NEW STUDENT GUIDE

Everything you need to know to get your student experience off to a great start!
Welcome

Welcome to the University of Aberdeen community. We know there is lots to do and think about before you arrive but don’t worry, we are here to help. This guide will help you settle into your student life for the coming weeks, and beyond.

Welcome Week starts on the first weekend in September. There are loads of activities and information sessions to help you get the most of your time in Aberdeen.

Click the links below to get started!

- Book Student Accommodation
- Register for Meet & Greet
- Get Connected!
- Enjoy Welcome Week
Arrival in Aberdeen

Driving
Will you be moving into halls and bringing your car? Read the FAQs on the accommodation website abdn.ac.uk/accommodation/faq.

Coach/Train
If you are arriving by coach or train, these stations are both within Union Square Shopping Centre. It’s recommended you take a taxi to your accommodation via the taxi rank (approx. £20).

Airport
During Welcome Weekend our friendly team will meet you at the airport and help get you on your way.

If you arrive outside of Welcome Weekend, you can either take the Jet 727 bus to town or a taxi direct to your accommodation.

Arrival Top Tips
- Register for Meet & Greet Service
- Keep important information to hand
- Note your destination postcode:
  University hall postcodes
- Download the First Bus and Stagecoach mobile apps to purchase tickets.

Living in University Halls

Hillhead reception is open 24 hours, meaning you can collect your keys at any time from the date your contract begins. If you arrive early, please ensure you’ve made alternative accommodation arrangements.

If you haven’t booked your accommodation yet, please contact the Accommodation Office who will be able to help you with this. You will also be able to find lots of information on the accommodation website.

Email: studentaccomm@abdn.ac.uk
Web: abdn.ac.uk/accommodation

Meet your Flatmates
When you have been allocated a room, you will be able to join your hall’s Facebook Group. You can chat to your flatmates before you arrive, organise buying shared kitchen items, and plan the events you are attending during Welcome Week.

Accommodation Top Tips
- WiFi set up - now available for gaming in all university accommodation
- Set up a payment plan
- Get a TV Licence
Registration

01 Start your registration process. Complete these steps before arrival in Aberdeen.
- Upload a photo of yourself now to ensure your ID card is ready when you arrive. Pictures submitted after 28th August may not be ready for collection on arrival.
- Activate your IT account, email and password.
  *Please note this can only be completed 30 days before your start date;
- Note your password - you’ll use it to access everything, including WiFi;
- Confirm your Personal, Financial and Academic details through eRegistration.
- You (or your sponsor) must pay at least 50% of your tuition fees;
- Sponsored students must send a copy of your sponsorship award letter to tuitionfees@abdn.ac.uk.

02 Choose your Courses through MyCurriculum. Complete this step when you’ve completed Step 1.
- Select your courses using MyCurriculum;
- Once you confirm your course choices you can create your timetable in MyTimetable;
- There is a delay of up to 3 hours between completing MyCurriculum and accessing MyTimetable.

03 Complete the registration process. Get yourself registered as a student.
- Once you arrive in Aberdeen you can collect your ID card.
- International students must bring:
  - Your passport;
  - BRP Card (if applicable);
  - ATAS certificate (if applicable).

04 Orientation, Induction and Welcome Week.
- During Welcome Week it is important to attend the different presentations and get involved with activities;
- Register for New Student Orientation Sessions;
- Attend your Academic Induction: Undergraduate or Postgraduate;
- Attend your Personal Tutoring meeting (UG only).

Get connected!
Join the Student Life Facebook or Twitter feeds. They are an invaluable source of news, information, deals and promotions.

Please note that these steps are not necessarily immediately consecutive. To be aware of the dates when each step opens click here.
Welcome Week

A full week of different activities and events allowing you the opportunity to meet people, and make new friends.

Welcome Weekend Arrivals
Welcome Weekend is the first weekend in September. University representatives are at the airport from 8am-11.30pm Saturday and Sunday. Make sure you register in advance to let us know you’ll be arriving.

New Students’ Orientation
A two day, conference style, event with various information sessions designed for new students (Monday & Tuesday). Register after you’ve completed eRegistration.

• Create your own schedule with the sessions you like most
• 30-50 min sessions on topics including: MyUniversity, Library & IT Essentials, Studying for University, Exploring Scotland, Banking in the UK, Safety First, AUSA, and much more.

Academic Induction
• Specific session(s) where you get a chance to meet fellow students, key academics and other staff in your department/school
• Undergraduate or Postgraduate

AUSA Freshers’ Week
A weeks’ worth of activities to get you excited and geared up for the rest of the year! It’s a chance for you to visit the Freshers’ Fairs where you can find out about over 200 societies and sports groups. And make sure you go to the Food and Drink Fair; try LOADS of free food samples, and find out where you can eat on campus!

We are lucky enough to have 14 cafes or food outlets across campus, each with its own style, vibe and food selection - so you’re never too far away from a hot meal, refreshment or a quick snack. Whatever your budget, we’ve got you covered!

WIN A SCHOOL BBQ PARTY!
The King’s Cup is a fun-filled competition where you get the chance to help win your school a fantastic barbecue party. Simply take part in selected events during Welcome Week to earn stickers for your school. To find out more visit: abdn.ac.uk/kingscup

THE KING’S CUP

COLLECT T-SHIRT
ATTEND SELECT EVENTS
COLLECT STICKER REWARDS
MOST STICKERS WINS

Get connected!

Welcome to the University of Aberdeen New Student Guide.
Go Global

If you want to have an international experience during your studies, there are dedicated service, facilities and support to help you meet people from around the world, learn new languages and potentially study internationally!

International Centre

The International Centre is an activity and community centre for all students to have an international experience.

Language groups, local excursions, and volunteering opportunities with which to involve yourself.

Go Abroad

Many of our programmes at the University offer the possibility of a semester or year abroad. If this would interest you, come to the International Centre during Go Abroad Office Hours.

Top Tips

- Visit the International Centre
- Collect an International Welcome Pack from the International Centre
- Broaden your experience and get involved with language groups

Loyalty & Reward

Collect points, get discounts and rewards with the University's loyalty and secure mobile payment app.

Loyalty & Rewards

Get automatically rewarded for buying food and drinks on campus; no more paper stamp cards! Collect points and rewards for every purchase.

Discounts

Constantly updated range of discounts on your favourite products.

Payment

Pay using Yoyo's secure payment feature. Everything paid for by Yoyo earns you points that you can spend on whatever you want from the reward store!

Buy in Bulk

Pay upfront on things like coffee or snacks, and save money.
Resources
Enhance your academic or social life by using these amazing University services.

Infohub
The one-stop shop to help you with anything you need including:
- Payment of fees and accommodation (cash not accepted);
- Bank letters, council tax exemptions;
- Proof of study and student record cards;
- ID cards;
- Accommodation information;
- Personal tutors and peer mentoring;
- Access to Registry Officers.

Aberdeen Sports Village
Scotland’s premier sports and exercise facility supporting high performance student athletes and university sports clubs through the Sport & Exercise Team.

Doctor/Dentist Registration
Register as soon as you arrive as you don’t want to wait until you get sick.
- Where you can register depends on where you live in Aberdeen;
- Once you are registered with a doctor, you can register with an NHS Dentist.

Tier 4 students will have been required to pay the Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS) and will have access to National Health Service (NHS) treatment when they arrive.
- Payment is required for dental treatment;
- If you extend your visa, you must make an additional payment;
- Short Term (Go Abroad) students must ensure they have their medical insurance before arriving;
- EEA & Swiss Nationals should have their EHIC from their country of residence.

Careers Service
Browse jobs and internship opportunities, book appointments with careers staff, and sign up for our workshops and employer events through the website.

CluedUp
Your one-stop portal for resources and services regarding wellbeing, health, student life and safety.

Multi-faith Chaplaincy Centre
Whether you have a faith or not, you’re welcome to come and speak to our team of chaplains who will assist you with any problems.

Student Support & Advice Office
Team of advisers providing impartial advice to support students on a range of issues including specialised support for:
- Financial;
- Disabilities;
- Specific learning differences;
- Mental health;
- Visa and immigration;
- Personal issues.

Welfare Support in Halls
A Community Liaison Officer and a team of Student Resident Assistants provide support for students in the Halls of Residence including:
- Homesickness,
- Exam worries,
- Relationship/family issues
- Flatmate tensions

Counselling Service
- Meet with a professional counsellor to explore issues causing concerns or distress

Personal Tutoring
Your Personal Tutor will provide general pastoral support and will also meet with you during your studies to encourage you to reflect on your progress.

Digital Services
As a University of Aberdeen student you can benefit from a wealth of digital technology and expertise. The IT Service Desk is your first point of contact for IT support. Drop in to G84 Edward Wright or 1122 Polwarth.

Students 4 Students
Created to help you settle into university life with advice and support from a fellow student. You will be contacted in Welcome Week by your Mentor. ALL new Undergraduate students will be assigned a S4S mentor.

SLS (Student Learning Service)
The SLS offers a range of workshops, online resources and 1-2-1 sessions on various academic skills, e.g. maths, critical thinking, academic writing, study strategies and time-management.

Your Services
Support services are here to help you with any aspect of your academic, personal or social life.

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AUSA

As a student at the University, you are automatically\(^*\) a member of the Aberdeen University Students’ Association (AUSA).

AUSA represents, supports, and runs campaigns on things that matter to you. They offer a huge variety of activities to enhance your time here at the University.

\(^*\) You can opt out of AUSA membership when you complete eReg, just untick the relevant box.

Class Representatives

Class Reps provide a link between staff and students, fostering and maintaining open dialogue to improve your learning experience.

Elected at the beginning of the academic semester, they represent your views and concerns.

AUSA Advice

A resource centre for advice on:
- Private accommodation
- Living on your own
- Helping you find part-time work
- Representing you in academic appeals

Nightline\(^*\)

Nightline\(^*\) is a confidential, anonymous, non-judgemental overnight listening and information service. It is available during term time, seven days a week: 8pm to 8am.

Societies

With over 150 societies, there is a society for you! Attend the Societies Fair in Welcome Week to find out more.

Sports

AUSA has one of the biggest sports unions in any Scottish university! And with 55 different sports clubs, there is absolutely one that is right for you.

Volunteering & RAG

AUSA provide many ways to get involved and work with charities and meet new people.

You can also get involved with the Raising and Giving Committee (RAG) to raise funds for your new local area.

Bookends

Bookends is a second hand bookshop where you can buy and sell textbooks with all all profits going to RAG.

Visit the AUSA website

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aberdeenunisa