



Finding somewhere to call home

A GUIDE TO HOUSING IN AUSTRALIA

We know that finding quality, affordable, safe housing is one of the biggest issues for new students - this is our guide to your housing options.

If you have any housing questions or issues, contact us:

multicultural.ss@federation.edu.au

**Get tips
online!**

www.consumer.vic.gov.au/internationalstudents

Top Tips to rent safely

- In private rentals, personally visit the accommodation before signing anything
- Ask lots of questions - it's your responsibility to know what you are agreeing to
- Familiarise yourself with the area you'll be living in - especially public transport!
- Always get a written contract which clearly says what the rent and conditions are
- Bonds, or deposit, should be paid to the RTBA - a government trust which holds all deposits. this means that the landlord is not earning interest on your bond, and helps in case of any disagreements at the end of your tenancy.

Fed Living offers accommodation on, or close to, our Ballarat, Berwick and Gippsland campuses.

Both short- and long-term packages are available, and you can even choose whether to have your dinner included in the cost! (Mt Helen only)

Fed Living Residents also get access to 24-hour support, a dedicated Residential Advisor team and activities and events throughout the year.

Find out more:

www.federation.edu.au/feduniliving



Federation Living

Renting through a Real Estate Agent gives you an assurance that the accommodation and rental agreement are safe and legal.

Agents will generally expect you to commit to a 6 or 12 month rental, with a charge if you leave earlier. They will also generally require referees -

you can ask a Federation staff member that knows you well, for example the Multicultural team, a lecturer or teacher. Most Real Estate Agents advertise their properties online:

www.realestate.com.au or www.domain.com.au, or you can just go and visit their office.


Renting through a private landlord is often cheaper and more flexible however you have to be very careful to get a legal contract, know what is included in your rent and the terms of the rental. Private landlords often advertise on www.gumtree.com.au and www.flatmates.com.au

Questions to ask

When you go and inspect a property, always ask lots of questions before agreeing to anything. If you don't get the answer you want, it's OK to say no!

- Does the property come furnished or unfurnished? What furniture is included?
- What type of heating/cooling is there? How efficient is it? What's the average monthly bill?
- Is internet/NBN available? Is this included in the rent?
- What else is included? Are bills separate?
- What cooking facilities are there?
- Who is responsible for the garden?

If you're not sure about any of the answers you get, please feel free to come and talk to us.



Private housing