

ACCOMMODATION INFORMATION

If you have not arranged accommodation prior to arriving in Sydney it will be necessary to do so once you are here. Accommodation in Sydney is in very high demand and can be quite expensive. Due to the limited availability of some types of accommodation, you may have to consider a number of alternatives.

Below are listed several options available to you through UNSW Foundation Studies.

ACCOMMODATION OFFICER

UNSW Foundation Studies has an Accommodation Officer who is available to assist students with housing related matters.

Please contact our Accommodation Officer, Jackelin Chestney, if you have any further questions about accommodation. Tel: 61 2 9385 7274 Fax: 61 2 9662 2651 Email: j.chestney@unsw.edu.au

UNSW FOUNDATION STUDIES RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE (UniLodge@UNSW)

UNSW Foundation Studies Residential College (UniLodge@UNSW) is specifically designed for UNSW Foundation Studies students and houses over 230 students in a mix of furnished studio and multi-bedroom serviced apartments. Each bedroom is single occupancy with own lock. The College is managed by UniLodge on our behalf.

The College is five minutes walking distance from the campus, has a highly secure entrance with restricted access to each residential floor and 24-hour security. It has on-site management and live-in supervisors, who provide a high level of pastoral care. It is also suitable for under-18-year-olds.

Apartments are fully-equipped and each has a television, refrigerator, microwave and cooktop. Regular cleaning and linen services are provided. Each bedroom is single occupancy and has telephone, and internet access. Many apartments have ensuite bathrooms and balconies. The residential complex also contains a communal study and recreation areas as well as cafes, convenience stores and banking facilities at street level.

The cost of apartments vary, from a multi-share standard apartment @ \$311.70 per week per person to a studio deluxe/ensuite/balcony apartment @ \$416.70 per week per person.

To apply to the UNSW Foundation Studies Residential College (UniLodge@UNSW), please download an application form from www.unilodge.com.au. Look under 'Sydney' location to download the form. Alternatively, you can request a form from the Accommodation Officer to be emailed or faxed to you.

AIRPORT RECEPTION & TRANSFER AND TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION

Airport Reception is a service where somebody meets you at the airport when you arrive in Sydney and takes you to your accommodation.

The cost of Airport Reception is \$145. Please only book Airport Reception if you do not have anyone else who can meet you at the airport.

Airport Reception is arranged by faxing a completed airport reception booking form to Foundation Studies on (61 2) 9662 2651. You may download an application form from the UFS website or request one to be sent to you from the Accommodation Officer (email j.chestney@unsw.edu.au).

Temporary accommodation needs to be booked if permanent accommodation has not been arranged prior to your arrival in Sydney. Students usually stay in short term accommodation for anywhere up to 3 weeks when they arrive in Sydney. This ensures the student has a place to stay while they look for permanent accommodation.

Temporary accommodation is arranged by faxing a completed temporary accommodation booking form to Foundation Studies. Most students booking for short term accommodation choose to stay at guest house/lodge style accommodation situated close to the University, although other options exist.

You may download the Airport Reception and Short Term Booking Form from the UFS website or request the forms to be sent from the Accommodation Officer.

The following prices are per person per night and are approximates only:

Budget dormitory - \$30 share room;
Guest house/lodge - \$50+;
Hotel/Motel - \$75+;
Homestay (minimum 4 weeks) - \$26 (without meals) or \$34 (full board)

CAMPUS COLLEGE ACCOMMODATION

There are eight residential colleges situated on or near campus. Each offers full board in single study bedrooms, with shared bathrooms, as well as all meals and linen. Each college has its own special environment and facilities and fees may vary. A brief description of each college is given below.

Further information may be obtained by contacting the colleges directly.

College accommodation is limited and there are always waiting lists.

The colleges generally prefer to accept undergraduate university students, and they usually only accommodate a limited number of Foundation Studies students.

Applications to colleges usually need to be made the year before it is required. Sometimes colleges have places for second semester in which case applications have to be lodged in first semester. Applications must go directly to the colleges. The colleges run independently of Foundation Studies and we have no influence over their acceptance of applications.

Most colleges require applicants to sit for an interview before they are offered a place at the college.

Residence fees start from \$324 a week and some colleges require payment for the whole semester in advance. Most colleges make small extra charges for things like registration fees, damage deposit and electricity.

THE KENSINGTON COLLEGES (consist of three colleges)

Basser College – open to full-time students of UNSW. Basser College is owned by UNSW and was the first residential college on campus. Residents enjoy a supportive, comfortable and enriching environment in which to live and study. Much of the residential program is run by the students themselves under supervision, so that there is wide scope for gaining leadership experience and personal growth.

Goldstein College – open to full-time students of UNSW. Goldstein College is owned by UNSW. A welcoming, vibrant and intimate community, Goldstein College offers an enriching living and study environment for UNSW students. The college community aims to enhance the university experience by inspiring the intellectual, social and personal growth of its residents.

Phillip Baxter College – open to full-time students of UNSW. It provides a comfortable and welcoming environment for a diverse range of undergraduate students at UNSW from throughout Australia and overseas, The college community spirit is integral and is one that fosters academic achievement, co-operation, consideration and care among residents.

Tel: (61 2) 9385 4346 Fax: (61 2 9385 4557 Web: www.kensingtoncolleges.unsw.edu.au
 Email: kenso-colleges@unsw.edu.au

NEW COLLEGE open to full-time students of UNSW. New College has an outstanding academic profile and pastoral care program. Founded on Christian faith and values, but welcoming people from different faith traditions, New college attracts a diverse range of gifted people who use their many talents towards the building of a unique community.

Tel: (61 2) 9381 1999 Fax: (61 2) 9381 1909
 Web: www.newcollege.unsw.edu.au Email: admissions@newcollege.unsw.edu.au

SHALOM COLLEGE is an independent college, but not a religious one; it is non-denominational, and celebrates diversity. Our ethos and smaller size contribute to the friendly community atmosphere and collegial spirit that pervades college life. Shalom is the most modern of UNSW's colleges.

Tel: (61 2) 9663 1366 Fax: (61 2) 9313 7145
 Web: www.shalomcollege.unsw.edu.au Email: shalom@shalom.edu.au

WARRANE COLLEGE open to male students at UNSW. Warrane College provides a vibrant and supportive environment for 140 male students. The college has a Christian ethos with its pastoral care entrusted to Opus Dei, an institution of the Catholic Church.

Tel: (61 2) 9313 0300
 Web: www.warrane.unsw.edu.au Email: admissions@warrane.unsw.edu.au

CRESTON COLLEGE open to women who are full-time students of UNSW. The recently renovated college promotes academic excellence and personal development within a family style environment. The ethos at Creston is essentially Christian and is open to women of all denominations. Community service is greatly encouraged by Creston and residents and friends can participate in a variety of projects.

Tel: (64) 9398 5693 Fax: (64) 02 9398 9964 Email: enquiries@crestoncollege.edu.au
 Web: www.crestoncollege.edu

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE open to full-time students at UNSW except for 1st year undergraduates. International house is a multi-cultural college, that was originally set up by the Rotary organisation, along with International Houses at other universities, to promote international co-operation and understanding.

Tel: (61 2) 9313 0600 Fax: (61 2) 9313 6346
 Web: www.ihunsw.edu.au Email: ih@unsw.edu.au

SHARE ACCOMMODATION

You may find it cheapest to share a house or flat with friends or other students. This accommodation is usually a single or shared room (furnished or unfurnished) in a rented house or flat.

Many students advertise to share with other students by placing notices at the University Housing Office and on notice boards around the university. You can also look in local newspapers and the Sydney Morning Herald newspaper in the share accommodation section. If you share a house, all facilities and expenses such as rent, bond, electricity, gas and telephone are shared. If you decide to share with people you don't know, talk to them about their habits and lifestyle to see if you think you will be able to get along with them.

Room and facilities are similar to shared housing but the main difference is that expenses such as gas and electricity are often included in the rent with room and facilities. Room and facilities are usually a furnished room and use of facilities in a private home. The average cost of room and facilities is approximately \$135-200 per week.

THE UNIVERSITY HOUSING OFFICE LISTING SERVICE

The University Accommodation Service provides information to help students find long term accommodation. It has notices of vacancies for share housing, Homestay, room and facilities and some rental flats in the suburbs surrounding the university. The advertisements are displayed on the notice boards in the office and they are available online. Accommodation Services operates this service solely as a listing service.

On all occasions, you should make your own inquiries about the accommodation listed by contacting the providers of the accommodation.

Visiting Address: Ground Floor, Basser College Gate 6, High Street Kensington Campus UNSW

Tel: (61 2) 9385 4985 Fax: (612) 938 6385

Web: www.housing.unsw.edu.au Opening Hours: Monday - Friday, 8.30am - 4.30pm

PRIVATE RENTAL

It is important to consider the initial costs of setting up a private rental property. Unlike when you decide to share with others in an already established property, you need to account for the purchase of things such as furniture, electrical goods, linen and kitchenware. Most rented properties are unfurnished and only have a stove for cooking.

There are very few furnished properties for rent. If one does become available, it is always taken very quickly. You also need to pay bond money usually equal to four weeks rent, as well as two weeks rent in advance. Bond is deposited with the Rental Bond Services as insurance against damage to the property or failure to pay the rent. If you abide by the lease, it will be refunded to you at the termination of the lease. Rents vary with the size, condition and location of the house or flat. For example, rental prices for a two-bedroom flat may vary between \$250 and \$550 per week.

Approximate rental costs:

From \$280 per week for a one-bedroom flat;

\$320+ per week for a two bedroom flat;

\$430+ per week for a two/three bedroom house;

plus initial establishment cost of approximately \$1500 to \$3000 not including furnishings.

You will need to go through Real Estate Agents in order to find a rental property. Many Real Estate Agents can be found in the suburban shopping areas around the university.

The Accommodation Officer at Foundation Studies can provide you with a list of Real Estate Agents. It is best to visit the agent as notices about properties for rent are usually posted in the agent's window, and you can make inquiries and obtain the keys to inspect the property. The Accommodation Officer is available to advise you on property rental and can also accompany you while you view up to three properties.

HOMESTAY

Homestay is a situation where you live with an Australian family in a private home. You can choose a full board Homestay arrangement that includes meals or you can stay in a Homestay without meals provided. You may choose to have your own room within your Homestay family home or you can share a room with another Homestay guest.

Homestay is most commonly arranged through an outside Homestay agency. It is important to understand that Homestay organisations are private businesses and they operate independently of UNSW Foundation Year and the University of New South Wales. Homestay can either be arranged from overseas before you arrive in Australia, or once you get here.

The agency charges a placement fee to match you up with a Homestay family in an area suitable to you.

The contact details of commonly used Homestay agencies are as follows:

Auzzie Families Homestay Care Ltd Pty
Suite 4, rear 795 New South Head Road,
Rose Bay NSW 2029
Tel: 61 2 9301 0900
Fax: 61 2 9130 8680
Email: info@auzziefamilies.com
www.auzziefamilies.com

Stay Down Under Pty Ltd
PO BOX 423 Killara NSW 2071
Tel: 61 2 8901 4499
Fax: 61 2 8901 4599
Email: info@staydownunder.com.au
www.staydownunder.com.au

The University Housing Office also displays Homestays on their listing service and students can find a Homestay this way once they arrive in Sydney. This method has the advantage of enabling the students to arrange a meeting with any prospective Homestay before they commit to an arrangement. The placement fee charged by Homestay agents ranges from \$220 to \$275 approximately.

The weekly rent in a Homestay may vary slightly but prices are approximately \$240-265 per week with meals provided and \$235 per week without meals provided. Homestay requires 4 weeks rent in advance at the beginning of your stay and then you generally pay on a monthly or fortnightly basis after this.

Homestay agencies usually require that the student pay for four weeks up front which is generally non-refundable. Homestay agencies also require that students give two weeks notice if they are leaving their Homestay. It is important to note that Homestay arrangements are not covered by the tenancy laws which exist in New South Wales, Australia. This means there are no laws to stop Homestay hosts from setting unfair rules and there is no protection against being asked to move out with little prior notice.