GLOBAL PATHWAYS
BRIGHTER TOMORROWS

PEOPLE
OPPORTUNITIES
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AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND UNIVERSITY APPLICATION GUIDE

Different Places Brighter Futures

Your Pathway to World-Class Opportunities in Australia, New Zealand and Beyond

EXPLORE
PREPARE
APPLY
SUCCEED

Global Learning Lifelong Impact

EXPLORE
Australian and New Zealand university options

PREPARE
A strong application

APPLY
With confidence

SUCCEED
A brighter future ahead

AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND
GLOBAL OPPORTUNITIES

LEARNING TODAY
A BRIGHTER TOMORROW

Studying in Australia & New Zealand: An Introduction

Australia and New Zealand are increasingly popular destinations for international students seeking a world-class education in a welcoming, English-speaking environment. Both countries offer globally ranked universities, vibrant multicultural communities, and excellent graduate opportunities.

Why choose Australia or New Zealand?

- Academic Reputation – Australia is home to the prestigious Group of Eight universities, while all eight universities in New Zealand are internationally ranked. Both countries are known for research, innovation, and high-quality teaching.
- English-Taught Degrees – With all programmes taught in English, these destinations are particularly attractive to students from international schools.
- Flexibility & Choice – Degrees are often flexible, with the option to combine majors or explore electives outside your main subject area.
- Lifestyle – From Australia's sunny beaches and buzzing cities to New Zealand's stunning landscapes and outdoorsy lifestyle, both countries offer an incredible student experience.
- Post-Study Opportunities – Graduates benefit from generous post-study work visas and clear migration pathways, making these countries ideal for students considering longer-term career or residency options.

Key Differences

- Size & Scale – Australia has a much larger university system, with over 40 universities and a wide range of campuses in major cities. New Zealand has only 8 universities, but each is highly regarded and offers a close-knit, supportive environment.
- City Choices – Australia's student cities range from large, cosmopolitan hubs like Sydney and Melbourne to smaller, affordable options like Adelaide or Perth. New Zealand's student life is centred around Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, and the student town of Dunedin.
- Cultural Feel – Australia tends to have a faster pace of life and more urban experiences, while New Zealand is known for its friendly, relaxed atmosphere and strong connection to nature.

Australia

Australia is one of the world's leading destinations for international students, with more than half a million overseas students enrolled each year. Known for its high academic standards, diverse campuses, and excellent graduate opportunities, Australia combines quality education with an enviable lifestyle.

Higher Education System

- Universities: Australia has over 40 universities, including the prestigious Group of Eight (Go8) research-intensive institutions:
  - Australian National University (ANU)
  - The University of Adelaide
  - The University of Western Australia
  - Monash University
  - The University of Melbourne
  - UNSW Sydney
  - The University of Sydney
  - The University of Queensland
- Degrees:
  - Bachelor's degrees usually take 3 years (4 years for honours or professional degrees like engineering, law, and teaching).
- Teaching Style: A mix of lectures, tutorials, labs, and independent research. There is a strong focus on critical thinking and practical application**.**

Degree Structure & Flexibility

- Specialised vs. Flexible Pathways:
  - Many courses are specialised from Year 1, similar to the UK (e.g. nursing, engineering, law).
  - However, degrees like Arts, Science, or Commerce allow students to combine majors and minors, giving a structure closer to the US system.
- Majors & Minors: Students choose a major (primary area of study) and often a minor or electives from different faculties. For example, a Bachelor of Arts student could major in Psychology and minor in Politics.
- Double Degrees: A popular option in Australia. Students can complete two bachelor's degrees together (e.g. Law & Business, Arts & Science) in 4–5 years, saving time compared to completing them separately.
- Honours Year: High-performing students can add an extra year of research (Honours), often a stepping-stone to postgraduate study.

Australia

Admissions

- Entry Requirements: A Levels, IB, or equivalent high school qualifications are accepted. Some degrees (like medicine, dentistry, or law) may require additional tests or interviews.
- BTEC: The majority of universities will accept BTEC qualifications and assess them on a case by case basis. Study Options can help with this (ANU, U Sydney and Melbourne do not accept BTEC/IBCP).
- If subject pre-requisites detailed by the university are not met in the student's Post 16 subjects there are many online courses that can be taken to meet the requirement.
- Diploma to degree pathways available for many subjects including engineering, science and commerce. There are no extra time or cost constraints to doing the diploma year followed by year 2 entry to the chosen degree programme.
- Application Process:
  - Applications are usually made directly to universities via their portals.
  - You can apply to multiple universities.
  - Some states also have centralised application services (e.g. VTAC in Victoria, UAC in New South Wales).
- Deadlines: Intakes are generally in February/March (Semester 1) and July (Semester 2), with some courses offering multiple intakes.

Costs

- Tuition Fees: AUD $20,000–$45,000 per year, depending on the course and university. Medicine and veterinary science can be higher.
- Living Costs: Students should budget around AUD $25,000–$30,000 per year, depending on city and lifestyle.
- Scholarships: Many universities offer international scholarships, including merit-based and faculty-specific awards. Examples: University of Sydney International Scholarships, Monash International Merit Scholarship.

Visas & Post-Study Opportunities

- Student Visa (Subclass 500) is required, which allows students to work up to 48 hours per fortnight during term time and unlimited hours in holidays.
- Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) is mandatory for all international students.
- Post-Study Work Visa (Temporary Graduate Visa, Subclass 485) allows graduates to stay and work in Australia for 2–4 years (depending on qualification level and location of study).

New Zealand

New Zealand is an increasingly popular study destination, known for its welcoming culture, stunning landscapes, and high-quality universities. The country offers a supportive environment for international students, with all eight universities ranked in the world's top 3%.

Higher Education System

- Universities: New Zealand has 8 public universities, all research-led and ranked in the top 3% in the world.
  - University of Auckland,
  - Victoria University of Wellington,
  - University of Otago.
  - Lincoln University
  - University of Canterbury
  - University of Waikato
  - Massey University
  - AUT
- New Zealand's universities are also highly ranked by subject. The universities rank in the world's top 100 in 31 out of a possible 54 subjects. Individual universities appear in the top 50 for courses in Archaeology, English Language & Literature, Linguistics, Engineering - Civil and Structural, Anatomy & Physiology, Psychology, Veterinary Science, Anthropology, Development Studies, Education, Sport-related subjects, Marketing.

- Degrees:
  - Bachelor's degrees usually take 3 years (4 years for honours or certain professional programmes).
- Teaching Style: Strong focus on independent learning, research, and critical thinking, with plenty of opportunities for hands-on projects and real-world application.

Degree Structure & Flexibility

- Majors & Minors: Students choose a major subject (e.g. Economics, Environmental Science) and can often take a minor or elective courses from outside their faculty. For example, a Bachelor of Science student could major in Computer Science and minor in Business.
- Interdisciplinary Study: Many universities encourage a mix-and-match approach, so students can tailor their degrees across fields.
- Double Majors: Students can complete two majors within the same degree (e.g. English and History within a BA).
- Honours Year: Available for strong students who wish to pursue advanced study or research after a 3-year bachelor's.

New Zealand

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Admissions

- Entry Requirements: A Levels, IB, and other international qualifications are widely accepted. Some specialist programmes (e.g. Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science) may have additional requirements. BTEC's are not widely accepted, Massey and Otago currently accept.
- Application Process:
  - Applications are usually made directly to universities via their websites.
  - Universities generally have flexible deadlines, but early application is recommended.
- Intakes: Most universities have two intakes — February (Semester 1) and July (Semester 2).

Costs

- Tuition Fees: NZD $22,000–$35,000 per year, depending on the course and university. Medicine and veterinary science are higher.
- Living Costs: Students should budget NZD $20,000–$25,000 per year, depending on location.
- Scholarships: Universities offer a range of scholarships for international students. Examples:
  - University of Auckland International Student Excellence Scholarship
  - Victoria Tongarewa Scholarship
  - Otago International Excellence Scholarships

Visas & Post-Study Opportunities

- Student Visa is required, allowing students to work up to 20 hours per week during term time and full-time in holidays.
- Health Insurance: All international students must have medical and travel insurance.
- Post-Study Work Visa: Graduates can stay and work in New Zealand for up to 3 years, depending on qualification level and where they studied.