

Living Costs (cont.)

Students may additionally need bond and letting fees of approximately six weeks rent before they can move into a shared rental property.

Students have different lifestyle expectations and some may be able to survive on less money per week, however, students need enough money to live without excess worry.

Note: Parents/guardians should ensure the student arrives in Australia with at least \$1,000 and they should also have access to a further \$2,000 (in the form of travellers cheques) for their first week in Australia to cover costs relating to permanent accommodation, such as bond, rent in advance, utility connection and furnishings, etc.

Financial Support

Students who cannot pay their fees when required, or are having difficulties paying their living cost (accommodation/food) may be in breach of the Australian Government visa rule 8516, since they had to prove they had sufficient financial support for the whole period while studying in Australia before they were granted a visa.

Note: DIAC may require a student to leave Australia if they cannot support themselves financially.

Working in Australia

If you wish to work, you will need to wait until you have enrolled. Once you have enrolled, PIBT will notify DIAC that you have commenced your studies (this process takes up to 2 weeks).

For students who receive their student visa after 26 April 2008, the work permit is automatically included. Please note there **is no guarantee of work**. Work permits entitle students to work a maximum of 20 hours per week.

Note: The average wage a student may receive

would be around \$200-\$300per week, which is **insufficient** to pay all living expenses or tuition fees without support from family at home.

Privacy of Data

The Australian Government has a Privacy Act, which requires us to honour the privacy of students over 18 years if they request us not to give information to their parents. **PIBT is bound by law to respect the student's wishes**, and therefore we may not be able to discuss or pass on attendance or progress details to parents. By default, we will give information to you unless the student tells us not to do this.

Note: If we tell you in response to an enquiry that we cannot give you Information you should speak to the student about allowing PIBT to give you the information.



The Top 10 'Things You Should Know' About Studying at PIBT



PIBT CONTACT DETAILS

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Visit the web for a campus map.

CRICOS Provider Code: 01312J

Each year PIBT enrolls over 700 students, the large majority of whom enjoy their studies with us and go on to successfully complete their degrees at ECU. However, despite our best efforts, some students leave Australia without any qualification. This document is intended to warn you of the more serious potential problems so that you can help your child avoid them and maximise their chances of being a successful student – and save yourself money!

These are the 'top 10 things' that students, and family/sponsors of existing students, have told us they would have liked to have known prior to the student starting at PIBT. There are many other things which are important too of course – good study habits, handing in assignments on time etc. – but these 'top ten' are those which create the most serious problems if ignored as PIBT is unable to intervene to assist the student.

The Australian Government monitors International Students very closely whilst they are studying in Australia. For students who are doing the right thing, and this is the majority of all students, this is reassuring and is certainly no cause for worry. However, students who come to Australia to study but treat it as a holiday, or whose parents are not monitoring their progress and behaviour closely, could find themselves in trouble with the DIAC and could be deported.

Semesters

There are three semesters at PIBT, commencing in February, June and October of each year. Once a student moves to second year at ECU to complete their degree, there are two semesters, in February and July, each year. Tuition fees are payable before the commencement of each semester.

Re-enrolment dates

Students must be enrolled in their units prior to the Monday of Week 1 of semester. **A late enrolment fee of \$200.00 applies after this date.**

Note: Attendance is taken from Monday of Week 1 of semester regardless of whether a student has enrolled in units. Students who are not enrolled by the end of week two of a semester must, by law, be reported to DIAC as non-enrolled.

Fees and Late Enrolment

Tuition fees can be paid directly into PIBT's bank account, using the student's name or ID as reference. This is usually a quicker and more secure way of paying fees than transferring the funds into the student's bank account.

Students **MUST** have their fees paid by 3pm on the Friday prior to the commencement of semester. All students are reminded about organising their fees about two months before the semester commences and a provisional invoice is available via myPIBT.

A late payment fee of \$200.00 applies after the due date as students will automatically be placed on the Instalment Plan.

Note: Statistically, students who enrol late have more chance of failing a subject and have to repeat it, costing you more money!

Address in Australia

Students must notify PIBT of their current address in Perth **within 7 days of changing address**. If DIAC chooses to do a spot check of international students and they are found not to have been resident at the address on PIBT's files, DIAC may require them to leave Australia for breach of visa regulations.

Note: There is no appeal and PIBT **cannot intervene** on the student's behalf.

Attendance and Assistance

International Students are required by Australian Government law to **attend at least 80% of their classes**. PIBT is obliged by law to notify

DIAC about a student's poor attendance.

Note: Students with good attendance, and who ask for help from the many lecturers at PIBT if they are struggling, are more likely to pass subjects first time and therefore save you money.

Failing Units

Fees are reviewed annually but the main reason why the fees you end up paying may be more than what was quoted on the Letter of Offer from PIBT is because a student may have failed one or more subjects and have to pay to repeat. Some students in the past have been known to be unwilling to tell their parents the truth if they have failed a subject and tell their parents that they have passed but need more money for increased fees.

Note: If you are unsure, ask your child to send you a copy of their results, or to send you a Provisional Invoice from the fees.

Students can access these at any time through our web-based online system, **myPIBT**, and can email them to you, or fax them through any Australia Post office.

Living Costs

Living costs continue to rise and students need approximately **AU\$16-20,000 per year** which equates to \$315-400 per week:

Rent (room only, shared house)	\$150+ p/w
Food & Beverages	\$60-\$70 p/w
Gas, Electricity & Water	\$10 p/w
Telephone (rental & local calls only NOT overseas calls)	\$20 p/w
Public Transport	\$20-25 p/w
Laundry	\$5 p/w
Other: (including entertainment, clothes, emergencies, medical)	\$50-\$70 p/w