



THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA

Create change

LIFE AT UQ

A GUIDE FOR PARENTS,
CARERS AND FAMILIES

2018





WELCOME

We look forward to welcoming you and your teenager to the UQ community. This guide can help you prepare for this next stage in their life, so they can make the most of their university experience.

UQ is committed to the pursuit of excellence in all aspects of learning and research, enhancing the student experience and encouraging students to be proactive in seeking assistance, advice and information from support services when they need it.

ADVANTAGES OF UNIVERSITY

In today's competitive job market, a university education is a passport to an exciting future.

While some jobs require tertiary qualifications, the university experience itself offers a head start for people wanting to make the world a better place.

At The University of Queensland, our students change lives. Employers value UQ graduates because they not only bring specialised knowledge and skills to the workplace, but also the persistence and commitment needed to be successful.

- BUILD AN EXCITING FUTURE**
Establish a dream career with a degree from a world-leading university
- ACQUIRE NEW SKILLS FOR LIFE**
Gain life-long and transferable skills and discover personal strengths
- ENJOY GREAT EXPERIENCES**
Join clubs and societies, study abroad and enjoy world-class facilities
- BOOST EMPLOYABILITY**
Be part of an extensive graduate network with strong industry links
- DEVELOP HIGHER-ORDER THINKING**
Learn to think critically and creatively
- APPRECIATE LIFE-LONG LEARNING**
Learn the value of continual personal and professional development
- MAKE NEW FRIENDS**
Meet new people and make friends for life

YEAR 10 ANSWERING THEIR QUESTIONS

“What do I want to do after school?”

- Attend study expos and open days to explore institutions, pathways and careers.
- When selecting their senior study plan, make sure your teenager chooses the right prerequisite subjects for the university programs they are interested in.

KEY DATES

- JUL** Tertiary Studies Expo (TSXPO)
- AUG** UQ Open Days, St Lucia and Gatton





WHAT TO EXPECT

The transition to university is a big adjustment – not just for students but also for parents.

You may be wondering what to expect and what your role will be in your teenager's tertiary education.

At UQ, we have many support centres and programs in place for students and families. Meet our UQ representatives at an Open Day, come along to a Parents and Partners Information Sessions during Orientation Week, or contact the Future Students Contact Centre.

Life at university	How UQ helps
STUDY	
<p>Formal lectures and informal tutorials, usually with only a few contact hours per subject per week.</p> <p>Student-driven autonomous study.</p> <p>Less individual feedback prior to assignments and examinations than at school.</p> <p>Students are encouraged to become less dependent on parental help during their studies, instead becoming responsible for their own workload and assessment outcomes.</p>	<p>UQ has many programs that support the change to autonomous study habits, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • three dedicated Student Centres • New2UQ • peer-assisted study sessions (PASS) • library assistance and study workshops • lecturers' consultation hours.
MAKING FRIENDS	
<p>A bigger group of students with fewer structured contact hours than school means that it may not be as easy to make friends in lectures.</p> <p>Smaller class structures like tutorials and group work assignments allow students to get to know each other.</p> <p>Joining clubs and societies, playing sports or taking on extra-curricular activities are all great ways to meet new people at uni.</p>	<p>UQ offers many social environments for students to make friends:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sporting teams • social clubs • mutual interest societies • living in a college • Mates at UQ • New2UQ • events like Market Day and Oktoberfest • faculty and school balls and barbecues.
FINANCES	
<p>Living either at or away from home, each student's financial situation is different.</p> <p>There are more personal financial demands, including university-related expenses like text books.</p> <p>Course fees can be paid up-front or via HECS-HELP.</p> <p>Many students work part-time to earn extra money.</p>	<p>Investigate scholarships and grants that can assist with living away from home or make studying easier.</p> <p>Visit scholarships.uq.edu.au</p> <p>The UQ Careers team and the UQ Union Student Help On Campus (SHOC) team can help students find a part-time job while they study, then a career as a graduate.</p> <p>Visit feescalculator.app.uq.edu.au to estimate tuition fees.</p>

MOVING AWAY FROM HOME

Important items students need when they move to university.

CONTACT DETAILS
for an emergency support person

BIRTH CERTIFICATE
(certified copy) and passport

MAPS OF THE LOCAL AREA

HEALTH INFORMATION
prescriptions and Medicare card

PERSONAL BANK ACCOUNT

TAX FILE NUMBER

GO CARD AND TRANSPORT TIMETABLES

DRIVER'S LICENCE
or identity card

YEAR 11 ANSWERING THEIR QUESTIONS

“Which university would I like to go to?”

- Attend study expos and open days with your teenager to become familiar with university campuses, degrees and faculties.
- Encourage them to apply for UQ's Enhanced Studies and Young Scholars Programs, both of which allow high school students to try out university before committing to tertiary study.

KEY DATES

- APR** Careers that shape the world: student experience day
- JUN** Apply for the Young Scholars Program
- JUL** Tertiary Studies Expo (TSXPO)
- AUG** Apply for the Enhanced Studies Program
UQ Open Days, St Lucia and Gatton



SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS

The first steps of the university journey are critical. UQ has an excellent support network of people, resources, and services to help students succeed.

Student centres

Students can visit UQ Answers online or contact one of our three Student Centres for help with forms and student letters, payments, academic records, admissions and enrolments, examinations, grievances, document certification and student visas.

Student Services

Providing resources, advice and support to students throughout their time at UQ, Student Services is a valuable resource. Students can do free workshops on research and writing skills, time and study management, or can even learn to cook on a budget. Specifically designed for first-year students, New2UQ offers academic and social orientation activities, plus online resources, to help them get the most out of their studies and life at UQ.

SHOC (Student Help On Campus)

The qualified and professional UQ Union SHOC team helps students with a range of services relating to employment, education and equity, welfare, gender, sexuality, legal issues and migration.

Making friends

Whether your teenager loves Harry Potter, medievalism, anime, sports, or many other interests, they will find like-minded peers who enjoy the same things at one of UQ's 200+ affiliated clubs and societies. Mates at UQ is another way to meet new friends from many different countries with a range of free programs for all UQ students.

Learning assistance

UQ offers extensive learning support for students. Faculties provide customised workshops for study areas, and some also have peer-assisted study sessions (PASS), where more advanced students assist first-years. UQ's library branches have many academic and research skills workshops, and our student centres also offer help with study skills and career advice.

Counselling

A UQ counsellor is someone who listens without judgment, offers new perspectives, and helps students to find solutions for problems they may be facing. UQ's free service for all students is strictly confidential.

ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS

Where students live will depend on their budget and which campus they will be attending. UQ's Accommodation Services team can provide helpful advice about on- and off-campus options.

Live on-campus

UQ's 11 residential colleges are located within easy walking distance of all university facilities and provide academic support; social, cultural and sporting activities; and the opportunity to build networks and friendships that will last a lifetime.

Live with other students

Student accommodation providers such as Urbanest and UniLodge offer low-cost, exclusive student accommodation at locations close to campus. UQ's Accommodation Services team can help you find out more.

Live in a rental property

If students choose to live away from home when they start studying, living in a share-house or apartment can be a great way to make new friends and gain some independence. See uq.edu.au/student-services/accommodation/guide-renting

TRAVELLING TO CAMPUS



CATCH A BUS – one arrives every two minutes at the UQ Lakes bus stop; the Chancellor's Place bus stop is also well serviced.



CATCH A CITYCAT – ferries to UQ's CityCat terminal regularly depart from the city and suburbs.



CATCH A TRAIN – the closest stops are at Indooroopilly, Taringa, Toowong or Dutton Park, then walk or catch a bus to campus.



WALK – wide inviting pathways and beautiful scenery await! Access campus from local suburbs or via the Eleanor Schonell Bridge.



DRIVE – metered parking spaces are readily available but in high demand year-round; see pf.uq.edu.au/parking



RIDE YOUR BIKE – park in secure Bike Box facilities or at bike racks.

YEAR 12 ANSWERING THEIR QUESTIONS

“What and where am I going to study?”

- Discuss with your teenager which programs they want to apply for based on their interests and the OP they expect to get.
- Explore pathways and entry options.
- Investigate and help your teenager apply for scholarships.
- Meet important QTAC application deadlines.
- Ask questions at future-students.uq.edu.au/ask

KEY DATES

- AUG** UQ Scholarships applications open
UQ Open Days, St Lucia and Gatton
- SEP** QTAC cut-off for Year 12 students
- DEC** OP scores released
UQ OP Results Advice Night



MONEY MATTERS

Paying fees, buying study materials and managing living expenses when your teenager starts university can seem like a lot to juggle, but knowing what to expect will help them to be better prepared.

STUDY EXPENSES

- Course fees
- Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF)
- Textbooks and stationery
- Compulsory equipment, such as lab coats, first aid certificates, blue cards

HOUSEHOLD EXPENSES

- Rent or college fees
- Food and groceries
- Electricity and gas
- Furniture
- Bond and moving costs

TRANSPORT EXPENSES

- Fuel and parking
- Car and/or bike maintenance
- go card (an electronic ticket registered with TransLink for discounted concession fares on buses, trains, and ferries across South-East Queensland)

PERSONAL EXPENSES

- Clothing
- Entertainment
- Gym or sporting club memberships
- Health care
- Internet connection
- Phone bills



HECS-HELP

Eligible students can choose to pay zero course fees up front.

University can seem like a different world with a different language. Here are some terms you might come across.

Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC)

This is the centralised tertiary application service through which students apply for positions in a range of institutions.

See qtac.edu.au

QTAC preferences

When high school students apply through QTAC for positions in courses in tertiary institutions, their preferred course selections and the order in which they are submitted are called “preferences”. Students can list up to six preferences.

Subject prerequisites

Providing appropriate foundation knowledge, these are subjects prospective students must pass before they can enrol in particular courses or programs.

Overall Position (OP)

This is the state-wide system that ranks students from 1-25 (1 being the highest), based on achievement in Authority subjects studied for the Queensland Certificate of Education.

HECS-HELP

Eligible Australian students can defer payment of course fees through the Higher Education Contribution Scheme–Higher Education Loan Program. The loan is repayable through the Australian taxation system. A Tax File Number (TFN) is required – be sure to apply for a TFN early. See studyassist.gov.au

Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF)

This is a fee for non-academic services. Capped at \$294 for 2017, but indexed annually, this amount can be added to a HECS-HELP debt via the SA-HELP loan scheme.

Scholarships

Explore UQ and government-subsidised scholarships, and encourage your teenager to apply during Year 12. Visit scholarships.uq.edu.au and humanservices.gov.au for more information, or see our Scholarships Guide for an overview of UQ’s offerings.

FIRST YEAR UNI

“What do I need to know when I start uni?”

- Encourage your teenager to make the most of UQ’s range of supportive orientation programs for new students, and to attend faculty and school welcome sessions for essential info about their area of study.
- Ask! UQ’s Student Centre is here to help students transition as smoothly as possible into life at university. Visit uq.edu.au/student-services/first-weeks

KEY DATES (Semester 1, 2018)

- JAN** QTAC Round 1 offers released
Accept or reject Round 1 offers
- FEB** QTAC Round 2 offers
Orientation week
Semester 1 begins
- MAR** Semester 1 census date
- JUN** Semester 1 ends



FAST FACTS



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CAMPUSES



MORE

AUSTRALIAN AWARDS FOR UNIVERSITY TEACHING
than any other Australian university



RANKED
#1
IN QUEENSLAND FOR GRADUATE EMPLOYABILITY*



200+

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

MAIN CAMPUS



7

KMS FROM BRISBANE CBD

11

UQ RESIDENTIAL COLLEGES



400

PROGRAMS AND MORE THAN

4000

COURSES ON OFFER



Compared to the national average, UQ graduates achieve full-time employment at a higher rate than their peers*

*GRADUATE CAREERS AUSTRALIA 2015 AUSTRALIAN GRADUATE SURVEY



2750+

ACADEMIC STAFF

51,000+

STUDENTS FROM MORE THAN

141

COUNTRIES



(13,300 INTERNATIONAL AND 14,700 POSTGRADUATE)

CONTACT

uq.edu.au

Future Students Centre

T (07) 3346 9872

E parents@uq.edu.au

W future-students.uq.edu.au

UQ Admissions

T (07) 3365 2203

E admissions@uq.edu.au

W future-students.uq.edu.au

UQ Scholarships

T (07) 3365 7113

E ugscholarships@uq.edu.au

W scholarships.uq.edu.au

Queensland Tertiary

Admissions Centre (QTAC)

T 1300 467 822

W qtac.edu.au



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twitter.com/uq_news



instagram.com/uniofqld

Maximum 5-Star Rating in 2016
Australian Good Universities Guide



Student demand



Graduate outcomes



Research grants



Research intensity



Staff qualifications

95%

of UQ's broad fields of research are now **above or well-above world standard**, with none below world standard (2015 Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) assessment)



UNIVERSITIES AUSTRALIA



GROUP OF EIGHT AUSTRALIA



One of only three Australian members of the global **Universitas 21**, founding member of the **Group of Eight (Go8)** universities, and member of **Universities Australia**

* QS Graduate Employability Rankings 2017

Information in this guide is correct as at February 2017. While care has been taken to provide accurate information, it is the responsibility of students to check and confirm specific details of programs, courses, enrolment, and services. Visit future-students.uq.edu.au for up-to-date information.