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Welcome to Study Melbourne's Student Update September edition.

Spring in Melbourne means blue skies and warmer temperatures. It is also the best season to visit the [Royal Botanic Gardens](#) with seasonal blooms flowering in the golden sunshine. Pack a picnic lunch or enjoy a bite to eat at the Lakeside cafe.

In recognition of 'R U OK?' day, genuine support can make a difference when someone is struggling. Staying connected with others is crucial to our general health and well-being. Regular, meaningful conversations can protect those we know and love. You can also read our [student story](#) about the signs of mental illness and where to get support.

This newsletter edition includes important information about [Live in Melbourne's Migration program](#) and support for working in Melbourne and regional Victoria.

Read on to see all the details.

Study Melbourne Team

[Study Melbourne Student Centre re-opens in Hardware Lane](#)

The Study Melbourne Student Centre is a vibrant space dedicated to our onshore community of international students. Located in Melbourne's iconic Hardware Lane, we are here to support all international students in Victoria.



Visit us to connect with the services, activities and opportunities designed to help you thrive as an international student.

- Engage with free and confidential student support services
- Attend free events and programs
- Make friends, expand your network, and enhance your employability
- Access free Wi-Fi and student workspaces
- Enjoy a free coffee and get tips on everything about living and studying in Victoria.

For more information visit the [Study Melbourne website](#).



Victoria's International Education Recovery Plan 2025

Victoria's International Education Recovery Plan 2025 was launched on 6 September 2022 by the Treasurer and Minister for Trade, Economic Development, and Industrial Relations, Tim Pallas MP. The Plan establishes a vision of Victoria as a global leader in education, recognised for quality, innovation and inclusion. Having international students at its heart, the plan proposes actions to ensure our students feel safe, connected, supported, and valued throughout their journey with Victoria.

The plan has a focus on the student experience and empowerment. Students can

continue to access support services at the [Study Melbourne Student Centre](#) or participate in programs designed to enhance employment options, social connection, and student empowerment at our offshore [Study Melbourne Hubs](#). Through community partnerships and the delivery of programs co-designed by students, for students, Victoria will continue to be a place for people of all colours, faiths and abilities, women and LGBTIQ+ communities to thrive and achieve their goals.

The plan also includes a commitment by the Victorian Government to work with industry to address employment barriers for international students. Building on the career possibilities and post-study work rights available to international student graduates in Victoria, global talents will be better positioned to launch their global careers.

The student journey with Victoria does not end after graduation. As outlined in the plan, the Victorian Government will strive for strengthened relationships and meaningful engagement with our global alumni community.

Find out more about [Victoria's International Education Recovery Plan 2025](#) here.

[The University of Melbourne is ranked the top university in Australia](#)

The recently released 2022 Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) report has ranked the [University of Melbourne](#) as Australia's top university. Two of Victoria's universities were named in the top 100 and five were named in the top 500.



Launched in 2003, the ARWU ranks more than 1,200 universities using six indicators, including number of alumni and staff winning Nobel Prizes and Fields Medals, the number of highly cited researchers selected by Clarivate Analytics, and the number of articles published in peer-reviewed journals such as 'Nature' and 'Science'.

For further information on the 2022 Academic Ranking of World Universities can be accessed on [their website](#).



Victoria's Skilled Migration Program is now open

Open to applicants living in Victoria and overseas, Live in Melbourne's program provides skilled migrants with a pathway to permanent residency in Victoria. The skills that successful applicants bring to Victoria benefit employers and the broader Victorian economy.

As with previous years, applicants will first need to submit a **Registration of Interest** (ROI) and then be selected on competitive merit to apply for visa nomination.

Before submitting a ROI, applicants should ensure that they meet all eligibility requirements:

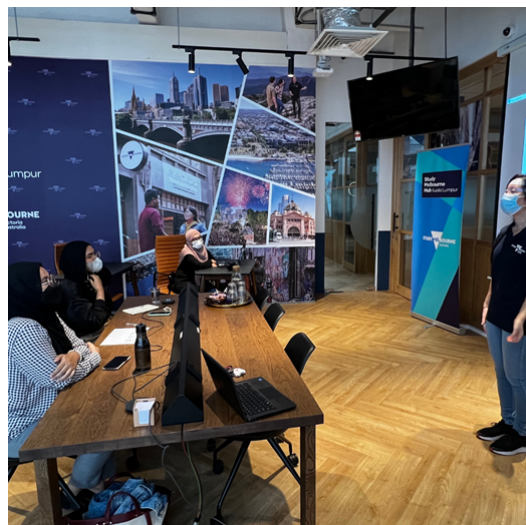
- **Skilled Nominated visa (subclass 190)**
- **Skilled Work Regional (Provisional) visa (subclass 491)**

ROIs will be assessed until May 2023.

For more information, visit **Live in Melbourne**.

Climate Action workshop - Study Melbourne Hub Kuala Lumpur

The Study Melbourne Hub Kuala Lumpur hosted its first Climate Action workshop in July. Delivered by Pomegranate Global, this hybrid event sought to empower and equip youth with creative thinking and communication skills.



Students from Monash University and Swinburne University participated in several modules and hands-on sessions where they learned how to measure their carbon footprint, draft climate change solutions, and increase awareness of environmental issues within their community.

The Study Melbourne Hub Kuala Lumpur is a space for enrolled and prospective students to exchange knowledge and upskill themselves to become future leaders and thinkers.

For more events like this visit our [Study Hub pages](#).



'Melbourne IS Badminton' hosts its inaugural Team Games

On 23 July 2022, 'Melbourne IS Badminton' hosted its inaugural Team Games at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre (MSAC). The event attracted international students from India, China, Malaysia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Belgium, Germany, Singapore, Thailand, Canada and Fiji.

David Wong, Head Coach of Melbourne-City Badminton and event host said, *"this Melbourne International Students Badminton Team Games is a celebration on the badminton courts of the diversity, vibrancy and resilience of international students living and studying throughout a pandemic."*


Study Melbourne is proud to support this event as part of its Inclusion Program. 'Melbourne IS Badminton' has been the badminton home of international students studying in Melbourne for the past two years, engaging well over 2,000 international student participants.


For more events, visit the [Study Melbourne website](#).


Tips to feel settled in Melbourne

If being away from family and friends is making you feel homesick, here are our top three tips on how to combat this and feel more settled in Melbourne:



 Connect with students from your own culture and speak in your home language. See if there are **any events** being held near you so you can meet new people and expand your friendship group.

 Take the time to make your house or apartment a home. Add photographs of loved ones and make the space feel warm and inviting so you will enjoy returning to it at the end of the day.


 Make sure you take care of yourself, eat a healthy diet, exercise regularly and get enough sleep. Being run down can make feelings of homesickness worse.


For more advice, visit the **Study Melbourne website**.




As an international student, it's important to know your rights when working in Australia.

Here are some great resources to arm yourself with the knowledge you need to make good choices:

 **Fair Work Ombudsman** - for everything you need to know about the minimum wage and if your employer can deduct pay from your wages.

 **Jobs Victoria** - offers information and support for finding a job that is suitable for you.

 **International Student Employment and Accommodation Legal Service (ISEALS)** - is Study Melbourne's free, independent and confidential legal service where you can talk to a lawyer about any employment or accommodation concerns.

For more information visit the [Study Melbourne website](#).

Get ready for grass pollen season

Grass pollen season brings an increase in asthma and hay fever. During the season, a high grass pollen count and a certain type of thunderstorm can also trigger **thunderstorm asthma**.

For people with asthma or hay fever, especially those who experience wheezing or coughing with their hay fever, thunderstorm asthma can be sudden, serious and even life threatening.

In Victoria, the grass pollen season runs from October through December. Take action to prepare and protect yourself and people in your care this grass pollen season.

Find out more on the [Better Health Channel](#).



EVENTS & KEY DATES

There are lots of ways to connect with the Study Melbourne community in Melbourne, Victoria and globally through our [Study Melbourne Hubs](#) and [Study Melbourne events page](#).

Build your skills, discover new experiences, meet new friends, find support services and resources, and build your network.

You can also check the [City of Melbourne](#) and [Visit Victoria's What's On pages](#) for fresh ideas and inspiration on things to do in Australia's best student city.

SERVICES & SUPPORT

Study Melbourne Student Centre

The Study Melbourne Student Centre is your student space, dedicated to all international students in Victoria. We provide support, events, connections, and opportunities.

The Study Melbourne Student Centre has re-opened in Hardware Lane, Melbourne. Contact us to make an appointment or just drop in between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday.

- **Address:** 17 Hardware Lane, Melbourne.
- **Opening hours:** 9am-5pm Monday-Friday
- **Phone** 📞: 1800 056 449 (free call from landline phones 24/7)
- **Email:** info@studymelbourne.vic.gov.au

Question of the month

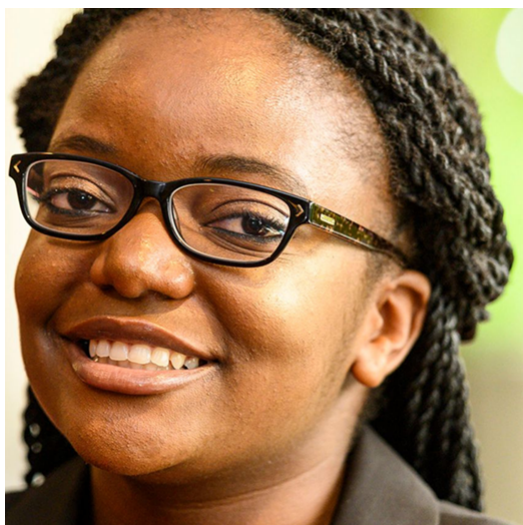
I am an international student studying in Victoria and looking for a part time job. Do you have tips on finding work?

Answer: Now is a great time to start job hunting if you want a part-time job in time for the Semester two break. Here are a few tips that will relieve job hunting stress!

- **The Jobs Victoria online hub** is a free job search service that's available to students looking for work. You can apply for casual and part-time jobs posted by employers in your local area.
- You can also join the **Study Melbourne Facebook Group** and comment on the job thread to let people know what kind of work you are looking for.
- Tailor your resume and cover letter to each job. The effort you put in here will show your potential employer how keen you are for the job!
- In addition to emailing your resume, you can also visit businesses to personally introduce yourself and see if they have any jobs available. This is a great way to impress and show your willingness to work.

For more resources on finding a job in Australia's most liveable city, visit the **Study Melbourne website**.

STUDENT STORIES



Read: Living and studying in Melbourne as a person of colour

Sihle Mpofu, former Study Melbourne Ambassador, shares her inspirational story as an international student studying and living in Melbourne.

Originally from Zimbabwe, Sihle moved to Australia to study a Bachelor of Community Services at Box Hill Institute.

As an advocate for inclusion and wellbeing Sihle shares her advice about dealing with racial discrimination and staying safe.

Sihle's story is a testament to Melbourne's diversity and multiculturalism; and why we have been named No.2 in the world for Student Mix by QS Best Student Cities 2023.

To read Sihle's story in full visit the [Study Melbourne website](#).

COVID-19 UPDATE

International Student Arrivals

From 6 July 2022, people travelling to Australia no longer need to declare their COVID-19 vaccination status. For more information on international travel requirements visit the [Home Affairs website](#).

If you've recently arrived in Victoria, visit our [Welcome to Melbourne, Victoria page](#) for inspiration and support to help you get settled.

Victoria's restriction levels

Victoria has moved to COVIDSafe Settings. Find out what this means for you on the [Victorian Government's coronavirus website](#).

Your COVID-19 Checklist

To understand what you need to do if you test positive to COVID-19, follow the checklists and information resources on the [Victorian Government's coronavirus website](#).

Translated coronavirus (COVID-19) information

Access translated materials about COVID-19 on the [Victorian Government's coronavirus website](#).

العربية, Bahasa Indonesia, English, 한국어, 日本語, ภาษาไทย, Türkçe, Português, 简体中文, 繁體中文, Español and Tiếng Việt.

For up-to-date information and resources on COVID-19 including health, travel and education matters, visit our dedicated [Support for International Students hub page](#).

USEFUL LINKS

Health and wellbeing

[Study Well](#)

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Victoria updates](#)

[Study Melbourne Student Centre](#)

Work

[Working in Victoria](#)

[Your rights at work](#)



Transport

[iUSEpass](#)

[Metro Trains](#)

Safety

[Student safety](#)

[Victoria Police](#)

Others

[Legal advice](#)

[Events](#)





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