

International Student Pre-Departure Webinar



Castle Hill, Townsville



CRICOS Provider Code 00117J



Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Custodians of the Australian lands and waters where our staff and students live, learn and work.

We honour the unique cultural and spiritual relationship to the land, waters and seas of First Australian peoples and their continuing and rich contribution to James Cook University (JCU) and Australian society.

We also pay respect to ancestors and Elders past, present and future.

Kassandra Savage (JCU Alumni), **'Coming together and respecting difference'** acrylic on canvas, 2014, 90cm x 90cm.

Language group: Waanyi and Walangama clan, part of the Gkuthaarn/Kukatj nations.

Webinar Topics

- Pre-Departure checklist.
- Accommodation information.
- Finances and cost of living.
- Airport pickups, packing and travel tips.
- What to do when you arrive.
- Getting help at the Student Centre.
- Getting ready for Uni.
- Understanding important dates and enrolment terms.
- Cultural adaptation and wellbeing.
- North Queensland.
- Key contacts.
- Tips from other new students.



Look for the blue boxes with links to useful resources throughout the presentation

Pre-Departure Checklist

- ☐ Read the Pre-departure Guide on our Prepare to Arrive website.
- ☐ Accept your offer (contact [International Admissions](#) with any questions about your offer).
- ☐ Arrange your Overseas Health Cover (if not organised by JCU).
- ☐ Apply for your student visa.
- ☐ Arrange your accommodation early.
- ☐ Plan your finances and open an Australian bank account.
- ☐ Plan what to pack.
- ☐ Book your airport pick up.
- ☐ Activate your JCU account and create password.
- ☐ Enrol in subjects and register for classes.
- ☐ Download the Sonder app.
- ☐ Connect on social media and start building networks before you arrive.

[Prepare to Arrive](#)



[Student Visa Information](#)



[Accept and Enrol](#)



[Townsville JCU Internationals](#)
[Cairns JCU Internationals](#)
[JCU Current Students](#)



[@jamescookuniversity](#)
[@jcu_studentlife](#)



[JCU: James Cook University,](#)
[Australia](#)





[JCU Accommodation](#)



[Off-Campus options](#)



[Study Australia –
Accommodation](#)



[Tenants QLD](#)

Accommodation

Accommodation in Townsville and Cairns is in high demand.

You **must** organise your accommodation early to ensure you don't miss out.

On-campus accommodation is available on the Bebegu Yumba (Townsville) and Nguma-bada (Cairns) campuses.

Arrive early to view and apply for accommodation if you wish to live off-campus. You will need to book short term accommodation while you look for other options.

Don't pay any money or sign a lease without inspecting the property.

Finances and Cost of Living

Some banks allow you to open an account before you arrive in Australia. Search '*International Student Banking*' options.

Look for an account with no, or low fees for students. [Westpac Bank](#) is a good choice for international students.

You will need to visit the branch once you arrive to verify your identity. Check with your bank what documentation they need.

Cost of living will vary depending on your lifestyle and type of accommodation.

Upfront costs may include temporary accommodation; bond (four weeks rent); utility connection fees; and furniture.

Ongoing costs will include rent; groceries; utilities; phone/internet; transport; university fees; and recreation.

Some of your subjects may include compulsory field trip costs. Check your Subject Outline for details when you enrol.



[Coming to Australia](#) – Budgeting
for your life in Australia



[Study Australia](#)– Living and
Education Costs



Book your travel and arrange airport pickup

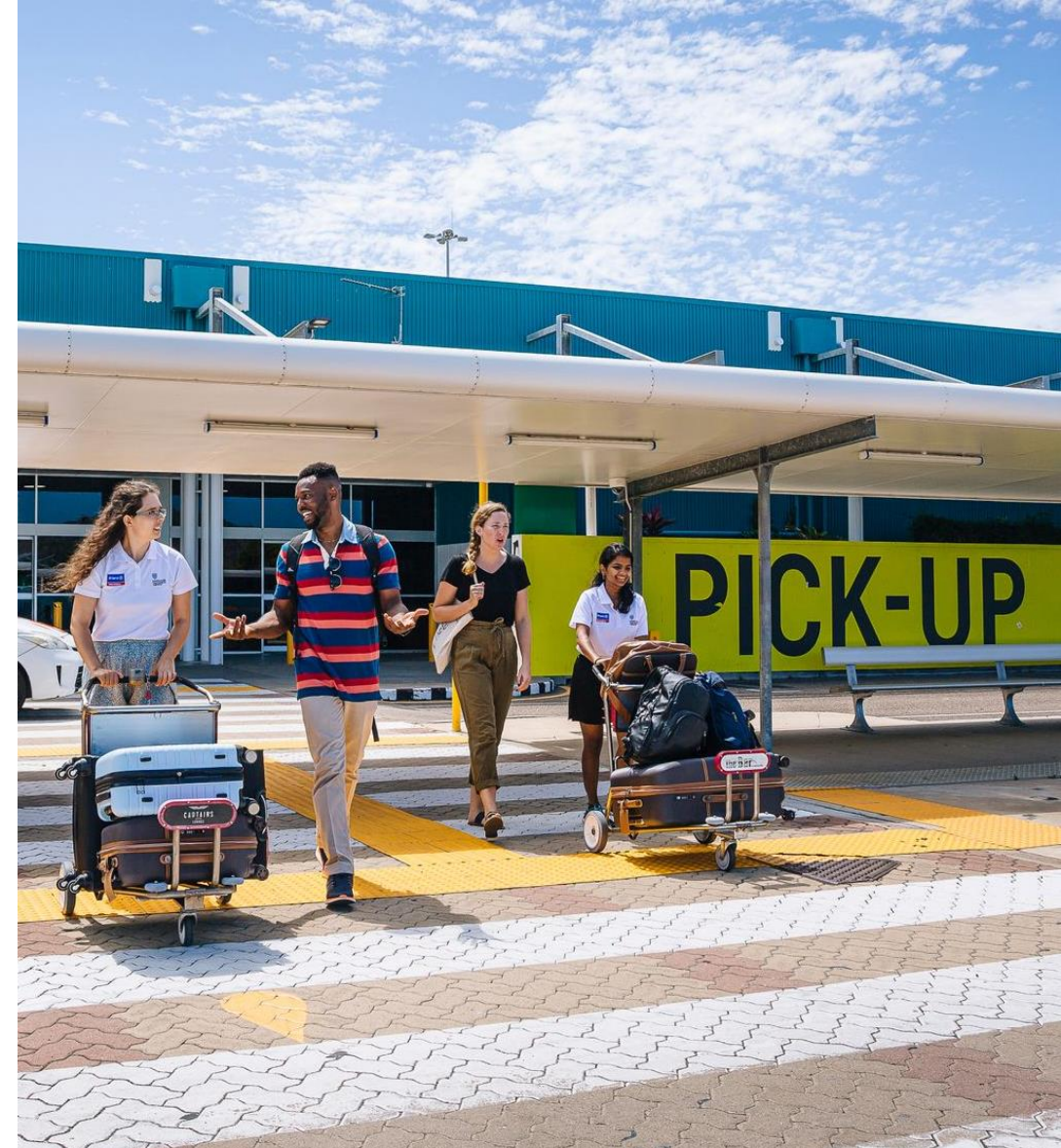
Ensure you arrive in Townsville or Cairns in time for the compulsory International Student Orientation.

Book your airport pickup online at least three business days prior to your arrival.

Don't want airport pickup? Other transport options include:

Cairns: Shuttle Services (Exemplar; Airport Connections)
Cairns Taxi's
Rideshare (e.g. Uber)

Townsville: Airport Shuttle
Taxi Services (Black and White Cabs; 13Cabs)
Rideshare (e.g. Uber)



[Airport Pickup Booking Form](#)



Packing and what to bring

Know your baggage limits. These can be different for domestic and international flights.

Additional costs apply for excess baggage!

Australia has strict biosecurity and border security laws. Know what you can and can't bring with you.

Packing checklist:

- ☐ Documents (health, education, other important papers). Bring digital and physical copies and have English translations.
- ☐ Clothes (for summer conditions; formal/traditional clothes).
- ☐ Electronics and adaptors (e.g. power converters).
- ☐ Medication (three-month supply only; medicine can only be for yourself). Bring your prescription/s or letter from your doctor.



[Packing guide](#)

[Can you bring it in?](#)



[Studying in Australia Biosecurity Guide](#)



Travel Tips

- ✓ Try to arrive in Australia a few days early so you have time to recover from jet lag before Orientation Week commences!
- ✓ Leave a photocopy of your passport with your family at home, just in case it's needed.
- ✓ Luggage can occasionally be delayed, so pack your most important items in your carry-on baggage.
- ✓ Label your bag with your name and phone number, or use an AirTag or similar tracking device.
- ✓ Research your destination and check your travel times. Direct flights to Townsville or Cairns may not be available from your departure location.
- ✓ Bring some Australian dollars with you when you travel. Currency exchange may not be available at all airports.



- ❑ Contact your family to let them know you've arrived safely.
- ❑ Purchase an Australian SIM card for your mobile phone.
- ❑ Register your arrival at the Student Centre. Make sure to bring your passport.
- ❑ Get your student ID card. You must be enrolled in at least one subject before it can be issued.
- ❑ Update your address and phone number in MyStudent. This is a requirement of your visa conditions.
- ❑ Open a bank account if you haven't already done so.
- ❑ Familiarise yourself with the campus and get ready for Orientation Week (O-Week).
- ❑ Get excited – your adventure is about to begin!





Visit the Student Centre for

- Student ID cards
- Help enrolling in subjects and arranging your timetable.
- Course and subject information.
- Advice about important dates and subject results.
- Information about fees and payment due dates.
- Advice about applying for credit or RPL (recognition of prior learning).
- Directions, or any other questions you have (and you aren't sure where to go).



[Support Services](#)



[Get Ready Modules](#)



[About OWeek](#)



[Student Help Videos](#)



[Tips for Starting Uni](#)



Get ready for Uni

JCU offers a wide range of resources and services to help you succeed, including both academic and personal support.

Take the time to work through the *Get Ready for Uni* modules and explore the excellent resources available on the Learning Centre website.

Watch the Student Help videos for more information about enrolling, fees and student support services.

Attend as many events and sessions as possible in Orientation Week (O-Week) to build social connections and help you prepare for your studies.

International Student Orientation is compulsory — so make sure you don't miss it!

Important Dates and Enrolment Terminology

Adjusting to a new university system can be challenging, and it may be very different from how you studied at home.

JCU offers subjects across multiple teaching periods, primarily trimesters and semesters. Depending on your course structure, you may complete subjects in one or both models.

It's important to know the key dates for each teaching period and understand what they mean. Important dates to keep in mind are:

- Self-enrolment dates - the last date you can enrol in subjects in MyStudent.
- Class registration dates - the last date you can register for classes in MyStudent.
- Payment due dates - the day your subject fees must be paid.
- Census date - the last day you can withdraw from subjects without incurring a financial penalty (i.e. paying subject fees).
- Last date to withdraw without academic penalty – the final day to withdraw from subjects without receiving a fail grade.



[Academic Calendars](#)

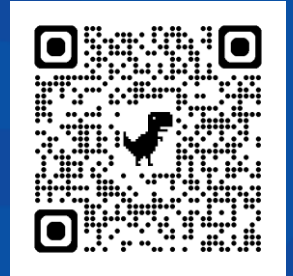


[Enrolment Terms](#)



Course Enrolment Planners

- Each course at JCU has a dedicated **Course Enrolment Planner** which can be accessed through the JCU Website
- A Course Enrolment Planner is a guide designed to help students organise and schedule their subjects each semester or trimester. We encourage all students to take a proactive role in developing their own study plan.
- Each course has a Course Enrolment Planner, which shows the recommended sequence of subjects for enrolment, from course commencement through to completion. These planners take into consideration future subject requirements to ensure that prerequisites can be met.
- These planners are particularly important for commencing International students, as they have been designed to ensure you remain compliant with your enrolment requirements as a Student Visa Holder. They also ensure completion of your course within your Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE) duration.
- Download your Course Enrolment Planner so you can begin planning your subjects.



[Course Enrolment Planners](#)



Cultural Adaptation and Wellbeing

Moving to another country can bring a mix of emotions. It's completely normal to feel homesick and to miss your family and friends back home.

It is important to start building social networks in Australia and forming new friendships. Many other international students will understand what you are experiencing and can support you as you adjust.

Check the JCU Events page to see what's happening on campus and get involved.

International students have 24/7 access to **Sonder**, a personal wellbeing and safety app. Download it and explore the support it offers.

JCU's Academic Administration and Enrolment Team (or Enrolment Team for short) provides support to international students who are studying at JCU. We look forward to meeting you at the International Student Orientation.

Watch this great video about
[Cultural Adaptation](#)



[Download Sonder](#)



[Enrolment Team Contact](#)





[About Townsville](#)



Learn more about North Queensland

Take the time to learn about our great regions before you arrive.

There are many things to do, including:

- Spending time at the Strand (TSV) or Esplanade (CNS).
- Walking Castle Hill (TSV) or Earl Hill (CNS).
- Visiting Magnetic Island (TSV) or Fitzroy Island (CNS).
- Visiting Crystal Creek (TSV) or the Atherton Tablelands (CNS).
- Spending time at the night markets.



[About Cairns](#)



Questions and Key Contacts

Have questions? Find answers 24/7 on AskUs.

The Student Centre is your main point of contact for any questions you may have. If they don't know the answer, they'll direct you to the right place.

You can contact the Student Centre by phone, email, or Live Chat, or you can book a call-back.

We can help with questions about the enrolment requirements for your Student Visa but cannot provide any other visa advice. Contact the Department of Home Affairs (DHA) or check VEVO for your visa conditions if you already have one.



1800 246 446



enquiries@jcu.edu.au



8am – 5pm
Monday – Friday



[DHA](#)



[VEVO](#)



[Book a Call](#)



[AskUs](#)



Tips from other new students

- Do your research before you arrive - learn about Australia, JCU, and your course.
- Research the cost of living and plan your budget in advance.
- Organise your accommodation before you arrive.
- Always pack extra clothes in your carry-on luggage and keep your devices charged and accessible while travelling.
- Arrive in Australia early so you have time to settle in. Set up your bank account and phone, relax, and explore a little.
- Go to Orientation and put yourself out there! Making friends is a great Uni experience.
- Plan your timetable, get organised, and check where your classes are ahead of time.
- Ask EVERY question you can think of - JCU staff are here to help.
- Counselling services are free and available. Don't be afraid or embarrassed to use them.
- Be very careful of the birds (referring to Magpies). Spiders and snakes are fine!



We look forward to meeting you when you arrive

