

ACCOMMODATION GUIDE

STUDY WORK GROW





IN THIS GUIDE

ACCOMMODATION – THE BASICS
IS MOVING OUT RIGHT FOR ME?
PLAN YOUR MOVE
ON CAMPUS ACCOMMODATION
GUARANTEED ACCOMMODATION
RESIDENTIAL COLLEGES
SPECIALIST ACCOMMODATION
PRIVATE ACCOMMODATION
THINK ABOUT FINANCES
SCHOLARSHIPS

A guide to Accommodation for Year 12 students looking to move out in 2022.

Version 1

Due to the ever changing world as we live with COVID some of the programs or organisations listed in this Guide may be subject to change. We always recommend that you do your own research and contact organisations directly.

ACCOMMODATION

Thinking of moving out of home to study?

You'll need to find a place to live.

It might seem a little scary, but there are plenty of benefits to flying the nest.

Living away from home can open you up to a huge variety of new experiences. From exploring different things and making new friends, to helping you build your independence.

You have lots of options when it comes to finding a place to live while you study. Many universities and training organisations have on campus accommodation facilities.

Or, you might want to live in an external, privately run accommodation built just for students.

You might even take a big leap and rent your first house or apartment.



Lots of people feel that moving out of home is a logical step once they've finished school. Maybe you have your heart set on a dream course, but no where in your town offers it. Some people move because they want to experience living in a different part of the country.

Whatever your reason, always remember that there's no timeline. If you're unsure or not ready to move out, there's nothing wrong with staying at home. Online study is also becoming more popular and accessible, and is a great alternative.

But if you've decided you're ready to step out into the big, wide world, this guide is packed with information you might find useful.

MOVING OUT COULD BE AN OPTION IF YOU...



Want more independence



Have a specific plan



Want to meet new people



Are comfortable with finances



Live in a regional or remote location



Want a change of scenery

Do any of these sound like you?

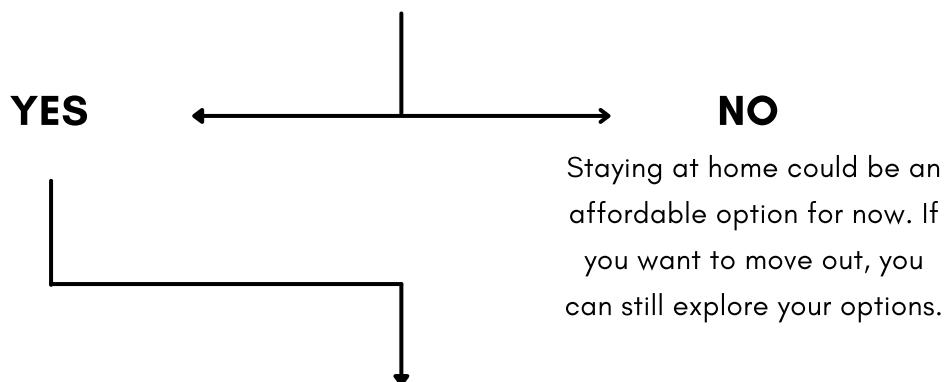
- Yes, I resonate with most of these
- No, I need to do some more thinking

The important thing to remember is that there's no pressure for you to move out ASAP. Lots of people live at home for a variety of different reasons, and that's okay.

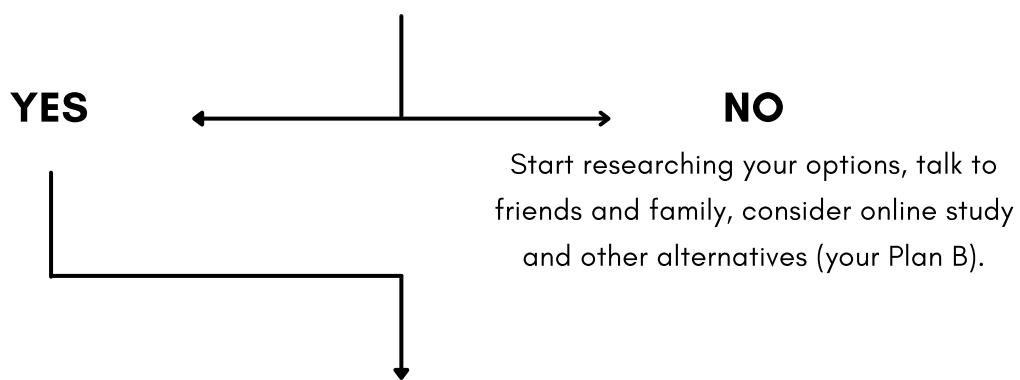
Living at home also doesn't mean you can't experience the same things people do when they move out - you might just have to get a bit creative.

SHOULD I MOVE OUT?

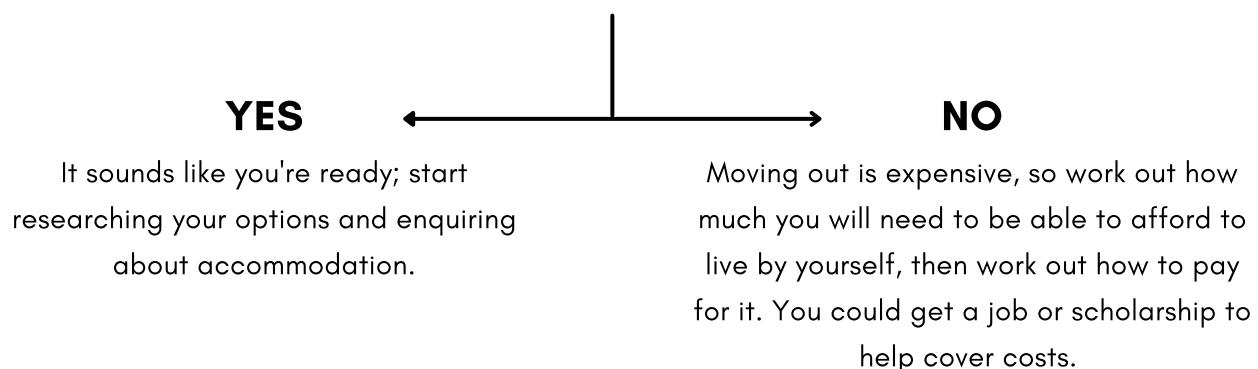
DO YOU WANT TO MOVE AWAY?



DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOU WANT TO GO?



DO YOU KNOW HOW YOU WILL PAY?



PLAN YOUR MOVE

You're probably not going to be able to just hit the road and hope for the best. You'll have the best chance of success if you do some planning before you move.

Keep connected: Make sure wherever you go that you'll have that all-important internet connection included – or you could struggle staying up to date with course work.

Location, location, location: When you're searching for accommodation and focused on your budget, it's easy to go for the cheapest option. But if you're stuck in the middle of nowhere you could be spending a fortune just getting there and back each day.

Budget: You'll need to work out how you're going to pay for your accommodation, and don't forget to budget for essential living – any bills, food, etc.

Security: It's really important that you have somewhere to live where you feel safe, and it will help to ease your parents' worries too.

Do some research: Check websites for reviews, ask in discussion groups or try to find past students who will be honest about their digs.

Creature comforts: It might make things easier to settle in if there are communal areas where you can hang out and meet other students.



UNIVERSITY ON-CAMPUS ACCOMMODATION

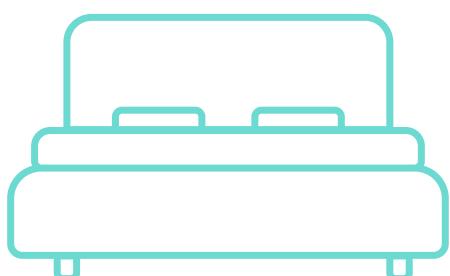
This is probably the first - and most popular - choice that springs to mind when you think about living away from home to study. Heaps of universities have purpose-built accommodation facilities on campus, making it a breeze to travel to and from class, and get the whole uni experience.

Many places offer a variety of options to choose from. These can include things like:

- Studio/one bedroom rooms
- Twin rooms
- Large dormitory or house-style rooms with common spaces and private bedrooms

When you're picking which style of accommodation you'd like, keep some things in mind. If you're moving alone, would you mind sharing with someone you might not know, or would you rather live by yourself? Would you mind living in a mixed environment, or would you prefer living in a unisex space? Consider whether you'd be comfortable sharing spaces like bathrooms as well, if you need to.

You will usually need to pay a weekly or monthly fee to stay, similar to rent. This might also includes the cost of utilities, such as water and electricity, so you don't need to pay for them separately. Remember to check what's included before signing up.



One of the best things about living on campus is all the other benefits that come with it, such as:

- Being close to your classes
- Common rooms and shared facilities, e.g. gyms and pools
- An internet connection
- On campus security
- Student living ambassadors to answer any questions you might have
- Included white goods and furniture
- Access exclusive events and opportunities

Some accommodation offer extras like meals, so your food is also all taken care of.

Note that the facilities may vary between universities and even between campuses, so make sure you research all your options thoroughly to find the best choice for you.

One of the tricky things about on campus accommodation is that spaces can be limited and in high-demand, so it's important to get your applications in ASAP to make sure you don't miss out.

To find out whether your chosen uni offers on campus accommodation, visit their website or give the future students team a call.

GUARANTEED ACCOMMODATION

As we mentioned, on campus accommodation can often be extremely popular, and there are only so many rooms. So how can you feel secure knowing you'll have a place to live when you leave home?

Thankfully, many universities now offer what's called **guaranteed accommodation** – this means if you apply by a certain date or meet certain criteria, they will guarantee that you will have a place to stay.

The most obvious benefit is that you can rest easy knowing you're not going to be left in the lurch if accommodation spaces fill up quickly.

However, it might also mean you have less flexibility when choosing the type of accommodation you're put into, so keep that in mind if you're chasing something specific.

Universities with guaranteed accommodation:

- [Australian National University](#)
- [Charles Sturt University](#)
- [Curtin University](#)
- [Federation University](#)
- [James Cook University](#)
- [University of Canberra](#)
- [University of Melbourne](#)
- [University of Newcastle](#)
- [University of Queensland](#)
- [University of Tasmania](#)
- [University of Western Australia](#)
- [University of Wollongong](#)
- [Victoria University](#)

Before you jump in and apply, remember to check the eligibility details and agreement small print carefully.



RESIDENTIAL COLLEGES

This style of accommodation is very similar to the on campus options offered by universities. Residential Colleges are often located on or nearby a university campus' grounds, but are run by a separate institution, not the university.

Residential Colleges are often smaller and more personal than larger on campus facilities operated by universities.

Like other uni accommodation, Colleges come in a variety of styles, from shared to individual rooms, unisex and mixed options, furnished or unfurnished, and also often include common areas and facilities.

Keep in mind many Colleges may be religiously affiliated and offer things like pastoral care and spiritual services (though this isn't always the case). Note that this doesn't mean you need to follow a specific religion to stay at a particular College - they welcome people of all faiths.

Residential Colleges offer additional options and services that you might not get in other places, including:

- Special events
- Exclusive groups and clubs
- Separate facilities only for those at the College
- Sporting teams and opportunities

Plus, they often come with the same creature comforts as other uni accommodation, like included internet, utilities, furnishings, and security.



SPECIALIST ACCOMMODATION

Want to move out and live with other students in a supportive environment, but not sure if you want to live on campus? This is the option for you. There are tons of specialist student accommodation providers out there who offer exclusive living for students, with the added benefit of being located in the heart of the action.

These types of accommodation are run by private providers, but are still only offered exclusively to students. This means you get to live in a space with other like-minded people, while having a bit more freedom.

They offer a ton of benefits similar to other types of uni accommodation, including:

- On-site facilities
- Help and support services
- Security
- Included utilities and furniture
- Special events

Because these places aren't affiliated with a specific uni, you can mingle with students from other universities as well.

Many specialist student accommodations are unsurprisingly located near uni campuses, making travel easy. It's worth double checking their distance from uni and your travel options though.

Here are some providers you might like to check out:

- [Iglu](#)
- [UniLodge](#)
- [Urbanest](#)
- [Student One](#)
- [Scape](#)
- [Atira](#)



ACCOMMODATION IN DETAIL - SCAPE

Wondering what it's like to live in student accommodation close to uni?

Dedicated accommodation buildings like Scape offer a great way to experience uni life without living on campus. You'll make new friends, join in events and activities, and have a safe, comfortable place to call 'home' while you're studying. Accommodation providers like Scape are centrally located near one or more universities to make it easy to get to class and back again.

*"My favourite Scape moment cannot be put into one specific event, but instead it is every day since I've been here. **This is the place I call home.** Home is where you feel comfortable and also knowing you have a support system. I am making memories here day by day and even if I could go back in time, I would choose Scape again in a heartbeat."*

Adriana, Scape Swanston

Accommodation Options

Private Studios, Twin Bedroom, Shared Apartments with 4 to 7 Bedrooms.

Eligibility

You must be enrolled as a student in tertiary education (of any sort).

Costs

Starting from \$269 per week.

Locations

Adelaide, Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne

Like to find out more and secure your place for next year? Check out scape.com.au today.



PRIVATE ACCOMMODATION

This is the option that gives you the most freedom and flexibility - renting your own property. You have the freedom to live wherever you want, near or far, and rent can often be cheaper than through specialist accommodation (bear in mind you'll have other expenses to cover).

Here are some of the benefits of renting your own private property:

- Live wherever you want
- Complete privacy - it can just be all yours
- Choose the style of living you want (house, unit, apartment...)
- Pick your own furniture and appliances
- Extra comforts that are often absent in other types of student living: bigger spaces, outdoors areas, extra rooms
- Live with friends even if they're not studying

One of the main downsides of living in a private rental is that it often doesn't come with all of the inclusions student accommodation does. You may need to get your own internet connection, it might not be furnished, and you'll probably have to pay separately for utilities like electricity, gas and water.

On the upside, experiencing these things now could give you more confidence moving to your next rental or when the time comes to purchase your own place.

Renting a private property is a huge step towards your independence. Signing a contract is a pretty big deal too - you won't be able to easily back out if you change your mind.

We recommend that you speak to a Real Estate Agent and get all of the information you'll need upfront before signing anything. They can also help you find a place that is perfect for you.

Keen to go on the hunt yourself? There are places you can look online, such as realestate.com.au (who have also written a [handy guide on tenant rights in Australia](#)).

If you do want to rent your own place, we recommend that you do some research into the area you'll be living in too. Make sure you it's practical and that you'll feel safe and comfortable there, especially if you'll be living on your own.



THINK ABOUT FINANCES

Even if you've been working and saving up, moving out of home is going to be pretty expensive, no matter which option you choose.

If you have a job secured where you're moving to, excellent! If not, you'll need to think hard about how you'll be able to finance your move and everyday living costs beyond that (and not necessarily by just begging mum or dad).

There are lots of little day-to-day expenses you might not have thought about before when you live at home - will you need money to catch the bus each day? Who's going to pay for the Netflix subscription? Will food keep magically appearing in the fridge (hint - it won't)?

Having a well-prepared budget is a huge advantage, and can help you be prepared in case any unexpected expenses pop up. Plus, it will help you save for other future goals (like buying a car).

One of the advantages of having a roommate is being able to split costs. Make sure you talk to the person you'll be living with in advance and hash-out who's going to be paying for what, or whether you'll split all bills equally.

Here's what we recommend:

Plan

Work out where you want to live and which option suits you best. You need these details so you can work out how much everything will cost.

Budget

Once you know how much you need, write a clear budget that lists every item. You'll need to know how you're going to pay for **everything** in the budget. We've given you a headstart in our budget sheet.

Save

You'll know how much you need, so set some goals and start saving. A contingency plan could be a good idea, just in case you don't manage to save enough.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Speaking of finances, here's an option you might not have considered: scholarships.

Universities and even external providers sometimes offer scholarships exclusively to help you with the costs of accommodation. This could be something like subsidising (or even completely covering) the cost of rent, or providing you with money that you can put towards living expenses.

Here are some we've found to get you started, but feel free to search both university databases and our handy [Scholarship Database](#) for more:

- [USQ Residential College Scholarship](#)
- [UWA Accommodation Scholarships](#)
- [Melbourne Accommodation Bursary](#)
- [Newcastle Indigenous Accommodation Scholarship](#)
- [University of Canberra Accommodation Scholarships](#)
- [Iglu Regional Scholarships](#)

Another option to consider is any other financial assistance that might be available to you. Services Australia and Centrelink offer a variety of financial support options to students and young people looking to move away from home for study.

Some of the services you may eligible for include:

- [Youth Allowance](#)
- [Relocation Scholarship](#)
- [Rent Assistance](#)
- [ABSTUDY Living Allowance](#)



ACCOMMODATION BUDGET

| ONE-OFF EXPENSES | | |
|--|-----------------|------------------|
| ITEM | COST \$ | |
| Tickets / Fuel / Other Travel Costs | | |
| Bond / Deposit | | |
| Removalist Fees | | |
| Furniture / Appliances | | |
| WEEKLY LIVING COSTS | | |
| Rent | | |
| Groceries | | |
| Transport / Fuel / Parking | | |
| Phone / Internet | | |
| Utilities (Electricity, Water, Gas, etc) | | |
| Entertainment (Nights out, Netflix, etc) | | |
| Medical (Medications, Doctors Visits, etc) | | |
| Insurance (Car, Contents, etc) | | |
| Luxuries (Takeaway, Non-essentials, etc) | | |
| Uni Costs (Textbooks, Stationery, etc) | | |
| SAVINGS | | |
| Total Amount needed: | Savings so far: | Savings to make: |
| \$_____ | \$_____ | \$_____ |

SAVINGS TRACKER

COVID AND YOUR OPTIONS

The last few years have been tough and a lot of plans have had to be changed.

Because less international students are coming to live and study in Australia, this means there may be more accommodation places available for domestic students.

If you do decide that you'd like to move, make sure you're aware of any restrictions that may apply, particularly if you're travelling interstate. Remember that these restrictions can change quickly, so always keep up to date. You may need to quarantine or self-isolate upon arrival.

Universities and specialised accommodation providers are working hard to ensure that their residences are COVID-safe for students. They are providing extra support and services to anyone in need, whether you are staying or leaving your accommodation.

If you have any questions or doubts, contact the accommodation provider in advance and ask.

It's important that you feel completely safe and comfortable moving out of home. So if you want or need to stay at home, there's nothing wrong with that.

You could look into online study options instead, start saving up, and think about moving some time in the future.



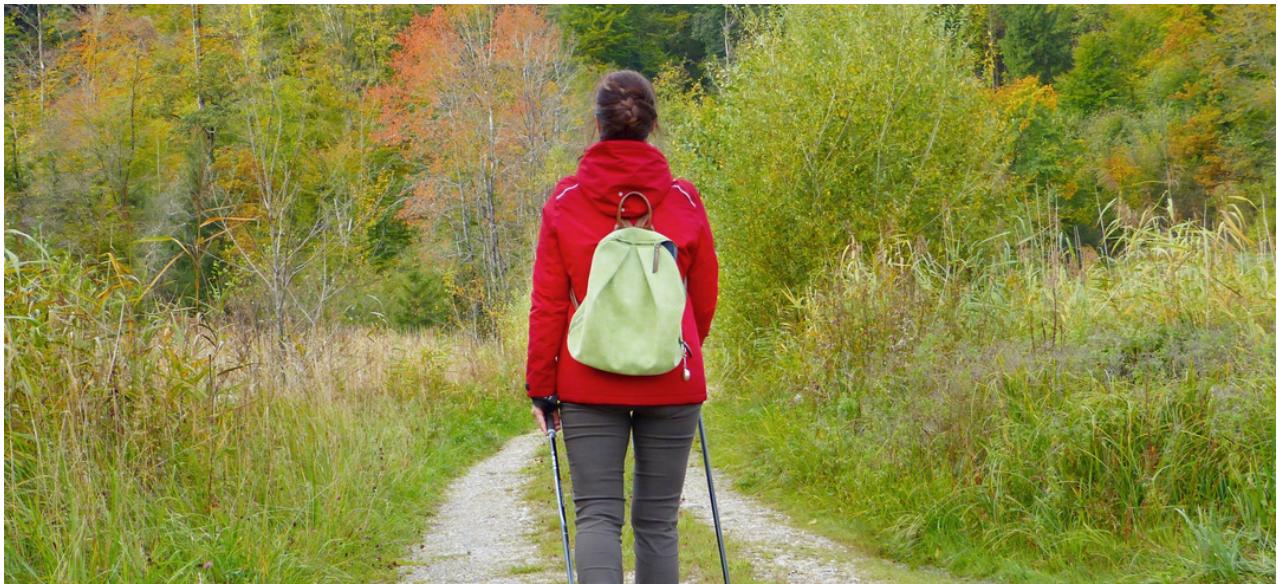
STUDY WORK GROW

Since 2006, we've been committed to supporting Australian schools with quality, researched information that can help make the transition to post-school life more successful.

Moving away from home is a huge step in your life, and can be an exciting and enriching experience. You'll have the opportunity to grow as a person and learn valuable skills you'll carry with you throughout the rest of your life.

If you're after more information, then you can head over to our University page, and have a browse of all the other resources on our website.

We wish all students the best of luck with their planning and hope that you have amazing experiences that enrich your lives, no matter what you do.



- The Research Team at Study Work Grow