

WESTERN SYDNEY  
UNIVERSITY



# PARENTS' GUIDE

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## DISCOVER WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY



**SECURE THEIR FUTURE WITH A WIDE RANGE OF SPECIALTY AREAS TO STUDY**



**ENGAGING CLASSES WITH PRACTICAL TRAINING EXERCISES**



**LIVELY AND CREATIVE CAMPUS EXPERIENCES**





**GETTING  
STARTED**

Going to university is an exciting prospect for everyone involved because it comes with wonderful hopes, dreams and ambitions. It can also create anxiety, especially if your child is the first in your family to enrol in uni. After all, it's a big decision which involves a big commitment, one which needs to be made carefully from a position of thorough consideration and knowledge.



This guide has been created specifically to assist you in helping your child make the best possible decision regarding which university and degree course is suited to their ambitions. It outlines the important questions you need to ask, and who you should talk to. It also provides answers to some of the most commonly asked questions about the practicalities of going to university.

Now it may seem a bit daunting to begin with, so it's best to start with the basics.

### **DETERMINE YOUR CHILD'S GENUINE TALENTS AND INTERESTS**

Although universities specialise in developing knowledge, skills and talents, they need a real foundation on which to build them. So an honest appraisal of your child's genuine talents and interests is essential to helping them choose the best university and course.

### **TALK TO FRIENDS OR FAMILY WHO ARE ALREADY DOING SIMILAR THINGS**

Nothing beats talking to someone who is already working or studying in your child's area of interest. This can give you a personal and realistic insight into what to expect. To hear from Western Sydney students, visit [youtube.com/westernsydneyu](https://www.youtube.com/westernsydneyu)

### **TALK TO CAREERS ADVISERS AT SCHOOL, TAFE AND UNIVERSITY**

You should talk to the careers advisers at your child's school, because they are experienced at answering your questions and can provide valuable advice on what is available.

### **CHECK OUT THE UNIVERSITIES ADMISSIONS CENTRE (UAC) GUIDE**

The UAC Guide will give you an outline of the various courses provided by universities in NSW and the ACT. All year 12 school leavers get a UAC Guide from their school (so make sure your child brings it home). If your child is not a current school leaver you can call the UAC Infoline on **1300 275822** or **02 97520200** (from mobiles) or visit [uac.edu.au](https://www.uac.edu.au) and they will send you one.

### **FIND OUT ABOUT UNIVERSITIES OFFERING COURSES YOUR CHILD IS INTERESTED IN**

Collect as much information as you can from all the universities that are offering courses in areas that interest your child. Most universities have contact centres you can call for information. Alternatively, send an email requesting a brochure, or visit their websites and download the course info.

At Western Sydney University you can contact Team U and speak with current Western students. Discover what they think of university life and learn their top tips for potential students when you call **1300 897 669**, email [study@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:study@westernsydney.edu.au) or visit [westernsydney.edu.au/future](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/future)

### **GO TO OPEN DAYS AND INFORMATION NIGHTS AT VARIOUS UNIVERSITIES**

These events are free and an open invitation for you to visit their campus, talk with their staff to get first-hand information about courses and support services, check out their facilities and get a general feel for each place. To find out about events at Western Sydney University, visit [westernsydney.edu.au/events](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/events)

### **TALK TO YOUR CHILD'S FUTURE EMPLOYERS**

It makes sense to find out what your child's future employers are looking for in graduates. What sort of qualifications do they need? What kind of work experience should they have? Equally important is to ask them what the employment and career prospects are like in the real world, now and in the future.

**WE SEE THE  
AWESOME IN  
THEM.**

## **WESTERN'S HSC TRUE REWARD EARLY OFFER PROGRAM**

Most people are good at something. What's your child's passion? Do they excel at English literature? Are they a mental mathematician? An advocate for social justice? A designer extraordinaire? Do they breathe foreign languages?

It's important they acknowledge and play to their strengths because, ultimately, their strengths will determine their future. This is the premise behind Western Sydney University's HSC True Reward – a program that recognises the strengths of each individual.

True Reward offers your child a place at Western on the basis of relevant HSC subject results. Why? Because at Western we recognise that too often, the ATAR system overlooks natural strengths and talent.

At Western, we see the awesome in them. We recognise that they are much more than their ATAR. True Reward focuses on the scores that reflect their strong points.

True Reward is a better system. It's a more equitable system. It's a system that makes sense.

True Reward acknowledges the idea that if they are good at something, they're just what Western is looking for.

Find out more about True Reward and how to apply – visit [\*\*westernsydney.edu.au/hscruereward\*\*](https://westernsydney.edu.au/hscruereward)





# WHY CHOOSE WESTERN?

## → LEADERSHIP IN ONE OF AUSTRALIA'S FASTEST GROWING REGIONS

Western Sydney is Australia's third largest and fastest growing economy. With a vast multicultural population and expanding international reach, Western Sydney University is uniquely placed to help our students tap into a global mindset.

## → REPUTATION FOR EXCELLENCE

We're ranked among the top two per cent of universities in the world, with a growing international reputation for research-led, student-centred learning.

## → FREE DIGITAL TEXTBOOKS

Western was the first university to provide all the digital textbooks for your child's first year units for free. We are pleased to be offering the benefit of free digital textbooks for first year units once again in 2020! That's up to \$800 in value. Why? Because money shouldn't stand between them and opportunity. Discover more about free digital textbooks at [westernsydney.edu.au/textbooks](https://westernsydney.edu.au/textbooks)

## → OUR STUDENTS SIT AT THE HEART OF EVERYTHING WE DO

Our student-centred approach offers your child the choice of on-campus, online and flexible study options combined with work-integrated learning. Through work experience placements, internships and volunteering opportunities, your child will get the real-life experience, practical skills and knowledge they need for their future career.

## → OUR CURRICULUM PREPARES YOU FOR TODAY'S WORLD

We work with our community, business partners and industry leaders to develop course content that meets the needs of employers and the jobs of the future, and which responds to the challenges of a global workplace.

## → WE EMBRACE TECHNOLOGY-ENRICHED LEARNING

From our innovative social learning spaces, online learning environments and use of digital technologies to enhance the study experience, to our on-campus computer laboratories and state-of-the-art library, research and clinical facilities, we adopt new and emerging technologies to provide a richer educational experience.

## → OUR RESEARCH HAS GLOBAL IMPACT

We see learning and research as connected aspects of the student experience, putting our students close to world-leading research that is changing lives in the communities we serve.

## → WE ARE GLOBALLY FOCUSED AND CONNECTED

With our growing international reach and reputation, we offer the opportunity to travel, learn and work in more than 400 destinations around the world through our overseas study, internship and work placement programs.

## → ADVANCED OPPORTUNITY. UNLIMITED SUCCESS

From advanced degrees and The Academy, to The College and alternative entry programs, scholarships, internships and student exchange opportunities, we provide multiple pathways for entry and academic success.



# At a glance



**TOP 2%**

OF UNIVERSITIES WORLDWIDE\*



**#1 UNI**

IN NSW FOR EMPLOYER  
SATISFACTION\*\*



**5 STARS**

FOR TEACHING, EMPLOYABILITY,  
INTERNATIONALISATION, FACILITIES,  
INNOVATION AND INCLUSIVENESS^



**WORLD CLASS**

RESEARCH~



**\$22M**

IN SCHOLARSHIPS,  
GRANTS AND PRIZES



**400+**

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE  
DESTINATIONS



**IN AUSTRALIA**

FOR COMMITMENT TO  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT#



**48,500**

STUDENTS



**270+**

CLUBS & SOCIETIES

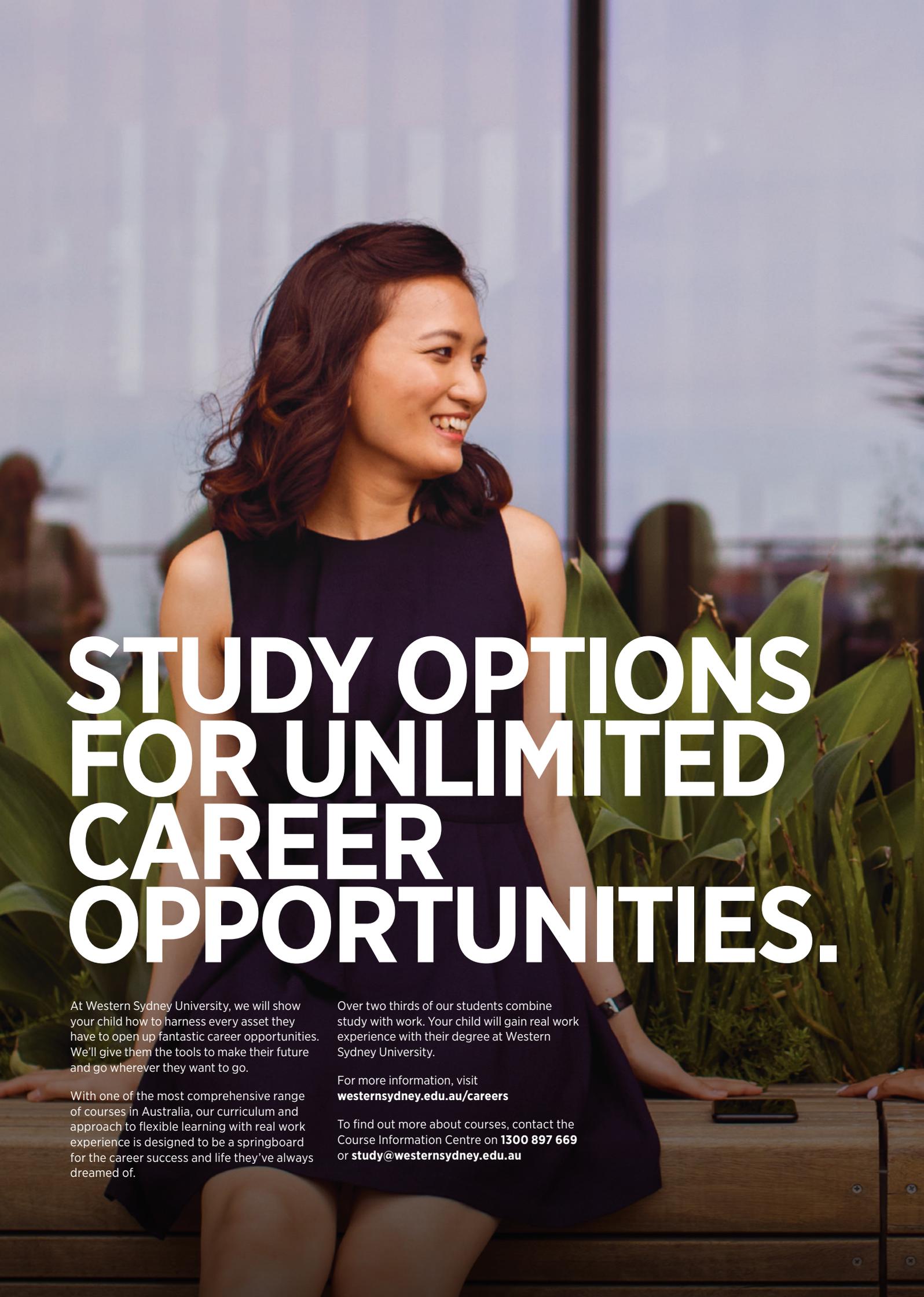
\*Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2018

#Times Higher Education (THE) World University Impact Rankings 2019

\*\*QILT Employer Satisfaction Survey 2016 to 2018

^QS Top Universities: QS Stars Ratings 2019

~Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) 2018 evaluation.



# STUDY OPTIONS FOR UNLIMITED CAREER OPPORTUNITIES.

At Western Sydney University, we will show your child how to harness every asset they have to open up fantastic career opportunities. We'll give them the tools to make their future and go wherever they want to go.

With one of the most comprehensive range of courses in Australia, our curriculum and approach to flexible learning with real work experience is designed to be a springboard for the career success and life they've always dreamed of.

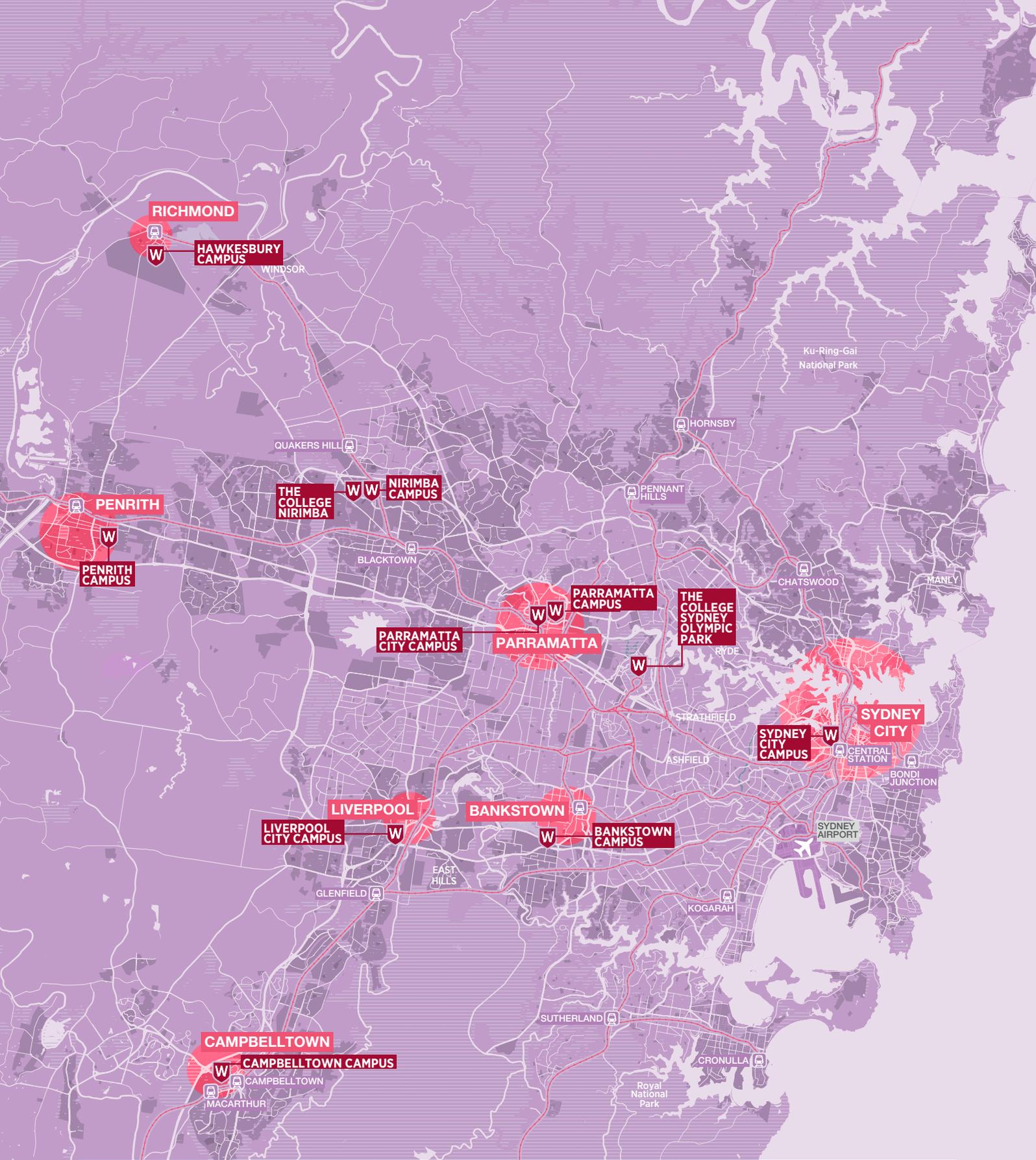
Over two thirds of our students combine study with work. Your child will gain real work experience with their degree at Western Sydney University.

For more information, visit [westernsydney.edu.au/careers](https://westernsydney.edu.au/careers)

To find out more about courses, contact the Course Information Centre on **1300 897 669** or [study@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:study@westernsydney.edu.au)



**ARCHITECTURE** ARTS AND COMMUNICATION **BUSINESS**  
**AND ACCOUNTING** CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT **CREATIVE**  
**INDUSTRIES** DESIGN AND MUSIC CRIMINOLOGY POLICING  
AND CYBER SECURITY **ENGINEERING** HEALTH AND SPORT  
SCIENCE **INDUSTRIAL DESIGN** INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(COMPUTING) **LANGUAGES** INTERPRETING AND TRANSLATION  
LAW **MEDICINE** NURSING AND MIDWIFERY **PSYCHOLOGY**  
SCIENCE **SOCIAL SCIENCES** SOCIAL WORK AND COMMUNITY  
WELFARE **TEACHING** TOURISM AND URBAN PLANNING  
**THE ACADEMY** DEGREES FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT  
ISLANDER PEOPLES **ONLINE DEGREES** COMBINED DEGREES



## TRAVEL OPTIONS

- Public transport
- Drive or car pool
- Shuttle buses run regularly between train stations and campuses
- Bike - on-campus bike parking is available.



# OUR CAMPUSES

## BANKSTOWN

The Bankstown campus is a warm, friendly, multicultural environment with modern, spacious buildings and landscaped gardens.

The College at Bankstown houses over 1,000 students and features accommodation, a range of lecture theatres, multi-purpose computer labs and a student common room.

### Top facilities:

- Early Childhood Centre
- The MARCS Institute for Brain, Behaviour and Development
- Centre for Educational Research (CER)
- Psychology laboratories.

## CAMPBELLTOWN

The Campbelltown campus offers a unique balance between city and rural lifestyles.

### Top facilities:

- Purpose-built School of Medicine
- National Institute for Complementary Medicine (NICM)
- Transnational Health Institute (THRI)
- The UniClinic, a state-of-the-art clinical training facility for Health Science students
- Anatomy laboratories
- Nursing clinical practice unit.

## HAWKESBURY

This stunning location at the foot of the Blue Mountains is an ideal place to study.

### Top facilities:

- Food Processing Pilot Plant
- Dedicated Crime Scene House
- Nursing clinical practice unit
- Hawkesbury Institute for the Environment
- Animal Science facilities - including the reptile house and small marsupial house.

## NIRIMBA

This leafy, green campus is a learning hub with a host of local and international students ranging from high school to mature-age.

### Top facilities:

- Early Childhood Centre
- Tiered and flat-floored lecture theatres
- Well-resourced library
- Outstanding recreation facilities.

## LIVERPOOL CITY

In the heart of the Liverpool CBD, this purpose-built facility services the needs of more than 1,000 students.

### Top facilities:

- 3,000sqm campus
- High-quality, modern, technology-rich and highly-flexible space
- Nursing Clinical Practice Units
- Whole floor library facility
- Home to Launch Pad smart business centre which brings together government, corporate and University expertise, and provides mentorship to start-ups and early stage businesses.

## PARRAMATTA

This campus offers a combination of heritage and contemporary buildings. The campus spans two sites in Rydalmere.

### Top facilities:

- Institute for Culture and Society
- Nursing clinical practice unit
- Moot court
- Computing laboratories
- Science and Psychology building
- Purpose-built production studio, design and creative arts facility
- Engineering precinct
- Advanced Materials Fabrication and Characterisation facilities
- Industrial Design Centre.

## PARRAMATTA CITY

State-of-the-art campus located in the heart of the Parramatta CBD at 169 Macquarie Street.

### Top facilities:

- Sydney Graduate School of Management
- Four interactive, technology-enabled learning studios per level
- More than 120 student PCs available
- Collaborative and quiet study spaces
- Library hub
- Group study rooms with screen sharing and video conferencing
- Free shuttle bus to Parramatta South
- Launch Pad - technology business incubator.

Note: The Parramatta City campus at 100 George Street is home to international students of The College.

## PENRITH

The Penrith campus is renowned for its state-of-the-art facilities and scenic grounds.

### Top facilities:

- Centre for Infrastructure Engineering
- Mechatronics and Robotics facility
- World-class music facilities
- Home of the Solar Car and Formula SAE Racing Car projects
- Advanced Manufacturing and 3D Print Hub
- State-of-the-art Library with world-class facilities
- Psychology clinics
- Launch Pad - technology business incubator.

## SYDNEY CITY

Located in the heart of the Sydney CBD, this new campus is close to transport, shops, cafes, bars, gyms and more.

### Top facilities:

- Purpose-built high-tech campus
  - Small classes and a more personalised learning experience
  - Flexible session dates
  - Fast-track your degree
  - Access to services and facilities at any Western Sydney University campus
- [westernsydney.edu.au/city](http://westernsydney.edu.au/city)

## SYDNEY OLYMPIC PARK

The Sydney Olympic Park campus is situated at Level 4, 8 Australia Avenue, Sydney Olympic Park. Home to The College's English Language programs, the Sydney Olympic Park campus is located just 20 minutes from the Sydney CBD and conveniently located next to Sydney Olympic Park train station.

### Top facilities:

- English Language program
- English Test Centre (IELTS and Pearson testing)
- Collaborative learning spaces.

## Future thinking. Unlimited possibilities.

Success is not just about getting a degree, but also developing the critical thinking and leadership skills to support a successful career.

It's about learning skills for life, not just a job.

The Academy knows your child won't get to the top by standing still or sitting exclusively in a classroom. The Academy prepares your child to thrive in the face of change and seize success at every opportunity.

Whether their dream is to achieve as a professional, an entrepreneur or an academic they will learn to think differently and creatively in whatever they do.

The Academy offers high-achieving students a unique, hands-on approach to learning in an interdisciplinary environment. Led by Professor Jonathon Allen, The Academy draws on the unique experience of leading thinkers, social change agents, community leaders, and high-achieving students both past and present.

With a focus on ethical leadership and critical thinking, built on the pillars of academic excellence, community engagement, and professional and personal development, The Academy offers students access to:

- unprecedented opportunities for industry and real-life experience
- world-class research, researchers, teachers, experts and innovation labs
- travel to national and international leadership experiences and conferences
- a range of professional and personal development workshops
- internship, service learning and volunteering opportunities
- applied leadership experience in student-led, community-focused projects.

Visit [westernsydney.edu.au/theacademy](https://westernsydney.edu.au/theacademy) for more information.



# THINK BIG



# UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITIES

**We believe that success is fuelled by a strong desire and ambition, and if your child has the drive and determination to succeed, then Western Sydney University offers them an unlimited world of potential.**

We'll show them how to harness every asset they have to open up fantastic career opportunities. We'll give them the tools to make their future what they want it to be and go wherever they want to go.

We believe success in life comes from what's inside, not where they've come from. Built on the premise that it doesn't matter where they began, but where their studies will take them, Western provides the following advantage entry programs:

## **HSC TRUE REWARD**

At Western, we do things differently. In 2019 we are giving HSC students the opportunity to plan their futures early because we believe hard work matters.

The HSC True Reward is the only program of its kind in NSW. Open to 2019 NSW HSC students, the program makes early offers for entry to degrees based on corresponding HSC subject band outcomes.

Encourage your child to register now and receive information from Western Sydney University about the program.  
[westernsydney.edu.au/hscruereward](https://westernsydney.edu.au/hscruereward)

## **ACCESS OPPORTUNITIES**

- Regional bonus points
- Subject bonus points
- Educational Access Scheme
- Elite Athlete and Performer Bonus Scheme
- Schools Recommendation Schemes (SRS)

For more information, visit  
[westernsydney.edu.au/future/study/how-to-apply/bonus-points.html](https://westernsydney.edu.au/future/study/how-to-apply/bonus-points.html)

## **SCHOLARSHIPS**

At Western Sydney University, we offer over \$22 million in undergraduate scholarships for our students.

The range of scholarships reflects a strong commitment to academic excellence and opportunity for the students of the University.

Western also provides support to students who have diverse interests and skills, and who make an active contribution to the broader community.

There are over 100 different types of scholarships, focusing on areas such as industry placements, leadership and community involvement, international exchanges, sport, specific courses, local government areas, high-achieving students as well as students experiencing financial hardship, people with a disability or long-term medical condition, Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islanders, refugees, and asylum seekers.

For more information, visit  
[westernsydney.edu.au/scholarships](https://westernsydney.edu.au/scholarships)

**YOUR SUCCESS STARTS HERE.**



# Pathways to Uni

If your child does not meet the entry requirements for an undergraduate course, or misses out on a place in the course of their choice, Western Sydney University offers alternative pathways to study.

## THE COLLEGE

Owned by Western Sydney University, The College offers students a pathway to university study through its comprehensive range of Integrated Diploma/Bachelor courses, Extended Diplomas and University Foundation Studies. Small class sizes and individualised attention from academic staff provide a well-supported environment for students to succeed in their tertiary studies. Successful completion of an Integrated Diploma/Bachelor course or Extended Diploma guarantees entry into a corresponding Western Sydney University undergraduate degree program.

For more information, visit [westernsydney.edu.au/thecollege](https://westernsydney.edu.au/thecollege)

## TERTIARY EDUCATION PATHWAYS AND PARTNERSHIPS

TAFE, Community College and private providers offer Certificate III and Diploma courses under the Australian Qualification Framework (AQF). There are a number of courses that have established pathways with Western Sydney University.

For more information, visit [westernsydney.edu.au/tepp](https://westernsydney.edu.au/tepp)

## SPECIAL TERTIARY ADMISSIONS TEST (STAT)

Western Sydney University accepts the multiple choice STAT test results when considering applicants. For more information, visit [stat.acer.org](https://stat.acer.org)

For any questions about alternative entry pathways, please call our Course Information Centre on **1300 897 669** or email [study@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:study@westernsydney.edu.au)

## ABORIGINAL AND/OR TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER APPLICANTS

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Pathway program at Western Sydney University is aimed at increasing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participation in undergraduate courses across all areas of study.

Whether your child is currently working, unemployed, studying at TAFE or coming straight from high school, as a prospective student they are not required to have completed the HSC or any other qualifications to apply to study at the University via the program.

The program's duration is two days and includes assessment workshops in literacy and numeracy, and an interview to discuss their course of interest.

For more information, visit [westernsydney.edu.au/pathwayprogram](https://westernsydney.edu.au/pathwayprogram)



# THE FACTS ON FEES

As a Western Sydney University student, your child may need to pay a number of fees throughout their studies, depending on their degree enrolment status. These fees may include student contribution and tuition fees. If they're eligible, they may also be able to obtain a HELP loan for payment of their student contribution or tuition fees.

The fee structure will be different for international students and for those applying to study at The College.

The 2020 Student Contribution rates were not available at the time of printing, and will be updated on the University's website at [westernsydney.edu.au/fees](http://westernsydney.edu.au/fees) as soon as they are available.

## 2019 STUDENT CONTRIBUTION BANDS AND RATES

### Bands and General Discipline Areas

2019 Maximum Student Contribution (EFTSL per year)\*

Band 3: Law, Accounting, Commerce, Economics, Administration, Dentistry, Medicine, Veterinary Science

\$10,958

Band 2: Mathematics, Statistics, Computing, Built Environment, Other Health, Allied Health, Engineering, Science, Surveying

\$9,359

Band 1: Humanities, Behavioural Science, Education, Social Studies, Clinical Psychology, Foreign Languages, Visual and Performing Arts, Nursing

\$6,566

\* Equivalent full-time study load

**Note:** Pre-2010 HECS students should go to [studyassist.gov.au](http://studyassist.gov.au) for more information.

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Western Sydney University offers Commonwealth Supported Places (CSP) where a large part of the costs are paid for by the Commonwealth Government. There is also a student contribution which needs to be paid to make up the balance. Your child can either pay this upfront or apply for assistance through the Commonwealth Government's Higher Education Loan Program (HECS-HELP). If applying for this option, the amount of HECS-HELP debt they accumulate depends on which band of study the subjects fall into, and how many subjects are studied in the year (see table above). For more information, contact the HECS-HELP line on 1800 020 108 or visit [studyassist.gov.au](http://studyassist.gov.au)

## HOW WILL MY CHILD BE PREPARED FOR THEIR CAREER?

At Western Sydney University we have many close working relationships with industry, business, government and community project groups in the Greater Western Sydney region. As a result, many of our courses are able to offer students relevant industry placements and real-life work experience, so they graduate with experience in the workforce as well as a degree. This gives graduates a real edge when applying for positions.

Many of our students are also offered full-time employment before they graduate, because of the working relationships they have established during their industry placements.

Our Western Sydney University Careers services also provide links to industry and internships, as well as access to graduate employers through on-campus careers expos.

For more information on the career services available at Western Sydney University, see [westernsydney.edu.au/careers](http://westernsydney.edu.au/careers)

## CAN MY CHILD LIVE ON CAMPUS?

Most universities offer some form of student accommodation on campus. It ranges from dormitories and residential halls, fully catered or self-catered shared and single-occupancy rooms to townhouses. So it is likely you will be able to find accommodation to suit both your child's needs and your budget.

Western Sydney University offers a wide range of accommodation on each campus, providing students with high-quality, affordable accommodation which presents a rich and balanced living and learning environment.

Furniture including beds, desks, fridges or fully furnished kitchens, lounges and dining areas varies with the accommodation options. Campus accommodation is the ideal place to relax after a hard day of studying. For further information, visit [westernsydney.edu.au/accommodation](http://westernsydney.edu.au/accommodation)



# SERVICES AND SUPPORT

SERVICES OFFERED BY WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY

## BEFORE UNIVERSITY

[westernsydney.edu.au/starting](https://westernsydney.edu.au/starting) has everything your child needs to know about how to succeed at the University.

The University also offers a range of workshops to help them before they actually start classes. Check them out at [westernsydney.edu.au/workshops](https://westernsydney.edu.au/workshops)

## STARTING AT UNIVERSITY

### ORIENTATION SESSIONS

Orientation Sessions are an opportunity for your child to find out more about their course, meet fellow students and academic staff. [westernsydney.edu.au/orientation](https://westernsydney.edu.au/orientation)

### MATES

MATES provides first year students with an opportunity to connect with other new students and mentors who are in later years of study. This helps them meet friends, network with others and gain knowledge and skills to settle into life at the University. [westernsydney.edu.au/mates](https://westernsydney.edu.au/mates)

## SOMEONE TO TALK TO

### STUDENT CENTRAL

If your child has a question, their first point of contact will be Student Central. They provide information, advice, forms and online counselling. [westernsydney.edu.au/studentcentral](https://westernsydney.edu.au/studentcentral)

### STUDENT WELFARE SERVICE

The Student Welfare Service offers your child a confidential service. We can help your child with:

- support and advocacy – helping your child navigate University systems and providing support in difficult times (academic or personal)
- financial assistance – the Service offers a range of financial assistance to assist your child with education-related costs and basic living expenses, including interest free loans, grants, textbook vouchers and emergency food assistance. [westernsydney.edu.au/welfare](https://westernsydney.edu.au/welfare)

### COUNSELLING SERVICE

The Counselling Service offers confidential counselling appointments including face-to-face, phone and online counselling.

For more information and resources, visit [westernsydney.edu.au/counselling](https://westernsydney.edu.au/counselling)

### CHAPLAINCY

Chaplaincy offers a caring presence to all staff and students at the University, encouraging spirituality, offering hospitality and creating community. [westernsydney.edu.au/chaplaincy](https://westernsydney.edu.au/chaplaincy)

## STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY

### DISABILITY SERVICE

The Disability Service supports and assists future and current students with disabilities and chronic health conditions to participate fully in University life and reach their full academic potential. This particularly involves the development of Academic Integration Plans (AIP) which outline reasonable education adjustments. [westernsydney.edu.au/disability](https://westernsydney.edu.au/disability)

## WORKSHOPS AND RESOURCES

From time management, to getting ready for study, the University offers a range of workshops to students. Check them out at [westernsydney.edu.au/workshops](https://westernsydney.edu.au/workshops)

We also offer online modules to help students develop skills that will help in study and in life! [westernsydney.edu.au/skillsforsuccess](https://westernsydney.edu.au/skillsforsuccess)

## ACADEMIC AND LEARNING SUPPORT

### PASS

Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS) is a student-centred learning program offered face to face or online. Pass allows your child the opportunity to work collaboratively with other students from their unit to better understand content whilst developing a study strategy to help improve their academic performance. [westernsydney.edu.au/pass](https://westernsydney.edu.au/pass)

### STUDY SMART ADVISERS

With StudyCoach your child can get online help with academic skills such as writing, research, assignment planning and support. Accessing StudyCoach is easy – they log into vUWS with their WesternAccount details.

### THE MATHEMATICS EDUCATION SUPPORT HUB (MESH)

Assists your child with maths, stats and numeracy. Services include face-to-face help in most campus libraries, workshops, an online answer service “I Don’t Get It” and online revision sites: [westernsydney.edu.au/mesh\\_events](https://westernsydney.edu.au/mesh_events)

## GETTING INVOLVED AND HAVING FUN

### STUDENT REPRESENTATION AND PARTICIPATION

If your child desires to be a voice for their peers at the University, they should join the Student Representative Council: [orgsync.com/81000](https://orgsync.com/81000)  
**OR**  
join or set up their own club or society: [orgsync.com/80999](https://orgsync.com/80999)

There’s always something happening on campus for them, including free breakfasts! They will be sure to want to check out: [westernsydney.edu.au/campuslife/campus\\_life](https://westernsydney.edu.au/campuslife/campus_life)

### LEAD ENGAGE ASPIRE DEVELOP (LEAD)

LEAD is a SSAF funded leadership program helping your child build confidence, and communication and leadership skills. This flexible program includes interactive workshops, conference attendance and much more. Whether your child wants to open their own company later, become a pro at negotiations or give back to the community they can develop core leadership skills with LEAD.

[westernsydney.edu.au/lead](https://westernsydney.edu.au/lead)  
[westernsydney.edu.au/studysmart](https://westernsydney.edu.au/studysmart)

## BADANAMI CENTRES

The Badanami Centre for Indigenous Education provides support and encouragement for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. There are centres located on each campus. [westernsydney.edu.au/badanami](https://westernsydney.edu.au/badanami)

## OTHER SUPPORTS

### CHILD CARE CENTRES

[westernsydney.edu.au/childcare](https://westernsydney.edu.au/childcare)

### GYMS ON CAMPUS

[gym.westernsydney.edu.au](https://gym.westernsydney.edu.au)

### FURTHER INFORMATION ON FACILITIES AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

[westernsydney.edu.au/servicesandfacilities](https://westernsydney.edu.au/servicesandfacilities)  
P: 1300 897 669  
E: [study@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:study@westernsydney.edu.au)

### OR

Contact the Student Central info line on 1300 668 370

E: [studentcentral@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:studentcentral@westernsydney.edu.au)

# Talk the talk

## A QUICK AND SIMPLE EXPLANATION OF COMMON UNIVERSITY TERMS

**Alternative Pathway/Entry** – A way of gaining admission to a university degree other than by ATAR. This may include alternative study such as Western Sydney University The College, TAFE or the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Alternative Entry Program.

**Assumed Knowledge** – A base level of specific knowledge required before beginning a particular degree course. For example, assumed knowledge for a Bachelor of Science may be any two units of mathematics. The course will be taught assuming the student has acquired the specific knowledge.

**Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR)** – Formerly the UAI, the ATAR is a rank between 0 and 99.95 based on a student's HSC performance against all other HSC students in NSW. ACT students also receive an ATAR but do not sit the HSC.

**Bachelor Degree** – A first-level university or undergraduate course requiring three to six years of full-time study, or the part-time equivalent. Bachelor is often abbreviated to B – e.g. B Science.

**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Alternative Entry Program** – A Western Sydney University initiative aimed at increasing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student participation in undergraduate programs across all areas of study.

**Bridging Course** – Pre-university study programs which help students gain and develop the required skills in certain subject areas, for example, mathematics, chemistry and biology. They are usually run in the weeks immediately prior to the beginning of the degree course.

**Combined Degree** – See Double Degree.

**Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP)** – A university place that is financially subsidised by the Australian Government. Most undergraduate degree places are CSP with students paying a contribution which can be deferred using HECS-HELP. For more information, visit [studyassist.gov.au](http://studyassist.gov.au)

**Double Degree** – Two degrees studied simultaneously and usually completed in four to six years of full-time study, or the part-time equivalent. For example, Bachelor of Arts/ Bachelor of Laws. Double degrees are also referred to as combined degrees.

**Deferment** – Students who have been offered a place in a course may choose to delay starting their study for a period, usually 6 or 12 months.

**Education Access Scheme (EAS)** – An admission scheme administered by UAC on behalf of universities for students who have experienced long-term educational disadvantage, such as disrupted schooling, financial hardship, long-term medical condition or disability.

**Elective Units** – Bachelor degrees are typically made up of core study units (compulsory), alternate units (chosen from a pool of approved units) and elective units. Elective units can be taken from any discipline and used to specialise within the chosen degree or to diversify a student's studies. For example, a student studying International Studies may specialise in languages but also take on science electives.

**HECS-HELP** – A government loan scheme which allows Commonwealth supported students to defer the payment of their contribution amount.

**Honours** – An additional period of study (usually one year full time), which is often research focused, following the completion of a Bachelor degree. Abbreviation: Hons.

**Lectures, Tutorials and Practicals** – Students are required to attend a combination of classes, delivered in different ways, for every subject they are studying in their degree. Lectures are large information sessions attended by everyone enrolled in the subject, usually one to two hours in duration. Students are then divided into smaller tutorials (15-30 students) for more interactive, in-depth exploration of subject matter. Some subjects may also require practical classes which are small, hands-on classes in specialised facilities such as anatomy labs, computer rooms and industrial kitchens. Most full-time degrees require between 12 and 20 hours of face-to-face class time per week.

**Major and Sub-Major** – Most degrees require students to select and complete one major (a specialisation) which consists of eight to 12 subjects from one discipline. For example, within a Communications degree a student may choose a major in Advertising or Public Relations. Sub-majors generally consist of four subjects from the one discipline other than the major.

**Postgraduate** – May refer to a student continuing or returning to study at university following the completion of an undergraduate degree, or the course the student is studying – for example, Master degree. Abbreviation: PG or postgrad.

**Preferences** – Each university course that a student includes on his or her application to UAC is a preference. Students may have up to five preferences on their UAC application and should list them in order of personal priority.

**Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT)** – STAT is a multiple choice test administered by UAC, which is designed to assess a range of competencies commonly considered important for success in tertiary study. STAT provides applicants the opportunity to prove their competency and competitiveness for admission.

**Teaching Session** – Most degrees are taught in two sessions – the Autumn session from March to June and the Spring session from July to November. There is also an optional Summer session from December to February, during which students can undertake additional subjects if they are available.

The College and Sydney City campus have different sessional times. Please check the website for more details –

**[westernsydney.edu.au/future](https://westernsydney.edu.au/future)**

**The Academy** – Unique to Western Sydney University, The Academy offers a range of professional and personal development opportunities, and internships which offer practical experience. Students enrolled in an advanced degree automatically join The Academy at Western Sydney University. For more information, visit **[westernsydney.edu.au/theacademy](https://westernsydney.edu.au/theacademy)**

**Tertiary Education Pathways and Partnerships (TEPP)** – Tertiary study tailored towards developing a skill for the workforce. Most VET courses are offered through TAFE or private colleges, and may be used as an alternative pathway to university.

**Western Sydney University The College** – Western Sydney University The College is an affiliate of Western Sydney University and offers Foundation and Diploma courses. Successful completion of a Western Sydney University The College Foundation or Diploma course guarantees entry into relevant Western Sydney University degrees.

**Universities Admissions Centre (UAC)** – The central body which processes applications for admission to most undergraduate degrees at participating universities in NSW and the ACT. For more information, visit **[uac.edu.au](https://uac.edu.au)**

**Undergraduate** – May refer to a student studying at university for the first time, or the course the student is studying – for example, Bachelor degree. Abbreviation: UG or undergrad.





## STEPS TO APPLYING

# 1

### FIND OUT ABOUT OUR COURSES

- Read the information within this Guide
- Discuss course options with your child, talk with careers advisers and teachers/mentors
- Look up course information at our Future Students site, visit [westernsydney.edu.au/future](https://westernsydney.edu.au/future)

# 2

### TALK TO US

- Attend Western Sydney University events - find out more at [westernsydney.edu.au/events](https://westernsydney.edu.au/events)
- Call the University Information Team on **1300 897 669** or email [study@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:study@westernsydney.edu.au)
- Get the inside information on Alternative Entry Pathways, Advantage Entry programs, Bonus Points and scholarships

# 3

### APPLY TO US

- Apply through UAC, visit [uac.edu.au](https://uac.edu.au) or apply direct to Western at [westernsydney.uac.edu.au/ws](https://westernsydney.uac.edu.au/ws)
- Place your Western Sydney University preferences
- Check your eligibility and submit a scholarship application, visit [westernsydney.edu.au/scholarships](https://westernsydney.edu.au/scholarships)
- Encourage your child to register their interest in Western's HSC True Reward program. Visit [westernsydney.edu.au/hstruereward](https://westernsydney.edu.au/hstruereward)

## FIND OUT MORE

### **WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY EVENTS**

Attending a Western on-campus event is perfect for gaining first-hand information from the people who deliver our courses. This is invaluable when considering which course to apply for.

#### **Open Day**

Speak directly with academics and course advisers about the various study options available.

[westernsydney.edu.au/openday](https://westernsydney.edu.au/openday)

#### **Western U Days**

Western Sydney University courses are showcased through an interactive workshop program. Students should contact their school careers adviser to register their attendance.

[westernsydney.edu.au/  
westernsydneyuday](https://westernsydney.edu.au/westernsydneyuday)

#### **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Information Evenings**

[westernsydney.edu.au/atsiinfoevenings](https://westernsydney.edu.au/atsiinfoevenings)  
or call **1300 897 669**

Talk to the University Information Team about course information and university life. Our team consists of current students who make up Western Sydney University's dedicated helpline. You can contact the University Information Team on **1300 897 669** or email [study@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:study@westernsydney.edu.au)

## GET CONNECTED

### Call

1300 897 669

### Email

[study@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:study@westernsydney.edu.au)

### Facebook

[facebook.com/westernsydneyu](https://facebook.com/westernsydneyu)

### Twitter

[twitter.com/westernsydneyu](https://twitter.com/westernsydneyu)

### Instagram

[instagram.com/westernsydneyu](https://instagram.com/westernsydneyu)

### Snapchat

[snapchat.com/add/westernsydneyu](https://snapchat.com/add/westernsydneyu)

### Future students web

[westernsydney.edu.au/future](https://westernsydney.edu.au/future)

### Events

[westernsydney.edu.au/events](https://westernsydney.edu.au/events)

### Mail

Locked Bag 1797 Penrith NSW 2751



[WESTERNSYDNEY.EDU.AU](https://westernsydney.edu.au)