



Charles Sturt  
University

# Your Charles Sturt experience

Living on campus guide



# Ready for a university experience like no other?

If you're looking for a uni where you'll get a hands-on, quality education and have tons of fun, you've come to the right place.

At Charles Sturt, we want you to have the uni experience you dream of. That's why our campuses have everything you need to get your study done and have a fab social life.

Have you ever met a group of people you instantly connected with? Well, that's exactly what happens when you live on campus. You'll make lifelong friends and become part of a diverse, global community. Part of the Charles Sturt family. And you'll make lasting memories.

We're Australia's largest regional university. With accommodation in six awesome locations across New South Wales, our campuses offer the laidback lifestyle of country living with urban convenience.

Living on campus, you're at the very heart of things. Your friends live next door. You're right by the beach, bush or mountains. Support services, sports clubs, and an epic social calendar are right on your doorstep.

There's plenty to love when you make your new home at Charles Sturt.



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# The perks of living on campus

It's no secret that living on campus comes with its benefits. Here are just a few of the ways that you'll get more from living at Charles Sturt.

- Guaranteed room for every first-year student who applies.\*
- All-inclusive costs – no extra bills to worry about.
- No bond.
- Internet access included.
- One of the biggest ranges of student accommodation in Australia.
- Accommodation to suit your lifestyle.
- Delicious food options at most campuses.
- Support team dedicated to on-campus students.
- Security to keep everyone safe.
- Vibrant, inclusive community.

## Did you know?

Car parking on campus is FREE! So, save your cash for the fun stuff like weekend road trips with your mates.



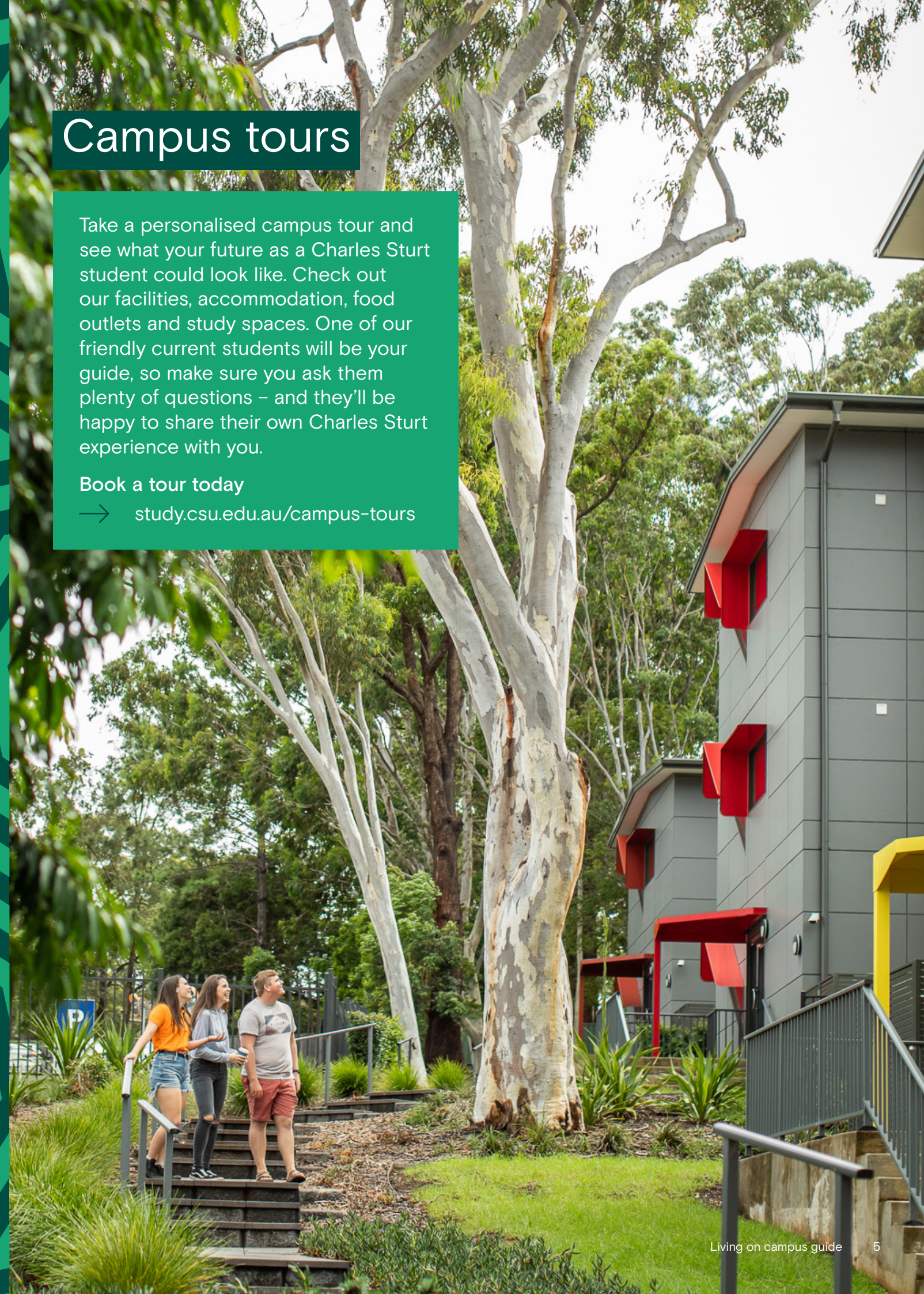
\*For full terms and conditions, please see [accommodation.csu.edu.au/first-year-guarantee](https://accommodation.csu.edu.au/first-year-guarantee)

# Campus tours

Take a personalised campus tour and see what your future as a Charles Sturt student could look like. Check out our facilities, accommodation, food outlets and study spaces. One of our friendly current students will be your guide, so make sure you ask them plenty of questions – and they'll be happy to share their own Charles Sturt experience with you.

Book a tour today

→ [study.csu.edu.au/campus-tours](https://study.csu.edu.au/campus-tours)





# Where you'll find us

Picture yourself studying from the beautiful countryside, picturesque mountains or even the beach. You'll have these options and more when you study with us.

At Charles Sturt we're geographically gifted. We have six campuses across regional New South Wales that offer a comfortable, safe and vibrant uni experience. Secure accommodation, a warm welcome and a stress-free living experience? Yes, please!

Get to know our campus locations and you'll soon see why thousands of students choose to study on campus with us each year.



## Albury-Wodonga

Our [Albury-Wodonga](#) campus is where study meets adventure. Explore the biodiversity and wildlife of the nearby wetlands.

Whatever your interest, you can take your passion for the outdoors and sustainable living to the next level at our most environmentally friendly campus.

### Explore nature

We have our own mountain bike trail on the Albury-Wodonga campus. So, get on your bike and explore what one of Australia's greenest campuses has to offer.

## Bathurst

[Bathurst](#) is where history meets innovation. You'll have all the creature comforts you could possibly want when you study at our Bathurst campus – and you're just down the road from the Mount Panorama circuit.

If you feel like a road trip to the big city when the weekend comes around, you're just a couple of hours' drive from Sydney.

### Get on the air

We run a community radio station on campus. You could be part of the diverse group of volunteers who bring 2MCE to radios all around Bathurst.

## Dubbo

West is best when you study with our tight-knit community that will welcome you with open arms. [Dubbo](#) is the commercial heart of NSW's Central West region.

You can enjoy some great sporting facilities and the rich heritage of surrounding villages. You'll feel right at home on campus at Dubbo.

### Visit the zoo

When you live and study in Dubbo, you're just down the road from Taronga Western Plains Zoo. Every animal lover's dream, isn't it?

## Orange

Imagine living under a (dormant) volcano. When you live and study in [Orange](#), you'll enjoy all the delights of a foodie's paradise.

Get acquainted with the relaxed country atmosphere, browse a boutique or two, or join a uni sports team. There's plenty to see and do when you make your home in Orange.

### Take in amazing views

You can see the picturesque landscapes of Orange and surrounds from Pinnacle Lookout on Mount Canobolas. The views at sunrise or sunset are well worth the walk!

## Port Macquarie

Get set to live your best life by the beach when you study at Charles Sturt in [Port Macquarie](#).

Your study routine will be complemented by sun, surf and sand in the growing coastal town of Port Mac.

### See the koala trail

Our campus is home to resident "koala" Professor Eugene Eucalyptus. Make sure you get a selfie with the Prof and all his friends – there are 77 other colourful koala sculptures all over Port Macquarie for you to find.

## Wagga Wagga

Step into the rich cultural scene that is [Wagga Wagga](#) – the biggest inland city in NSW.

Picnic at the ninth best "beach" in Australia – down on the banks of the Murrumbidgee River.

Sample the goods from speciality stores and the café scene along Baylis Street. Or hike part of the Hume and Hovell trail when you take on the Wiradjuri walking track around town.

### Relax by the pool

When you study in Wagga Wagga you'll be able to take a refreshing dip between classes. Yep, we have a pool on campus!



## Your home away from home

When you come on campus to study with us, we want you to feel at home. That's why we offer a variety of accommodation options. We know everyone is different and has individual needs. Choose from our range of accommodation and pay for what suits your lifestyle.

For instance, on our Wagga Wagga campus, you could live in a traditional-style residence, a village or share a cottage.

If you have any special accessibility needs, we've got these covered. All our campuses have accessible accommodation options for people with disability. Reach out to our disability services and we'll do everything we can to make your stay comfortable.

## Your meals sorted

When it comes to food, you can self-cater or choose from on-campus eating options at our Bathurst, Orange and Wagga Wagga campuses. And our Albury-Wodonga, Dubbo and Port Macquarie campuses have supermarkets and cafés in close proximity.

Graze at a campus café, grab a snack or meal to go. We have a variety of fresh, healthy meals to keep you going and we can also look after your special dietary needs.





# Types of accommodation

We have a variety of accommodation across our campuses. You're sure to find your home away from home.

## All accommodation includes:

- fully furnished bedrooms and common areas
- access to washing machines and dryers
- kitchen or kitchenette
- internet access
- regular cleaning of communal spaces
- maintenance service.

### Contemporary residences

Our newest accommodation gives you everything you need for comfortable living and learning. Ensuite rooms are complemented by communal living spaces and shared laundry facilities.



### Villages

Our villages allow you to live in a tight-knit community, with a large communal kitchen and dedicated study spaces.



### Cottages

Our cottages offer a real sense of 'share house' living. Rooms are arranged around a communal kitchen, bathrooms and a lounge.



### Traditional residences

Available on our Bathurst, Orange and Wagga Wagga campuses, our traditional student residences offer a classic and cosy university experience.





## Campus life

Living on campus at Charles Sturt, you get a degree... and so much more.

You can get involved with study groups or sports teams. How about joining a sporting, bushwalking or trivia club? Advocate for causes you believe in. Volunteer and raise money for local charities. Help run LGBTIQ+ support groups or enhance your leadership skills with our STRIVE program.

You could even represent your fellow students on the Student Senate. There's always something happening on campus, from social get-togethers to study sessions. You'll have the time of your life.



## Residence LIFE

We have a dedicated team just for students living on campus. They're called Residence LIFE and are ready to support you whenever you need it – and make sure you have the best time.

'LIFE' stands for Leadership, Independence, Friendship and Engagement – and the team will help you develop in all these areas.

They also organise events where you can have fun and meet new people – everything from formal balls and gigs, to movie nights and barbecues.

We've got your back.

You can also access our student support services.

- Careers and Skills Hub
- Disability support
- Financial assistance
- First Nations student support
- Learning advisers
- LGBTIQ+ support
- Religious support
- Student wellbeing

## Facilities

Different Charles Sturt campuses have different facilities. These are just some of the facilities you could find on your campus.

- 24-hour Learning Commons
- Barbecue areas
- Bike racks
- Cafés
- Dining halls
- Discounted dental clinic
- First Nations student centre
- Free parking
- Gym
- Sports areas
- Swimming pool
- Tennis courts





# Get social and join a club

What's one of the fastest ways to make connections and lifelong friends at uni? Join a club!

We have an epic range of study, social and sporting clubs at Charles Sturt to choose from. If you have a hobby or interest that you think would make a great club, you can apply to start one of your own.

Here are just a few of the clubs you could join.

## Study clubs

- Enviro club
- Nursing club
- Oral Health Student Association
- Pharmacy club
- Rural Health Positive (rh+)
- Teachers' College Wagga
- Student Paramedic Association

## Social clubs

- Christian Fellowship
- Combined Residence Association
- Diggings Social Committee
- Indian Cultural Society
- Meat Judging club
- Residence club
- Trivia club

## Sports clubs

- Bushwalking and outdoors
- Cheer and dance
- Football
- Netball
- Rugby league
- Run club
- Ski and boarding
- Soccer



# Must-haves for move-in day

By Lucy Pirrie, Charles Sturt student

Listen up, guys! If you're feeling super excited (and maybe a tiny bit nervous) about living on campus at Charles Sturt – you're not alone. I want to share a few things that will make move-in day a breeze.



## Take a piece of home with you

Leaving home and moving into a new place is a big deal! You're starting a new chapter of your life and there's a (very) small chance you might feel a bit homesick. My advice? Surround yourself with bits and pieces that remind you of home. Things like posters, photos, plants and memorabilia will make your room look snazzy – and make you feel more comfortable as you settle in to your new environment.

## Record the good times

Another piece of advice from me to you: bringing a journal when moving on campus is one of the best things you can do. Your uni years are some of the best of your life, so why not document it? Sometimes it's hard to remember the details. Your memories of classes, friends, nights out, sporting events and fun activities can fade. Keeping a journal is also a great way to check in with your mental health and take time out when things get busy.

## A few essentials

You will 100 per cent need a power board. Just make sure it has a surge protector. Bringing a power board will ensure all your devices are charged and ready to go. Triple check you've packed all your charging cables! Think laptop, phone, tablet and hair dryer!

## Don't be afraid to get fancy!

When you're living on campus, you might be surprised at the number of dress-up nights that happen throughout the year. Save yourself some coin and BYO costumes from home! Bonus: not stressing about finding a costume (and finding the money to pay for it!) will give you more time to focus on your assignments. You know, the real reason you're at uni.

## Bathroom basics

To avoid carrying all your toiletries to the shower every day, bring a basket (or shower caddy). And when it comes to your wardrobe, it's also a good idea to bring baskets for clothes and shoes, to free up more space.

## Get some Insight!

Discover more about where we live – and everything else about uni life. Insight is our online hub dedicated to lifting the curtain on everything that's possible at Charles Sturt. Wherever you choose to study with us, you'll find everything you need on Insight.

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



# FAQs

## What do I need to bring?

Our bedrooms are fully furnished with a bed, desk, cupboards, drawers, shelves and a chair. You'll need to bring your own sheets, blankets, pillows, iron, toiletries and desk lamp, plus all your kitchen utensils and cooking gear.

## What will my room be like?

The style of your room will depend on the accommodation you choose. Some rooms have an ensuite and kitchenette, while others are classic dorm-style rooms with shared common areas and facilities. The best part is that you can style your room to make it feel like home. Bring along some of your favourite things, decorate and create your ideal study space.

## When can I move in?

Typically you'll move into your new home a few days before orientation – which takes place in the week before classes start, so you can get settled in and up to speed with everything Charles Sturt.



## Where will I eat?

There are on-campus food outlets at Bathurst, Orange and Wagga Wagga campuses. They serve a wide range of nutritious choices and cater for most dietary requirements. You can pop in for a coffee or settle in for a long lunch. Our other campuses are located close to local supermarkets and cafés.

## How are accommodation fees paid?

Once you've accepted your accommodation offer, we'll email you your payment options. Accommodation fees can be paid weekly or annually in one full payment.

## How much is parking?

You can put your wallet away because parking on campus is FREE! Car parking is readily available at every campus residential area.



## Is living on campus noisy?

While there might be the odd fancy dress party or live band, living on campus is no more noisy than living in town. We have a noise policy in place on campus to ensure you will be able to get a good night's sleep.

## What is there to do for fun?

Throughout the year there will be formal and informal events and activities for you to get involved in. Depending on your campus, you can head to on-campus eateries or student common areas to wind down with friends. There's also a range of social sports for you to enjoy at the basketball courts, footy field or even at the tennis court. You don't need to be an elite sportsperson, just have a go and make some new friends.







## 5 minutes with Josh Lindsay

Charles Sturt Residential Leader and  
Bachelor of Education (K-12) student

### What's the best part about living on campus?

Easily the best part of living on campus is the friends you make. Before living on campus, I certainly didn't consider myself a social butterfly, but meeting so many people and making so many friends really helped me get out of my comfort zone in the best way possible.

### What did you do for fun?

Before moving on campus I thought that I would spend a good deal of the time in my room. I was surprised to find out just how much fun it was to hang out with my friends in the common room of my house. Somebody had brought a Wii so we would play Mario Kart and Wii Sport, play cards and board games, or just hang out and chat. Whenever I was feeling a bit stressed, or needed a bit of fun, I knew there was a whole common room of friends where I could relax and have a good time.

### What were the support services like?

The Residential Leaders (RLs) and support staff were tremendously helpful. I remember attending my first class and having no clue what was going on. I came back home and my RL struck up a conversation with me, and I ended up talking about how badly I felt I went in my first subject. Turns out, she had been a first-year before (crazy, right?), and everyone understands the stress that comes with being new to uni. The RLs helped me feel at home on campus, but also helped me feel like I could tackle anything that university had to throw at me.

### What do you love about life on campus?

The thing I loved about the Albury-Wodonga accommodation is that it is situated in a really practical area. We are a stone's throw away from a Woolworths, bakery, butcher, doctors, Thai restaurant, and the best pizza place in Albury. I lived in Murray Village, which is 20 people per house, and there was always a group of us who were keen on an ice-cream run, or to go halves on the student deal for pizza. The courts and Pav are also great places to go to have a run around or relax, especially because they're accessible 24 hours a day.

### Why did you decide to live on campus?

I decided to live on campus because I didn't want to drive to university each time I had a class on. I live about 1.5 hours from campus, and decided the best decision for me would be to move there. I was so glad I did. Now, I wouldn't care if I lived 10 minutes from campus, I would still prefer to live on residence because of how great the vibe is and because of all the people you get to know.

### Your best advice for new students?

The advice I would give to anyone considering living on campus is: if you're thinking about it, just do it. I was really unsure about moving in on campus, and I loved every minute of it. The friends you make and the experiences you create will stick around for life. I believe that living on campus is one of the best parts, if not the best part, of the university experience.

# Make the most of your on-campus experience

## Budget tips to take the pressure off

### 1. Meal prep

Plan your meals for the week ahead when you have spare time up your sleeve. This way, you'll save money on takeaway and won't need to raid the pantry for your housemate's snacks. There are plenty of simple, healthy meals you can have ready, like stir-fry, spag bol or one-pot wonders. Delish!

### 4. Get creative

Social events and themed parties don't need to break the budget. Get acquainted with the local op shops and upcycle items from your wardrobe. You don't need to spend a fortune to look like a million bucks!

### 2. Plan ahead

If there's a special event coming up that you know will set you back a few dollars, plan ahead. Mark the date in your diary and work out how much you'll need to save each week so you're not hit with a lump sum. Suddenly that concert ticket is within reach!

### 5. Have a rainy day fund

Make sure you put aside a few dollars each week to prepare for the unexpected. That way if something pops up it won't cause you to stress. But remember, we offer a range of grants to help in emergencies. So rest assured, you won't be caught high and dry. We've got your back.

### 3. Keep fit

Take advantage of our range of on-campus sports and recreational facilities. There's no need to fork out extra cash for a gym membership when there's plenty of recreational areas, sports fields, basketball and tennis courts that you can access on most campuses.

## Budget breakdown

### 1. Establish your income or savings

So you can work out how much you have to play with.

### 2. Estimate your outgoings

Add up all of your non negotiables – think accommodation, textbooks and food. (Good news is utilities like water, electricity and internet are \$0 and are included in your accommodation package!). See our campus accommodation website for current fee info.

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

### 3. Add your FUN expenses

Make sure to also include the cost of entertainment – nights out, movie tickets, whatever you fancy!

### 4. Calculate your weekly budget

Work out your total income, deduct your expenses, and divide that by the number of weeks in a semester. You can then work toward setting yourself some goals – so you can live it up at uni while also going on those trips you've been dreaming of!

## Boost your finances with a scholarship

Did you know we offer more than \$10 million in scholarships at Charles Sturt? Take the pressure off and let us share some of the cost of your accommodation, textbooks, laptop – or anything you may need to help make study easier.

Each scholarship is different. You could secure one based on any of the following.

- giving back to your community
- your motivation to succeed

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



# Let's get together

## Open Day

We're a friendly bunch here at Charles Sturt. Helping our future grads get comfy with life as a uni student is important to us. That's why you're invited to Open Day!

Find out more

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

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



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