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International students in Australia on a student visa must study with an institution and in a course that is registered on the Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS).

For more, go to cricos.education.gov.au
Experience endless study opportunities at world class institutions to gain qualifications that are highly regarded internationally.

Queensland offers students leading education with the flexibility to choose the right course from an abundant range of options in an enjoyable, diverse, safe and vibrant community.

Choosing Queensland for your study requirements has many advantages:

- Queensland is a leader in research and has major research centres in mining and energy, health and medical, environment and nature, food and agriculture, multimedia, defence, aviation, and space as well as manufacturing and design.

- Queensland is the only state with four international airports (Brisbane, Cairns, Townsville and Gold Coast) which makes travel to and from your home country easier and more accessible.

- Queensland has an enviable climate and lifestyle, with warm and sunny weather experienced across the state for most of the year.

- Queensland has five of Australia’s 11 World Heritage sites, including the world’s largest sand island, Fraser Island and also has an array of famous landmarks including the natural wonder of the Great Barrier Reef, the World Heritage listed Daintree National Park, plus more.

- Queensland offers students a myriad of possibilities supported by a strong economy, high standard of living, relaxed outdoor lifestyle, friendly people and plenty of work experience opportunities.

In addition, International students enrolled in full time accredited courses may be entitled to local transport concessions. Children of PhD students and 576 visa holders may be eligible for free schooling depending on the Queensland public school and their circumstances.

Why Queensland, Australia?

“I have been in Australia for almost three months and those months have been the best three of my life. It is a little hard to be far from your country, your family, friends and girlfriend but this is a unique experience that I am enjoying so much.

I have met people from France, Paraguay, Columbia, Germany, Perú, Chile, Thailand, Japan and China. It is amazing how many students from many different places interact between each other.”

Andrés from Mexico
Indooroopilly State High School

Int'l students and their families and friends will easily see why Queensland is one of Australia’s most attractive places to study and visit.

“I enrolled at Caloundra City Private School at the end of November 2011. Fortunately, since my host parents and teachers showed such great care and encouragement to support me studying, playing hockey, singing, playing guitar and many more activities, I was lucky enough not to get homesick at all.

Going to a secondary school here is such an advantage for me to understand the culture, people’s thoughts and the education system. I intend to go to university here and am delighted to be able to have an education in such a fortunate environment. I would like to express my appreciation to my host family, teachers and friends, who supported me.”

Bino Hasagawa from Japan
Caloundra City Private School
www.ccps.qld.edu.au
Support services and orientation for students studying in Queensland

Most Queensland education providers and institutions offer international students a variety of support services to help adjust to life in Australia including:

- airport reception
- accommodation placement
- orientation and welcome programs
- social and recreational activities
- welfare advice and counselling
- emergency and health services.

“As an international student, English is often my challenge when it comes to assessment submission. Luckily, Concordia Lutheran College provides a wide range of learning support programs to help me and other students with English as their second language. The learning support has been a great help and built up my English skills through different grammar checking and everyday conversation. With my passion for helping people, investigating and solving different scenarios and problems, I have decided to study Law as my Uni course in order to build my future career as a lawyer.”

Kit Yan (Phoebe)
Concordia Lutheran College
www.concordia.qld.edu.au

What’s it like to live in Queensland?

Lifestyle and environment

Queensland has modern, cosmopolitan cities and laid back coastal and regional towns. International students can enjoy a clean and green natural environment and fantastic climate plus diverse leisure activities in one of Australia’s most attractive places to study, live and work. Queensland’s tourist destinations are among the most popular in Australia.

Tropical North Queensland

**Cairns** is a vibrant city located in the heart of Tropical North Queensland. Framed by the spectacular rainforest mountain ranges and the sparkling Coral Sea, Cairns is within easy reach of the World Heritage listed Wet Tropics Rainforest, The Great Barrier Reef and the Queensland outback.

**Townsville** is Australia’s largest tropical beachside city with a safe, friendly and welcoming lifestyle. Surrounded by a rich hinterland of tropical rainforests and waterfalls, Townsville is located close to historic gold mining towns, the outback, islands and The Great Barrier Reef.

Central Queensland

**Rockhampton** is situated in Central Queensland and was built on the wealth of gold rushes and cattle empires. A city steeped in country charm, Rockhampton has regular rodeos, long stretches of sunburnt country, beautiful forests and beaches.

South East Queensland

**Brisbane** is the capital city of Queensland and the third largest city in Australia. Brisbane boasts the attractions and facilities of a large city yet is considerably more relaxed that its southern counterparts, Sydney and Melbourne. A modern city with an innovative and vibrant edge, Brisbane enjoys a mild subtropical climate and outdoor lifestyle.

**Toowoomba** is Australia’s largest inland regional centre located just over 1.5 hrs drive west of Brisbane’s CBD. A modern mountain city, Toowoomba is most well-known as Queensland’s Garden City. With beautiful heritage buildings and more than 150 parks and gardens, Toowoomba is a treasure trove of tradition and culture, with growing arts, plus food and wine industries.

The Sunshine Coast offers a laid back lifestyle in a friendly communal and safe environment. Free of the hustle and bustle of the city, the Sunshine Coast still offers worldclass dining and shopping. With clear blue skies, fresh clean air, bright sunny days and long stretches of beautiful beaches, the Sunshine Coast is a favourite holiday destination for local and international visitors.
The Gold Coast boasts stunning beaches, a magnificent hinterland, an abundance of action-packed activities, premier shopping, restaurants and nightlife. The Gold Coast is a multi-cultural hub with close to a quarter of its residents born overseas. The diversity in culture provides a safe and accepting environment where people have an appreciation for different perspectives and new experiences.

Accommodation options

Homestay or boarding school accommodation are the preferred accommodation options for students under the age of 18. Homestay accommodation, where students are usually provided their own room and most meals, offers the chance to experience life as part of a Queensland family, learn about Australian culture and improve English language skills.

Getting around

International students can take advantage of Queensland’s comprehensive transport network and motorway system as a great way to explore all Queensland has to offer with relative ease.

Queensland has four international airports (Brisbane, Cairns, Townsville and Gold Coast) and the many regional and island airports serviced by multiple airlines make air travel an efficient, reliable and affordable way to explore the state.

Your safety, health and protection

The safety of international students is vitally important to the Queensland Government and education providers. Queensland is safe by world standards. It has a vibrant, multicultural society where other students, teaching staff and the broader community readily accept and welcome international students. For many international students, the friends they make while studying in Queensland is one of the highlights of their education experience. However, a common sense approach is always recommended to help ensure safety.

"I like Mountain Creek State High School very much, the teachers, the students they are all nice and always try to help you. They give support to you whenever you need it. Sometimes there is lots of work to do, but at the end you feel comfortable, brave and happy with the decision that you took. I want to do International Relations after I finish school and the IB Program, I really want to go to England and get into Oxford University.”

Janania from Brazil
Mountain Creek State High School

Queensland has a vibrant, multicultural society where other students, teaching staff and the broader community readily accept and welcome international students.
Why should families choose Queensland for primary or secondary school education?

The school system

Queensland schools offer students a wide choice of subjects and extracurricular activities. With a reputation for academic excellence, our schools deliver individualised learning experiences, internationally recognised qualifications and flexible pathways to further study.

Our schools provide quality education in a welcoming, safe and supportive environment to provide the skills, values and knowledge students need for lifelong learning. These skills will enhance opportunities for young people in employment and their capacity to successfully participate in society.

International students can choose from a variety of short or long term, individual or group programs ranging in duration from three months (one school term) to five years. Students can enrol in a state, independent or Catholic school.

Studying in Education Queensland’s International Student Program at Centenary State High School in Brisbane, Korean student Alice has been able to combine her academic and English language studies as part of a Music Excellence Program at a Queensland Government school.

A talented flautist, Alice arrived in Brisbane to begin her Year 10 studies, allowing her a year to adjust to Australian schooling and mainstream classes in English before beginning her senior year.

In Year 12, Alice was invited to join the school’s Music Extension class. Before her Year 12 graduation in November 2012, Alice auditioned for places in Australian tertiary music courses.

She has already been made an advance offer to study a music degree at the Queensland University of Technology and currently awaits to hear whether she has won a place at the prestigious Queensland Conservatorium of Music in Brisbane.

Alice from Korea
Centenary State High School

"I arrived in Australia in June 2012 and I have enjoyed being involved in the golf program at Robina State High School. The golf program was a really good opportunity for me to get to know students from Australia and become friends with them.

Through my stay in the golf program, we played at various golf courses like Palmer Gold Coast, Palmer Colonial, Lakelands and Burleigh Golf Club. The Golf program is a really good thing and I had a lot of fun!"

Niclas from Germany
Robina State High School
Why should families choose Queensland for primary or secondary school education?

“I'm really enjoying studying here because after class I can practice piano, not many schools provide this opportunity, also I can study a different variety of subjects.

After school I can go to beaches and the lagoon, the food is really awesome here - I can eat food from different countries. It also teaches me about lots of different cultures.

The people here are really friendly and nice, and I learn a lot of different things so I really enjoy staying here in Cairns.”

Hao from China
Cairns State High School

“I've been a student at SCOTS since the beginning of the year. My father had been a student here for three years and told me all about his fun times here. Now I play rugby for school just like my dad did.

I'm really happy to be at SCOTS because I have lots of friends and I get to play footy in the afternoon with the other boarders. Sometimes it’s hard leaving home, but when I come back to SCOTS with friends. I settle in very well.”

Lachlan from Papua New Guinea
The SCOTS PGC College
www.scotspgc.com.au
Education Queensland International

State schools

Queensland Government schools provide students with the an excellent choice of study pathways, enabling them to achieve their academic, career and personal development goals in a supportive and healthy environment. Education Queensland International (EQI) is a dedicated team of professionals that specialise in managing the needs of international students, and their families, enrolled in Queensland Government schools.

It is EQI’s number one priority to provide international students with the encouragement they need to achieve their academic potential in a safe and high quality learning environment. EQI’s expertise has been acknowledged nationally and internationally at education and training awards, including International Education Excellence Award for best practice and innovation.

Academic excellence and integrated university pathways

- 90% of Queensland Government high school year 12 graduates receive an offer to a tertiary institution
- Strong pathways with universities and TAFE institutions exist providing opportunities to study university subjects in high school and obtain credit towards university qualifications
- EQI has recently received a 98% overall student satisfaction rating for our International Student Programs (ISP)
- Queensland’s internationally recognised high school qualifications combine theoretical and practical learning to equip students for tertiary studies and professional careers.

Quality assurance

- Teachers at Queensland Government high schools hold a minimum four-year undergraduate university degree, and many have postgraduate qualifications
- Class sizes are important with a maximum of 25 students per class in senior high school and 30 students per class in junior high school.

Supporting innovative learning

Queensland offers a range of services and facilities that support innovative learning outcomes including:

- computer laboratories linked to university libraries, recording studios, photographic laboratories, multimedia technology and video-conferencing facilities
- business education centres featuring state-of-the-art technology.

Lifestyle

A variety of vibrant and unique lifestyle advantages are offered in Queensland, including:

- a multicultural society set in modern, cosmopolitan cities and unique country towns
- stunning and diverse landscapes with national parks and world heritage rainforests plus reefs and beaches
- a vibrant art and cultural scene with galleries, museums, and local festivals
- an abundant choice of local fresh produce and international cuisine.

Student services

Our education providers offer a range of services to support international students to encourage a positive education experience, including:

- free airport pick-up for all EQI students
- pre-departure and school arrival orientations
- 24-hour multilingual emergency assistance is available
access to after-school English classes and exam support with an English language specialist

a dedicated international student support team for each EQI school

Queensland Government approved homestays that provide a caring and safe family environment so our students can concentrate on their studies

international student coordinators who provide academic and pastoral guidance to international students, assist with school subjects, work experience and overall student life

homestay coordinators who organise placement and ensure students have an enjoyable homestay experience

guidance officers who provide specialist cross-cultural communication, confidential counselling and advice on academic pathways, career options and personal wellbeing.

EQI provides additional programs and services to more than 70 registered Queensland Government schools including academic extension in music, the sciences and mathematics. Plus, excellence programs are offered at specific schools in aviation, golf, dance, soccer, tennis, basketball, performance and fine arts.

Approximately 400 schools also offer short-term study tours.

Courses

Primary school
For students from Prep to Year 6.

High school preparation
An intensive English program for students who want to improve proficiency before EQI high school.

High school
Junior high school for students from Year 7 to Year 10.
Senior high school for students from Year 11 to Year 12.
  eqi.com.au/programs/high-school.html

High school study abroad
Junior high school for students from Year 7 to Year 10 (Study Abroad Experience).
Senior high school for students from Year 11 to Year 12 (Study Abroad Experience).
  eqi.com.au/programs/high-school-study-abroad.html

Regional study abroad
For high school students in Years 10 to 12 who want to experience Australian life in a regional area.

International Baccalaureate
A globally recognised diploma awarded by the International Baccalaureate Organisation.
  eqi.com.au/programs/international-baccalaureate.html

Queensland academies
A bridge between high school and tertiary study, the academies are designed to maximise the potential of highly capable students to prepare them for university.

Study tours
An EQI group study tour can range from one day to four weeks in duration.

Holiday adventure programs
A safe way for EQI students to turn school holidays into exciting Australian sightseeing adventures.
Independent schools

Independent schools have provided high quality educational services to students for more than 150 years. Around 190 independent schools educate more than 116,000 students, representing 15% of Queensland’s school enrolments.

Independent schools offer parents an alternate choice in the education of their children by presenting them with the opportunity to select a school they believe best serves their child’s needs and aligns with the values they think important.

Parents in Australia and around the world choose independent schools for:

- high educational standards
- moral and spiritual values
- pastoral care and discipline
- programs to meet the needs and interests of individual students
- strong home-school partnerships
- a wide variety of extra and co-curricular activities.

All independent schools must comply with government regulations and standards. However, most are well established and operate independently of government and can develop their own educational programs, policies and procedures.

International students

Studying at a Queensland independent school provides students with a unique opportunity to further their education while learning about Australian life and culture.

Queensland independent schools welcome international students to study a range of individual and group programs. Students can enrol in registered schools for periods of longer than three months on a full time basis.

In 2015, more than 1,200 international students are attending 76 Queensland independent schools. Many independent schools also offer short-term study programs of less than three months.

Long term studies (more than three months)

International students can apply for visas to study in courses for longer than three months for primary, secondary or junior, middle and senior schooling.

Some independent schools offer English Language Intensive Courses for Overseas Students (ELICOS) for primary and secondary students to assist with learning English before entering mainstream classes.

Queensland independent schools provide international students with a safe environment and opportunities to be educated in a way that encourages problem solving and focused learning with an emphasis on teaching “how to learn”. Study abroad programs of six months and 12 months are also possible in schools registered to enrol international students.

Short term studies (less than three months)

Study tours

Study tour programs usually involve a mix of educational, cultural and tourist activities organised for groups.

“...”

Daniel Siaw from Malaysia
The SCOTS PGC College
of international students during their school holiday vacations. In most cases, study tour programs are hosted by a school and can accommodate students in a homestay for the duration of their visit.

**Holiday programs**

Some schools host holiday programs for individual students or small groups of students. These programs are usually negotiated directly with the host school.

**School visits and excursions**

Many schools are happy to host short school visits of a few days, by international school groups as part of a visiting school’s excursion program. Often such visits form the basis for developing school-to-school relationships.

**English Language Intensive Courses for Overseas Students (ELICOS)**

International students have opportunities to study ELICOS in Queensland independent schools for short term and long term periods of time.

School-based ELICOS programs aim to:

- provide an environment where students are mixing students of the same age and not with adult learners
- operate in a structured school program, with students required to wear school uniforms and follow school routine and rules, as appropriate for their age
- have teachers who are trained in ESL (English as a Second Language) and are experienced primary or high school teachers
- have staff highly skilled in cross-cultural communication and interaction
- offer programs very closely linked to school curricula
- teach students important research and high school preparation skills
- teach students how to become independent learners in the Australian education system
- provide a transition from ELICOS to mainstream schooling for long term students
- make careful homestay placements to provide accommodation and general support for newly arrived students.

**Accommodation**

Accommodation offered for students under 18 years of age studying in a Queensland independent school include either living with a parent, legal custodian or approved relative, or one of the following options:

**Homestay**

If students are not able to live with a parent, legal custodian or approved relative, many schools offer homestay as an accommodation option to students enrolled in short and long term programs. Homestay carers are required to undergo a police suitability check.

**Boarding school**

International families can also choose boarding as an accommodation option for school aged students. There are a number of independent schools offering single gender or co-educational boarding in regional and metropolitan areas of Queensland.

Contact individual schools for more information.

**Enquiries**

Enquiries can be made to individual independent schools directly. For school listings and further information isq.qld.edu.au/international-students
Catholic schools

There are 296 Catholic schools throughout Queensland educating about 18.5% of Queensland students. There are 3,705 overseas students studying on a visa, of which 295 are full-fee paying overseas students.

Catholic schools in Queensland strive to provide a high quality education, advancing the common good of Australian society. In addition, Catholic schools believe in the intrinsic value of each student based on a distinctive educational vision inspired by the example of Jesus Christ.

Research shows that parents and students choose Catholic schools for a number of reasons including:

- the Christian values taught by Catholic schools
- care for the well-being of students, teachers and staff
- a commitment to the holistic development of students - spiritually, intellectually, physically, culturally, socially and emotionally
- the pursuit of academic excellence
- the teaching of self-discipline based on respect for others
- a vision of hope for the future
- strong partnerships with parents, parish and community.

International students enrolled in a Catholic school can:

- study in primary or secondary schools
- learn English in a school setting
- gain entry to university or further studies in Australia or overseas if secondary school studies are successfully completed
- have an overseas education and cultural experience.

Students under 18 years of age studying in Queensland can choose to live with a parent, legal custodian or approved relative, live in homestay accommodation or live in a boarding school.

Queensland Catholic schools are accredited by the Non-State Schools Accreditation Board, a Statutory Authority of the Queensland Government and are incorporated non-profit organisations. Catholic schools implement national and state curriculum documentation and fulfill all government reporting and accountability requirements.

qcec.catholic.edu.au/educational-services/international-education for more information.

“The time I spent in St James was an inspirational journey for me. With many friendly and dedicated teaching staff around, I adapted to the new environment quickly not only in terms of overcoming the language barriers, but also in the ways of acquiring a different culture. The great diversity of St James and the generosity of every teacher provided me with valuable assistance with my studies and extra-curricular activities. I have been encouraged to do my best, to dream big and to be a better person every day. The experience of studying in St James is definitely a priceless memory that I will always cherish.”

Yihui from China
St James College

“I was quite concerned about studying alone in Australia when I first enrolled at St James College as an international student. Fortunately, there were many teachers who supported me with my studies and activities. They were always there to support me and I appreciated their kind and helpful support.

While at the college, I learned how to overcome my language barrier and make friends from all over the world. I graduated in the top 2% of my class in 2009. My experience at St James College has been a stepping stone to my current course at the University of Queensland.”

Seung Gi Joo from Korea
St James College
www.stjamescollege.qld.edu.au
Queensland has three schooling sectors:

- State Schools Division of the Department of Education, Training and Employment (DETE) - education.qld.gov.au/directory/schools/
- Independent Schools Queensland (ISQ) - isq.qld.edu.au
- Queensland Catholic Education Commission (QEC) - qcec.catholic.edu.au

The school year begins in late January and ends in mid-December. It is divided into two semesters, each containing two terms.

The vacation periods are:

End of Term 1, Semester 1 – Easter (March/April)
End of Term 2, Semester 1 – Winter (June/July)
End of Term 1, Semester 2 – Spring (September/October)
End of Term 2, Semester 2 – Summer (December/January).

There are 13 years of schooling in Queensland, comprising a preparatory year and six years of primary school and six years of secondary school.

For further information about Prep to Year 10 - qcaa.qld.edu.au/26788.html
For further information about Years 11 & 12 - qcaa.qld.edu.au/26789.html

**Primary School**

Prep is the compulsory first year for children starting primary school. Students are encouraged to engage all five senses to form a solid foundation in social, motor, literacy and numeracy skills.

During years 1 to 6 students are taught a range of foundational skills and knowledge based on a combination of the Australian and Queensland Curricula.

**Secondary school**

Secondary, senior or high school is the final period of compulsory education for Queensland students and is delivered from Year 7 to 12. Students can choose from a wide range of learning options in Years 11 and 12 to help them when they leave school, whether they want to go to university, TAFE or another further education and training provider, or get a job.

Learning options include:
- school (Authority and Authority-registered) subjects
- vocational education and training qualifications
- university subjects
- recognised subjects and courses
- learning projects.

**Senior Education Profile (SEP)**

At the end of Year 12, students receive a Senior Education Profile (SEP), which may include a:
- Senior Statement
- Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE)
- Tertiary Entrance Statement which records Overall Position (OP) and Field Positions (FP).

For more about the SEP - qcaa.qld.edu.au/10092.html

The OP is the Queensland tertiary selection rank and can be converted into an Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR) and be used to apply to universities, both interstate and overseas.

For more about the Tertiary Entrance Statement, OP and FPs - qcaa.qld.edu.au/17761.html
Queensland’s school structure

School-based assessment

Students studying in Queensland are taught and assessed by teachers within a system of school-based assessment via a variety of techniques, including presentations and assignments as well as supervised exams. Rigorous external moderation ensures that students are treated fairly, and that achievement standards are comparable across all schools for all students.

For more information about school based assessment
qcaa.qld.edu.au/14395.html

“"My name is Kotomi from Tokyo, Japan. I have been studying at Bribie Island State High School for over a year. I think Bribie Island State High School offers great subject choices. My favourite subject is Indonesian as I am interested in languages and I have a strong interest in other cultures.
I also want to find out more about other countries and I think learning another country’s language will enable me to understand their culture better.
My school has a lot of international students from Europe. This provides me with a great opportunity to learn a lot about where they have come from and their different backgrounds. I have enjoyed my time here as I got all the support and help from the international staff.”

Kotomi from Japan
Bribie Island State High School

“Since coming to Queensland, I have discovered some of my potential skills. All in all, I became much more independent and mature. Of course, I would not be in this position without my teachers’ help. At John Paul College, the staff are very caring to every student and peers are very friendly and unified.
John Paul College thoughtfully offers students a special English program before we enter the main school. After coming to John Paul College, I greatly expanded my knowledge and experienced an innovative approach to learning.”

Vennice from China
John Paul College
www.johnpaulcollege.com.au

Study Queensland

To find a school
www.studyqueensland.qld.edu.au

For more school information
www.qld.gov.au/education/schools

Queensland Government
Australia

For more about state schools
www.eqi.com.au

For more information about independent schools
www.isq.qld.edu.au/international-students

For more about Catholic schools
www.qcec.catholic.edu.au/educational-services/international-education/
2nd largest state in Australia.

Nearly five times the size of Japan

Seven times the size of Great Britain

15.7°C to 25.3°C average temperature range, and an average day has 8 hours of sunshine

4.7 million people call Queensland home

1/3 are migrants or children of migrants

5 World Heritage Areas
- Riversleigh Fossil Fields
- The Wet Tropics (including Daintree National Park)
- The Great Barrier Reef, one of the Wonders of the World
- The Scenic Rim
- Fraser Island, the biggest sand island in the world

The aquatic symbol of the state is the Barrier Reef Anemone fish

Easy access from your home country.

4 international airports
Brisbane, Cairns, Gold Coast & Townsville

The state animal is the koala
Connect. Be connected.

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