



Stirling Ranges, image courtesy of City of Albany

# SOUTH REGIONAL TAFE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ARRIVAL GUIDE

Welcome to Western Australia (WA)! This guide will provide you with valuable information to help you settle into your college and surrounding area. We hope you enjoy your studies at South Regional TAFE!

## Quick links

You can find out more about the South West, where to eat, and what to see by selecting a link below:

- > [westernaustralia.com](http://westernaustralia.com)
- > [australiassouthwest.com](http://australiassouthwest.com)
- > [visitwa.com.au](http://visitwa.com.au)

## Airport pick-up

If you arrive in Perth at the **International Airport** you can take a **free terminal transfer bus** to the Domestic Airport if you need to take a flight to the Albany Airport. The terminal bus operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

**TransWA** provides a bus service between Perth and south regional Western Australia.

## Accommodation

Hopefully you will arrive in advance of your course commencing to secure good accommodation, as per the date stated on your student visa.

Accommodation at Edith Cowan University's **Bunbury Campus Living Village** is available for students studying at the Bunbury campus. The International Student Centre at your college may be able to provide assistance in identifying suitable accommodation in one of the local suburbs.

If you are staying in temporary accommodation and need to find permanent housing you can visit the **Accommodation section** on the TAFE International Western Australia (TIWA) website to review your options including rental accommodation and homestay.

## Campus locations

Your South Regional TAFE campus location is indicated on your Letter of Offer. Please select from the list below to view important information about the campus:

- > [Albany](#)
- > [Bunbury](#)
- > [Margaret River](#)

## Transport

TransRegional is managed by the Public Transport Authority and operates town public bus services in regional WA. Bus services operate in Albany, Bunbury, and Busselton

For timetables, fares and service information visit the **[TransRegional website](#)**.

## Student Concession Travel

As a full-time student, you are entitled to concessions on **TransRegional** and regional bus services with your **Regional Tertiary SmartRider card**. This is the cheapest and most convenient way for students to travel. You must carry a valid card when travelling or you could be fined.

## Restaurants, cafes, events and more

Please see below for details about the restaurants, cafes and events in your local area.

**Albany Campus** - Albany and its surrounds offer some incredible views, beaches, walk trails and bays.

The Food for Thought Cafe & Catering is located in E block at the Albany campus and offers a range of meals for dine in and takeaway.

Visit the [City of Albany website](#) to find out about events and local services. The City of Albany has also produced a [Dining Out Guide](#) that explores the exciting food options in the area.

**Bunbury Campus** - Bunbury is WA's third largest city, with a wide variety of food and entertainment options.

The campus has a Co-op store which runs the canteen and sells coffee as well as providing bookshop services. There is an alfresco dining area outside the canteen. Visit the [City of Bunbury website](#) to find out about events and local services. You can find out about food options in Bunbury on the [visitbunbury.com.au](#) website.

**Margaret River Campus** - This region is known for many award winning wineries, cafes and restaurants, with over 80 wineries in the Margaret River region.

Visit the [City of Busselton website](#) to find out about events and local services. [The Shire of Augusta Margaret River – Your Margaret River Region website](#) has a wealth of information including the best casual and fine dining restaurants and cafes in the region.

## Places of worship

South Regional TAFE embraces religious and spiritual diversity.

You can find out about practicing religion in Western Australia or your local place of worship by selecting your religion from the list below:

- > [Buddhist Society of Western Australia](#)
- > [Council of Churches of Western Australia \(Christian\)](#)
- > [Hindu Association of Western Australia](#)
- > [Islamic Council of Western Australia](#)
- > [Jewish Community Council of Western Australia \(Inc\)](#)
- > [Sikh Association of Western Australia](#)

## Overseas Health Cover

All student visa holders must have Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) for the duration of their student visa. TIWA has a preferred provider agreement with Bupa. Students may obtain Overseas Student Health Cover from the provider of their choice. You can find useful information regarding Bupa services below:

- > [Bupa Direct Bill Doctors](#)
- > [24-hour Bupa advice phone service](#)
- > [View the full Bupa Health Cover Flyer](#)

For more information visit the [OSHC](#) section on the TIWA website.

## Safety

For life threatening emergencies (police, fire and ambulance) call 000 and request an interpreter if you need one. 000 is a free call. Dial 112 from mobile phones. If the situation is not urgent and you would like to contact the police call 131 444.

For more information visit the [Safety](#) section on the TIWA website.

## Banking

It may be possible to open a bank account before you leave your country, otherwise you will need to do this upon arrival. It is important to take your passport with you as a form of identification.

The following banks that offer accounts for international students:

- > [ANZ](#)
- > [Commonwealth Bank](#)
- > [Westpac](#)
- > [National Australia Bank \(NAB\)](#)

## Part-time work

Your international student visa lets you work in Australia; however, you are limited to the number of hours you can work – 40 hours a fortnight during each semester and unlimited hours during semester breaks. For detailed information, check the [Department of Immigration and Border Protection's \(DIBP\) website](#).

## Tax File Number

If you want to work, you will need a tax file number (TFN). You can apply online at the [Australian Tax Office](#), this may take up to two weeks.

## Finding Work

Places you can look for a job are:

- > [seek.com.au](#)
- > [jobfinder.com.au](#)
- > [studentedge.com.au](#)

## Orientation

It is essential that you attend your [South Regional TAFE Orientation session](#) as you will:

- > receive your timetable of classes
- > be given a tour of the campus
- > be advised of important information relative to your studies (including safety and OSHC)
- > find out more information if you have not received an OSHC card
- > find out how to set up your [Unique Student Identifier \(USI\)](#) that is linked to your enrolment record



Great southern forests, image courtesy of Tourism WA

## International Student Support

The South Regional TAFE International Office staff can provide support for your study or personal issues.

South Regional TAFE staff can assist you with:



- > Advice for continuing students on courses and pathways
- > Your application for continuing enrolment
- > Advice on change of course/ units pathways
- > Updating your contact details (i.e. address, email, mobile)
- > Monitoring your class progress and assisting you to achieve your study goals
- > Overseas Student Health Care Information
- > TransRegional information on public transportation (buses and trains)

There are also international student counsellors that are trained to assist you with any problems you may have with managing life in WA.

### International Centre

#### Contact details

##### Bunbury Campus

 Robertson Dr, Bunbury |  0417 937 894

 [studentservices@srtafe.wa.edu.au](mailto:studentservices@srtafe.wa.edu.au)

##### Albany Campus

 5 Anson Rd, Albany |  9892 8722

 [studentsupport@srtafe.wa.edu.au](mailto:studentsupport@srtafe.wa.edu.au)


## TAFE International Western Australia (TIWA)

TIWA is here to assist you before and during your studies in Western Australia. TIWA works very closely with South Regional TAFE and can provide you with information about:

- > Course advice for new students
- > Student visa and health cover issues
- > Processing tuition fee payments and refunds
- > Airport pickup and transfer
- > TAFE orientation program
- > Referrals for further assistance (study or personal); and
- > Any process you are unsure of

### Contact details

 9218 2100

 [admissions.tiwa@dtwd.wa.gov.au](mailto:admissions.tiwa@dtwd.wa.gov.au)

 [www.tafeinternational.wa.edu.au](http://www.tafeinternational.wa.edu.au)

 [www.facebook.com/TAFEInternationalWesternAustralia](https://www.facebook.com/TAFEInternationalWesternAustralia)

Please make sure your email address is up to date as this is our primary method of contact.

## Council for International Students of Western Australia (CISWA)

Each year the Council for International Students of Western Australia (CISWA) organises a large number of activities to help international students to enjoy exploring our state of Western Australia and also meeting and mixing with other students and members of our local community.

You can find out more on the [CISWA website](#) or check out their [Facebook page](#).

We hope you enjoy your stay in Western Australia!

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The recruitment and admission of international students to TAFE colleges in Western Australia is managed by TAFE International Western Australia, a unit within the Western Australian Department of Training and Workforce Development.

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