

# PLANNING ON STUDYING IN AUSTRALIA? WE CAN MAKE THE MOVE EASIER.

## Moving checklist

Here are some tips to help make your move a little bit easier.\*

## PRIOR TO PLANNING YOUR MOVE

### Education

- Decide on the course and institution that you want to study at and apply for your course – to find out more, visit [studyinaustralia.gov.au](http://studyinaustralia.gov.au)

## THREE MONTHS BEFORE YOU LEAVE

### Banking

- Open an Australian bank account – simply visit [commbank.com.au/movingtoaustralia](http://commbank.com.au/movingtoaustralia) While you're there you can also organise any other banking needs.
- Monitor exchange rates and consider the best time to transfer money – you'll need a SWIFT number to transfer money to your new account (you can get this from Migrant Financial Services at [mfs@cba.com.au](mailto:mfs@cba.com.au)).

### Immigration

- Check you have a valid passport and that it will still be valid for at least five years after your arrival in Australia.
- Check/apply for any necessary visas – and make note of any restrictions, e.g. you may need to prove access to funds. To find out more about student visas visit [border.gov.au/Trav/Stud](http://border.gov.au/Trav/Stud)

### Insurance

- Organise cover for your trip including travel, life and health insurance.

### Travel

- Apply for an International Driver's Permit if you need one – to find out more, visit [austroads.com.au](http://austroads.com.au)

### Email and Mail

- Set up an email address you can access in Australia – to receive flight confirmations and other information online.
- Keep a list of the companies you get mail from so you can notify them when it comes to updating your address.

### Employment

- Looking to work while you're studying? Check the visa requirements – there can be strict restrictions about whether or how much you can work.
- Consider updating your resume/curriculum vitae.

### Accommodation

- Research accommodation options in Australia.
- Many educational institutions will be able to provide you with advice on different accommodation options – it's worth visiting the website of the institution you've enrolled in or contacting them directly.

## THREE WEEKS BEFORE YOU LEAVE

### Banking

- Transfer money into your Australian account, if you haven't done so already.
- Change some cash into Australian dollars before arriving in Australia.

### Email and Mail

- Notify contacts of your new postal address.
- Register for email updates – it may be easier to receive some updates by email, e.g. bank statements.

### Travel

- Check luggage allowances with your airline.
- Begin packing your main suitcase.
- Confirm all airport transfer arrangements.

**Important Information:** \*This is a guide only, individual circumstances may differ.

## Documentation

- Make copies of your important documents (certified copies are best for official documents) including: passport, birth certificate, visa, vaccination records, driver's licence and international driver's permit, airline tickets and itinerary, handover files from dentists, schools and doctors.
- Get extra passport-sized photographs – these may come in handy at times.

## Health

- Check all your prescription medication you may require is up to date.
- If bringing prescription medication with you, check that it can be brought into Australia – you may need to obtain a letter from your doctor.
- Organise private health cover for while you're in Australia, if required.

## ONE WEEK BEFORE YOU LEAVE

### Travel

- Finish packing and weigh luggage to ensure that they meet the airline's allowance. Check what items can and cannot be brought into Australia (quarantine rules are stricter than most other countries for food, plants or animal products) – to find out more, visit [smartraveller.gov.au](http://smartraveller.gov.au)
- Pack valuables in your carry on luggage – including original documentation and any paperwork you may need to prove you meet the visa requirements, e.g. bank statements to prove your financial position.

### Home Matters

- Pay any outstanding bills.
- Redirect your mail.
- Ensure that all goods and belongings being sent to Australia have left or are on their way.

## WHEN YOU ARRIVE IN AUSTRALIA

### Banking

- Visit your nominated Commonwealth Bank branch to activate your account and to order your debit cards.

### Taxation

- Register for a Tax File Number (TFN) – you'll need it if you're planning on working. It can also save you paying too much tax if you open a bank account. You can apply for a TFN at [ato.gov.au](http://ato.gov.au)

### Local knowledge

- Visit the Student Services office at your chosen university for campus information.
- Explore your local area to familiarise yourself with the transport, shops and other services that are available.

### Driver's licence

- Visit your nearest roads authority office to obtain a driver's licence if required.

### Health

- Depending on your circumstances, you may be eligible for free or subsidised healthcare through Medicare – to find out if you're eligible and to register, visit [medicareaustralia.gov.au](http://medicareaustralia.gov.au)

## CALL MIGRANT FINANCIAL SERVICES TOLL FREE FROM AUSTRALIA

Telephone: 1800 188 888

Email: [mfs@cba.com.au](mailto:mfs@cba.com.au)

Visit: [commbank.com.au/movingtoaustralia](http://commbank.com.au/movingtoaustralia)

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