


Living in Queensland:

Housing Options

- ❖ *Bond University*
- ❖ *Griffith University*
- ❖ *James Cook University*
- ❖ *Queensland University of Technology*
- ❖ *University of Queensland*



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Living abroad will provide you with one of the most memorable and enriching times in your life. It goes beyond the surface attractions of traveling to fully immerse you in a new culture—challenging your identity, providing new perspectives and allowing you to grow. Living abroad is more than a bedroom and meal plan; it is about the experiences that you will have, the friends that you will make and the person that you will become. Take this time before you depart to reflect on the kinds of experiences that you would like to have when reviewing this brochure.

As a participant on an Arcadia University Center for Education Abroad program, you are guaranteed housing for the duration of your program. This housing booklet will assist you with selecting your housing preferences. While every effort will be made to accommodate your requests, specific placements and preferences cannot be guaranteed. Arcadia's priority is to accommodate you in a place conducive to academic learning and cultural immersion. Arcadia selects accommodation venues based on these factors, in addition to considering safety, security, cleanliness and comfort. For these reasons, Arcadia reserves the right to alter or change accommodation options at any time.

The cost of your housing is included in your program fee. Additional costs will apply for meal plans. If your housing option includes a meal plan, the cost of your plan will be invoiced to your billing address after you have arrived in Australia. If your housing is listed as self-catered, you will have a kitchen facility available.

Please read through the materials carefully, complete the Housing Preference Form and return it to our office by mail or fax. All materials can be sent to:

Arcadia University
Center for Education Abroad
450 S. Easton Rd.
Glenside, PA 19038
Fax: 215 572 2174
Email: richards@arcadia.edu

In order to provide the most up to date, accurate information, refer to the websites listed throughout this brochure. These websites should provide you with information on location, proximity to university, appearance, available facilities, rules and regulations and meal plan availability. Also listed on the websites will be information on how to apply directly to the housing complex, housing application deadlines and housing fees—please note that this does not apply to you. All of your housing costs are already covered by Arcadia University. Do not issue payment or send a housing application directly to the university or college. This will only create confusion in Australia, and may lead to a delay in your placement.


Housing Preference Form

In order to register your housing preferences, you will need to submit a Housing Preference Form for your overseas program. The housing forms can be found on our website at www.arcadia.edu/cea/forms. Please download, complete and return the appropriate form by the housing deadline. Refer to the Arcadia University Housing Policy for your deadlines. Students who do not submit a Housing Preference Form by the housing deadline will automatically be assigned available accommodation.

Arcadia University can only consider one roommate request. All roommate requests must be mutual and in writing. While every effort will be made to consider your request, Arcadia cannot guarantee such requests.

It is important to note any dietary, medical or physical conditions which may effect your housing placement on your preference sheet. Such conditions will be treated as highly confidential and will only be shared with those individuals involved in your housing placement.





Should you have any questions or concerns about housing, please feel free to contact the Arcadia University staff.

American Staff

Sue Richardson – Program Coordinator: Australia
richards@arcadia.edu

Sue Richardson will be your main contact for housing questions and concerns throughout your time leading up to your semester in Australia. Ms. Richardson has visited Australia and toured the accommodation venues and is well-prepared to assist you throughout the housing process.

Australian Staff

Brunella Novello – Assistant Director: Queensland Programs
novello@arcadia.edu

Brunella Novello will be your primary contact during your time in Australia. She will be available to address concerns about your housing, program choice and any other personal matters once you arrive in Queensland. Mrs. Novello is a former lecturer in the Education department at Griffith University and will also be available to advise you on your coursework. Mrs. Novello will also be able to help you adjust to university life in Australia. Please feel free to contact her with any questions that you may have about university life in Australia.

Christopher Monico – Senior Student Coordinator: Queensland
monicoc@arcadia.edu

Chris Monico has considerable experience working with the Arcadia University students in Queensland and is well positioned to assist you throughout your time in Australia.



What is a Residential College?

A residential college is unlike the accommodation options at most colleges and universities in the US. It is less like a dorm and more like a living community. Residential colleges are located on campus, but maintain an independence from the university. They foster an atmosphere that promotes their own educational philosophy and ethical values. Residential college life is regarded as more than just a matter of accommodation; it is an integral part of the education process, helping students to grow and mature as individuals. This has two important implications for those who wish to live on campus: 1) residents are expected to conduct themselves in a way which conforms to a college's expectation of behavior; 2) they are encouraged to participate in the community life of the college, including social events, sports and other organized activities.

While many residential colleges were founded on religious or social traditions, they have evolved into open, tolerant institutions accepting students from a variety of religious, social, ethnic and international backgrounds. In many cases, religious services and social events are on offer, but they are not mandatory components of college life. In fact, students of differing backgrounds have found that they offer an extraordinary opportunity to meet and interact with students from within Australia and around the world.

While Arcadia University strongly encourages students to consider college life, admission into residential colleges is highly selective. Unfortunately, not all students who request to live in a college can be accommodated. When completing your Housing Preference Form, it is important to present yourself as a well-rounded individual interested in joining the college community. Applications are reviewed on an individual basis, weighing the academic and social contribution that each student offers. Because of the selective nature of residential colleges, it is advisable that you review the alternative accommodation options and indicate these on your Housing Preference Form. Additionally, students who choose to live in the colleges should be aware that local students do not generally return to the colleges until the weekend before lectures begin.

On-Campus Student Residences

Many universities offer on-campus accommodation similar to traditional student dormitories. Advantages of living in these student residences include the close proximity to campus and in many instances, a meal plan. These residences are ideal for students who wish to have food prepared for them and who enjoy the social atmosphere provided in a communal setting. The diverse resident populations consist mainly of first year Australian students and international students.



Living Abroad in a Student Apartment or Flat

For many students, living in a student flat or apartment while overseas allows them a new sense of independence. It is often the first opportunity for students to prepare their own meals and manage many aspects of their daily lives. Living in a student flat or apartment fosters an atmosphere more conducive to independent living. In addition, apartments and flats enable students to create an environment that is comfortable to their individual lifestyle. Whether you are a night-owl or prefer the quiet solace of your room, living in a flat or apartment will allow you to manage your life as you prefer.

You will typically be housed with other American students, or other international students studying in Australia. In most cases, you will be preparing your own meals and commuting a short distance to campus. Please review the websites for each housing complex for specific details pertaining to services and location.

Independent Living

While Arcadia University guarantees housing for all students, you reserve the right to opt out of program accommodation and seek independent accommodation. If you choose to live independently you must notify Arcadia University *in writing* by the housing deadline as stated in the Arcadia University Housing policy.

If Arcadia University does not receive your written notification by these dates, you will be automatically assigned accommodation and be subject to our published withdrawal penalties.

Should you choose to live independently, your account will be credited the housing portion of your program fee. Living in a large city can be very expensive, so you should realize that the housing allowance credit may not be sufficient to cover all your housing expenses

Arcadia University will provide a temporary five-night accommodation option for your first five nights in Queensland while you secure your independent housing. The supplemental fee for this service is \$250. At the end of the five-night stay, Arcadia University will have no obligation to provide housing. If, however, you decide to live in Arcadia's program housing, you may request to do so in return for payment of the full semester's housing fee. Arcadia University will provide program housing only *if space is available*.



About Brisbane

Brisbane is the fastest growing city in Australia and the third largest in the country behind only Sydney and Melbourne. Located inland from the Moreton Bay, Brisbane is within an hour's drive to some of the finest beaches in the world. The city also offers all of the advantages of living in a sub-tropical climate. Many activities take place along the Brisbane River which snakes its way around the city. The South Bank of the river is home to a unique man-made beach where Brisbanites can relax and enjoy the sunny weather. In addition, many residents enjoy the beautiful surroundings of the Royal Botanical Gardens. Brisbane is also home to a thriving arts scene with the Queensland Art Gallery, Queensland Ballet, Queensland State Theatre and numerous festivals.

About Cairns

Located in northern Queensland, Cairns has been referred to as the Gateway to Paradise because of its proximity to the Great Barrier Reef and a World Heritage Tropical Rainforest. Because of its location, Cairns has emerged as a tourist destination for many people from around Australia and abroad—behind only Sydney and Brisbane as the most popular Australian destination for visitors. The tourist-driven economy has also led to the emergence of Cairns' bustling nightlife including many restaurants, cafes, pubs, and clubs. In spite of all of its activity, Cairns manages to maintain a small-city feel.

About the Gold Coast

The Gold Coast offers mile after mile of pristine beaches. The region, including the aptly named Surfer's Paradise, is an ideal location for swimming, surfing and other water sports. Tourism thrives on the Gold Coast as many hotels, resorts and other attractions line the world-famous beaches that attract visitors from across Australia and around the world. However, sand and surf are not the only notable destinations of the region; beyond the beaches are the hinterland rainforests, home to native flora and fauna. The hinterland features several National Parks that offer hiking trails, campgrounds and breathtaking scenery.

About Townsville

Townsville is Australia's largest tropical city. One of the fastest-growing cities in Australia, it averages around 320 days of sunshine each year! With such sublime weather, there is no shortage of activities to enjoy in and around Townsville. However, Townsville is less tourist-driven than some of its intrastate neighbors and therefore, offers a more 'unique' Australian experience. Main features of Townsville City include Flinders Street in the historic Central Business District and the Strand, a mile-long waterfront locale featuring restaurants, cafes and pubs. In addition, Townsville is within a short ferry ride of several islands—ideal destinations for daytrips.

Bond University Accommodation

Arcadia University guarantees accommodation for all program participants who elect to use this service; however, specific housing assignments cannot be guaranteed. Students opting for program housing should be prepared to be placed in any of the three options below.

On - Campus Accommodation

Program housing for Bond University includes the following on-campus accommodation options listed below. For detailed information on these venues, refer to www.bond.edu.au/campus/residences.htm.

❖ The Accommodation Centre

The Accommodation Centre (also referred to as the Conference Centre) provides suite- style housing in twin-share and single rooms. Most rooms are twin-share and share a bathroom with an adjacent room. Included in the housing fee are bed linens and cleaning service. The Accommodation Centre is connected to the Bond University computer network and provides internet access at no additional cost. Twin-share accommodation at the Accommodation Centre is included in the Arcadia program fee. Students living in single bedrooms will be billed a \$1000 surcharge. All students have a compulsory meal plan and need to select from options which include 10, 14 or 19 meals per week. The meal plan may be used at any of the dining facilities on campus. Its cost will be added to your Arcadia Student Account.

❖ The Halls of Residence

The Halls, also known as the Blocks, offer dormitory style accommodation with single bedrooms and communal bathrooms. The Blocks are connected to the Bond University computer network and include bed linens and cleaning service. Students living in the Blocks will be billed a \$750 surcharge. All students will also have a compulsory meal plan and must select from options which include 10, 14 or 19 meals per week. The meal plan may be used at any of the dining facilities on campus. Its cost will be added to your Arcadia Student Account.



Off - Campus Accommodation

❖ Varsity Towers www.varsitytowers.com.au

The Varsity Towers complex offers single apartment-style accommodation in modern studio units. Managed by Bond University's Off-Campus Accommodation Office (The Accommodation People), each studio is fully furnished and includes a kitchenette and private bathroom. Students living in these units will be billed a supplementary housing fee of \$2000. Included in the housing fees for Varsity Towers are telephone connection and rental, internet access, bed linens and weekly cleaning service. Residents of Varsity Towers are approximately 10-15 minutes walking distance from campus and they have the option of purchasing a Bond University meal plan. Meal plan options include 10, 14 or 19 meal plans and may be used at any of the dining facilities on campus.

Independent Housing

Students who prefer alternative accommodation are able to opt out of the Arcadia program housing. If you choose to live independently, you must notify Arcadia University in writing by November 20 for the January Semester and by June 30 for the September Semester. Should you choose to live independently, your account will be credited for the housing portion of the program fee and you will be responsible for securing your own accommodation.

For students choosing to living independent of the program housing, Arcadia can provide accommodation for your first five nights when you arrive at Bond. Should you elect to use this service, your student account will be billed \$250. At the end of the five night stay, you be responsible for your own accommodation.

Students making their own accommodation arrangements may wish to utilize the services of The Accommodation People (TAP). TAP work specifically to find off-campus housing for Bond University students. For more information, refer to www.accommodationpeople.com.au



Griffith University Accommodation

Gold Coast Campus Accommodation

The Gold Coast campus is located approximately one hour south of Brisbane. Arcadia University offers accommodation for program participants at Griffith University Village, just five minutes from campus. GUV features fully-furnished, self-catered apartments along with cutting edge facilities, all set within the lush native Queensland bushland. Each student will have a single room within a larger, shared apartment, and will have access to the Village's facilities including the pool, computer lab and cafe. For more information on Griffith University Village, please visit <http://www.griffithuv.com.au/>.

Queensland Conservatory of Music and College of Art Campus Accommodation

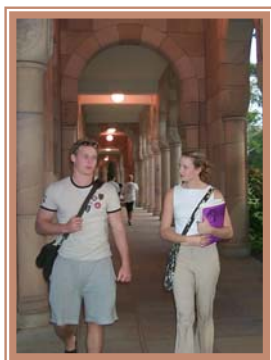
The Queensland Conservatory and the College of Art are located along the South Bank of the Brisbane River. Arcadia University offers accommodation for program participants in self-catered, fully-furnished apartments in the Toowong section of Brisbane for students studying at the South Bank campus. Conveniently located within a short walk of public bus and water taxi services, students should be prepared for a short commute to campus and will be responsible for any associated costs.

Nathan and Mt. Gravatt On-Campus Accommodation

Residential College accommodation is available on-campus to students studying at the Nathan and Mt. Gravatt campuses of Griffith University. Students living in the Residential Colleges are required to purchase a meal plan. The cost of the meal plan will be added to your Arcadia University student account. The suburban Brisbane campuses are located adjacent to each other and students are able to attend classes on either campus. A free shuttle service provides transportation between campuses and operates regularly. For more information visit the accommodation website:

www.griffith.edu.au/ocs/accommodation/frameset1.html

Please note that if you wish to apply for accommodation in a residential college, you will need to complete a Griffith University application in addition to your Arcadia University housing preference form. You should contact your Program Coordinator to obtain this form.



James Cook University Accommodation

Cairns Campus Accommodation

Accommodation for students attending the Cairns campus of James Cook University is available in the Student Lodge. Cairns Student Lodge is conveniently located across from campus and provides all student residents with furnished apartments and a full meal plan. The cost of the meal plan will be added to your Arcadia student account. The Student Lodge offers a secure, friendly environment and is in close proximity to beaches, stores and shops and includes a number of services and amenities. For more information, visit their website: www.studentlodge.com.au.

Please note that if you wish to apply for accommodation in the Student Lodge, you will need to complete a Student Lodge application in addition to your Arcadia University housing preference form. This form can be found below.

Townsville Campus Accommodation

Townsville is home to the main campus of James Cook University. On-campus accommodation is available in many Residential Colleges. Most colleges include a compulsory meal plan. Please note that the cost of the meal plan will be added to your Arcadia University student account. For details on amenities (including meal plans) and services, please visit the following individual college websites:

- ❖ George Roberts Hall: www.jcu.edu.au/office/accom/jcuhall/livinginthehalls/geogeroberts.shtml
- ❖ Rotary International (self catering only): <http://www.jcu.edu.au/office/accom/jcuhall/livinginthehalls/rotary.shtml>
- ❖ John Flynn Residential College: www.johnflynn.org
- ❖ St Mark's Residential College: <http://stmarks.jcu.edu.au>
- ❖ St Paul's Residential College: <http://www.cathcollegesjcu.edu.au/stpauls/>
- ❖ St Raphael's Residential College (women only): <http://www.cathcollegesjcu.edu.au/raphs/>
- ❖ University Hall: www.jcu.edu.au/office/accom/jcuhall/livinginthehalls/universityhall.shtml
- ❖ Western Hall: www.jcu.edu.au/office/accom/jcuhall/livinginthehalls/westernhall.shtml

Please note that if you wish to apply for accommodation in a residential college, you will need to complete a college application in addition to your Arcadia University housing preference form. For more information, please see your Arcadia University housing preference form.



University of Queensland Accommodation

The University of Queensland campus is located on the Brisbane River in the neighborhood of St. Lucia. Arcadia University offers accommodation for program participants in self-catered, fully-furnished apartments in the Toowong section of Brisbane. Conveniently located within a short walk of public bus and water taxi services, students should be prepared for a short commute to campus and will be responsible for any associated costs.



Queensland University of Technology Accommodation

The main, Garden's Point campus is located in Central Brisbane along the Brisbane River and adjacent to the Royal Botanical Gardens. Arcadia University offers accommodation for program participants in self-catered, fully-furnished apartments in the Toowong section of Brisbane. Conveniently located within a short walk of public bus and water taxi services, students should be prepared for a short commute to campus and will be responsible for any associated costs.





Other Important Notes:

- Arcadia University selects our student residences on the basis of security cost, livability, and convenience. As housing varies from year to year, do not base your preferences or expectations on reports from former students. Facilities will vary from house to house, but each property must meet our basic standards.
- Please remember that beyond meeting general standards; there is no way to guarantee uniformity of apartment and room sizes, distance from your university, furnishings or extra facilities.
- In a typical Australian residence, air-conditioning and central heating are not standard features. You should not expect central heating or air conditioning in your residence. Electric blankets, room/window fans and space heaters are the preferred methods of temperature control in residences. Keep in mind that you will need some time to acclimate to the dramatic change in season that you will encounter when traveling to Australia.
- The various accommodation venues used by Arcadia University at Australian Universities have differing policies regarding costs associated with the establishment of local phone accounts, internet accounts and other supplementary services. Some venues provide these services, while others do not. You should be aware that around \$100 US may be needed to cover these establishment costs.
- Your housing will remain available to you during your mid-semester break. However, housing cannot be guaranteed once the semester has ended. If you intend to stay in Australia after your program is completed, or between semesters, you must notify Arcadia University in Brisbane of your intentions. We will attempt to assist your request, but you may encounter additional costs as well as a need to change rooms. Please speak to the Arcadia University Australian staff as soon as you become aware of your needs.
- Please review the Arcadia University Housing Policy at www.arcadia.edu/cea/forms.

Keep in Mind.....

During your semester you will encounter differences between American culture and Australian culture. Remember that studying and living abroad can be quite rewarding and frustrating at the same time. Presumably, encountering these differences is why you are seeking to study abroad. So, be flexible, try to understand why such differences exist and immerse yourself in the culture! Your openness and appreciation of a different culture will allow you to grow and mature as an individual. As you will often hear, "No worries, mate!"



Queensland University of Technology

Housing Preference Form

Name: _____

Sex: _____

Home School: _____

Major: _____

Circle the term that applies to you:

Fall Semester (July – November)

Spring Semester (February-June)

US Academic Year (July – June)

Australian Academic Year (February-November)

PLEASE INDICATE YOUR HOUSING PREFERENCE

_____ I want Arcadia University to secure fully furnished apartment style accommodation for me in Brisbane.

_____ I want to find my own independent housing. Please credit my account accordingly. Select one of the following:

_____ I wish Arcadia University to secure temporary accommodation in the city of my program on my behalf. (Five nights' stay while I secure my own housing for the remainder of the semester) – There will be a \$250 surcharge for this service.

_____ I do not want Arcadia University to secure temporary accommodation in the city of my program.

_____ I want Arcadia University to place me in a residential college because my home school requires that I live in integrated on campus accommodation. I understand that should I desire to move off campus I must get permission from my home school and that I will not be entitled to any refund whatsoever of my semester accommodation fees.

If you have a *mutual agreement* to live with another student studying at the University of Queensland or Queensland University of Technology, please list your friend's name below and make sure s/he indicates your name on his/her form (you may only list one person). We cannot guarantee you will be placed with that person.

Friend's Name: _____

The following questions are optional, but may help Arcadia University place you in accommodation successfully. If you do not wish to answer the following questions, continue on to the signature on the reverse side. Unsigned housing preference forms will not be considered.

- | | |
|---|--------|
| 1) Do you smoke? | Yes/No |
| 2) Will you share a room with a smoker? | Yes/No |
| 3) Do you have any allergies, medical conditions or dietary restrictions that may affect your housing assignment? If yes, please explain: | Yes/No |

- 4) How do you believe your personal qualities will contribute positively to your living situation?
- 5) Which aspect of your personality or habits do you think might pose the greatest challenge(s) for your room mates?
- 6) How would you briefly describe your "nightmare" roommate?
- 7) Please list your interests, hobbies, or anything else about yourself that might aid us in issuing your housing assignment:

Please Circle the terms that best describe you

Extroverted Introverted Shy Talkative Organized Independent Dependent Quiet Noisy Tidy Untidy Early-Riser Night-Owl Studious Not-Studious Flexible Set-in-Your-Ways Practical Impractical Easy-to-Please Hard-to-Please Religious Musical Artistic Athletic Reader Picky-Eater Non-Picky-Eater Vegetarian Vegan Kosher Halaal

I understand that: no requests are guaranteed however the wishes of students will be taken into account where possible. Any alterations or changes to this form must be done so in writing, and must be returned to the Center for Education Abroad. Once allocated a room, changes will not be permitted, unless under extenuating circumstances as decided by the accommodation manager. Additionally, I have read, understand, and accept the Arcadia University Housing Policy and information.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please return this form to: Arcadia University
Center for Education Abroad,
450 S. Easton Road
Glenside, PA 19038
Fax: 215.572.2174