

A young woman with dark dreadlocks is smiling broadly at the camera. She is wearing a light-colored sleeveless top with a pattern of orange and green leaves. In the background, two other young women are talking, and the Brisbane city skyline is visible under a clear blue sky. The scene is set on a paved area overlooking a body of water.

# study brisbane

Your guide to studying in Brisbane

[studybrisbane.com.au](http://studybrisbane.com.au)



## Welcome to Brisbane

**Brisbane is the capital city of the fastest growing state economy in Australia with an annual economic growth at over 4 per cent.**

Brisbane is Australia's new-world city, a multi-cultural hub of creativity and invention that provides students with affordable world-class research facilities and forward-thinking education providers, all in a sub-tropical climate ideal for an outdoor lifestyle.

Post-study career opportunities are a reality in the capital city of the fastest growing state economy in Australia, Queensland. With an annual economic growth at over 4 per cent, many international students are choosing to stay and be part of our dynamic workforce.

Our education institutions are not only regulated to ensure they perform with the world's best, they are mostly located centrally near business and lifestyle precincts, with integrated transport networks and of course, opportunities for part-time work whilst studying.



The city also accommodates for all sorts of living needs for visiting students, with choices in communal living, boarding with Australian families, independent living, shared and on-campus accommodation.

Brisbane people are friendly, optimistic and offer visitors an opportunity to share in a culture that promotes a healthy outdoor lifestyle mixed with a love of sports, the arts and our beautiful heritage-listed fringes that include some of the world's largest sand islands, unique wildlife and delightful rainforests.

**Brisbane was voted as one of the world's "Top 8 Cities to Live" by the Economist Intelligence Unit 2004 survey.**

## Brisbane's education

Brisbane has an excellent education system, which is internationally recognised. Our education system is closely regulated to ensure that the very highest standards of quality are maintained. Brisbane's education providers are committed and passionate about delivering quality education and training experiences for international students.

### One country – one qualifications system

In Australia, the school, vocational and university sectors share one qualifications system called the Australian Qualifications Framework.

The benefits of the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) include:

- Being able to move easily from one level of study to the next
- Being able to transfer from one institution to another
- Variety of choice and flexibility in career planning
- AQF accredited qualifications mean your institution is government authorised and nationally accredited
- Makes it easy for governments overseas to recognize your qualification
- AQF accredited qualifications are valued by international employers

### Sectors within the Australian education system

The Australian education system is divided into the university, vocational, school and English language sectors.

**University** is the highest level of study in Australia. There are numerous universities in Brisbane. You can study at the undergraduate level (Bachelor degree) or postgraduate level (Graduate Certificate, Diploma, Masters, PhD).

**Vocational** institutions offer courses that are very practical and skill-based. Vocational courses are provided at both the government-funded Technical and Further Education (TAFE) institutes and at private institutions. Some universities also offer vocational courses.

**School** is compulsory for children aged between 6 and 15 years, with final exams used for university entrance generally at 17 - 18 years old. Australian schools are public (government) and private (religious or independent).

**English language** courses can be taken for study, travel, immigration or business purposes. There are many private English language centres in Brisbane. Some universities and vocational institutes also offer English language courses.

### Getting the education you paid for

Brisbane's education providers adhere to a range of legislative and other framework standards. In Australia we have the Education Services for Overseas Students Act (ESOS) which provides consumer protection, ensuring that students receive the services they have paid for, including:

- accurate information about Australian courses and institutions, including course requirements, fees etc.
- Student support services and detailed guidance about living in Australia
- Quality education programs and more

### Being supported while you study

Supporting students is a very important part of our education system. Your institution will provide a whole range of support services to help you settle into Australian life. Services include language tuition, designated international student advisors, on arrival reception and orientation programs, health, counseling, accommodation and employment services.

### Practicing your religion

Australia is one of the most multicultural countries in the world and accepting of all religions. Australian law states that it's everybody's right to practice their faith without persecution or discrimination. There are many centres of worship around Brisbane, and often your education institution will have prayer rooms on campus.





**World-class research facilities - Brisbane is home to some of the best research facilities in the world, such as the Queensland Institute of Medical Research, the Queensland Bioscience Precinct and the Australian Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation.**



## Student visas

You will need a student visa to study in Brisbane for more than 3 months. Evidence of English language proficiency and sufficient funds to pay for related study expenses will be required to apply. The student visa application process can be complicated, and for students in some countries it may be better to submit an application with the assistance of an accredited agent due to their familiarity and experience in the field.

Be sure to allow plenty of time for processing the visa between lodging your application and the start of the academic program, as it can be a lengthy process depending on your country of origin.

Visas are granted by the Australian Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC). DIAC will only grant you a student visa if your course is registered, or is part of a registered course, on a full time basis. A registered course is one offered by an Australian education provider registered with the Australian Government to offer courses to overseas students.

Student visas allow you to work part-time up to 20 hours per week. Many students undertake part-time jobs while they are studying and find it is a great way to meet new people and earn some extra money.

Visit the DIAC website for more information on applying, and the conditions of a student visa: [www.immi.gov.au](http://www.immi.gov.au), or talk to your local Australian Government office.

## Healthy & Safe

People in Brisbane have the highest wellbeing of all Australia's capital cities according to the Australian Unity Wellbeing index. It is a safe, friendly and optimistic city. In fact, Australia is a very safe country compared with almost anywhere in the world. Political unrest is limited in Australia, crime rates are low and strict gun control laws provide a safe environment.

### Health Insurance

It is a condition of your visa that you maintain health insurance for the duration of your visa. The insurance, called Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) will help to pay for any medical or hospital care you may need while studying in Australia, and contributes towards the costs of most prescription medicines and an ambulance in an emergency.

# Quick guide to moving to Brisbane

Being well prepared for your move can help to ensure a smooth transition into your Brisbane life. Here are some things you need to arrange before you leave, and within the first few weeks of arriving to Brisbane.

## 1 Choosing where and what to study

Brisbane has many high quality education institutions and a huge variety of courses. It is important you do your research. Review the institutions' websites and talk to agents in your country. Some institutions have representatives in different countries, details available on their websites.

## 2 Securing a position

Once you have decided on the course you want to study and where you want to study you can apply directly to your chosen institution, or work with your agent to apply. It is important that you have confirmation of your position to study with your chosen education provider. You will need this to secure your visa to Australia.

## 3 Visas and immigration

There are several different types of visas to enable study in Australia, depending on the type and duration of your course. Once you know what your course requirements are you will be able to match up the most suitable visa. Make sure you apply early, it can take some time to process visas.



### Arriving in Brisbane

Many education institutions offer airport reception and will take you to your accommodation. Using these services can take the stress out of arriving in an unfamiliar destination.

**Brisbane has 'good universities, great weather, lifestyle and vibe. There's a good mixture of city life and the friendliness of a countryside town.' Jaime from Chile, studying Journalism**

### Finding somewhere to live

Once you've arranged your enrolment and your visa, it is best to start thinking about where you would like to live in Brisbane. It's best to try and do this before you arrive. Think about how you want to live (on campus, with others, with an Australian family) and how much you can afford. Your institution will be able to offer help to find somewhere to suit your needs.

### Orientation

An orientation program will be arranged by your institution. This is a great way to get to know your way around campus, meet people, work out your timetable, find your international office and many other things. Make sure you find out the date/s of your orientation and put them in your diary!

## Useful websites:

Study Brisbane is the official website studying in Brisbane as an international student

[www.studybrisbane.com](http://www.studybrisbane.com)

Study in Australia is the official Australian Government website for studying in Australia

[www.studyinaustralia.gov.au](http://www.studyinaustralia.gov.au)

Department of Immigration and Citizenship website for information about visas and requirements

[www.immi.gov.au](http://www.immi.gov.au)



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