

SU-in Queensland

This document serves as a resource for you to help your student as they prepare to study away. Your student has all of this information.

The semester before your student studies away, they will be provided with information regarding the GO Long Process Overview and a Program-specific resources. These cover the next steps in the GO process.

Students should refer to their acceptance documents for exact program dates. The typical semesters are different than Susquehanna's. Students should refer to their acceptance documents for exact program dates. In general: Spring (Trimester 1) runs from late February to mid-June and Fall (Trimester 2) runs from mid/late July to late October.

Application Process

Your student needs to apply directly to Griffith University's study abroad office. The application is started through a link on their GO portal, and accessed online. To ensure space in the program, your student should do this application by **October 1 (Spring), or March 1 (Fall)**.

In anticipation of this, they should have an Official Transcript – ordered online (note: there is a small fee) and a scan of their passport.

During the application process they will choose courses: Your student will list 6 courses with their application, and then confirm the courses with Griffith in their acceptance letter. Students should review pre-requisites for the courses they want to take, to make sure they are eligible.

Next steps:

- Students will receive an acceptance letter (the Offer Letter) via email directly from Griffith, which must be accepted through their Student Link site.
 - That email might also include instructions on other documents or scans needed – they should read it closely and respond/follow instructions by the deadlines provided.
 - Complete a Course Approval Report (CAR)
 - Review additional information: <https://www.griffith.edu.au/international>
- A few weeks later, Griffith will email the electronic Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE), which is needed to apply for a student visa. This will include information about OSHC (mandatory health insurance your student will need for applying for their visa).

Courses at Griffith University

Students should complete the course approval process through GO - there is some information HERE – in addition to the course selection in their application to Griffith.

To find a course, visit degrees.griffith.edu.au and search by 'courses'. Refer to the course search guide as you peruse courses. For information on course availability and restrictions visit griffith.edu.au/inbound-study-options. Clicking on the "view course profiles" link from the webpage of a class, you can access most of the same type of information that would be included in a syllabus.

Griffith University Required Course: students can choose from either a [community internship](#), a course from the [Australian Studies](#) major, or a class from the [Indigenous Studies](#) department.

GO recommends that students take 4 classes, which transfers back as 16 SU credits. You must take at least 3 Griffith classes, which transfers back as 12 SU credits, in order to be a full-time student.

If interested in an **internship**: The community internship takes the place of one of the classes and is a full credit course. The Community Internship is available to students from all academic backgrounds. Through this course, students will be able to make a difference in a local community organization while developing a range of professional and personal skills. Students spend a minimum of 50 hours in a volunteering placement and combine this with academic learning. With hundreds of internship opportunities, Griffith University can tailor the internship to match a student's interests and academic backgrounds. Students must complete a registration process, which entails selecting an internship and completing an application. Then they follow the additional instructions.

Housing

Students will stay at [Griffith University Village](#), university managed housing in 5 bedroom fully-furnished apartments. There is no meal plan. Each apartment has two bathrooms, a kitchen, and a lounge area which is shared between the 5 students. The bedrooms are fully furnished and include internet and all utilities (such as water and electricity). The amenities include a swimming pool, barbecue area, student lounge with a TV, outdoor tennis table and pool table, and a basketball court. See photos and take a virtual tour of the apartments [HERE](#).

GO staff will batch register your student for housing if the cohort of the GO Long program is over 3 students. If your student is traveling on a smaller cohort semester, we will provide additional instructions. Regardless of how they apply – we ask that they make sure to follow instructions promptly as housing does fill up fast.

* The housing costs on your budget sheet are confirmed costs. If you choose a more expensive housing option, you will be charged the difference.

Visa Requirements

To study at Griffith University, your student will need an Australian student visa to enter the country. They'll want to apply for the visa at least 8 weeks before the program start date. After your student is accepted by Griffith University, they will be issued a Confirmation of Enrollment (CoE) form which is used to apply for a [Subclass 500 student visa](#).

As a condition of the student visa, your student must have Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) for the duration of their stay. Your student will be registered for OSHC by Griffith University and must receive this registration information before starting the visa process.

Additional information to review is the visa page on Griffith's website [HERE](#).

*note that visa information is provided based on US citizenship. Students holding a non-US passport should consult with the host consulate for any visa considerations.

After Acceptance:

After students accept their offer letter, they will receive additional information from Griffith advisors directly. Griffith will email your student their electronic Confirmation of Enrolment (eCoE), and OSHC (the mandatory health insurance) needed for the visa application process. Your student must complete any and all housing related documents, fill out right away and return to them, including paying necessary housing deposits. On Griffith's StudyLink site, students will get an 'Acceptance Pack' which contains information about the orientation schedule, what actions to take next and an enrollment assistance guide.

SU should be billed directly for tuition and housing. If you receive a bill, please forward it to the GO Program (goprogram@susqu.edu) right away. Your student is responsible for any damage deposits (the Housing Bond).

At this point, the Griffith University local program coordinators will be sending emails with valuable pre-departure information about everything from packing and selecting courses to the airport experience. This includes a Pre-Arrival Guide which will give some important information before departure and upon arrival. The first week of the program is reserved for orientation.

Booking flights and Arrival Information:

Students are responsible for booking their own flight to Australia and back. They should book the flight after receiving the official acceptance letter from Griffith and have confirmed program dates.

If you'd like to use a travel agent to assist with travel planning, Student Universe (studentuniverse.com), Travel Time (trvltime.com) and STA Travel (<http://statravel.com/airfare-deposit-program.htm>) have been used by students in the past.

Griffith typically offers a free airport pickup service from Brisbane or Gold Coast Airports, which will be outlined in the Pre-Arrival Acceptance Pack. This is also available for the return trip – but for a fee. If students do travel to campus on their own, navigating the trip from the airport to campus using public transportation (<https://translink.com.au/>), can be pre-planned to arrive at:

Griffith University Village, Village Road
Southport, QLD, 4215, Gold Coast, Australia

Other Matters:

Packing: Pack all essential items in your carry-on (medicine, jewelry etc.). Refer to the guidelines for bringing liquids in a carry-on (<https://www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/liquids-rule>) as well as the airlines' luggage weight limits. We have additional resources posted in your students' application regarding some tips for Traveling and Packing.

Medication: For prescription medicines, students must either bring enough with them for the duration of the semester. Note that some medications are prohibited, including many medications for the treatment of attention deficit disorders. Please reach out to a physician to determine a plan of action. We recommend that your student has a written prescription with

them as they may be asked for it by customs officials.

Money Matters: We recommend having some local currency or your student can convert USD to Australia Dollars (AUD) at the airport. ATMs are also readily available throughout Australia and they can withdraw AUD from ATMs. Students should inform their bank about all travel plans, and also find out whether the bank and credit card issuers charge international transaction fees.

Travel Day:

Your student should carry their passport, acceptance letter, visa, Program Contact and Arrival Instructions in their carry-on luggage. **DO NOT CHECK THEM!** Make sure to not put them in the pocket of the seat in front of you or a coat/sweater pocket that you will take off. You don't want to forget them or have them fall out.

We recommend arriving at least three hours before an international flight is scheduled to board to give time to get through airport security, bag check, etc. If the flight is delayed or cancelled, contact the travel agent or airline where you booked the ticket to be put on the next flight and alert the host program/university of any travel delays.