

Murdoch University

Western Australia

Pre-departure Information

www.murdoch.edu.au



DISCOVERERS WELCOME



Murdoch
UNIVERSITY
PERTH WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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Welcome

Congratulations on your decision to pursue your education with us at Murdoch University. Murdoch has established an outstanding reputation for quality and excellence in Teaching and Research and constantly receives top rankings from graduates for student satisfaction. Our main focus will be on your learning experience and to offer you the best opportunity to explore, achieve and grow throughout the duration of your studies with us.

In your preparation for your studies at Murdoch, I encourage you to thoroughly read this Pre-Departure Guide and your accompanying Murdoch Course Booklet.

Importantly, the Guide and Course Booklet contain information that you need to know before you leave home. It will provide you with practical information on how to start planning for this new stage in your life as a Murdoch student and also outline enrolment and timetable information.

I trust that your experiences at Murdoch University will be a rewarding time. On behalf of the University, I welcome you to the Murdoch community and look forward to seeing you at Orientation Week.

Safe travels,

Professor Gary Martin

Deputy Vice Chancellor (Enterprise and International)

This booklet

The information contained in this booklet has been designed specifically to be useful for your pre-departure arrangements and arrival in Western Australia. You are encouraged to read it thoroughly. For ease of use it has been divided into 4 sections:

- 1 Before You Go
- 2 Arriving in Perth
- 3 Settling In
- 4 Getting Started at Murdoch

Please remember to bring this booklet, and other information sent to you by murdoch, with you when you depart for perth.

Orientation will address a number of important areas and your Orientation Pack, available during Orientation Week, will contain an Orientation CD which will provide you with more information about life in Western Australia. The Orientation CD also contains all the information you will need to know to get started at Murdoch University, provides free software and your student handbook.

If you can't find the answers to your questions in this guide or your course booklet there are contact lists for the relevant offices listed in both booklets to help you find the staff member who can best assist you in answering your questions.

Best wishes, safe travels and we look forward to welcoming you to Murdoch in person!

From everyone at Murdoch International

Acceptance to arrival steps

- 1 Accept Offer (pay your tuition fee & OSHC)
- 2 Apply for Student Visa (when you receive your electronic confirmation of enrolment (eCOE), contact your nearest Australian High Commission/Embassy/Murdoch agent for information on this process and visit: www.immi.gov.au)
- 3 Apply online for on-campus or off-campus accommodation through Murdoch University Village: www.murdochuv.com.au
- 4 Complete on-line enrolment
- 5 Book flights and finalise travel and insurance
- 6 Register for temporary accommodation (if necessary) and airport shuttle transfer with Murdoch University Village
- 7 Organise: Funds, budget, packing, banking options/money transfer
- 8 Remember to consider: Quarantine, Customs, and Adjustment and Emotional factors at departure and on arrival.
- 9 Leave for Perth!

Before you go...

Completing On-line Enrolment

Enrolment at Murdoch

This is one of the most important things you will have to do prior to arrival at the University. You must start thinking about your course of study well before you arrive. To help you start, a copy of your Murdoch course booklet is included with this pre-departure guide or is available electronically at: www.murdoch.edu.au/students/new/Booklets/index.html. Your course booklet contains a guide to self-enrolling in units, important information in relation to your program of study and sample enrolments to help you plan your studies. Please read it thoroughly and follow the instructions to enrol in your Semester 1 units and your Tutorials, Labs and Workshops as applicable.

How to Get Started

To self-enrol you need to set your Murdoch Password and know your Murdoch Student Number (please see your Acceptance letter). See your accompanying Murdoch course booklet for detailed information on the on-line enrolment process and the steps to follow to complete your on-line enrolment successfully.

If you have difficulties enrolling there will be opportunities during Orientation to seek assistance in enrolling online. When enrolling please remember to take into consideration any advanced standing or exemptions you may have received. Also ensure that you enrol in the correct amount of credit points for Part I and Part II units. For example, if you enrol in more points than is required for Part I you will not have those points credited towards your degree, even though you would have paid for them. Please also ensure that the units you have chosen are not timetabled at the same time. Visit: www.murdoch.edu.au/admin/timetables/teaching/

Your Responsibility

All students at Murdoch University are considered to be independent learners and responsible for managing their own enrolment. At Orientation there will be specific sessions for your course of study where you can access academic advice and get answers to any questions you have about enrolling. Your course booklet also contains a list of useful contacts should you wish to seek assistance before, during or after Orientation. Please note if you are coming to Murdoch through the Study Abroad Program (one semester of study) your enrolment into classes will be handled through Murdoch International. Enrolment in class tutorials and laboratories (where applicable) however remains your responsibility.

Study Load

As an international student it is important to remember that there are certain visa conditions which you are required to comply with in order to maintain your student visa. These conditions will be covered in detail at Orientation but in planning your enrolment please keep in mind that international students are obliged, under the terms of their Student Visa, to maintain a study load that will see them complete within the duration specified on their Confirmation of Enrolment letter (COE). It is expected that a student will maintain a full-time study load (12 points per semester). Students who have been awarded advanced standing which will affect the need to enrol full-time or are intending to amend their course of study by changing unit selections or withdrawing from units, decreasing the number of units being studied or changing a unit's mode of study from internal to external or online must, prior to making any changes, contact an International Student Adviser at Murdoch International. As an international student it is possible to enrol in external or online units but they must not exceed more than 25% of the total enrolment in your program of study and at least one unit must be an internal enrolment at Murdoch University each study period. The International Student Advisers will be able to provide information and advice that will ensure the integrity of the Student Visa, the study program and any scholarship or financial aid requirements.

Please remember: If you are finding it difficult to enrol or to develop a study plan please don't be concerned. During Orientation there will be Course Advice Sessions for your program of study and you can discuss your intended enrolment with academic and administrative staff. Once you've started your studies if at any point you are concerned about your academic performance or other matters such as illness that are affecting your studies please don't hesitate to contact your academic staff and/or Murdoch International staff to discuss your arrangements.

Important Legislation

The Australian education system is regulated by a national legislation to ensure that the rights of students are consistently applied and that quality in education delivery is maintained. Specifically for international students the Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) Act 2000 and the National Code 2007 are part of the ESOS framework governing the responsibilities of education providers towards overseas students. As an overseas student it is important to understand your rights and obligations. The requirements of the ESOS Act and the National Code inform many of the policies and procedures in place at Murdoch University including the requirements discussed above regarding enrolment. Murdoch International will assist you in monitoring and maintaining compliance with the ESOS Act and the conditions of your student visa. If you have any questions at any stage please contact a Murdoch International staff member.

Please refer to the following websites for more information:
Murdoch International: www.murdoch.edu.au/International-students/
ESOS Act and the National Code: www.aei.dest.gov.au/ESOS/
Visa Information: www.immi.gov.au

What to bring

Clothing

People dress quite casually in Perth and about the university campus you will see a wide variety of clothing styles.

- Lighter clothing in hot months: jeans, t-shirts, shorts and skirts
- A few warm sweaters/pullovers/jumpers
- Raincoat and strong umbrella - Perth can sometimes be windy and wet
- A variety of footwear; semi-formal shoes
- A bathing suit if you like to go swimming
- Semi formal wear for outings

Documentation

Bringing copies of some important documents with you will help minimize potential difficulties you may encounter in settling in to study and life in Western Australia.

Documents to consider bringing:

- Your Offer letter from Murdoch & Confirmation of Enrolment
- Original transcripts of previous studies
- A printout of your electronic visa (if your visa was processed online) and a copy of your passport details (in case it is lost)
- A recent Police Clearance (if you have one as some occupations and work experiences will require one)
- References (for finding work)
- A certified copy of your Birth Certificate
- A recent Bank Statement
- Your driver's license and other official ID e.g. national ID card
- Prescriptions or a letter from your Doctor for any ongoing medical needs.

Electrical Goods

These are available in Australia and are reasonably priced. It may be slightly cheaper to bring your own with you, but be aware of excess baggage charges at the airport for any large items. Ensure that all electrical goods operate on 240 volts and fit your appliances with Australian-style plugs or use adapter plugs.

Appliances to consider bringing:

- Personal Music Player
- Camera
- Hair dryer (due to the different voltage system in Australia, it may be safer to purchase a hair dryer on arrival).

Baggage

You should bring:

- A strong suitcase with wheels and trolley (make sure that you can carry what you bring, as you are responsible for lifting and carrying your own luggage)
- A strong piece of hand luggage

The check-in baggage allowance at the airport is 20kg worldwide excluding North America (North America is two pieces of 32kg). Excess baggage charges are very high, so we recommend that you send all non-essential items by airfreight as unaccompanied baggage or by surface post. If you intend to do so, please plan on having it arrive after you do and check with your accommodation for a forwarding address. You are allowed one piece of hand luggage that must be small enough to fit in the overhead compartment or under your seat. It is advisable to carry some extra clothing, and important documents in your hand luggage, including your Confirmation of Enrolment letter, academic transcripts and other personal items.

A certified copy of your birth certificate is also useful. You should also bring a small amount of cash in Australian Dollars, approximately AUD \$200, for incidental costs on arrival.

Australian Customs and Quarantine Laws

Australia has strict customs and quarantine laws and it is important that you are aware of quarantine conditions for entering Australia. You must declare if you are carrying food or any items of plant or animal origin, including meat, honey, dairy products or straw packaging, or equipment used with animals. A wide range of food products are readily available in Australia so you will not need to bring them with you.

If you bring any medication with you, please carry a letter from your doctor or a medical prescription as Customs may require you to produce documentation for any medications you hold.

If you bring a computer with you, you must show proof that you are a student and evidence of the length of your study in Australia.

It is legal to bring \$10 000 or more of Australian or foreign currency into Australia in cash, but you will need to declare these funds to Customs on arrival. These funds will not be taxed or confiscated, but Customs is responsible for reporting the inflow of large amounts of cash into Australia to an independent financial body called AUSTRAC in an effort to prevent criminal activity. If you do not declare these funds, you can be liable for a fine or prosecution for not declaring the funds to Customs on arrival in Australia. For personal safety reasons, Murdoch International recommends that international students do not bring large amounts of cash into Australia.

Quarantine Officers may also inspect your footwear or other clothing for soil, straw or other material that could carry the foot and mouth virus. It would assist greatly if items are readily accessible in your luggage.

A copy of the AQIS publication: "What can't I take into Australia?" has been included for you with this guide.

Australian customs are very strict about declaring goods. **If you are not sure, declare.** Heavy penalties, including jail, have been imposed on people who fail to observe quarantine laws.

For further information, please contact Australian Customs Service on + 61 8 9477 8888 or 1300 363 263 (only in Australia), visit the AQIS website: www.daffa.gov.au/aqis or ask a quarantine officer when you arrive.

Students with Special Needs

Any international student with special needs or a specific medical condition should contact Murdoch International and Murdoch's Equity Administration Office by email: equity@murdoch.edu.au or telephone: + 61 8 9360 6084 prior to their arrival at Murdoch. Murdoch can then facilitate any necessary arrangements required before the commencement of study. Information provided to Murdoch will be treated confidentially and only be used for purposes relating to arranging necessary support.

Education for school age dependants of Masters or PhD international students

Dependants of postgraduate international students (Masters or PhD) may be enrolled in selected government schools in Western Australia for free, provided that the school has been registered and has the capacity to accept them.

A list of government schools is available at:

www2.eddept.wa.edu.au/schoolprofile/home.do. A list of nongovernment schools is available at: www.des.wa.gov.au/pages/non_gov_lists.php Conditions for placement in government schools include:

- The dependent child(ren) must be physically in Perth before enrolment processes can commence.
- Postgraduate international students must not approach government schools directly about enrolling dependants in government schools. The placement and enrolment process is coordinated through Murdoch International and the Department of Education.
- While tuition is not charged for dependants of postgraduate (Masters or PhD) international students enrolled in government schools, postgraduate (Masters or PhD) international students remain responsible for meeting the full tuition costs of the English as a Second Language Program (ESL) for their dependants if required.
- Postgraduate international students (Masters or PhD) are responsible for meeting the full costs of any disability or special learning support programs for their dependants if required.

International students completing a Masters or PhD program at Murdoch and wishing to enrol their dependants in a WA government school should contact Murdoch International once their dependant(s) arrive in Perth. Murdoch International will then complete the necessary paperwork for the Department of Education and Training in Perth. The Department of Education and Training will place dependant(s) in a school with spare capacity (available places) and as close as possible to the place of residence for the dependant. The school allocated by the Department of Education and Training, is final and no other negotiations are accepted.

International students completing a Masters or PhD program at Murdoch and wishing to enrol their dependants in a WA non-government (private) school are responsible for paying all tuition fees for their dependant/s and must make necessary enrolment arrangements directly with the non-government (private) school concerned.

Education for school age dependants of Undergraduate international students

International students completing an undergraduate degree, Honours, or Postgraduate Certificate or Diploma, who wish to enrol their dependants into a WA government school, or a WA non-government (private) school, are responsible for paying all tuition fees for their dependant/s and must make necessary enrolment arrangements directly with the school concerned. The Australian Government does not provide free government schooling places to dependants of undergraduate international students. Please visit the Education and Training International website for more information on this process: www.eti.wa.edu.au

Budgeting and Living Costs

It is important to establish a budget for yourself before you commence your studies at Murdoch. To help you do this, a table of expected living expenses is included below. You will need to ensure you have at least AUD \$200 in cash available on your arrival. You will use these funds to pay for incidental costs for your first few days in Perth while you organize your bank accounts and establish yourself. You will also need easy access to around AUD \$1500- \$2000 to pay for costs to secure permanent accommodation on arrival. These funds will be used to pay for your bond, rent in advance, and to establish your utility connections (electricity, phone, gas connections) at your permanent accommodation. If you have been accepted to live in the Murdoch University Village please check their website for costs: www.murdochuv.com.au/index.phpl.

Most students walk, bike or use public transport to move around Perth; however it is possible to purchase a motor vehicle to use while you are in Perth. If you intend to purchase a motor vehicle, please consider the additional costs associated with running a car. These costs include petrol (gas), licence and registration for the vehicle, ongoing maintenance, university parking fees, and car insurance costs to cover you in the event of an accident. More information on running costs for vehicles is available from <http://rac.com.au/go/community-and-information/motoring-advice/car-facts/vehicle-operating-costs>.

Other costs you will need to consider during your time in Perth include: text books each semester (approximately \$300 -\$600 per semester); food costs; entertainment costs; public transport costs; mobile phone costs; Internet Service Provider costs; rent for permanent accommodation; and utility costs.

Approximate Living Costs Single Off Campus	\$ AUD
Rent – furnished residence sharing with 2-3 students	\$90 - \$120 per week
Utilities (gas, electric, water, telephone, ISP)	\$20 per week
Food/Meals	\$70 - \$80 per week
Public transport/transport	\$20 per week
Clothing/Toiletries/Entertainment	\$60 per week
Total Cost	\$250 - \$300 per week

Students interested in Homestay arrangements should budget approximately \$200 per week full board for a Homestay in Perth. A family of 3-4 people should budget a minimum of \$550 - \$600 per week for living expenses in Perth.

Financial Aid for North American Students

North American students who are US or Canadian citizens or eligible non citizens, can access Financial Aid loans from the US or Canadian government for their study in Australia. Extensive information regarding Financial Aid for North American students at Murdoch is available on the Murdoch website at: www.murdoch.edu.au/financialaid/us/types.html. It is essential that all North American students who intend to use Financial Aid to finance their study at Murdoch thoroughly read the information provided at the above link prior to arrival in Perth. Please contact Mr. Tim Martin at timothy.martin@murdoch.edu.au to register your interest in assessing eligibility for financial aid and organising loans.

Sponsored Students

Students sponsored to study at Murdoch through a private agency, government organization or aid program must ensure they are aware of the following:

- Sponsors often require Murdoch to release information regarding academic progress and transition to the university environment. Every sponsored student must give Murdoch permission to release such information to their sponsor. An opportunity will be provided during the Orientation program for sponsored students to grant Murdoch permission to release information to sponsors.
- It is important for you as a sponsored student to understand and be familiar with the conditions of your sponsorship as outlined by your sponsor. You will need to ensure you adhere to any sponsorship requirements in relation to your course of study, enrolment in classes, academic progress, and living or financial (e.g. stipend/allowance) arrangements.
- Please bring any documents relating to your sponsorship and your sponsorship conditions/ agreement with you to Murdoch. This will assist you and us in managing your sponsorship agreement successfully.
- If you have a stipend/allowance arrangement as part of your sponsorship benefits, we recommend you still bring a small amount of cash with you for your arrival in Perth. You will need access to approximately AUD\$200 on arrival to cover incidental costs until you can open a bank account and access your stipend/allowance from your sponsor.

Arriving in Perth

Arrival Information for New Students

Murdoch University Village provides an airport shuttle service for all new international students that can take you directly from the airport to either your arranged temporary accommodation in the CBD or to Murdoch University Village depending if you were offered on campus accommodation or off campus accommodation assistance.

Before your departure from home please make sure that you advise Murdoch UV of your arrival details by completing and returning the “**arrival details form**” online at: www.murdochuv.com.au/site/html/off_campus-arrivalPickup.php at least two weeks prior to your departure for Perth. Please ensure that you return the completed form direct to Murdoch University Village (Fax, email and postal information is shown on the form itself -preferably by fax or email).

At the airport

For students who have been offered assistance in locating Off Campus Accommodation, the university has arranged for either the Perth City Shuttle or the Fremantle Airport Shuttle to provide transport for new international students from the Airport to the CBD or Murdoch University Village depending on where you arranged temporary accommodation. Once you have cleared the Arrivals area, make your way through the airport terminal exit doors where you will find the Shuttle bus pick up points. Please wait at the designated stand or sit inside the terminal building and watch for the shuttle buses.

If you have difficulties, please ask one of the airport helpers or security staff for where and when the next shuttle arrives. You can also contact the Shuttle service direct on the 24 hour contact telephone numbers:

Perth City Shuttle – 9277 7958

Fremantle Airport Shuttle – 9335 1614

They can advise you of when and where the next shuttle arrives. If you are still unable to find the shuttle bus stand please contact Murdoch University Village by telephone on 9360 2909 for assistance and advice.

When boarding, please advise the driver that you are a Murdoch University student, then give your name and date of birth (for I.D purposes). Please keep your receipt as Murdoch University Village will reimburse the cost of the shuttle for all Murdoch International Students arriving in Australia and attending Murdoch University for the first time. Eligible students will be reimbursed for the cost of the shuttle by producing their receipt at the administration office in the village. Please note that this service is free for new students, if you arrive with family members this service will be at their own expense.

Please note:-

The Airport Shuttle service is available for the two weeks prior to commencement of your enrolment.

Murdoch University Village will respond to all online arrival applications. If you have not received a response confirming your airport pick-up details please wait 5 working days and contact the Murdoch UV at w.fuimaono@murdochuv.com.au

In case of any emergency or last minute changes after sending your original Arrivals form to Murdoch UV (eg changes to your arrival date and/or time/airline/flight number etc) please telephone +61 8 9360 2909 for assistance and advice or email s.koga@murdoch.edu.au

Arrival Information for AusAID Sponsored Students

AusAID sponsored students involved with the Australian Leadership Awards (ALA), Australian Partnership Scholarships (APS), Australian Development Scholarships (ADS), or ACIAR should contact Murdoch International directly to obtain information about airport reception and arrival arrangements. Please email: timothy.martin@murdoch.edu.au.

Settling in

Perth for Beginners

Perth is the capital city of Western Australia which is the largest state of Australia in size. Perth has a Mediterranean climate, with hot, dry summers and cool, wet winters. Days are warm, but nights can be cold. November to April is warm-hot and dry, with daytime temperatures ranging from 20 - 40 degrees Celsius, nights are generally warm 15-25 degrees Celsius. May to October is cool-cold and wet with daytime temperatures of 7-19 degrees Celsius, nights can be cold 0-7 degrees Celsius.

Facts

- Population: 1.4 million (population of Western Australia = 2 million)
- Government: Democratic
- Size: 2, 525, 500 sq km
- Official Language: English
- Time Zone: GMT + 8 hours

The Vibe

Perth was voted as one of the world's top 5 livable cities by The Economist Intelligence Unit, a branch of the Economist magazine, in 2005. Perth is known as the most isolated capital city in the world and this isolation combined with the Mediterranean climate has given Perth the reputation as a friendly, relaxed lifestyle orientated city with a focus on outdoor activities and leisure time. Perth has a "chilled" energy that is not as flamboyant as other Eastern coast cities of Australia or cities in Asia, Europe or North America. Every experience of Perth is individual; we look forward to welcoming you to our city as you begin your journey of exploration. General information about Perth can be found at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australia_Perth or www.westernaustralia.com/en/

Murdoch University

Murdoch University has three Perth campuses; the main campus is located on South Street in the Perth suburb of Murdoch. Murdoch's Peel and Rockingham campuses are located in the south west corridor of the Perth metropolitan area and run the first year of Murdoch's Engineering and Nursing courses. The South Street campus is located approximately 15 minutes by car from Perth's city centre and 10 minutes by car to Perth's Port City, Fremantle. Murdoch's South Street campus is easily accessible by bus from both Perth and Fremantle and the new Perth-Mandurah train line due to open December 2007 will join Murdoch to Perth's rail network.

The Rockingham campus is 30 minutes south of the Murdoch campus in Rockingham, the Peel campus is located 45 minutes south of the Murdoch campus in Mandurah. Public transport to Murdoch's Peel and Rockingham campuses is more limited, but both campuses can be accessed by bus routes and the new Perth-Mandurah train line when finished in late December 2007.

Academic Support

The Teaching and Learning Centre (TLC) is located on the Murdoch South Street campus in the library. The TLC provides free small group and individual assistance for both undergraduate and postgraduate students in language, literacy, numeracy and learning skills for the academic environment via its Student Learning programme.

Accommodation

Murdoch University Village is comprised of 110 self-contained flats with up to 8 bedrooms in each. Affectionately known as the "The Village", it houses students from all over the world and is a melting pot of about 50 nationalities. The Village office also undertakes the placement of students who are either unable to secure accommodation on campus or who are actively looking for off campus accommodation. For information regarding accommodation or to apply online please see the Murdoch University Village website and contact details below:-

Murdoch University Village

Po Box 1055

Canning Vale 6970

Western Australia

Telephone: +6 18 9360 2909

Facsimile: +61 8 9360 2977

Email: info@murdochuv.com.au

www.murdochuv.com.au/index.php

On line application: www.murdochuv.com.au/site/html/apply_now.php

Alumni, Careers and Employment Service

The Alumni, Careers and Employment Service (ACE) is available to all students seeking assistance and guidance in planning their career. The Service also provides workshops for finding employment; resume writing; and offers the services of a career counselor. Murdoch's Alumni network has established links throughout Australia and the world with Alumni events and chapters operating in various worldwide locations. ACE is located on Murdoch's South Street campus and further information is available at: <http://ace.murdoch.edu.au/>

Banking

To open a bank account, you will need to bring two forms of photographic identification (i.e. your passport and identity card or a birth certificate) and most banks will request you make a deposit into your account once it has been opened.

We recommend that you have access to approximately AUD \$1500 in traveller's cheques, credit card or bank draft to pay for initial expenses while you organise your banking arrangements. We also recommend arriving with approximately AUD\$200 in Australian currency for the first couple of days particularly if you will be arriving on a weekend to cover initial costs such as transport, meals and urgent needs.

Murdoch University has two banks on campus: a branch of Bankwest (with an ATM); and Uni Credit. If possible, you are advised to obtain a Credit Card prior to arriving as many of the online processes require payment by credit card (e.g. Dept. of Immigration and Citizenship for visa renewal or work permits, etc).

Chaplaincy and Worship Centre

The Worship Centre at Murdoch's South Street campus is available to enable people of all faiths to worship on campus. The centre can be modified to suit the needs of Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists and Baha'is, as well as Christians of all denominations. Anglican and Roman Catholic chaplains are available full time on campus.

Child Care

Murdoch University has a child care facility located at the South Street campus. Places at the Murdoch University Child Care Centre are limited and bookings are essential. For information on fees, bookings, location, and the centre's philosophy and curriculum visit: www.murdoch.edu.au/childcare/about.php.

Other child care facilities are available in Perth. For information on child care in Western Australia please visit: www.community.wa.gov.au/DFC/Resources/ChildCare/

Clubs and Societies

Involvement in university life at Murdoch will enhance your study experience and provide opportunity for meeting new people and establishing friendship networks. The Murdoch Guild of Students has affiliation with over 50 clubs and societies with interests in a range of cultural, sporting, social and intellectual pursuits. Clubs include the Murdoch International Students Association, the Malaysian Student Association, Singapore Link and the Indonesian Students' Association.

Further information about clubs and societies is available from the Murdoch Guild of Students at: <http://guild.murdoch.edu.au>. During Festival Day you will have an opportunity to sign up and join these great clubs and societies.

Counselling Service

Murdoch has a free counselling service available to all students. The service is located on Murdoch's South Street campus. The Counselling Service exists to support students in their transition to the academic environment and to provide support in a welfare capacity. Appointments are required and the service operates during business hours Monday-Friday. Please note this service is accessed by many students and at peak times it may be harder to book the appointment times you require.

Currency

The Australian unit of currency is the Australian Dollar (AUD). Australian currency is made up of notes and coins. The notes are plastic, colourful, vary in size, and depict a famous Australian on one side and the Queen of England on the other. Coins also vary in size and colour and depict an Australian animal on one side and the Queen of England on the other.

Notes: \$100, \$50, \$20, \$10, \$5

Coins: \$2, \$1, 50c, 20c, 10c, 5c

Equal Opportunity and Anti-Discrimination

Both the Western Australian State Government and the Commonwealth Government have legislation in place to protect the rights of individuals. The Equal Opportunity Act makes it unlawful to discriminate and/or harass on certain grounds and in specific areas of public life. Murdoch University rejects discrimination and harassment in all its forms. Murdoch is proud of its diverse population of staff and students and strives to achieve inclusiveness in teaching and learning. Murdoch has a number of policies and processes in place to ensure that all students and staff receive fair and equitable treatment and can pursue their studies and work free from harassment. Information on Murdoch's policies is available on the Orientation CD and at Orientation. If you have further questions or require assistance please contact the Student Equity Office at: <http://equityaccess.murdoch.edu.au/>

Food on Campus

Murdoch's South Street campus has a number of food outlets available offering hot and cold Asian and Western foods and refreshments for purchase. Options include the Refectory known as "The Ref", Sir Walter's Café located in the library, the Guild Tavern, the Lunch Box located near the Business school and the Asian Food Van located behind Science and Computing. A range of snacks items are available at the Guild Shop and there are numerous vending machines located around various areas of the Murdoch Campus. Cafés are also located at Rockingham and Peel campuses.

Food in Perth

Most supermarkets stock a wide variety of food and daily items and fresh fruit and vegetables are easily available. There are also a number of specialty stores that stock imported goods or specialty products such as Asian Supermarkets or 'Continental' (European) delicatessens and stores. Information on Halal food options in Perth is available at: www.westernaustralia.com/en/Brochures/Muslim+Visitors+Guide+to+Western+Australia.htm and <http://islam.ii.net/channel/halal.html>.

Food shopping hours in Perth suburbs are Monday to Friday 8.30am - 6.00pm; with late night shopping until 9pm on Thursday; Saturday 8.30am - 5.00pm and Sunday closed. Independent grocery stores (i.e. IGA) are open from Monday - Sunday 8am until 8pm. Perth city centre is open everyday until 5pm and has late night shopping until 9pm on Friday and Sunday trading from 12noon until 5pm. Some tourist suburban shopping centres are open on Sundays, for example, Fremantle, Rockingham, and Hillary's Boat Harbour.

Health & Medical Issues

The medical services in Perth are of a very high standard. Health services are provided by a range of qualified medical practitioners and medical centres are widely situated. Appointments are generally required in order to see a doctor and 'walking in' to a health centre may result in a long wait.

At Murdoch University's South Street campus there is a fully staffed Health and Counselling Centre which provides a range of services to the Murdoch University community. The on-campus Health and Counselling Centre also operates on an appointment system. Please note that seeing a doctor or nurse at this Centre is covered by your OSHC.

When visiting a doctor you may be required to pay up-front for the consultation. If you have valid Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) then this cost can be claimed back in part or in full through your health care provider. Please keep all receipts to ensure you can claim the maximum you're entitled to from your health care provider.

Overseas Student Health Cover is covered in greater detail later in this booklet and there will be presentations by both Murdoch University's Health and Counselling Service and OSHC Worldcare during Orientation. For urgent medical assistance on the South St campus using a campus phone call '333', Rockingham campus call '7333' or call 9360 6262 from Peel. Throughout Australia the emergency call number is 000.

Murdoch Guild of Students

The Murdoch Guild of Students exists to provide representation on behalf of, and support for all students, at Murdoch University. The Guild offers an array of services to students which are invaluable in enhancing the student experience at Murdoch. More information on Guild representation, services and fees is available at: <http://guild.murdoch.edu.au>.

Murdoch International

Murdoch International Office is located on the South Street campus and is dedicated to the needs of international students studying at Murdoch University. Staff is available to assist with general support and welfare issues, visa renewal, Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) inquiries and renewals, and admission inquiries. Contact details are at the back of this booklet.

Personal Safety

Perth is a relatively safe city and taking a few simple precautions can greatly reduce the risk of an incident affecting you:

- Don't let personal possessions out of your sight.
- Keep doors and windows locked at all times, especially if you aren't in your room or at home.
- Keep to well-lit and busy areas when out and about at night.
- Walk in groups when possible through quiet areas.
- Utilise the service of the On-Campus Security to escort you at night time from your class to either Student Village or your vehicle.

To contact Police, an Ambulance or Fire Brigade in an emergency in Australia call 000, if calling from a mobile phone use 112. Outside of an emergency the Police can be contacted on 922 1111. Further information about safety and security at Murdoch University will be presented during Orientation.

Recreation and Sports Centre

Murdoch has a Recreation and Sports centre that incorporates a multipurpose facility for indoor sports such as volleyball, basketball, badminton, netball and indoor soccer. The Centre also includes squash courts, an aerobics centre and a comprehensive weights facility. A Playing field is also available on the South Street campus for outdoor activities.

Refund Policy - Fees

A refund of tuition fees is possible in certain circumstances only in accordance with the Murdoch Refund Policy. It is recommended all students familiarize themselves with this policy before arrival at Murdoch. To access the refund policy in full, please visit:
www.murdoch.edu.au/International-students/Courses-and-fees/Refund-policy/.

Shopping & Business Hours

Business hours in Perth are generally Monday to Friday 9am until 5pm for most types of businesses (including Murdoch!). Suburban shops are generally open from 9am to 5pm Monday to Saturday and until 9pm on a Thursday night. Shops in the city are open 9am to 5pm Monday to Saturday, until 9pm on a Friday and open 12pm - 5pm on a Sunday. 24hr shops are rare in Perth but some smaller shops, including small supermarkets are open seven days a week until late. So wherever you are there is normally somewhere close by to purchase essentials.

Banks in Perth are only open Monday to Friday from 9.30am until 4pm but there are Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs) available on Murdoch campus, in the city and in surrounding suburbs - mostly at suburban shopping centres. A number of currency exchange bureaus are also open on weekends in Perth city.

Transport

Perth has a reasonable public transport system comprised of buses, trains and ferry services. All public transport services are run by Transperth. Travel is calculated according to the number of zones you cross on your journey. To use the public transport system, a 'SmartRider' card must be purchased from authorized SmartRider Retail Sales Outlets (RSO). The Murdoch Guild Service Station on the South Street campus is an RSO.

Student concession rates are available for all students enrolled in full time study. You can arrange your student concession during Orientation once you have finalised your full-time enrolment. To obtain a student concession on public transport, you will need to purchase a SmartRider and through MyInfo activate your student concession status to receive concession rates each time travel on Perth's public transport network. Only full-time students (9pts per semester or greater) are eligible for the student concession.

Travelling between the city centre and Murdoch University's three campuses is easy and direct using the Mandurah line train to Murdoch Station for the Murdoch campus, Rockingham Station for the Rockingham Campus and Mandurah Station for the Peel Campus. From the train stations it is a short bus ride to the campuses. To the Murdoch Campus it is usually a 20 minute journey and is 2 zones. (currently \$3.40 for an adult fare and \$1.40 for a student concession). Travelling between Fremantle and Murdoch is by the 98/99 Circle Route bus service and is a 10 minute journey and is one zone.

Public transport runs from about 6am until midnight Monday to Sunday with some late services on a weekend. Services do not run as frequently after 6pm and on weekends, so plan ahead carefully when using public transport at night. Please note that the 185 bus operates Monday to Friday until 7pm and only during University contact weeks. More information on public transport is available at www.transperth.wa.gov.au

There are several major taxi companies operating in Perth and all charge an identical rate. At the airports and in other major locations there are Taxi Ranks where you can easily find a taxi. Otherwise taxis can be booked to pick you up at any time by phoning the companies directly. As a guide, a taxi trip from Murdoch University to the city centre (15kms) costs AUD\$30-35. Additional charges apply at night or on public holidays and if you book over the phone.

Work Rights

International students studying in Australia must apply for a 'Permission to Work' visa (PTW) if they wish to seek part-time employment or undertake any voluntary work during their studies. Before you apply for your PTW visa either online or by paper application, you must request Murdoch International to confirm with the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) that you have commenced your studies. This will only be done after the second week of lectures (Week 3). Information on how to apply for your PTW visa will be available from Murdoch International. The PTW visa costs AUD \$60.

International students are only permitted to work a maximum of 20 hours per week during semester, but can work full-time during breaks between semesters (not including mid-semester breaks or study weeks). These work restrictions do not include any work that is a required part of your registered course of study.

Family members can work a maximum of 20 hours per week throughout the year. Exceptions to this are family members of students who are enrolled in a Masters by coursework, MPhil, PhD or a student sponsored by AusAID or on a Defence Scholarship. Family members of these students can work unlimited hours once the student has commenced their course of study. Working for cash and voluntary work is still considered to be working by the Australian Government and requires a PTW visa. More information about the PTW visa and working hours will be available during Orientation.

Getting started at Murdoch

Orientation Week

Orientation Week is the week prior to the commencement of semester for Semester 1 and 2 or the first Monday of classes for trimester programs. During the Orientation Program, staff and senior students will help you find your way around campus and will direct you to the various planned activities. The program includes welcome sessions, campus tours, course advice sessions, study skills, enrolment assistance, health and safety issues, as well as registration information for Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC), and advice on how to obtain a 'Permission to Work' visa and a Tax File Number.

Orientation is the best way to start life at Murdoch. If you miss it, you may struggle to complete your enrolment, find your way around campus, and register with your OSHC provider. Remember that attendance at Orientation is compulsory!!!

The social events are always a big hit at Orientation and it's a great way to make new friends. Students enjoy a range of activities including informal get togethers starting with breakfast on Sunday morning followed by a familiarization tour of the city and Fremantle, an evening meal on Tuesday, and other activities. Apart from the Sunday breakfast and Tuesday dinner, you will need to meet the cost of your accommodation and most meals. The Orientation Week timetable is available at: www.murdoch.edu.au/students/new/orientation.html

Introductory Academic Program

Postgraduate international students will benefit from participating in Murdoch's Introductory Academic Program (IAP) which is conducted the month prior to Orientation each semester. The IAP provides an excellent introduction to academic life with modules focusing on the research, academic writing, English and numerical skills specifically required to successfully complete postgraduate studies in the Australian tertiary system. Further information about the IAP, such as program registration and payment information for non-sponsored students wishing to participate, is available from Murdoch International.

Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC)

Why OSHC?

The Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) requires international students to have Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) for the length of their student visa. Failure to maintain OSHC may result in the student visa being cancelled. Students are required to purchase OSHC from a registered health provider, approved by the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care. OSHC Worldcare is Murdoch University's preferred Health care provider for international students.

Program length OSHC

Before a 'Confirmation of Enrolment' letter is issued to you, you are required to pay one year OSHC, BUT it is highly recommended that you pay OSHC for the length of your student visa i.e., 3 year visa equals 3 years OSHC. At present, Worldcare offers a 5% discount when OSHC is purchased in advance for 13 months or more. Visa length OSHC saves you money, avoids rate increases, and gives you the peace of mind of having health cover for the length of time you are studying in Australia. Purchasing program length OSHC means avoiding any unplanned large bills payable in the event of an accident when your cover has expired (one day in hospital is approximately \$1000 per day without health insurance)!

Students will be entitled to a refund of any outstanding balance of OSHC if they leave Australia prematurely, provided there is at least one month left before their health cover expires.

What happens once I've paid OSHC?

On arrival in Perth you will have to:

- register online with OSHC Worldcare. The registration process will be explained during the OSHC session of the Orientation Program. After you have registered with Worldcare a membership card will be posted to your Australian home address. If you have studied in Australia previously and have a current OSHC card, please go to Murdoch International to renew your cover or demonstrate that you have sufficient cover for at least 1 year, or the duration of your student visa.
- advise OSHC Worldcare of your address in Australia www.oshcworldcare.com.au/Default.aspx

OSHC benefits

- Covers for 100% of the schedule fee for seeing a medical practitioner, if your doctor charges more than the scheduled fee you will be required to pay the difference.
- Pays for the total cost of hospital treatment if:
 - the treatment is in a public hospital; and
 - treatment is provided by a hospital doctor.
- Pays for eye tests only (not spectacles).
- Covers emergency ambulance transport only.
- Covers prescription drugs (conditions apply).
- OSHC basic does not pay for spectacles, dental and physiotherapy treatment.

Pre-existing Conditions

Students who have a pre-existing medical condition that will require ongoing treatment in Australia during their study must be aware that standard OSHC policies in Australia do not cover pre-existing conditions for the first 12 months of cover. This exclusion does not apply where a Medical Practitioner certifies, and the health care provider agrees, that the student required emergency treatment or treatment for a life-threatening condition in Australia. After the first 12 months of OSHC, cover for pre-existing conditions will be considered on a case by case basis by OSHC Worldcare. Students with a pre-existing condition will be required to take out additional insurance to cover the expenses involved with managing their condition, or have access to personal funds to cover any expenses incurred that are not covered by OSHC.

Before you leave home...

We recommend that you:

- attend to your dental needs before you leave home - dentists are very expensive in Australia.
- bring a spare pair of spectacles or contact lenses with you. If you are going to be in Australia for a long time and/or if you have a family you may wish to take out extra cover to cover such things as dental, optical and physiotherapy. Please contact Worldcare for more information regarding Extra Cover. Please be aware that there are waiting periods on many of these extra/plus cover entitlements.

OSHC Worldcare has a representative at the South Street campus twice a week for advice and assistance in making claims. Visit Murdoch International for more information.

Semester dates 2008

- IAP = Introductory Academic Program
- 'O' Week = Orientation Week
- S1 = Semester 1
- S2 = Semester 2
- ST = Summer Term
- T1 = Trimester 1
- T2 = Trimester 2
- T3 = Trimester 3
- WT = Winter Term

2008 weeks Mon	University Public Holidays	Semester Summer and Winter Terms	Trimester	Other Programs
7-Jan		ST Wk4	T1 Wk1	
14-Jan		ST Wk5	T1 Wk2	
21-Jan		ST Wk6	T1 Wk 3	IAP Semester 1
28-Jan	28 Jan (Australia Day)	Study Break	T1 Wk 4	Graduate Diploma Education Start
4-Feb		Assessment	T1 Wk 5	
11-Feb		"O" Wk	T1 Wk 6	
18-Feb		S1 Wk1	T1 Wk 7	
25-Feb		S1 Wk2	T1 Wk 8	
3-Mar		S1 Wk3	T1 Wk 9	
10-Mar		S1 Wk4	T1 Wk 10	

2008 weeks Mon	University Public Holidays	Semester Summer and Winter Terms	Trimester	Other Programs
17-Mar	21 Mar (Good Friday)	S1 Wk5	T1 Wk 11	
24-Mar	24 Mar (Easter Monday)	S1 Wk6 - Break	T1 Wk 12	
31-Mar		S1 Wk7	T1 Wk 13	
7-Apr		S1 Wk8	T1 Wk14 Assess	
14-Apr		S1 Wk9		
21-Apr	25 Apr (Anzac Day)	S1 Wk10 - Break		
28-Apr		S1 Wk11	T2 Wk1	
5-May		S1 Wk12	T2 Wk2	
12-May		S1 Wk13	T2 Wk 3	
19-May		S1 Wk14	T2 Wk 4	
26-May		S1 Wk15 - Study Break	T2 Wk 5	
2-Jun		S1 Wk16 - Assessment Commences 31/5/07	T2 Wk 6	
9-Jun		S1 Wk17 - Assessment	T2 Wk 7	
16-Jun		WT Wk1	T2 Wk 8	
23-Jun		WT Wk2	T2 Wk 9	

2008 weeks Mon	University Public Holidays	Semester Summer and Winter Terms	Trimester	Other Programs
30-Jun		WT Wk3	T2 Wk 10	
7-Jul		WT Wk4	T2 Wk 11	
14-Jul		WT Wk5	T2 Wk 12	IAP Semester 2
21-Jul		WT Wk6 - Study Break	T2 Wk 13	
28-Jul		WT Wk 7 - Assessment	T2 Wk14 Assess	
4-Aug		S2 Wk1		
11-Aug		S2 Wk2		
18-Aug		S2 Wk3	T3 Wk1	
25-Aug		S2 Wk4	T3 Wk2	
1-Sep		S2 Wk5 - Break	T3Wk 3	
8-Sep		S2 Wk6	T3 Wk 4	
15-Sep		S2 Wk7	T3 Wk 5	
22-Sep		S2 Wk8	T3Wk 6	
29-Sep		S2 Wk9 - Break	T3 Wk 7	
6-Oct		S2 Wk10	T3 Wk 8	
13-Oct		S2 Wk11	T3 Wk 9	
20-Oct		S2 Wk12	T3 Wk 10	
27-Oct		S2 Wk13	T3 Wk 11	

2008 weeks Mon	University Public Holidays	Semester Summer and Winter Terms	Trimester	Other Programs
3-Nov		S2 Wk14	T3 Wk 12	
10-Nov		S2 Wk15 – Study Break	T3 Wk 13	
17-Nov		S2 Wk16 - Assessment Commences 15/11/08	T3 Wk14 Assess	
24-Nov		S2 Wk17 - Assessment		
1-Dec		ST Wk1		
8-Dec		ST Wk2		
15-Dec		ST Wk3		
22-Dec	25/ 26 December (Xmas)	ST Wk4 - Closedown		
29-Dec	1 January (New Year)	ST Wk5 - Closedown		
5-Jan-09		ST Wk6	T1 Wk1	
12-Jan-09		ST Wk7	T1 Wk2	
19-Jan-09		ST Wk8	T1 Wk 3	
26-Jan-09	26 January (Australia Day)	ST Wk9 - Study Break	T1 Wk 4	
2-Feb-09		ST Wk10 - Assessment	T1 Wk 5	

Important contact details

If you have any questions about Pre-departure or Orientation please contact any member of staff from Student Support Services at Murdoch International. For all accommodation and arrival matters please contact Murdoch University Village:

Murdoch International

Murdoch University

90 South Street

Murdoch WA 6150, Australia

Telephone: +61 8 9360 6770, +61 8 9310 5090

After Hours Emergency Contact: +61 8 9360 6262

This number will connect you to Campus Security. Campus Security will then forward your call to the staff member best placed to help, including Student Support staff

Student Advisers

Tim Martin

Telephone: +61 8 9360 7624, +61 8 9310 5090

Email: timothy.martin@murdoch.edu.au

Natasha Caraher – Study Abroad and Exchange Students

Telephone: +61 8 9360 6778, +61 8 9310 5090

Email: n.caraher@murdoch.edu.au

Cheryl Mathews

Telephone: +61 8 9360 2756, +61 8 9310 5090

Email: cmathews@murdoch.edu.au

Murdoch University Village

PO Box 1055

Canning Vale WA 6970, Australia

Telephone: +618 9360 2909, +618 9360 2977

Email: info@murdochuv.com.au

Checklist

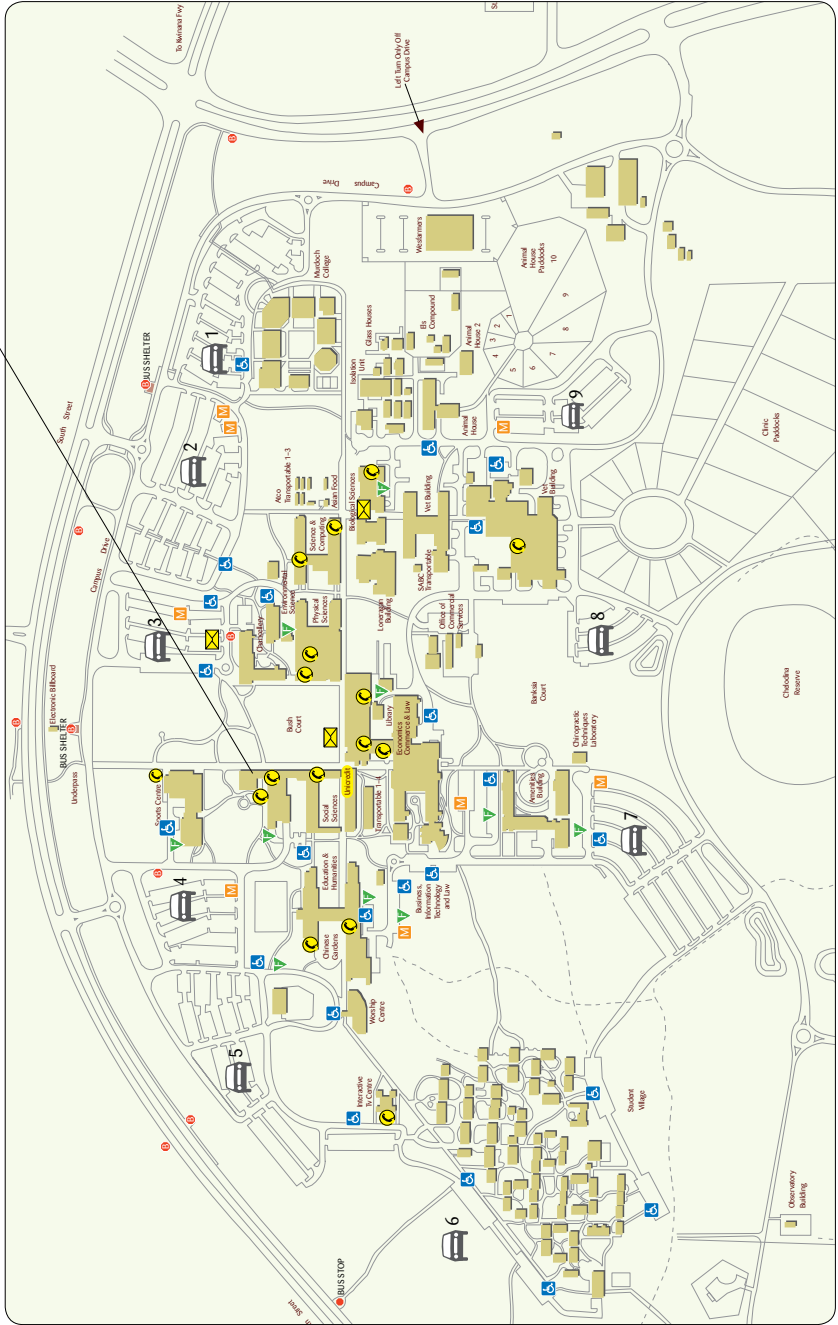
– The following checklist is designed to help ensure you have completed all necessary preparations before your arrival in Perth. We wish you the very best as you plan your journey to join us at Murdoch.

- Accept your offer at Murdoch University prior to the deadline given on the offer.
- Pay your first semester's tuition fee and Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC).
- Apply for your student visa at your nearest Australian Embassy/High Commission using the Confirmation of Enrolment (eCOE) document issued by Murdoch upon receipt of fee and OSHC payment.
- Apply on-line for on-campus housing at Murdoch University Village or apply to Murdoch University Village for assistance with finding off-campus permanent accommodation.
- Complete your on-line enrolment (including tutorial and workshop enrolment) www.murdoch.edu.au/students/new/ and MYINFO on the Murdoch website. Study Abroad students (studying for one semester only) need only enrol in tutorials and laboratories where applicable and register on MYINFO after receiving a confirmation email of enrolment in classes from the Study Abroad Officer.
- Book flights to Perth and arrange travel insurance. Remember travel insurance is separate to your OSHC.
- Contact Murdoch University Village to register for the Airport Shuttle Bus Service and organize temporary accommodation if required.
- Make banking arrangements to access funds in Australia from your home country and to bring funds to establish yourself upon your arrival in Perth (for security purposes, transfer funds electronically, or bring a bank draft or bank cheque).
- Establish a budget for your studies in Perth.

- Begin packing (consult Australian Quarantine and Customs information) and include:
 - Valid passport with valid student visa
 - Confirmation of Enrolment document from Murdoch University
 - Letter of Offer from Murdoch University
 - Copy of E-visa
 - Documents showing official identification (e.g. drivers licence, birth certificate, national ID card)
 - Documents showing award of Scholarship if applicable
 - Transcript if required
 - Pertinent medical records for you and any family members who are accompanying you to live in Perth
 - School reports and immunization documents for any dependents who are accompanying you to live in Perth
 - Appropriate clothing, personal effects and electrical goods (remember voltage and plug requirements for Australia)
 - This booklet and your course booklet.
- Advise Murdoch if you have any special needs or learning difficulties that require specific resources.
- Visit your doctor and dentist before you leave home and obtain any necessary prescriptions or documents regarding medical condition/s and required treatment.

South Street campus map

Murdoch International





Pre-departure Information

Murdoch International
Murdoch University
90 South Street, Murdoch
Western Australia 6150
Telephone: 61 3 9360 6770
Facsimile: 61 8 9310 5090
Email: internat@murdoch.edu.au
Web: www.murdoch.edu.au
CRICOS Provider 00125J