



Charles Sturt  
University



# Support your child's journey

Parent guide 2023



**#1**

**in Australia**

for undergrad starting salaries



Our grads earn a median salary of \$64,100

\*Good Universities Guide 2022/23

**#1**

**in Australia**

for grads who get jobs



85% of our undergrads get full-time jobs within 4 months of graduating

\*Good Universities Guide 2022/23

**#1 in NSW**

for first-in-family students



\*Good Universities Guide 2022/23



### Get an insight into Charles Sturt

Our Insight blog will take you behind the scenes and explore all sorts of topics – from study options, to booming careers.

And there are plenty of tips on how you can support your child on their uni journey – from helping them to apply, to ways you can ease their exam stress or help set them up for career success.

You'll also meet some of our past and present students – and learn about their valuable and interesting work.

→ [insight.csu.edu.au](https://insight.csu.edu.au)





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The Charles Sturt difference

# Yindyamarra winhanganha

This is a Wiradjuri phrase meaning 'the wisdom of respectfully knowing how to live well in a world worth living in'.

It's at the heart of everything we stand for here at Charles Sturt University. It's the reason we strive to create a world worth living in.

To us, a world worth living in is a place that protects and values society's core needs. The security of our land and food. The health and education of our people. The development of technology to help us prosper. And clear and honest communication with ourselves – and each other.

Charles Sturt University was founded on a quest to meet these fundamental needs. Since day one, we've empowered people to make the world a better place. Because we believe in making a difference. When we connect people to their purpose, we make communities better. And when we make communities better, we create a world worth living in.



## Getting qualified and getting the job!

Charles Sturt offers more than 85 undergraduate degrees. From ag to arts, business to border management, communication to computing, dentistry to a Doctor of Medicine, engineering to education (you get the idea), we have a course that can get your child where they want to go.

And when your child studies with Charles Sturt, they'll learn by doing. Our professional, accredited courses will give them the practical skills needed to step into a career and get the job done.

# We have six campuses, all offering great adventures



## Our other locations

- A centre in Goulburn for policing students.
- A Regional University Study Centre in Wangaratta for combined TAFE and Charles Sturt study.
- Study locations in Canberra and Parramatta for theology students.
- Partner locations for selected courses in Crow's Nest, Canberra, Chadstone and Muresk.





# Live where they learn

Albury-Wodonga | Bathurst | Dubbo | Orange  
Port Macquarie | Wagga Wagga

When your child lives on campus at Charles Sturt University, they'll meet others just like them.

Everyone is in the same boat, adapting to uni life for the first time, and navigating a whole new world. Your child will make lasting memories and lifelong friends.

We have accommodation on all six campuses, offering the laid-back lifestyle of country living – with urban convenience.

- Guaranteed room for all first-year students.\*
- All-inclusive costs – no extra bills to worry about.
- No bond required.
- Fully furnished rooms.
- Wi-fi included at no extra cost.
- Choose a catering package for some or all of your child's meals.^

Plus, we have a dedicated team to make sure your child's experience living on campus is everything they hope it will be. Our Residence Life team is there to support your child whenever they need it. After all, to us, they're family.

And that's the way we like it.

→ [csu.edu.au/accommodation](https://csu.edu.au/accommodation)

\*Make sure you check out the first-year student guarantee terms and conditions.

^On select campuses.



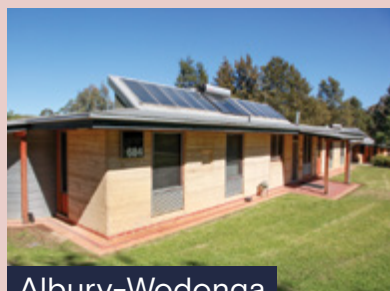
Living on campus means your child will have everything they need on their doorstep – and be fully supported to take the first steps on their uni journey. We've got accommodation options to suit all lifestyles.

Our accommodation options are all-inclusive, which means everything is covered in fees, including:

- cleaning
- dedicated residential support team
- dedicated study spaces
- fully furnished bedrooms, living areas and common spaces
- internet access
- maintenance
- parking
- security
- utilities
- washing machines and dryers.

We can also take the stress out of cooking, with food outlets and meal plans available on most campuses.

And compared to a big city, the cheaper cost of regional living means more money stays in your pocket.



**Albury-Wodonga**

Communal living in an eco-friendly setting.

**Rooms from \$200 per week**



**Orange**

Modern and traditional options.

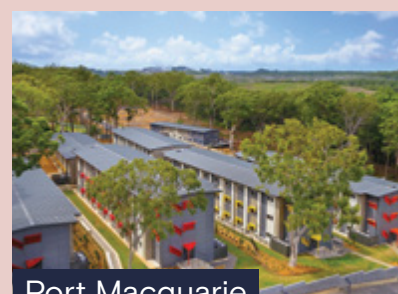
**Rooms from \$173 per week**



**Bathurst**

Options to suit every lifestyle.

**Rooms from \$200 per week**



**Port Macquarie**

Contemporary living in brand-new rooms.

**Rooms from \$206 per week**



**Dubbo**

Homely cottage-style accommodation.

**Rooms from \$200 per week**



**Wagga Wagga**

Cottages, villages and traditional residences.

**Rooms from \$184 per week**



A smiling man with a mustache is sitting at a desk outdoors, working on a laptop. The background is a blurred natural setting with trees and sunlight. In the top right corner, there is a decorative graphic of concentric circles in orange and grey.

# Many ways to study

At Charles Sturt University, we know everyone is different. Our students have different needs. Different wants. Different ways of studying. That's why we'll help your child study in a way that works best for them.

Your child can have the best of both worlds when they combine online and on-campus study; it puts them firmly in the driver's seat.

They might prefer to take some subjects in person, but other subjects would be better to take online. They might need to select some online subjects so they can pick up an extra shift at work.







# Jump online and get qualified

Charles Sturt is Australia's most experienced online university – more than 27,000 people are studying online with us right now! So if your child prefers the freedom that comes with online study, we can help.

We put everything in place to enable your child to access high-quality education that will get them qualified for the job they want – all from the comfort of... wherever they like.

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## All they need is ready and waiting

Everything your child will need is online, at the click of a mouse, and ready to use when it suits. Lectures, tutorials, assessments, resources, community spaces. Plus, our extensive digital library is available 24/7, with plenty of online resources and how-to guides to help them find what they need. We've even got a dedicated library YouTube channel for all their library learning know-how. If they need any books sent to them, we'll post them out free of charge.

And don't worry, we also provide help over the phone and in person. They won't need to worry about tech issues. IT support is available – and it's just a phone call away.

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## Many ways to stay connected

Just because your child is studying online doesn't mean they're studying alone. Far from it. At Charles Sturt University, they can join dedicated course forums and Facebook groups to connect with classmates and academics. They can jump into an online hangout to ask questions, collaborate or just shoot the breeze.

They can attend get-togethers and come on campus to use any of the facilities – library, gym, childcare – if they're nearby. We'll give them plenty of opportunities to build the deep connections that are central to their study. Connections with tutors, lecturers, fellow students and industry that will last a lifetime.



# Taking a different path to success

If things don't quite go to plan and your child doesn't get into the course they were after, there's no need to stress. We've got two courses that can prepare them for uni study and help them move into the degree they're interested in.

## Diploma of General Studies

If your child is looking for a longer experience to get prepped for uni study, the Diploma of General Studies is for them. Studied over one year, full-time (online or on campus), this qualification will give them guaranteed entry to most undergraduate courses, including education, computer science and IT.

## Charles Sturt University Pathway Course

For guaranteed entry to many of our undergrad degrees, your child can take on a free Charles Sturt University Pathway Course. And if flexibility is important, this course will be ideal. Your child can study on campus or online and complete the course in 14 weeks full-time, or progress part-time over 12 months.

The choice is theirs!

→ [study.csu.edu.au/pathways](https://study.csu.edu.au/pathways)





# The Charles Sturt Advantage early offer program

We're changing the game – and the way school leavers apply for an early offer.

We get that Year 12 is a big year. There's so much pressure placed on students to study hard, do well in their exams, achieve a sky-high ATAR, go to uni and land their dream job.

The thing is... we know that some people have strengths that sit outside the world of academia. So we're looking for those special soft skills – skills that might not always be reflected in your child's academic or exam results.

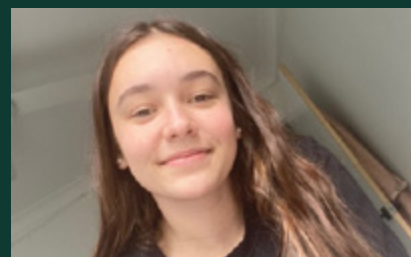
## Soft skills are the skills of the future

But what exactly are soft skills? They're skills like emotional intelligence, collaboration and communication, resilience and a commitment to creating a world worth living in. They're valued by employers and help your child excel – because they're important for any job, in any industry.

We value these skills and want to reward your child for having these special qualities. That's why we're changing the way people can apply for an early offer to Charles Sturt University.

## Take advantage of our early offer program

If your child is successful, they'll unlock a world of possibilities. Not only will they receive a study offer before they sit exams, they'll also become part of an exclusive program that will support them as they transition to become an official Charles Sturt University student.



"It was such a relief knowing where I would be studying next year and what I will be doing. I loved that the program helped me focus on the tasks I had at hand rather than worrying about my future as well as finishing year 12 in such a hard time."

**Javana Ballinger**  
Charles Sturt Advantage student

Applications open 1 February 2023

### Round 1

Apply by

**7 April**

Receive an offer by

**Early May**

### Round 2

Apply by

**30 June**

Receive an offer by

**Late July**

### Round 3

Apply by

**31 August**

Receive an offer by

**Late September**

→ [csu.edu.au/advantage](https://csu.edu.au/advantage)

# Support every step of the way

As soon as your child accepts an offer to study with Charles Sturt University, we'll be there to support them – every step of the way.



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## Study support

Our support team is dedicated to helping them succeed, and can provide help in person, online or over the phone. We're available seven days a week, and it's free. We'll help when it suits your child, including in the evenings and on the weekends.

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## Student Central

This is your child's first point of contact as an enrolled Charles Sturt University student. If they need a hand with subject enrolment, study skills, accommodation or finances, or are just not sure who to ask about something – this is the place to go.

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## Careers advice

From researching career options and finding job opportunities, to help working on résumés, application letters and interview techniques – our Careers and Skills Hub team will help your child land their dream job.

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## Student wellbeing

Healthy students are happy students. We have a great range of services and information available to keep them in top physical, mental and emotional shape.

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## Equity support

Our Student Equity Office provides advice and support to ensure all our students have the same opportunities to succeed, no matter what their circumstances.

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## Health support

Your child's physical and mental health can impact their study. We're here to help. Disability, illness, injury or temporary medical conditions (pregnancy or broken bones) – whether their condition is permanent or temporary, we'll provide advice, support and adjustments if needed. That way your child can participate 100 per cent in their studies.

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## Spiritual support

We can connect your child with religious and spiritual support and access to community resources and services, both on and off campus.

→ [study.csu.edu.au/support](https://study.csu.edu.au/support)



# Where will your child make a difference?

## Our study areas

Agriculture and environment

Animal and veterinary sciences

Arts and communication

Business

Education and teaching

Religious studies

IT and computing

Information and library studies

Medicine and health

Policing, law and security

Psychology and social work

Science and engineering

→ [study.csu.edu.au/courses](https://study.csu.edu.au/courses)

Charles Sturt University courses may be subject to change. Course information is correct at the time of publishing. For up-to-date information, please visit [study.csu.edu.au](https://study.csu.edu.au)





# How much will uni cost?

Course fees	\$3,936 to \$14,496 per year
Accommodation	\$90 to \$285 per week
Text books	\$400 to \$1,000 per year (approx.)
Groceries	\$80 to \$120 per week (approx.)

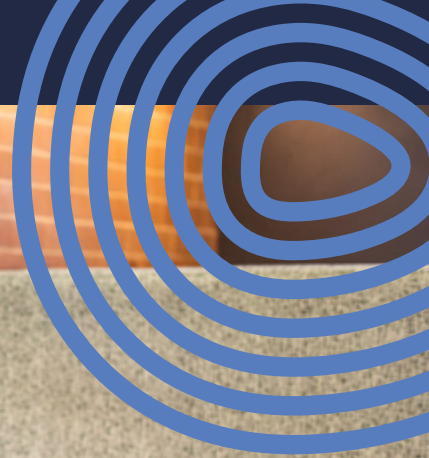
Transport, clothes, social life, entertainment and other incidentals not included.



## We know money matters

Is your child eligible for a student income payment such as ABSTUDY, Austudy or Youth Allowance? You can [check their eligibility](#) up to 13 weeks before they start uni.





# A HELP-ful loan

Fees will be calculated for each study session your child enrolls in. There are three study sessions in a year: February to June, July to October, and November to February.

For each study session, your child's course fees will be determined by the type of course they are studying and the number of subjects they enrol in.

The good news? If your child is an Australian citizen or a New Zealand Special Category Visa holder, they'll likely be given a Commonwealth supported place, and benefit from the HECS-HELP scheme.

## How HECS-HELP works

1. When your child enrolls, they'll need to indicate that they want to pay all or part of the fees via HECS-HELP (they'll need a tax file number, but that's easy to get).
2. The government pays your child's fees and registers them against their tax file number.
3. The balance is paid back through pay deductions when your child starts working. They can choose to do so at any time, but it is only required once they earn above a certain amount. In 2023 the threshold is \$48,361.

→ [study.csu.edu.au/fees](https://study.csu.edu.au/fees)



## Did you know?

We have a financial support team that can help with budgeting, planning and applying for loans, and programs to help your child find a part-time job if they want one.



# Scholarships: grab a helping hand

Did you know we offer more than \$5m in scholarships at Charles Sturt University?

Scholarships have all sorts of criteria and there are so many that your child will qualify for. All they need to do is apply. For as many as they like.

**Trust us, it's worth their while.**

→ [study.csu.edu.au/scholarships](https://study.csu.edu.au/scholarships)



## Our advice

Make sure your child is in the running. Lots of scholarships get left on the table simply because people assume they won't get one.

Don't think the application process will be too hard. It's really not. Hop online and see what's available.



# Ready to apply?

## Applying direct to Charles Sturt

If your child is planning on studying online, they'll apply direct to Charles Sturt University. It's super simple and can be done online in 15 minutes.

→ [study.csu.edu.au/apply](https://study.csu.edu.au/apply)

## Applying through UAC or VTAC

If your child is coming to uni from high school and planning to study on campus with us, they'll apply through a tertiary admissions centre (UAC or VTAC).

But what does that actually look like?

1. Pick their top courses and load them into UAC or VTAC.
2. Study hard and sit their Year 12 exams.
3. Your child's results will be used to determine if they've been successful in getting into their top course.
4. If not, UAC or VTAC will move down their preference list, offering your child a place in their next eligible course.
5. The clincher: they'll have the opportunity to change preferences at different points (also known as offer rounds) – so there are plenty of chances for them to land their dream course.

Feel free to reach out to our friendly student adviser team if you need help at any point with the application process.

## Important dates\*

There are many important dates for your child to remember – from the ATAR release date to deadlines for changing their preferences.

Always check the UAC or VTAC websites for these confirmed dates.

Does your child have their Unique Student Identifier (USI)? They'll need it to secure a Commonwealth supported place at uni.

### Find out more

→ [usi.gov.au](https://usi.gov.au)

## Don't forget...

At Charles Sturt, we believe everyone can make a difference, that's why we'll look at adjusting your child's selection rank if they:

- live in the regions
- aced relevant school subjects
- had to deal with setbacks during their school studies.



# Helping your child to stay happy and healthy

Every parent wants their child to be happy and healthy, but that can be challenging during times of stress and uncertainty. Here are important ways to help them be their best!



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## Move

Being active supercharges their body and brain, and every little bit helps. Encourage them to get up from their desk and walk around the house or the block. Exercise, do yoga, walk the dog, dance like nobody's watching – as long as they move.

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## Eat properly

It's essential they understand how important it is to eat properly. Without the right fuel they aren't going anywhere. And while we're on the topic – drink lots and lots of water. That's important, too.

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## Speak

High school can be very stressful and it's vital that your child learn how to keep those stress levels in check. If they can't concentrate, feel too overwhelmed to take in new information, or their performance at school is impacted – that may be a sign that not-so-helpful stress is in play. Speaking with friends with similar experiences, family members who are supportive, a trusted teacher, school counsellor, doctor or professionals like those at headspace may be helpful.

→ [headspace.org.au](https://headspace.org.au)

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## Sleep

Your child will tell you there's only so many hours in the day and so much study to cram in! We get it. But, if their eyes are hanging out of their head and they're only catching one z instead of many, they won't be at their best. Encourage your child to set a reasonable bedtime (and, no, anything past midnight is not reasonable). Make sure they include some down time before they hit the sack to help their mind switch off.

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## Socialise

Always burying their head in books, notes and syllabus dot points may seem like the right thing to do, but it's not. Making time to stay connected with family and friends is important. Have dinner together, have a laugh, watch a movie, or just chat. It all adds up to a mental break – and who doesn't love a break?

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## Escape

Studying zaps lots of time and energy. We know every minute is valuable learning time. But, having something else to focus on is also super important. Encourage them to watch the Netflix series everyone is talking about, read a book, or load the latest game.

# Uni speak decoded

University education comes with its own language. At least, that's how it can seem sometimes. Most people haven't heard half of the acronyms and phrases before. But don't worry, this guide will get you and your child up to speed with 'uni speak'.

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## ATAR

Australian Tertiary Admission Rank. Indicates a student's position relative to all the students who started high school with them in Year 7. One – but not the only – criteria for entry to an undergraduate degree.

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## Commonwealth supported place (CSP)

A place at university for domestic students subsidised by the Australian Government. Most undergraduate students are enrolled in a CSP, and can benefit from HECS-HELP schemes. To secure a CSP your child will need a Unique Student Identifier.

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## Core subjects

The subjects in a course that all students are required to complete.

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## Course

The degree or qualification being studied. This may also be known as a program.

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## Elective

An optional subject selected in addition to the core subjects of the course.

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## Faculty

A department within a university devoted to a particular area. Charles Sturt has three faculties.

- Arts and Education
- Business, Justice and Behavioural Sciences
- Science and Health

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## GPA

A student's grade point average, calculated from the results in each subject completed.

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## Lecture

A regular teaching session for a large group of students.

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## Major study

An area within a course that allows in-depth study in a particular field. A major usually consists of eight related subjects.

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## Minor study

A grouping of between four and seven subjects within a course, allowing students to focus on a particular field.

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## Residential school

A short period of study, usually three to five days, where online students come on campus to complete units or assessment tasks for a subject.

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## School

A division of the university that administers the courses in a particular area of study.

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## Session

A period of time during which classes are held.

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## Subject

A unit of study, with a number of subjects making up a course.

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## Subject points

A value assigned to a subject. At Charles Sturt, a standard one-session subject is 8 points.

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## Tutorial

A regular teaching session for a small group of students, involving participation.

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## Undergraduate

A student in a university or college who has not completed a first degree.

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## Unique Student Identifier (USI)

A USI is your child's lifelong education number required by the Australian Government for anyone studying in a CSP. A person's USI only needs to be created once. Without one, your child can't get Commonwealth financial assistance. Visit [usi.gov.au](https://usi.gov.au) to get a USI.

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## Workplace learning

Time spent in hands-on learning. This may be in actual workplaces in the community, in Charles Sturt's clinics and enterprises, or in specialist facilities on campus.





1800 275 278 (free call within Australia)  
+61 1800 275 278 (callers outside Australia)



[study.csu.edu.au](http://study.csu.edu.au)



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[insight.csu.edu.au](http://insight.csu.edu.au)



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