



PHOTO: PAUL WRIGHT

## Information for parents

Helping your son or daughter make the best decision regarding their university studies is one of the most important roles for a parent. On the following pages you will find information designed to help you advise your son or daughter.

### Macquarie University – a world-class university

Macquarie is distinguished by the range and quality of its courses, which are designed in response to the ever-changing needs of industry, society and the environment.

World-leading research is undertaken by Macquarie's faculty and students, and is actively integrated into our undergraduate and postgraduate curricula.



**Dr Julian De Meyrick**

Dean of Students

**Responsibilities:**

Academic wellbeing and support

### Welcome to Macquarie University.

The office of the Dean of Students is here to look after the academic wellbeing of all our students and we work very closely with the International Student Services team. We are very proud of the academic and learning experience we offer our international students and believe it is designed to provide our students with both the best possible educational experience and graduate outcomes.

## Frequently asked questions

### Learning and teaching

#### What is the teaching standard at Macquarie University?

Macquarie University is ranked in the top ten universities in Australia (**Shanghai Jiao Tong University Academic Rankings of World Universities, 2010**).

Our academic staff are consistently recognised as award-winners and opinion leaders at local, national and international levels. In 2010, four Macquarie staff were awarded with citations for outstanding contribution to student learning by the Australian Learning and Teaching Council, across the fields of education, linguistics and modern history.

#### How are the classes taught?

A typical first-year undergraduate student at Macquarie has about 16 hours per week of face-to-face classes, covering four subjects per semester. Approximately half of this time is spent in attendance at lectures, which are then supported by small tutorial classes, laboratory sessions and/or workshop groups to further develop understanding of the material that has been taught. In subsequent years, the focus shifts to smaller classes as students develop their majors and specialisations. Students should expect to spend a further 25 to 30 hours per week reviewing course materials, completing assignments and preparing for examinations.

### Macquarie University and its campus

#### Is Macquarie University a public or private university?

Macquarie University is a public university.

#### Where is the campus?

Macquarie University's North Ryde campus is located on 126 hectares of beautiful parkland and is a 30-minute drive or train ride north-west of Sydney's city centre. There is a train station on campus which connects students to the city and metropolitan suburbs. There are also bus routes from the university to most destinations around Sydney. Macquarie Centre, a major shopping centre, is located only five minutes walk from Macquarie University. It has over 270 specialty shops, department stores, cinemas and two major supermarkets that are open seven days a week.

We also offer courses at our Macquarie City Campus in Sydney's city centre.

#### What are the accommodation options?

Our two on-campus residential colleges offer all-inclusive accommodation options (meals, social activities, academic support). There are three university-owned apartment complexes on and around the campus, plus the Macquarie University Village, all located within a five to ten minute walk to classes and facilities.

Our dedicated accommodation service provides assistance with all accommodation options, including temporary accommodation, university accommodation and private accommodation. International students can also book a representative from Macquarie's Accommodation Service to pick them up from the airport to take them to their prearranged university accommodation, ensuring a smooth arrival in Sydney.

### Career development and work experience

#### How will studying at Macquarie enhance my son or daughter's career?

Macquarie University graduates are highly regarded by employers and industry. For more than a decade, Macquarie's graduate starting salaries have been among the highest in Australia (**Good Universities Guide 1998 – 2010**).

Macquarie University has a unique specialised team to provide careers advice to our international students. The **Macquarie International Careers** team is dedicated to helping our international students enhance their employment outcomes in Australia and overseas, providing innovative training and development programs and connecting students to relevant opportunities. With individual consultations and job market resources available to all international students, our graduates' competitiveness is further enhanced.

#### Can my son or daughter do an internship?

Macquarie University offers a range of course-specific internships to students, relevant to their chosen field of study and connecting students to potential future employers. Previous internships have included placements with United Nations Headquarters, Amnesty International and the Australian Institute of Export. Many of these internships are offered as academic units of study within specific degrees, with supervision and assessment structured throughout the internship period.

### Campus life and services

#### What support will my son or daughter receive?

Apart from access to all the usual university administrative and support services, Macquarie University has a dedicated **International Student Services** team (ISS) to provide comprehensive and personal support for the particular needs of international students. ISS can help with almost any enquiry including visa information, fees, study skills referrals and personal welfare. ISS organises and supports a wide range of social events to help students make friends and contacts across the campus and ensure that international students settle successfully into their new environment.

The **Study Skills Support Unit** provides academic and language enhancement support through individual consultations, workshops and online resources.

## What extracurricular activities can my son or daughter participate in?

There are many opportunities for our students to build leadership, communication and life skills through a range of unique programs on offer.

- **The Global Leadership Program (GLP)** is unique to Macquarie University and differentiates our students as graduates prepared for a role in global leadership. The GLP encourages students to develop cross-cultural and professional skills through experiential learning. It has been designed so that they not only learn global skills and understanding – they put them into practice by studying, volunteering and participating in internships in Australia and overseas.
- Macquarie has one of the most extensive international **exchange programs** of any Australian university, with over 300 partner universities across the globe where students can complete one or two semesters of their Macquarie University degree. All exchange students are eligible for a travel grant.
- PACE International (part of the **Participation and Community Engagement Initiative**) is jointly managed by Macquarie University and Australian Volunteers International. It provides opportunities for our students to travel overseas and utilise their knowledge and skills in working with local communities, while developing communication, problem solving and leadership skills.
- Macquarie University has 100 **clubs, societies and collectives**, and 15 Sport Clubs. Joining one is a great way for students to meet new people on campus and develop special interests and skills. Almost every major nationality on campus has its own cultural club. The Macquarie International Social Club, 'iClub', is also facilitated by International Student Services (ISS), with the assistance of student volunteers.

## What is campus life like?

With one of the most culturally diverse student populations in Australia (**Good Universities Guide, 2010**), Macquarie University's campus is a safe, welcoming and friendly environment for international students.

Students have many options for fun and physical activities on campus. The impressive **Macquarie University Sport & Aquatic Centre** is the hub for sport and exercise on campus, offering heated outdoor and indoor swimming pools, a huge gymnasium, cycle room, over 90 group fitness classes per week, squash courts and multipurpose courts for a wide range of indoor sports. The campus also features numerous outdoor sports facilities.

## Living costs and part-time work

### What are the tuition fees and when do they need to be paid?

The tuition fees for international students at Macquarie University are set on a per credit point basis, and are revised each year. To help calculate fees, Macquarie University provides an estimated annual fee for the course, based on enrolment in all the required units for that course in the first year. Estimated annual fees are published in our undergraduate and postgraduate brochures and in our online course database. It is important to remember that students will need to pay the tuition fee that is current at the time of enrolment, not at the time of application.

Tuition fees are payable at the beginning of each semester. To accept an offer of enrolment at Macquarie University (and to obtain the necessary paperwork for a student visa), a deposit similar to the first semester's tuition fees must be paid. Any

difference to actual fees must be paid on enrolment, and any excess funds will be applied to subsequent semesters.

Parents and students who wish to transfer extra funds in advance can do so and these will be held by the University and applied against future semesters.

### Annual fee increases

The University reviews fees each year and may increase them in the following year. Information on the applicable per credit point fees and estimated yearly fees payable is available before enrolment. Students are subject to other fees, charges and conditions for each semester in which they enrol and are advised to check the current fees, charges and conditions with the University before enrolling.

## What is the cost of living?

The budget for an international student will depend on the lifestyle they choose to lead (eating out or self-catering, living on or off campus, owning a car or taking public transport etc). Generally you should allow between AU\$18,000 and AU\$21,000 per year for living expenses.

 (<http://studyinaustralia.gov.au/Sia/en/Studycosts/LivingCosts>).

## Can my son or daughter work part time?

International students on a student visa in Australia can work up to 20 hours a week during the university academic period, and unlimited hours during university vacation periods.

## Scholarships

Macquarie University has one of the most generous ranges of scholarships and grants in Australia. We provide support for many international students to undertake studies at Macquarie University, as well as for study abroad and exchange opportunities.

### Macquarie University International Scholarship (MUIS)

MUIS is one of the most generous schemes in Australia, and aims to attract outstanding students from around the world to study at Macquarie University. There are up to 40 scholarships available each year for postgraduate and undergraduate students. The scholarship is highly competitive and is awarded on the basis of academic merit.


#### How to apply

You can find more information about MUIS scholarship eligibility, conditions of the scholarship and the MUIS online application form at

 [www.international.mq.edu.au/scholarships/muis](http://www.international.mq.edu.au/scholarships/muis)



### Australian Government Scholarships

Macquarie University participates in Australian Government Scholarship programs such as the Australian Development Scholarships (ADS), and the Australian Leadership Awards (ALA). For more information visit

 [www.international.mq.edu.au/scholarships](http://www.international.mq.edu.au/scholarships) or email  [scholarships@mq.edu.au](mailto:scholarships@mq.edu.au)

### Other scholarships

See our scholarship website for other scholarship opportunities, including sports scholarships, country specific scholarships, and travel grants for student mobility.

 [www.international.mq.edu.au/scholarships](http://www.international.mq.edu.au/scholarships) or email  [scholarships@mq.edu.au](mailto:scholarships@mq.edu.au)

## Recent highlights

### 1 Macquarie University Hospital

Opened in June 2010, Macquarie University Hospital (MUH) is Australia's first and only private hospital on a university campus. The 199-bed state-of-the-art hospital offers a comprehensive range of services and specialist areas, and as an academic hospital, our doctors are committed to a culture of continuous improvement in patient care through teaching and research.

### Research grants

In July 2010, the Australian Federal Government awarded Macquarie University A\$33.4 million from the Australian Research Council (ARC) over seven years to fund two new research centres for cognitive disorders, and mineral and energy exploration.

### 2 Australian Hearing Hub

Macquarie University is a key partner in the Australian Hearing Hub, a unique project that will bring together the University's internationally-leading research teams, government research organisations and not-for-profit organisations.

### 3 Faculty of Arts facilities – Building Y3A

A multi-million dollar renovation provides new production spaces for music, radio, film and digital media, all supported by passionate, actively-involved staff.

### 4 Library

In 2011 Macquarie University will open a new library building, providing a central library space combined with learning, research, collaboration and social spaces.

Built over five levels, key features of the library will include quiet study areas, meeting rooms, Australia's first automated document storage and retrieval system and a café. Designed for environmental sustainability, the new library is on track to receive recognition by the Green Building Council of Australia.

### 5 New Science Laboratories

Our undergraduate science teaching laboratories have been completely refurbished, to create a highly interactive learning and teaching environment. Through the application of digital technology, aids such as microscopes can now be used in a totally new way, by projecting images onto computer screens and projector boards.

## Questions?

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