



MONASH
University

**PARENTS'
GUIDE TO
UNIVERSITY
2021**



YOUR SUPPORT MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE

It's a decision that will shape the rest of your child's life. But if you haven't attended university yourself, or your study days feel like a lifetime ago, how do you guide them to make the best decision for their future?

This guide will bring you up to date with the ins and outs of university, equipping you to support your child through the exciting journey that awaits.

¹ Grattan Institute 2012

² Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016



WHY STUDY AT UNIVERSITY?

Higher earning potential

University study provides a significant boost to your child's long-term earning potential. Those with bachelor degrees earn over 70 per cent (nearly \$1 million) more in their lifetime than those who complete Year 12 but don't go on to further study¹. Earning potential can dramatically increase with each level of education achieved.

More opportunities

Not all careers require a university degree, but many do – particularly professional careers such as teaching or nursing. University graduates have access to a wider range of job opportunities, and possess the research and collaborative skills required to excel in entrepreneurial ventures. A university degree will prepare your child for the future world of work, which will demand adaptable employees who can apply broad skills to a wide range of jobs².

Personal development and lifelong skills

With university comes a greater level of freedom and independence as your child moves away from the defined structures of secondary school. This can help young people become more self-reliant and resourceful, and equip them with the ability to use their own initiative. University can also help with forming meaningful connections with others who share their interests, and build skills in teamwork, analysis, communication and critical thinking.

WHY MONASH UNIVERSITY?

Our flexibility allows students to better match their studies to their interests, or get a broader education that will lead to a huge range of options.



Double-degrees

Double-degrees allow you to study towards two degrees at the same time – for example commerce and engineering, or science and law – graduating with two separate qualifications. There are many benefits of undertaking a double degree such as keeping your career options open, keeping your options open, developing expertise in different but complementary areas, or simply pursuing two areas of interest in-depth.

TOP TIP

Today's workforce will likely see people change career paths several times over their working life. We encourage our students to explore the full breadth of their interests to prepare them for a world of work that's constantly in flux.



Comprehensive courses

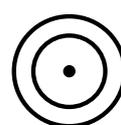
Comprehensive courses are all about developing expertise, and offer maximum flexibility and choice.

A positive student experience

Our students are at the centre of everything we do. New ways of teaching and learning are constantly developed, tested and integrated into our courses to ensure students get the best university experience. And with small class sizes and helpful tutors, your child will be fully supported throughout their university journey.

Study skills and support services

The decision to study at university is exciting, but it's also a big adjustment. We care about your child's wellbeing and offer transition programs, peer networking, mentoring and study skills workshops to help them settle in and adjust to uni life. We also have a comprehensive range of support services, including medical, counselling and mental health services, support for Indigenous students, the Ally Network (LGBTIQ), disability services, childcare, Career Connect/graduate employment and financial assistance.



Specialist courses

Specialist courses allow students to concentrate on a particular area of study from day one, giving them the focus and depth required for entry into many careers.

Practical outcomes

Monash students graduate with a greater sense of purpose, a global outlook, and the skills and confidence to make positive change – to their own lives, and to the lives of those around them. Leaders from the world's most successful companies consistently rate Monash as a preferred university from which to hire graduates.

Fair entry and financial support

We understand your child's academic achievement might not reflect their true ability to succeed at university. We operate two entry schemes and a range of pathway programs, which you can find out about on pages 5 and 6.

Scholarships

We want as many bright minds as possible to benefit from a Monash education and we have one of the most generous scholarship programs in the country. Some of our scholarships are awarded for academic merit (based on your child's Year 12 results), some are equity based, and others are awarded based on a combination of merit and equity.

For more information visit, monash.edu/scholarships

MAKING AN INFORMED CHOICE

School leavers today face more choices than ever before, and it's easy to feel overwhelmed by the possibilities. The best choice is an informed choice. As a parent or caregiver, you play an important role in helping your child gather and make sense of all the information available.

Ready to kick off the conversation? Here are some useful starting points.

What does your child love doing? What are they good at?

Start by exploring their passions, strengths and goals. Which subjects do they enjoy at school? Do they have any hobbies outside school that they're passionate about?

How could your child use their skills in the future?

Help them match their skills and interests to areas of study and career opportunities. Creative thinking can help here – for example, a passion for design could lead not only to a fine arts degree, but also to architecture, engineering, animation or occupational therapy.

Encourage them to talk to their teachers and school careers adviser – they know your child well and can help them think objectively about how their interests might translate into a career.

What else is on offer?

As well as the courses available, you should also consider what else is on offer at each of the universities your child is considering. For example:

- Would your child be eligible for a scholarship or grant?
- Are there support services for your child to access?
- Does the university provide leadership and mentoring programs?
- Is there suitable and reasonably priced accommodation nearby, and good transport links?
- Is the campus welcoming, with a calendar of social activities that will help your child make connections?

(Monash can proudly respond 'YES' to all of these!)

How can we find out more?

Often, the best way to find out which university course will suit your child is to speak with current students, past students and academics. Monash runs many events throughout the school year so that students can get the inside story on what it's really like to study at Monash.

University websites and brochures are also a great source of information and inspiration.

monash.edu/study

At **Monash Open Day**, you can chat with staff who are experts in helping students choose the right course. Current students are also on hand, and are an excellent source of information about options and uni life in general.

Find out more:
monash.edu/open-day

TOP TIP

Reassure your child that while the decisions they make now are important, it's not the end of the world if they decide to take a different path once they've started their degree. Our flexible courses allow students to apply to transfer from one course to another, and they'll usually gain some credit for the subjects they've already studied.

APPLICATIONS AND OFFERS

How to apply

Students must apply online through the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) for most undergraduate courses in Victoria:

www.vtac.edu.au

It's not necessary to apply to each university individually, as VTAC will share your child's information with all the Victorian universities they nominate.

Your child can apply for up to eight courses, and must list them in order of preference.

TOP TIP

Encourage your child to carefully consider the order of their preferences, as they'll only receive an offer for the course that they're eligible for that is highest on their list. They should list their dream course first, NOT the course they think they're most likely to get an offer for.

Change of preference

Your child can change their course preference during specified periods. Keep an eye out for the Monash Change of Preference Expo in December – it's a great chance for students to find out more about their options after receiving their results.

Offers

Offers are released by VTAC. Your child will receive one offer, for the course for which they're eligible that's highest on their preference list. There may be additional offer rounds where your child may get an offer for a course that is higher on their preference list, but we always recommend your child accept their first offer.

Selection, entry requirements and prerequisites

Selection to most Monash courses is based on your child's Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR). The ATAR requirement can increase or decrease each year depending on demand for the course.

All Monash courses also have prerequisites – subjects your child must have completed during years 11 and 12 in order to be eligible for admission. Your child may need to carefully consider their subject choices in Year 10 to make sure they meet the entry requirements.

Some courses have extra requirements that must also be met. These may include interviews, auditions or folios.

Our online course guide lists prerequisites and extra requirements applicable to each course: **monash.edu/study**

Application dates

The table below outlines the general schedule for VTAC application dates. Head to **www.vtac.edu.au** for the current 2020 dates.

Early August	VTAC course, SEAS and scholarship applications open
Late September	Timely course applications close
Early October	SEAS applications close
Mid-October	Scholarship applications close
Early November	Late course applications close (late fee applies)
Early December	Very late course applications close (very late fee applies)
Mid-December	VCE results and ATARs released – change of preference period
Mid-January	Offers released

ENTRY SCHEMES

We know that your child's ATAR might not accurately reflect their ability. Life can be a bumpy road, and there are all sorts of circumstances that can get in the way of their academic achievement.

By considering your child's circumstances as part of their application, we create a level playing field for everyone who aspires to an exceptional education.

We operate two schemes – the Monash Guarantee and the Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS) – that can help your child enter their preferred course, even if their ATAR is below the clearly-in.

The Monash Guarantee

The Monash Guarantee can get your child into a Monash course even if they don't reach the course's clearly-in ATAR. Your child could be eligible for the Monash Guarantee if they:

- have experienced financial disadvantage
- live in a low socio-economic area
- are an Indigenous Australian
- attend a Monash-listed under-represented school.

Every Monash course has a Monash Guarantee ATAR, which is lower than the expected clearly-in for that course. For most courses, if your child meets the eligibility criteria, achieves the published Monash Guarantee ATAR and completes all course prerequisites, they'll be eligible for a place at Monash.

monash.edu/guaranteed-entry

TOP TIP

Check out our online calculator to find out what your child might be eligible for:

monash.edu/seas

Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS)

SEAS adjusts your child's ATAR in recognition of circumstances that may have affected their education. This gives your child a better chance of getting an offer for the course they want. Your child will receive additional points depending on the severity of their circumstances.

Your child may be eligible for SEAS if they satisfy the criteria for one or more of the following categories:

- financial disadvantage
- Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander
- home or school location
- born outside Australia in a non-English speaking country and arrived in Australia after 1 January 2015
- experienced difficult personal circumstances
- disability or medical condition
- aged 21 or older on 1 January 2021.

monash.edu/seas



OTHER PATHWAYS TO MONASH

There's more than one way to become a Monash student. If your child doesn't achieve the ATAR they need or meet entry requirements for their dream course, a pathway can get them on the right track. Visit our website for more information about the following pathways:

monash.edu/pathways

Diploma of Tertiary Studies (DoTS)

DoTS is a one-year program delivered at our Peninsula campus for students with an ATAR of 50+. On successful completion, they can get up to one year of credit towards a range of Monash courses in business, business administration, education and nursing.

Diploma of Higher Education (DoHE)

DoHE is a one-year program delivered at our Clayton campus for students with an ATAR of 60+. On successful completion students can get up to one year of credit towards a range of Monash courses in science and education.

Pathways to law

This pathway is for students with an ATAR of 90+ who identify as an Indigenous Australian, live in a low socio-economic area or have experienced financial hardship. Students enrol in an arts, commerce or science law pathway and enter the second year of the Bachelor of Laws (Honours) or selected double degrees after one year of study (subject to achieving the required average grade).

Access for Indigenous Australians

The Monash Indigenous Access Program and Indigenous Non-Award Pathway (INAP) are programs designed to support Indigenous Australians to successfully transition to university.

Monash College

After completing a Monash College diploma, your child could pathway into the second year of a Monash degree in art and design, arts, business, engineering, information technology or science. Diplomas are full-fee-paying, but scholarships to cover tuition fees are available for eligible domestic students who have experienced disadvantage.

TAFE pathways

Some Monash courses may recognise TAFE studies so if your child successfully completes a Certificate IV, Diploma or the first-year of an advanced diploma, they could qualify for a place at Monash and be eligible for some credit towards their course.

Find out more: monash.edu/pathways

GLOSSARY

University has a language all of its own. Here are some of the main terms you will encounter.

Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR)

A numerical rank that measures your child's overall achievement in years 11 and 12.

Indicative ATAR

The ATAR requirement for entry to a course in a given year. Each year the ATAR may change due to a range of factors so the ATAR on our website and course guides list the indicative ATAR for the previous year as a guide only. The indicative ATAR for the current year might be higher or lower than this.

Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP)

CSPs are offered to all domestic students. CSP fees are subsidised by the Australian Government.

Domestic student

A student who is an Australian citizen or permanent resident, New Zealand citizen, or holder of an Australian Permanent Humanitarian Visa.

Faculty

An academic division within a university, focused on a specific subject area. Monash has 10 faculties: Art, Design and Architecture; Arts; Business and Economics; Education; Engineering; Information Technology; Law; Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences; Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences; and Science.

HECS-HELP

A government loan scheme that allows students to defer payment of their tuition fees until they're in the workforce.

Prerequisite subject

A specific Year 11 or Year 12 subject that students must complete for entry into a degree.

Study score

A score between 0 and 50 that measures the performance of a student in a particular subject against others in the same year.

Unit

A unit is the basic component in which a student will enrol to undertake study in a particular course. All courses are made up of several units and generally take up to one semester of study to complete.

Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC)

The organisation that processes applications for tertiary institutions in Victoria.





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Further information

monash.edu/study/parents

Telephone: 1800 MONASH (666 274)

Email: future@monash.edu

The information in this brochure was correct at the time of publication (April 2020).
Monash University reserves the right to alter this information should the need arise.
You should always check with the relevant faculty office when considering a course.

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