

Parents' Guide to University



Welcome

We look forward to welcoming you and your child 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.



At UQ, we are here to support, guide and inspire your child as they join us on the next step towards their future – whatever form that takes. In addition to the knowledge they gain from their studies, they'll learn specialist skills to enhance their long-term employability and make friends for life.

Life at UQ

When your child joins UQ, they'll gain all the advantages of being a UQ student.

Employability

We have a variety of opportunities that help students add value to their degree and develop more of the skills employers are looking for. As a result, UQ graduates are better placed than any other graduates in Queensland to secure employment after graduating.

Dedicated teams offer assistance with tasks such as preparing résumés and learning interview techniques, and the annual Careers Fair brings together UQ students and major employers from across the country. Many programs also offer internships and work placements to get students industry-ready.

Students can also develop their skills through UQ's suite of entrepreneurship programs, including the UQ Idea Hub, the Startup Academy and iLab.

See the world

Studying overseas is an ideal way for students to enhance their employability while also enjoying the experience of a lifetime. UQ students can access a range of global experiences, from exchange and short-term study, to international internships, volunteering and opportunities to represent UQ on the global stage.

Health and wellness

We know how important it is for students to maintain a healthy study-life balance.

Students are spoilt for choice with a massive range of sporting, fitness and recreational opportunities, including Queensland's largest multi-sport complex at St Lucia.

Student Services offers mindfulness programs and counselling services, and the UQ Union (UQU) runs an array of relaxing events and activities such as yoga and meditation.

Getting social

With more than 200 clubs and societies at UQ, ranging from the Harry Potter Alliance to the Debating Society, and the Law Society to the Robotics Club, these are a great way to make friends.

UQ Mates is another valuable option for new students. It's a free social network to connect students through chat groups and facilitated on- and off-campus meet-ups.

Events and entertainment

UQ offers amazing events such as Market Day and Cultural Fiesta, as well as weekly trivia and markets.

Entertainment on campus includes free concerts through the School of Music and at the UQ Art Museum, while the Red Room at St Lucia regularly hosts great musicians. During O-Week and throughout the year, UQU brings some of the best live acts to campus for all-ages concerts.

Why choose UQ

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

With some of the most varied study options in Australia, at UQ your teenager can choose a degree to match their interests, passions or career goals.

The most prestigious and widely recognised rankings of world universities consistently place UQ among the world's top universities.

UQ has also won more national teaching awards than any other Australian university. This commitment to quality teaching will empower your child to create positive change for society.

3
Campuses

6
Faculties

#1 in Queensland
for graduate
employability

QS Graduate Employability Rankings 2019

387
Programs



More national teaching
awards than any other
Australian university

53,600+
students from more than



135
countries



State-of-the-art
facilities



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 your child succeed.

Study support

Whether it's managing studies, navigating orientation or changing programs, our student support services provide advice and support to help students make the most of their time at UQ.

Student Services is on every campus and offers support in everything from study and learning assistance to exam prep and workshops. UQ also offers a number of mentoring programs that provide valuable guidance through all stages of university.

Personal support

UQ offers a range of personal support services, including disability support, health services, childcare,

the UQ Multi-Faith Chaplaincy, and the UQ Ally network for LGBTIAQ+ students.

Student Help on Campus (SHOC) is a free, independent, short-term support service that assists with education and equity, employment, gender and sexuality, legal services, migration and welfare.

You can also be sure your child is safe on campus with our 24-hour security patrols and UniSafe program, a free app that connects directly with UQ security officers or emergency services while on campus.

Our safety program is designed to improve safety for staff, students and visitors on campus, and includes an escort service at St Lucia and Gatton campuses to accompany people to public transport or parking after dark, and a safety bus service after 6pm at St Lucia.

Money matters

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

Study expenses

Costs associated with studies include course fees and the Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF), as well as textbooks and stationery, and equipment such as lab coats. Fees for 2020 are expected to be available from August 2019.

my.uq.edu.au/fee-schedules

Scholarships

With over 200 scholarships on offer, fee relief and financial aid can make the UQ experience more affordable. There are university-wide academic, sporting and equity scholarships, as well as scholarships for specific study areas, for studying abroad, to assist regional and rural students, and career-specific scholarships.

Additional expenses

Your child will also need to budget for additional costs like accommodation (if they're moving away from home) and transport. Insider Guides provides a helpful online Cost of Living Calculator to estimate weekly, monthly and yearly living costs.

insiderguides.com.au/cost-of-living-calculator

Keeping costs down

- Centrelink offers financial support, including Austudy, Abstudy and Youth Allowance.
humanservices.gov.au
- UQ Union offers a range of free and low-cost entertainment activities, such as Kampus Kitchen.
uqu.com.au
- A range of retailers and institutions offer concessions and student discounts.

Admission pathways

If your child doesn't get into their dream program, they don't need to despair. There are many different paths to UQ, and we are here to help.

Tertiary study pathway

Students who need to improve their entry score can study a related program at UQ as a pathway. Depending on their academic performance, their new entry rank could be significantly higher than the previous rank. If they're missing a prerequisite, they can also include it in their pathway program to avoid the need for separate bridging studies.

Bridging study

Successfully completing an approved bridging program is another pathway to university study. Students can use a bridging program to:

- satisfy a subject prerequisite
- get an entry score
- gain foundational knowledge in a selected area, and
- prepare for future tertiary study.

There are additional pathways for eligible students, including the Associate Degree in Business, the Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT) and employment experience.

For more information on admission pathways, contact UQ Admissions.

(07) 3365 2203
admissions@uq.edu.au
bit.ly/admission-pathways

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

ATAR

The Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) is the standard measure of overall school achievement used in all Australian states and territories (with the exception of Queensland). For 2021 admission, the ATAR will replace the Overall Position (OP) as the standard pathway to tertiary study for Queensland Year 12s.

Overall Position (OP)

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

Subject prerequisites

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

Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC)

This is the centralised tertiary application service through which students apply for positions in a range of institutions. Students' preferred course selections and the order in which they are submitted are called "preferences". See qtac.edu.au

Deferment

To defer is to delay the commencement of a program to a future semester. Undergraduate programs commencing in Semester 1 can be deferred for one year. Programs commencing in Semester 2 cannot be deferred.

HECS-HELP

Eligible Australian students can defer payment of course fees through the Higher Education Contribution Scheme—Higher Education Loan Program.

See studyassist.gov.au

Program

A sequence of study leading to the award of a qualification such as a bachelor's degree, graduate diploma, or certificate.

Course

A component of study within a program, similar to a subject at high school.

Major

An area of specialised study within a program, e.g. history in an Arts program, or chemistry in Science, which may be optional or a formal requirement.

Minor

A field within a program, approximately half the value of a major.

Explore UQ

Campus tours

Visit UQ to see what our campus lifestyle has to offer. You can book a guided tour of the St Lucia and Gatton campuses, or if you prefer to do your own thing, download our Walking Tour app to guide yourself around our world-class facilities and grounds.

Visit the website below to book a tour or download the app.

future-students.uq.edu.au/campus-tours

Explore your options

TSXPO Saturday 20 July and Sunday 21 July 2019

Attend the free Tertiary Studies Expo (TSXPO) to speak with UQ staff and students about programs and courses available at UQ.

future-students.uq.edu.au/tsxpo

St Lucia Open Day Sunday 4 August 2019

Gatton Open Day Sunday 18 August 2019

Find out about programs and courses, explore the campus and facilities, meet staff and current students, and enjoy a range of fun activities.

future-students.uq.edu.au/open-day

OP Results Advice Monday 16 December 2019

Every OP unlocks an opportunity – meet with our friendly staff to discover your child's study options after they find out their OP.

future-students.uq.edu.au/op-results-advice

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 train

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



Catch a CityCat

ferries to UQ's CityCat terminal regularly depart from the city and suburbs.



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.

Information in this guide is correct as at May 2019. 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 esp.uq.edu.au for up-to-date information.

Find out more

Visit future-students.uq.edu.au/parents for more helpful information and tips, including videos and podcasts about financial matters and how to help your child transition to university.

You can also sign up to receive our monthly updates filled with important information just for parents. We give you the information you need about OP and

ATAR results, scholarships, subject selection, QTAC applications and exclusive opportunities for high achieving school students.

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