

WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY



AGENT NEWSLETTER

Dear Agent Partner,

Welcome to our latest newsletter instalment. We have a number of news items to update you on, including the fee reduction for our upcoming intakes in July and June 2020 and an exclusive insight into online learning and how it has been received by our students and academics.

SPECIAL FEE PROMOTION AND TEMPORARY ADMISSIONS CHANGES

10% Fee Reduction

As an incentive to commence with us in 2020, all newly commencing students will receive a 10% fee reduction for study in:

- Spring Session (20 July 2020)
- Quarter 3 2020 (29 June 2020)
- English for Academic Purposes EAP (7 July)

The incentive will be offered in conjunction with any other awarded academic scholarship.

The 10% fee reduction will be applied as follows.

Applicants:

- with a current conditional or unconditional offer will receive a revised offer with the reduction included.
- who have accepted and made payment already will have their 10% credited to their subsequent semester of study.
- with provisional offers will have the 10% reduction applied on their subsequent conditional or unconditional offer.

Further to this we are offering our commencing students in the next intakes the following concessions:

- **Reduced Study Load Option** - Commencing offshore students for Spring Session (July) 2020 will be given the option **to enrol** in a reduced load of study (eg. **two units (subjects) of study instead of the standard four**) to 'get started' on their degree course. To secure a reduced study load option and allow them a less intensive online introduction to study at Western Sydney University, students must contact International Admissions to request a reduced study load option and obtain a new letter of offer, with a reduced study load offering, including a reduced commencement fee. Closer to the course start date students will be advised by the University, which subjects would be best to take, as advised by their School.

- **Offshore Online Refunds** – If students start offshore and online and later get a visa refusal, WSU will refund all tuition fees to the student. Students will be required to submit their refund request within two weeks of their DHA visa refusal notification, with their official visa refusal notification attached.
- **Packaged Offers and Deposits** – normally for a packaged offer at WSU a \$5,000 deposit is required for the main degree program. For students commencing in their preliminary program (Diploma, Foundation, MQP, PG Bridging program Social Work, Graduate Certificate in Business) in 2020 only a **\$2,000 deposit** will now be required for the main degree program. This will only apply to new acceptances or applications submitted from 21 May 2020. This does not apply to programs packaged with EAP.

Admissions changes to documentation requirements for Semester 2 (July 2020) and Quarter 3 (June 2020):

English Evidence – with many English testing centres currently closed we will temporarily extend the time validity for existing approved official IELTS or TOEFL IBT English test scores for 3 years instead of 2 years for English entry of IELTS 6.5 or equivalent. We have also made some changes to our accepted tests and recognitions of score validity. For the coming intakes Spring Session (July) and Quarter 3 (June) 2020, Western will be accepting the following English tests for standard English entry of IELTS 6.5 or equivalence (but not for programs that require an IELTS of 7.0 or equivalent):

- **IELTS Indicator** IELTS 6.5 overall with 6.0 in each band
- **TOEFL IBT Special Home Edition** 82 overall - Writing 21, Speaking 18, Reading 13, Listening 13
- **Duolingo** 115 score (for programs with IELTS 6.5 or equivalent)

Predicted Scores – Many students will struggle to obtain official final high school grades in 2020 in time for the commencement of their intake due to closure of schools and other COVID-19 related issues. Western is now accepting predicted scores for assessment. However, where applicable, final official results will need to be submitted to Western by the deadline as per the conditions outlined on their offer letter (13 July 2020 in most cases for Semester 2 intake). If extensions are required, please contact International Admissions, as this may be considered on a case by case basis.

Document Verification – With many University administration offices closed Western will be accepting online or screenshot transcripts without final official completion certificate as proof of course completion.

Offers will be made based on the above and students will be able to accept and make payment. However, it is critical that all students are able to supply official results or fully attested of the original transcripts and documents one week before each intake.

NEW ENGLISH PREPARATION PROGRAM FOR NURSES AT DISCOUNTED RATES!

BACHELOR OF NURSING DIRECT ENGLISH ENTRY PROGRAM (BNDEEP) (102180J)

Special Introductory 50% offer. Limited places for this special offer!

The new entry requirements in 2021 for qualifying Nursing programs in Australia will require a higher level of English competence for all students. In response, Western Sydney University College has created an innovative new course to build skills and knowledge to help students prepare to achieve the required official IELTS 7.0 level in all bands or equivalent prior to enrolment. The new BNDEEP program is due to commence in September 2020 for those interested in the Bachelor of Nursing (Graduate Entry) (Q1 – Jan 2021 start) and there will be an October 2020 start date for those seeking entry into the Bachelor of Nursing (S1, March 2021).

Summary details:

- 12 weeks of intensive English study 20 hours per week
- IELTS 6.5 entry level or equivalent

- Start dates 2020 – September 14th 2020 to December 4th and October 26th to Jan 29th
- Cost \$5,700 - Special promotion for 2020 is a 50% fee scholarship. Students pay only \$2850 and receive one free Pearson PTE test included in the course fee!

It is important to emphasise that entry to all Nursing programs in Australia must have an official English test score. This course presents a targeted study program to maximise English test outcomes while developing key English competencies in a clinical health care setting.

ONLINE STUDY

Our students and academics speak about their current experience with online learning and teaching.

The transition to online study globally has brought challenges but also positives to students and academics.

After a recent survey of students regarding the transition to online study we have the following student comments to share;

“Online learning can be fun and there’s no one talking or distracting you while studying. I am able to take in more understanding of a topic than on campus.”

“Overall the transition to online has been entirely positive... The seamless transition is owed to your teaching staff for this unit as the unit coordinator worked tirelessly in order for this unit to run safely and smoothly.”

Listen to some of our students and academics talking about their experiences transitioning to learning online in the videos below.



STUDENT SUPPORT

What Western and the NSW Government is doing to help our international students.

NSW Government Aid package

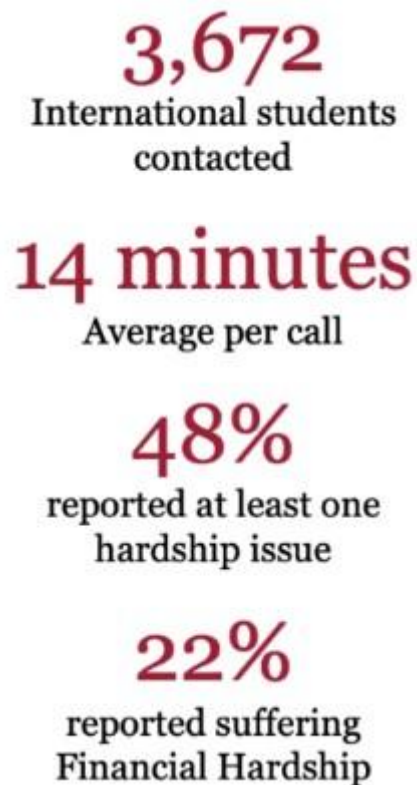
The NSW government has recently announced that it will fund a \$20million temporary crisis accommodation package for international students who are facing hardship due to Covid-19. This will include a temporary housing scheme and student support services particularly from the International Legal Service NSW to help students with issues in relation to rental agreements and health matters. Students can visit [Service NSW](#) to get started and we encourage our students to connect.

The Western Success Initiative

As a key support program for our international students we set our Western Success Team to ensure each student had direct phone contact with a university staff support person. Through these challenging times

we have been heartened to see some wonderful stories of support, collaboration and connection emerging across the University community. One of our staff Sharleen Hamersma has recently taken up a new role as a Western Success Advisor to assist our international student body. [Watch the video](#) to hear her thoughts on her role and our collective support for international students.

The Western Success program has been significantly expanded to provide individual support to our international students, who find themselves without government support and particularly vulnerable at this time. Feedback on the program has been very positive so far, with many students grateful for the support Western is providing.



Student Assistance Fund

Since its inception the Student Assistance Fund has supported 554 international students with the university issuing over 500 grocery vouchers totalling \$144,480, providing 38 student hardship grants at \$1000 each and having given out 144 laptops to enable our student body to maintain their academic study in the online learning environment. This fund is provided by staff donation and salary sacrifice and we will continue our commitment throughout the difficult period.

WSU Careers

As many students have struggled recently with their part-time employment our [Career Hub](#) has stepped up to provide regular job alert updates and assistance aimed directly at international students – we encourage you to follow our WSU Careers [Facebook](#) page also so you can help your current students learn about opportunities.

As a broad reminder to your current students at Western Sydney University in need of any assistance - [Frequently Asked Questions](#) are available on our website and the Student Hotline +61 02 9852 5399 and coronavirussupport@westernsydney.edu.au are available for them to get in touch with us if they have any questions, concerns or are suffering any hardship during this time.

COURSE SPOTLIGHT

[Bachelor of Engineering.\(Hons\)](#) and [Master of Engineering](#)

Many of you joined our recent webinar recently from our School of Engineering. If you missed the session there are some key points below for our Bachelor and Master of Engineering:

Key selling points:

1. highly practical ‘hands on’ approach to teaching and learning
2. full professional accreditation with [Engineers Australia](#)
3. cutting edge teaching and learning facilities across 3 campuses
4. strong subject [rankings](#) on QS, THE and ARWU
5. work integrated learning and compulsory industrial experience
6. affordable [course price point](#) offering good value for money
7. [international scholarships](#)

PROGRAM	BACHELOR OF ENGINEERING (HONOURS)	MASTER OF ENGINEERING
DURATION	4 years full-time	2 years full-time
INTAKE	March and July Penrith or Parramatta	March and July Parramatta City
ACADEMIC REQUIREMENT	Australian ATAR: 60 IB Diploma: Minimum 24 GCE A Level: 6 points Indian CBSE: 60% GPA in 4 core subjects	Successful completion of a recognised four year undergraduate degree, or higher, in engineering.
ENGLISH REQUIREMENT	IELTS (Academic) Overall 6.5 6.0 minimum in each band or equivalent	IELTS (Academic) Overall 6.5 6.0 minimum in each band or equivalent
2020 TUITION FEE	AUD \$33,000	AUD \$33,280

NEW HDR APPLICATION PORTAL

We are pleased to announce the successful implementation for the early release of Ellucian Recruit for HDR, showcasing part of our new Student Management System. This replaces ApplyOnline for admission applications and the paper based scholarship application form.

The changes we have made will provide our HDR students with improved information management, better and more efficient application process and enhanced navigation ensuring the best student experience. The new portal will provide the ability to submit applications for HDR admission and scholarships.

The system can be accessed via the following link - <http://apply.westernsydney.edu.au/>

It's important to remember that the details provided in the application are the student's details, not the details of the agent or agency. There are specific fields in the application that will allow the details of the agency to be provided. This will ensure that you are kept across the progress of the application.

If you encounter any problems or require additional assistance, please email the SMS Project Team at smsproject@westernsydney.edu.au and we'll get back to you as soon as possible.

Kind regards,

Western Sydney International Recruitment



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<https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/>

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