies to be enrolled in full-time education in Australia. CoEs may be required by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) when applying for dependant visas.

Arrangements for enrolment must be made PRIOR to any children arriving.
Schooling

It is an immigration policy that school-aged dependants of international students must undertake formal schooling while they are in Australia. Children who have their fifth birthday before the 1st April of that calendar year are eligible to start school.

See the list of primary and secondary schools located near the Hawthorn campus on page 10. The Diplomatic Mission in your country can also tell you which state schools are registered to take international students. You must contact the schools to make arrangements for your children’s schooling.

If your child has been studying for more than three years, you are required to send the past two years’ school reports for each child as well as a recommendation letter from the student’s current school principal. All documents must be in English (or translated into English) and signed and stamped as a true and correct copy by the issuing authorities, or an authorised translation company, or they will not be accepted.

If your child enrols in a Victorian Government school, you will be exempt from paying full fees. However, you will be required to pay the same school fees and expenses as Australian residents, which include school levies, books (generally only in secondary school), stationery, uniforms, excursions etc. For private schools and tertiary institutions, you will be charged full fees. The following is a rough estimate (in A$) of how much you are likely to pay for schooling per child per year – please note that these amounts will vary from one school to another and from one year level to the next – they should be used only as a guide:

Levies: $300–$500 (includes buildings and grounds maintenance, upgrades to library, etc.)

Uniforms: $200–$500*

Textbooks: $200–$300*

Excursions: $60–$100

* Most schools offer a second-hand service, where some textbooks and uniforms can be purchased at a reduced rate.

Searching for a suitable school

Please consult the following websites for information on schools that accept international students:


Detailed information about schools can be found on:


You will need to enter information such as the school name and suburb. You can also conduct your own search for a suitable school on this website.
# Victorian Government schools within the Hawthorn area

## Primary schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of school</th>
<th>Street address</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
<th>Facsimile</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Auburn Primary School</td>
<td>Rathmines Road, Hawthorn East, VIC 3123</td>
<td>+61 3 9882 7035</td>
<td>+61 3 9882 9296</td>
<td><a href="http://www.auburnps.vic.edu.au">www.auburnps.vic.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auburn South Primary School</td>
<td>419 Tooronga Road, Hawthorn East, VIC 3123</td>
<td>+61 3 9882 2140</td>
<td>+61 3 9813 1517</td>
<td><a href="http://www.auburnsthps.vic.edu.au">www.auburnsthps.vic.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camberwell Primary School</td>
<td>290 Camberwell Road, Camberwell, VIC 3124</td>
<td>+61 3 9882 4663</td>
<td>+61 3 9882 7408</td>
<td><a href="http://www.camberweltps.vic.edu.au">www.camberweltps.vic.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glenferrie Primary School</td>
<td>Manningtree Road, Hawthorn, VIC 3122</td>
<td>+61 3 9818 4338</td>
<td>+61 3 9818 8952</td>
<td><a href="http://www.glenferrieps.vic.edu.au">www.glenferrieps.vic.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawthorn West Primary School</td>
<td>Corner Wood Street and Burwood Road, Hawthorn, VIC 3122</td>
<td>+61 3 9818 2233</td>
<td>+61 3 9818 6308</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hawthornwestps.vic.edu.au">www.hawthornwestps.vic.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Secondary schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of school</th>
<th>Street address</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
<th>Facsimile</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hawthorn Secondary College</td>
<td>Burgess Street, Hawthorn East, VIC 3123</td>
<td>+61 3 9882 3247</td>
<td>+61 3 9822 6837</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hawthornsc.vic.edu.au">www.hawthornsc.vic.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camberwell High School</td>
<td>Prospect Hill Road, Canterbury, VIC 3126</td>
<td>+61 3 9836 0555</td>
<td>+61 3 9836 0194</td>
<td><a href="http://www.camhigh.vic.edu.au">www.camhigh.vic.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kew High School</td>
<td>1393 Burke Road, Kew East, VIC 3102</td>
<td>+61 3 9859 8652</td>
<td>+61 3 3819 7880</td>
<td><a href="http://www.kew.vic.edu.au">www.kew.vic.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melbourne Girls College</td>
<td>Yarra Boulevard, Richmond, VIC 3121</td>
<td>+61 3 9428 8955</td>
<td>+61 3 9428 2737</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mgc.vic.edu.au">www.mgc.vic.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Maps

There are online maps where you can look up the exact location of the childcare centre or school. To do so, you will need to know the address of the centre or school that you are interested in and then visit: [www.whereis.com.au](http://www.whereis.com.au)
Other family entry considerations

The cost of living in Australia

Since 2007, there has been one fixed rate for CLE/Stipend, regardless of the number of dependants/family members. If your family intends to join you, you need to ensure you have access to additional funds in order to meet the costs of living and study. There may be higher rent for a larger home for your family while in Australia. In addition, there are limited employment opportunities for your spouse, extra costs for food, clothing and necessities.

Travel costs

You will need to consider the cost of airfares and transfers for each family member, to and from Australia.

Adjustment issues

You will need to consider whether your children will be able to adjust to schooling in Australia and re-adjust on their return home; and the effect on you and your studies if your family is not happy in Australia. For example if your family members do not speak English they may feel unhappy and restricted in their activities outside the home.

Swinburne student services

For detailed information on the services available to all Swinburne students please refer to the enclosed:

Resource Guide for International Students
Useful contacts

The AusAID program is coordinated by the Government Scholarships Coordinator, known as the AusAID Student Contact Officer (SCO), within the Student Life team at Swinburne.

The SCO is based at the Hawthorn campus with a rotation to all other campuses during semester. International Student Advisers are also available at all Swinburne campuses.

Ms Benita Ho  
Government Scholarships Coordinator  
(AusAID Student Contact Officer)  
T: +61 3 9214 5925  
E: bwho@swin.edu.au  
www.swinburne.edu.au/international/apply/ausaid

Mr Sam Tsering  
Accommodation Adviser  
T: +61 3 9214 5551  
E: accommodation@swin.edu.au

Student Life Team  
T: +61 3 9214 6741 (general enquiries)  
E: isa@swin.edu.au  
www.swinburne.edu.au/international/student-life

Harlan (Airport Reception Service)  
T: +61 3 9354 5025 (in Australia: 0412 073 749)

Campus map (Hawthorn)

The Introductory Academic Program (IAP) will be conducted at Hawthorn and applies to all courses across all campuses. Maps of all Swinburne campuses can be accessed at: www.swinburne.edu.au/campuses