

# WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY



## AGENT NEWSLETTER

Dear Agent Partner,

Greetings from Western Sydney University. In this instalment we would like to share some updates and useful reference points for your information.

We are pleased that many of our students have chosen to commence this semester instead of delaying their study and deferring to next year.

Western Sydney is teaching online for Spring Session 2020 and there will be a phased return to campus over this period. Students who are commencing online offshore have the option for a reduced 2 subject study load and all students will be benefitting from the university wide **10% fee reduction**. We still have **\$5,000 and \$7,500 multi-year scholarships** available for Spring Session, and Q4, 2020, so please encourage students holding scholarship offers to consider studying online and to take advantage of these generous scholarships. There is still time to accept offers so please ensure your students are aware of these great opportunities.

### **ORIENTATION FOR NEWLY COMMENCING STUDENTS (Spring Session commences 20 July 2020)**

For those students who are commencing this July 20<sup>th</sup> please ensure they attend our online Orientation session on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July. Orientation is essential for commencing students to successfully transition in to University.

**To avoid students missing out on important information about Orientation and ensure they are able to successfully enrol, please update their personal email address in their application record in Studylink.** This must be the student's personal email address and not an email address created by an agent.

### **International Orientation - Friday 10 July**

**International Orientation Information webinar**

3pm – 4pm

[Full details available here](#)

**Q & A for Admission, fee payment, enrolment and timetabling**



4pm – 5pm

[Full details available here](#)

**UG Course Advice Orientation Sessions** will be held 6 – 9 July. These sessions will provide students with all the preliminary information needed to start their course at Western Sydney University. Sessions will also include a time to ask questions and are a great opportunity for students to meet their academics and fellow students.

**Important note for students:** You must **Accept your offer** and **activate your Western Account** to be able to log in to your Course Advice Session on Zoom with your student email address and password. We recommend logging in 30 minutes before your session so you can use the live **online chat function** in the bottom right hand corner of the website to ask us any questions.

**PG Course Advice Sessions** and academic course advice contact details are available on our [website](#) for commencing PG students.

Should your students miss their Orientation for any reason, we will be recording the sessions so they can be viewed later.

To view their course advice session recording, simply instruct them to visit the [Orientation Sessions web page](#) and select their course. The recordings will be uploaded within 24 hours of the live session.

The International Orientation Information Webinar recording can be viewed [here](#) and the Q & A for admission, fees, enrolment and timetabling recording can be viewed [here](#).

## **SPECIAL PROMOTIONS AND ADMISSIONS ADJUSTMENTS FOR THE UPCOMING 2020 INTAKES!**

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

- **Reduced Study Load Option** - Spring Session only.
- **Offshore Online Refunds** – If students start offshore and online and later get a visa refusal, WSU will refund all tuition fees to the student (Spring Session only, conditions apply).
- **Packaged Offers and Deposits** – 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 Spring Session (July 2020) and Quarter 3 (June 2020):**

**English Evidence** – 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 and Quarter 4 (September), 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 Spring Session 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.

## IMPROVED RANKINGS FOR WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY

Western is a university on the rise and this is again reflected in our new Young University Rankings on Times Higher Education and QS. We have significantly improved our ranking in this year's **Times Higher Education (THE) Young University Rankings** and moved from 58<sup>th</sup> place last year to a ranking of equal 36<sup>th</sup> across the world – a 22 place improvement. We are now ranked 9<sup>th</sup> in Australia, compared with 10<sup>th</sup> last year.

As you know the THE Young University Rankings assess universities across the world that are 50 years old or younger. Universities are ranked according to 13 performance indicators, including research, teaching excellence, innovation and international outlook.

We have also been advised that Western Sydney University has once again placed in the 61–70 grouping in the QS World University 50 Under 50 Rankings. Achieving this result, for a university that will be only 31 years old in 2020, showcases our growing reputation as a world-leader in education, research and innovation. Please let your applicants know of these very positive developments during your consultations.



## ONLINE STUDY TIPS

As your students are commencing in a new online format this semester we encourage you to share with them ideas to help prepare them for this.

One of our outstanding academics and former Prime Minister's University Teacher of the Year recipient - Professor James Arvanitakis, shares some useful tips to make their online learning experience a positive

and successful one.

### **8 Tips for planning your study week video**

In the video below, our current students and academics express their positive experiences with online learning at Western over the past couple of months.

### **Online learning video**

Dr Whitney Bevan from the School of Built Environment discusses online learning support and the platforms available to our students in the video below.

### **Online learning explained video**

## **SCHOOL WEBINAR SERIES**

To make sure you are kept up to date with our offerings at Western Sydney University we are scheduling regular School webinars for you to join. The upcoming sessions are below:

- School of Science – Wednesday July 8 – 4pm Sydney time - [Register here](#).
- School of Health Sciences – Wednesday July 22
- School of Social Science – Wednesday August 12

We look forward to seeing you join these sessions.

If you have missed any of our previous series of webinars you can access the videos here:

- [School of Business](#)
- [School of Engineering](#)
- [School of Built Environment](#)
- [School of Computer, Data and Mathematical Sciences](#)
- [School of Psychology](#)

## **CAMPUS VIDEO**

Giving your students a clear picture of our beautiful campus learning locations is a great addition to your marketing Western Sydney University. We have included links below to each of our campuses:

- [Parramatta City](#)
- [Penrith](#)
- [Hawkesbury](#)
- [Liverpool](#)
- [Parramatta South](#)
- [Campbelltown](#)

These short clips can be a powerful tool to use and share on your social media channels, promoting awareness and interests amongst the students.

## **ADMISSIONS UPDATE FOR RESEARCH APPLICATIONS**

We are pleased to announce the [new online portal for PhD and Master of Research applications](#).



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, a better and more efficient application process and enhanced navigation ensuring the best student experience.

Please enter your student's details in the application and make sure you complete the fields relating to the details of your agency which will ensure that you are kept informed about the progress of the application. A critical change in our processes requires all applicants to enter the name of a Western Sydney University academic who has agreed 'in principle' to supervise them. This means for both MResearch and for PhD a supervisor must be found in advance of an application being submitted. Information on how to source a supervisor can be accessed [here](#).

We encourage your research students to utilise the following [staff profile tool](#) to narrow down their searches.

Please let your regional manager know if you have any questions.

Please note: there is no change for all other undergraduate and postgraduate course work applications. Continue submitting these applications via the [International Online Application System](#).

Kind regards,

Western Sydney International



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