



**THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE**

ON ARRIVAL MENTOR PROGRAM FOR RESEARCH STUDENTS

WHO IS MY MENTOR?

Your Arrival mentor is a current postgraduate student of the University of Melbourne who has been trained to assist new students. Contact details for your mentor will be provided to you directly.

HOW CAN MY MENTOR HELP ME?

Your mentor will assist you by answering your questions and helping you to access the services offered by the University and the wider community. Mentors can assist you with topics such as finding accommodation*, public transport, food, weather, getting connected with mobile phones and internet, life in Melbourne, Australian academic culture, making friends in Australia, and introducing the services on campus (Health, Housing, Academic Skills Unit).

*Please note that whilst mentors will not find accommodation for you, they can explain how to go about finding accommodation, visit a real estate agent, and demonstrate how to go about assessing a property.

WHEN WILL I MEET MY MENTOR?

Most new students meet their mentor on the first or second day after their arrival in Australia. Please contact your mentor directly, after you receive their contact details, to arrange a time to meet. Your mentor will also be trying to contact you. Mentors usually try to commence email contact with students whilst students are still in their home country. See below for further information for what to do when you first arrive.

WHAT DO I DO WHEN I FIRST ARRIVE ON CAMPUS?

After your arrival in Melbourne, at the International Centre on Swantson street (map ref J21) to pre-register for an International Research/Higher Degree Student Briefing, held on 10am Monday and repeated 10am Thursday every week. We encourage you to pre-register so that we can prepare resources accordingly. At the Briefing an International Student Adviser will answer your queries about the online enrolment process, provide health and safety information and give you an overview of services and support at the University. You can then go on to meet your On Arrival student mentor.

Note: If you are unable to visit the International Centre at the listed times for your Briefing, or are not based at the Parkville campus, please contact us and we will make alternative arrangements for you.

The International Centre is open from 8.45am to 5.15pm, Mondays to Fridays (except public holidays). You can also contact an International Student Adviser to arrange an appointment time at iss-info@unimelb.edu.au

After meeting with an International Student Adviser, you can then go on to meet your mentor at the time arranged between you both earlier via email. Your mentor can give you further advice on issues such as gaining familiarity of the campus, accommodation, building peer support networks and settling in to your new lifestyle in Melbourne.

HOW ARE MENTORS ALLOCATED?

The On Arrival mentor program is targeted specifically at students who are unable to participate in a regular Orientation program. When possible, new students are matched with a mentor from their home country and/or studying with the same Faculty. Sometimes however, this is not possible. All mentors are committed to assisting new students to make a smooth transition to their studies at The University of Melbourne.

HOW MUCH TIME CAN MY MENTOR SPEND WITH ME?

Mentors spend up to two hours (in total) per student that they are assisting. This can increase if mentors are working with a group of students. For example: if a mentor is assisting two students, this is a total of up to 4 hours to be divided between the students. The mentor can spend that time with both students together, or individually depending on the needs of the students.

WHO ORGANISES THE PROGRAM?

The On Arrival mentor program is coordinated by International Student Services at the University of Melbourne.

Coordinator's contact details:

Email: arrival-mentor@unimelb.edu.au
Tel: +61 3 8344 9398