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.

Campus comes to life on 7th January with loads of activities and information sessions to help you get the most of your time in Aberdeen. Teaching commences on 14th January.

Click the links below to get started!

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

Driving
Will you be moving into University accommodation and bringing your car? Read the FAQs on the University's 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.

Remember to register for our Meet & Greet service and airport shuttle bus.

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

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.

Accommodation Top Tips
- WiFi set up - now available for gaming in all university accommodation
- Set up a payment plan
- Get a TV Licence
- Remember to buy bedding; duvet, pillows and bed linen

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 want to arrive early, please ensure you’ve made contact with reception.

Meet your Flatmates
When you have been allocated a room, you will be able to join your University accommodation's Facebook Group. You can chat to your flatmates before you arrive, get to know them and plan any events you want to go to. There are loads of events available for you to attend throughout the year – check the Student Event web page for all of these.

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.

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

Accommodation Top Tips
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- Remember to buy bedding; duvet, pillows and bed linen
Start your registration process. Complete these steps before arrival in Aberdeen.

01

Choose your Courses through MyCurriculum. Complete this step when you’ve completed Step 1.

02

Complete the registration process. Get yourself registered as a student.

03

Orientation, Induction and Welcome Week.

04

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

Upload a photo of yourself now to ensure your ID card is ready when you arrive. Pictures submitted after 20th December 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 need a visa check if...

• You’re here on a T4 (Tier 4) Visa,
• You pay fees as an overseas student.
  *Please note: if you need a visa check, you won’t be able to access MyAberdeen for your course materials or borrow library books until you have completed this step.

International students must bring:
• Your passport;
• BRP Card (if applicable);
• ATAS certificate (if applicable).

Once you arrive in Aberdeen you can collect your ID card. Students who are staying in University run accommodation will collect during check in, all other students can collect their cards from the Infohub;

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

University of Aberdeen New Student Guide
January 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 January. University representatives are at the airport from 9am-5pm Saturday and Sunday. Make sure you register in advance to let us know you’ll be arriving.

New Students’ Orientation
A new student orientation for incoming Erasmus and International Exchange students will be on 7 January in Fraser Noble 1 & 2. The orientation will run from approximately 1000-1700 on 7 January 2019. Register after you’ve completed eRegistration.

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

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 ReFReshers’ Fair where you can find out about societies and sports groups.

Eating on Campus
We are lucky enough to have 14 University run 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!

And with our mobile phone loyalty app, Yoyo, you can also earn points with each purchase of food or drink on campus! Collect your points and spend on whatever you want from the store.

CLAIM YOUR FREEBIE
Claim your free kid’s scoop of Baskin Robbins ice cream by inserting the following code into Yoyo WELCOME2019RF
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.

Claim Your Freebie
Claim your free kid’s scoop of Baskin Robbins ice cream by inserting the following code into Yoyo WELCOME2019RF
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, find out about co-curricular programmes, book appointments with specialist 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:
- Personal finance and budgeting;
- Disability support;
- Specific learning differences;
- Mental health;
- Visa and immigration;
- Personal issues.

The team is based in the Students’ Union Building on King’s Campus and run regular sessions on the Foresterhill campus during the term time.

**Support in Halls**
A Community Liaison Officer and a team of Student Resident Assistants arrange a full programme of social events and provide support for students in the Halls of Residence. They are on hand overnight to answer questions and support you with issues, such as:
- Homesickness,
- Exam worries,
- Relationship/family issues
- Flatmate tensions

**Counselling Service**
Our Counselling Service is available to you if you feel that you need a professional counsellor to explore issues causing you concerns or distress. An initial appointment will explore issues with you and allow us to select appropriate ongoing support, suitable for your needs.

**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 1st floor of the Sir Duncan Rice Library or 1:122 Polwarth.

**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.
Aberdeen University Students’ Association (AUSA) welcomes you to the University of Aberdeen. As a student of the University you are automatically enrolled as a member of your Students’ Association which is led by five Sabbatical Officers who are elected every year to represent students at the University and beyond. We aim to engage students to have a voice, fulfil their potential and get the most out of their University experience. We welcome you to the University with a celebration of new places, exciting events, new activities and new faces.

Class Representatives

AUSA provide support and training to your Class Reps. A Class Rep is a volunteer who gathers feedback and voices comments and questions about their course or degree programme. Class Reps are elected at the beginning of an academic year or semester and they represent your views and concerns, ensuring your courses and programmes are the best they can be.

To find out more about Class Reps, please visit www.ausa.org.uk/representation/ or email ausareps@abdn.ac.uk

GCTV

The student TV team who film everything from band sessions, societies and sports clubs and even short films. Contact gctv@abdn.ac.uk or visit www.facebook.com/granitecitytv

AUSA Advice

AUSA Advice offers free and impartial advice to students. You can visit us for support with anything including academic advice, health & wellbeing, part-time employment and housing. You can approach us with any question you have, and we will do our best to answer it or point you in the direction of someone who can. To get in touch you can call 01224 274200, email ausaadvice@abdn.ac.uk or pop in to the Union Building.

Nightline

Nightline is a confidential, anonymous, non-judgemental overnight listening and information service. It is available during term time 7 days a week at 8pm until 8am.

Contact listening@abdn.nightline.ac.uk or phone 01224 272829.

ASR

The student run radio station broadcasting 10am-10pm every day, live from the University of Aberdeen. Contact asrmanager@abdn.ac.uk or visit www.aberdeenstudentradio.co.uk

Societies

With over 150 clubs and societies, AUSA and the University of Aberdeen has a vibrant community spirit. Whether you are looking to learn salsa, paintball or just appreciate a fine whisky, we will have a society for you. You are encouraged to attend the Referees’ Fayre that is put on during Freshers’ Week to find out where and what you can join. Joining a club or society is a great way to meet new people and have new experiences. To view a list of current clubs and societies visit www.ausa.org.uk/societies

Sports

Do you want to try a totally new sport or are you a budding Olympian? At AUSA there are many different ways you can stay active and get involved in sport. You will find dedicated staff and a host of volunteers creating opportunities for you to stay on top of your game. AUSA boasts one of the biggest Sports Unions at any Scottish university, and with over 55 different sports clubs there is a sport for everyone. See the Sports Union website for full details: www.ausa.org.uk/sports

Volunteering & RAG

AUSA has a great volunteering support service to help you find the opportunities and charities you are looking to work with to expand your skills and meet new people. Looking to lead on some fundraising of your own? Get involved with our Raising and Giving Committee (RAG) to raise funds for your new local area.

Bookends

Bookends is a second hand student-run bookshop where you can buy and sell textbooks with proceeds going to RAG. Contact bookshop@abdn.ac.uk or visit www.facebook.com/AUSABookEnds

The Gaudie

The oldest independent student newspaper in Scotland published throughout the year. Contact editor@thegaudie.com or visit www.thegaudie.com for more information.

Visit the AUSA website

* You can opt out of AUSA membership when you complete eReg. Just untick the relevant box.