

MOVING TO CANBERRA



Campus Accommodation

There are a number of on campus accommodation facilities, which are all different and will cater to individual tastes.

To assess the individual colleges, visit accom.anu.edu.au

Rental Properties

Securing a rental property is difficult in January/February, so be advised to start early, leaving a few weeks before the beginning of semester to search for rental properties. Depending on where you are willing to live and how many housemates you have/want, rental prices for one person tend to float around \$90-\$200 pw.

Suburbs in close proximity (walking distance) include: O'Connor, Turner, Braddon, Campbell, Reid, and Ainslie.

Rental properties tend to be cheaper the further out of the city that you get, so if distance is not a problem, try suburbs a bit further out of the city, such as those in Belconnen or Woden, which are usually a little cheaper.

Generally speaking, a payment of between 6-8 weeks rent equivalent (4 weeks for the bond, and the first 2-4 weeks rent) is required upon signing a lease.

Visit www.allhomes.com.au to view rental properties in Canberra.

Textbooks

While the ANU medical school website provides you with a list of suggested textbooks, it is all encompassing and should in no way be seen as an absolute list, and it is not necessary to purchase all or any on the list. If you come from a Medical Science background, you may find that you already have all the textbooks that you need, and may only need to supplement with a few.

Also note that each PBL room, of which each student has 24/7 access to, contains a full complement of medical textbooks that can be used at any time.

Getting Around in Canberra

If you don't have a car, don't fear. Canberra is still relatively simple to get around.

Bring a bike with you!! Canberra is filled with numerous bike tracks that can allow you to get most places without using the roads. Bike maps can be purchased from Travel Smart (ACT Planning & Land Authority, Urban Services, ACT Government – www.act.gov.au for locations.)

Buses may also be utilized; especially good are the intertown express services that run from Belconnen, through Civic, and then Woden and Tuggeranong, which come relatively frequently. Other services are available to most other suburbs in Canberra, though they come less frequently. Visit www.action.act.gov.au for information regarding the bus services in Canberra, as well as concession prices.

Some useful organizations

Telephone Connections:

- Telstra Shop – www.telstra.com.au
 - Shop DG23B, Canberra Centre
Bunda St, Canberra ACT
(02) 6247 9777
 - Shop 76, Westfield Shoppingtown Belconnen
Benjamin Way, Belconnen ACT
(02) 6200 6200
 - Shop 22, Woden Plaza
Keltie St, Woden ACT
(02) 6208 4066
- Optus – www.optus.com.au
 - Shop CG29A Canberra Centre, City Walk
Civic Square, Canberra City ACT
(02) 6257 9600

Electricity, Water and Gas Connections:

- ActewAGL
 - 13 12 93
 - www.actewagl.com.au

For lodgment of bonds by landlords and related enquiries:

- ACT Office of Rental Bonds
 - (02) 6207 1178
 - www.rgo.act.gov.au/rentalbonds.shtml

Changing your address:

- Australia Post redirection
 - Visit your nearest Australia Post to enquire about the redirection of mail. The closest one is on Campus within the newsagency in Union Court. Post Offices are also located in all major town centres (Belconnen, Tuggeranong, Woden, Civic), and many of the smaller suburbs. Visit www.australiapost.com.au for general information and information regarding locations.
- Making sure to change contact details for:
 - Banks (accounts, credit cards)
 - Universities (alumni details, graduation information, academic records)
 - Electoral Commission information (available at the post office)
 - 13 23 26
 - www.aec.gov.au
 - Insurance companies (health, personal, car, house, home and contacts)
 - Landlord (forwarding of previous mail)
 - Licenses and Registration
 - For the ACT – www.rego.act.gov.au
 - Medicare
 - 13 20 11
 - www.medicareaustralia.gov.au
 - Tax Office (HECS statements etc.)
 - www.ato.gov.au
 - Any associations/subscriptions
 - Centrelink (13 2490 – For Students Line)
 - www.centrelink.gov.au

Setting up House

While Canberra has a number of small shopping strips in each of the suburbs, you need to visit the bigger shopping centres to do any shopping for important household items. If living at any of the self-catered colleges, you will need to provide your own cooking and eating utensils. The bigger shopping precincts are located at the four major district centres (visit the websites to obtain a more thorough list of shops available):

- Canberra Centre (Myer, David Jones, Target, Big W)
 - www.canberracentre.com.au
- Woden Westfield (David Jones, Big W)
 - www.westfield.com/woden
- Belconnen Westfield (Myer, Target, Kmart)
 - www.westfield.com/belconnen
- Tuggeranong Hyperdome (Myer, Target, Kmart, Good guys and more)

Bargain Furniture

If you're looking for cheaper furniture, and aren't bothered by second-hand, visit Fyshwick. Fyshwick is the industrial centre of Canberra, and also has outlets such as Fantastic Furniture, Officeworks, Bunnings, a Fresh Food Market, amongst other things.

Also, try the university classifieds for a secondhand bargain – billboard.anu.edu.au/classifieds.asp

And Finally, Welcome to the ANU Medical School. We hope to see you all soon.....

