

Get Serious About Uni



Special entry programs, accommodation, scholarships and financial support

People like you do go to uni

Universities are diverse places—there are all sorts of people from all sorts of backgrounds. There are people just like you at uni. In fact, you may be interested to know that about 40 per cent are the first in their family to go to uni, about 25 per cent are from outside Brisbane and about one-third receive financial support. But, the one thing many university students have in common is that they had help to get there. Read on to find out how QUT can help you get into uni and support you once you're there.

Getting in, getting started

QUT has entry programs that help you get into uni by providing an OP/rank boost, guaranteed financial assistance and lots of support.

To be eligible for QUT entry programs and scholarships, QUT must be one of your QTAC preferences and, ultimately, you must enrol to study at QUT in 2015. For more information about applying visit www.qut.edu.au/study/applying/undergraduate-applications

Entry programs

For people who have experienced educational disruption

The Educational Access Scheme (EAS) is a system designed to make the tertiary admissions system fairer for all applicants. If you have been disadvantaged in your education, bonus ranks may be awarded, making you more competitive for course entry. Often the EAS can mean the difference between getting into your desired course or missing out.

There are five categories of EAS:

1. Financial Hardship
2. Home Environment and Responsibilities
3. English Language Difficulty
4. Personal Illness and Disability
5. Educational Disruption

QUT offers up to three bonus OP bands/six bonus ranks for all EAS categories, with a maximum of five bonus OP bands/10 ranks if applying for multiple categories. If you are successful under the EAS 'Financial Hardship' category you will automatically become part of QUT's Q-Step Scheme (www.qut.edu.au/qstep) and, once enrolled, receive a guaranteed \$2500 Equity Scholarship via QUT's Equity Scholarships Scheme. We provide around \$3 million each year in scholarships, bursaries and free computers to students who need financial help.

Once at QUT, you are able to access a variety of support services related to all categories of the EAS including disability services, academic skills support and many others. Visit www.qut.edu.au/study/educational-access-scheme

If you have any questions about QTAC's Educational Access Scheme (EAS), contact QTAC on 1300 467 822 or visit the QTAC website.

You are also encouraged to apply for the QUT Equity Scholarships Scheme which gives you access to further financial support and free computers based on your individual circumstances. Visit www.qut.edu.au/study/educational-access-scheme

Peni Tukuaoga

Bachelor of Education
(Secondary)

In high school I discovered what I wanted to do as a career—teaching. I worked hard with my study during high school and got the right results in the end. As a New Zealand citizen I don't qualify for HECS-HELP or Centrelink support, it's definitely a barrier, but help from my family and an Equity Scholarship enabled me to come to uni and maintain a position here.





Emmy Singh

Bachelor of Business/Bachelor of Laws

Moving from Cairns to Brisbane to study at QUT was a daunting experience. This quickly dissipated the moment I made new connections at QUT. Adjusting to the city, lifestyle and university experience after high school was a new and confronting challenge, but being thrown into the deep end allowed me to learn exponentially and create my own sense of community. The sky is the limit in Brisbane and if you want something badly enough, there are plenty of resources to get you there.

For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

If you identify as an Aboriginal/or Torres Strait Islander person and have uni in your sights, QUT's Oodgeroo Unit can help you get there.

The Oodgeroo Unit has an entry program which recognises your life experiences, any study you have undertaken, your potential, skills and commitment. When you have accepted your QTAC offer of a place as a Commonwealth-supported student at QUT, the Oodgeroo Unit will make contact with you and give you access to a range of support like the pre-orientation program, tutorial assistance and computer labs. Also, Oodgeroo Unit students are guaranteed financial assistance in the form of either an Indigenous Commonwealth Scholarship or guaranteed bursary.

For more information contact the Oodgeroo Unit phone 07 3138 3610 or toll free 1800 645 513, or email information.oodgeroo@qut.edu.au, or visit www.qut.edu.au/about/oodgeroo

For New Zealand citizens

Making the decision to go to university is a big deal for everyone, however for New Zealand citizens (including Pacific Islanders who came to Australia as NZ citizens) there are additional issues to consider. The rules are constantly changing around issues such as residency status (which affects how you pay for uni) and financial entitlements (access to Centrelink and scholarships). Families should research these issues as early as possible so there are no surprises or disappointments at the end of Year 12.

Find out about residency and immigration status at www.immi.gov.au

Find out about becoming an Australian citizen at www.citizenship.gov.au/applying

Find out about fees at QUT at www.qut.edu.au/study/fees-and-scholarships

For non-Year 12 entry

If you don't have a current OP or rank there are other ways you can qualify for entry to university courses. QTAC can calculate a rank for you based on

prior study, professional qualifications, employment or life experience. Alternative entry is about demonstrating that you'll be able to handle university study. To find out more, visit www.qut.edu.au/study/entry-pathways

If you need to upgrade first

If you can't get straight into the course you want, you can do further study to upgrade your OP or rank. Upgrading through another bachelor degree course or TAFE Queensland diploma or advanced diploma will help you to gain the highest possible rank. Try to choose something related to your preferred course. You can also apply for a dual award which lets you start your TAFE course first, and when you successfully complete it, you'll automatically be offered a place in your QUT course. To find out more, visit www.qut.edu.au/upgrading

A roof over your head and money in your pocket

Make the move

Many people move from rural or regional areas of Queensland, or from interstate, to study at QUT. Although moving away from home, parents and friends can be daunting, the move will provide new experiences and broaden your career opportunities.

There are three broad categories of student accommodation. Student apartment complexes are a great way to be part of a supported student community and be close to campus facilities and services. Students can rent a studio or one-bedroom apartment or may have their own room in a larger apartment shared with other students. Apartments are fully furnished, but students self-cater.

Kelvin Grove Student Village is a large student accommodation complex adjacent to Kelvin Grove campus. There are several other student complexes located close to Kelvin Grove and Gardens Point campuses. Weekly rents vary, ranging from \$183 for a twin-share room with ensuite, or approximately \$300 to \$500 for a studio.

Catered student accommodation can be either a homestay with a family in the Brisbane metropolitan area or a student accommodation complex offering on-site catering. Weekly costs range from \$220 to \$365 per week.

Share-house accommodation may be managed by real estate agents or other companies specialising in student accommodation. Often houses are converted so students have their own fully-furnished lockable bedrooms, while sharing common areas such as bathrooms, kitchens and living areas. Prices vary from \$150 to \$300 per week depending on location and quality of the property.

Start thinking about your accommodation options well before you start university.

QUT has a complete accommodation service that can provide advice on tenancy matters, information about student accommodation complexes and access to the accommodation vacancies database.

For details visit www.qut.edu.au/study/student-life/life-in-brisbane



Daniel Green

Bachelor of Engineering (Mechatronics)

My journey to university isn't linear – I got sick of working factory jobs, and went to MSIT TAFE Logan to upgrade my skills and gain entry to uni. There were a few obstacles in my way and I had to overcome family, work and travel conflicts to come, but finishing my degree is going to give me an opportunity to work in the robotics industry and have a better lifestyle.

Afra Bashar

Bachelor of Engineering (Mechanical)

Orientation provided an easy transition into the QUT uni lifestyle. It was lively, fun-filled and energetic with opportunities to meet new people. Having confidence in yourself and going on a limb to socialise, with one person or many is the best way to overcome the struggling sensation of nervousness. University provides me with a great opportunity to network and gain a deeper understanding of what I am to expect as an engineer.



Finding your way around

Brisbane has an interconnected rail, bus and ferry public transport network. As a full-time student you will be eligible for discounts on travel. To find out more visit www.translink.com.au or phone 13 12 30.

QUT also operates a free shuttle bus service between Kelvin Grove and Gardens Point campuses, as well as a night bus. For more information on both these services visit www.qut.edu.au/transport

Brisbane has more than 500 kilometres of dedicated bikeways, bike-friendly trains and ferries, and a City Cycle program. QUT offers secure bike racks. For travel tips and maps visit www.brisbane.qld.gov.au

Scholarships and financial support

Think scholarships are only for high achievers? Think again. In 2015 QUT has around \$3 million in scholarships, bursaries and computers available specifically for people who need financial help.

What's more, if you are commencing at QUT in 2015 and are accepted through the Q-Step Scheme (www.qut.edu.au/qstep) QUT guarantees you an Equity Scholarship. For more details, including how to apply and when, visit www.qut.edu.au/equity-scholarships or join our mailing list by sending your email address to equityscholarships@qut.edu.au

Don't forget to find out if you are eligible for government support through the Department of Human Services (Centrelink), which now includes Commonwealth Scholarships. You may be eligible for funding to help with start-up costs or relocating for study. Talk to Centrelink on 13 24 90.

Part-time work

Most students have a part-time job and, on average, work about 14 hours a week. It can be challenging to balance study with work so it is important not to take on too much, especially during exam periods.

If you haven't already got one, looking for a job can seem like work in itself. Some great places to start are:

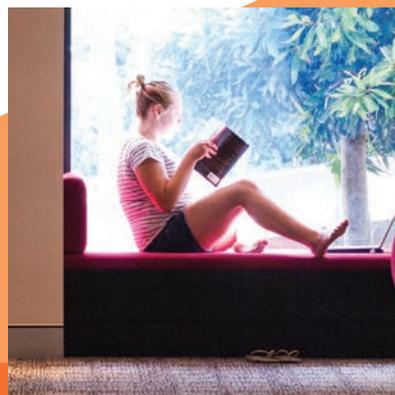
- *The Courier-Mail* (Wednesday or Saturday)
- www.careerone.com.au or www.seek.com.au
- QUT's Student Guild at www.qutguild.com
- QUT Careers and Employment www.careers.qut.edu.au

Finding your feet (without losing your head)

Uni starts with an 'O'

Orientation isn't an optional extra—it's your key to success—so make the most of it. Orientation provides you with all the essential information about enrolling, getting your student ID card, finding out how to use your student email and getting information on support services.

But it's not all talk. Orientation is a chance to get to know people in your course, explore the campuses and participate in social activities. If you're relocating to study, you may be relieved to know that orientation includes information for 'out-of-towners' such as transport, accommodation and how to find your feet. For more information go to www.qut.edu.au/orientation



Disability Services

Make early contact to get support

Disability Services have a presence on each campus at QUT and offer support for students with a disability, injury or health condition. It doesn't matter if it's permanent, temporary, episodic or fluctuating—if your capacity to study is affected we can provide free, confidential assistance that won't appear on your student record. We encourage students to make pre-enrolment appointments before making a decision to come to QUT. Meeting with a Disability Advisor allows you the opportunity to discuss the types of support available.

For more information about Disability Services at QUT visit www.qut.edu.au/about/services-and-facilities/all-services/disability-advisers





Emma Matthews

Bachelor of Social Work

I've always known that I wanted to come to university after high school. I came via the Centralised Assessment Selection Program (CASP) for Indigenous students and received Commonwealth Scholarships which allowed me to purchase textbooks and a new laptop. My sister and I will be the first in our family to graduate with university degrees. It will make our parents very proud.

New thinking

School and uni are quite different; but that's not necessarily a bad thing. You just need time and support to help you adjust to the new learning and teaching styles and workloads. Help is never far away—from your lecturers, tutors, online help, library staff and specialist learning advisers and peer mentors.

Free learning support seminars are held throughout the year by the library's academic skills advisers. These seminars and workshops help you to refine your academic skills, time and study management techniques, and give you tips for effective note-taking, critical thinking, planning for assignments, researching, referencing and exam preparation. Computing workshops are also available through the IT Helpdesk. Visit www.library.qut.edu.au/events

The main thing to remember is that there are lots of people to help you.

Still not sure which way is up?

Visit www.projectu.com.au to see what a week in the life of a uni student is like, and find out how other students made important decisions about life after school.

QUT has also created a website to give you some direction about choosing a course. It can help you find a course that matches your skills and it will give you an insight into what you can expect at university.

You can also email your questions to real QUT students and join us on Tumblr and Facebook. Visit www.qut.edu.au/study/undergraduate-study

Tips for parents and guardians

We realise that as the parent or guardian of a young adult making the transition to uni, you may also be finding the experience daunting. It's a time of big change. QUT holds parent information seminars each year to answer questions regarding university admission and pathways. You can also subscribe to our newsletter for parents to keep you up to date.

For more information visit www.qut.edu.au/parents, email parents@qut.edu.au or phone 07 3138 3058.

PLEASE VISIT US

QUT Student Centres

The QUT Student Centre on each campus can assist you with general enquiries about admission, academic credit, enrolment, fees, student ID cards and other matters.

Gardens Point

2 George Street, Level 1, X Block

Kelvin Grove

Victoria Park Road, Level 6, F Block

Caboolture

Tallon Street, Ground Floor, J Block

www.qut.edu.au

PLEASE ASK US

QUT Information Services

Live chat www.qut.edu.au/student-centres
24/7 answers ask.qut.edu.au
Email askqut@qut.edu.au
Phone 07 3138 2000

Email a real student

QUT students are available to answer your questions about university or moving to Brisbane to study.
www.qut.edu.au/emailastudent

International students

This publication has been prepared for Australian students and those with permanent resident status. Some courses are not open to international students. To check the courses that are available for international student entry, or for more information about QUT, visit www.qut.edu.au/international

2014 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

QUT staff and students will be available at the following 2014 events to answer your questions. You can sign up to receive email reminders about upcoming events at www.qut.edu.au/study/events

Regional Careers Markets

March–August
Queensland and New South Wales

Parent Information Seminar

7 May, 6–7.30pm
Gardens Point campus

21 May, 6–7.30pm
Caboolture campus

Careers and Employment Expo

23–24 May
9am–4pm Friday
10am–4pm Saturday
Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre

TSXPO (Tertiary Studies Expo)

19–20 July, 10am–4pm
RNA Showgrounds

QUT Open Day

27 July, 9am–3pm
Gardens Point campus

QUT Caboolture Campus Open Day

17 August, 9am–2pm
Caboolture campus

Adult Tertiary Entry Expo

30 August, 9.30am–3.30pm
Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre

Return to Study Seminars

16 September, 6–7.30pm
The Space, North Lakes
17 September, 10am–1pm or 5.30–7.30pm
Gardens Point campus

18 September, 6–7.30pm
Caboolture campus

Discover QUT

24 September, 8.30am–2pm
Gardens Point campus

24 September, 1–5.30pm
Kelvin Grove campus

25 September, 10am–2pm
Caboolture campus

Academic Scholarships Seminar

2 October, 5.30–7pm
Kelvin Grove campus

QUT Real Decisions

23 December, 9am–1pm
Gardens Point campus

23 December, 3–6pm
Caboolture campus