



Abertay  
University®  
Dundee, Scotland

# Overseas Pre-arrival Guide







## The Purpose of this Guide

### Welcome to Abertay University

This pre-departure guide is intended for all our international applicants and students who are looking for further information and assistance to help you to your arrival at Abertay. This document will take you through most of what you need to know before you get to campus, and includes check lists, contact details and helpful links to support you every step of the way!

Of course, should you have further questions not covered in this guide, please get in touch with our international team at **International@abertay.ac.uk** and we will do our best to get you the answers you need.

Once you arrive on campus, your one stop shop for all questions and concerns will be our Support Enquiry Zone, who are located on the ground floor of the library, and can be reached by emailing **sez@abertay.ac.uk**.

### The Abertay International Team



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## Receiving Your Offer of Acceptance, What do I do Next?

1. Receive your offer of Acceptance.
2. Accept or decline this offer in UCAS, or directly to **admissions@abertay.ac.uk** if you are applying to a graduate program, or you applied directly to the university.
3. If you have accepted your offer, take note of the conditions that have been outlined to you in your offer letter. You must meet these conditions to receive a full unconditional acceptance to Abertay. These conditions can be:
  - a) Academic conditions such as your final grades, exam results, or IELTS or English Language scores. If you have been asked for these, please send the requested documentation to **admissions@abertay.ac.uk** and reference your full name and Abertay Student number.
  - b) Financial Conditions such as paying your 50% tuition deposit, must be paid prior to receiving your final acceptance by Admissions. Admission will send you instructions and details on these.
4. Once you have met your conditions you will be contacted by Admissions and asked to confirm information for your CAS (Confirmation of Acceptance for Study). You will need this document to apply for your student visa. You cannot apply for your visa without it.
5. Apply for your visa-details can be found at **<https://www.gov.uk/student-visa>** and see pages 6 and 7 of this guide.

Don't forget to apply for accommodation. You will be notified when this opens by our residences office. You can take a look at the options anytime at **<https://www.abertay.ac.uk/accommodation/>** and also see page 23 for more detail.







## Getting Started at Abertay

### Activate your IT account

Once you have firmly accepted our offer to study at Abertay, our IT Service Desk will email you instructions so that you can activate your IT account. Look out for the email, 'Abertay University IT Account and Instructions'. You won't be able to book accommodation or upload a photo for your Student ID card until you've activated your IT account. Assuming you join Abertay University in September, this IT account is your gateway to an Abertay email address, access to timetabling and the University's platforms and learning tools. If you don't meet the conditions of your offer, or decide not to join Abertay for whatever reason, your IT account is disabled.

### Upload a photo

In order for your Student ID card to be ready in time for Freshers' Week, you need to provide us with a passport-style photo before the end of August.

You can do this by uploading your photo online: To do so, you must already have set up and activated your IT account. See above. Go to [myabertay.ac.uk](http://myabertay.ac.uk) and enter your username and password. On myAbertay, click the OASIS tile, see myApplication and click on, 'Upload Your Photo'. Then follow the instructions from there. You can use your phone to take the photo.

If you miss this date: We can sort you out with a photo when you arrive but it means you won't have a Student ID card for a few weeks, which you need for travel and other discounts.

### Online registration

Registration is a two-part process that starts online. It's a simple way of providing the University with the information we need to register you and to confirm

agreement to the terms and conditions of study. It also includes registering for elective modules as that's how we put your timetable together. Abertay's Registry team will email you with instructions in August. Note – you won't be fully enrolled at the University until you attend the Registration Event on campus during Freshers' Week. Timeslots are scheduled by course and you'll be notified of yours. Find yours in the Guidebook App.

Download the Freshers' Week Guidebook App  
The Abertay Freshers' Week Guidebook App tells you what's on, where and when. It's free to download. You'll receive an email with information about it and a link for download in mid July.

Prepare to arrive 1-2 weeks before the start of classes. Freshers Week will be the week before classes start. Freshers Week is a welcome week for all new students, you will be introduced to many aspects of the University through information sessions and social events. The arrival dates have not been set but you can find this on the intranet once you have your account – under Academic Calendars (link). You will be notified by the University of the start dates once these have been confirmed.

### Key dates

**11-12 September:** Arrivals weekend for new students. Time to pick up keys if you're staying in University halls of residence.

**13 September:** Start of Freshers' Week.

**20 September:** Teaching starts.

## UK Student Visa Requirements

If you do not have a British passport, or are already registered under the EU settlement scheme you will need a student visa to study in the UK.

You can apply for the Student visa to study in the UK if you're 16 or over and you:

- have been offered a place on one of our degree programs
- have enough money to support yourself and pay for your education - the amount will vary depending on your circumstances
- can speak, read, write and understand English

### Applying for a student visa outside the United Kingdom

To be eligible to apply for a Student visa, you need to be able to score 70 points. Points are non-tradeable, which means you will need to meet all the requirements. You will be awarded points for meeting the requirements as set out below:

- Academic-Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS), course, approved qualification, level of study and place of study.
- Financial Evidence of funds for tuition fees and living expenses for one academic year (up to 9 months living expenses).
- English Language Evidence of English language proficiency equivalent to CEFR level B2 (submitted to UK education provider - e.g. Abertay)

The earliest you can apply is 6 months before the start of your course.

STEP	REQUIREMENTS TO BE MET
Your Course	Check that the course you are applying for is an accepted level: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/student-visa/course">https://www.gov.uk/student-visa/course</a>
Financial requirement	You will need enough money to cover your tuition fees and monthly living expenses for one academic year (up to 9 months' living expenses). For further information on how much money you will require and how to calculate it, please refer to the following link: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/student-visa/money">https://www.gov.uk/student-visa/money</a>
Apply to Abertay	Apply for your chosen course and fulfil all offer conditions to obtain your Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS)
Documents for Application	All applicants will need to provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current passport or other valid travel documentation</li> <li>• Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) from your course provider</li> </ul> You may also need to provide other documents. You can find the full list of what you'll need to provide when applying for your Student visa here: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/student-visa/documents-you-must-provide">https://www.gov.uk/student-visa/documents-you-must-provide</a>
Apply online	Complete your application online and submit with payment and supporting documents: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/student-visa/apply">https://www.gov.uk/student-visa/apply</a> . You will also need to prove your identity and will be told what you need to do when you apply. This will be one of the following (depending on your type of passport/travel documentation): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• give your fingerprints and a photograph (biometric information) at a visa application centre</li> <li>• use the 'UK Immigration: ID Check' app to scan your identity document</li> <li>• don't forget to pay your NHS surcharge in order to receive access to medical care while in the UK</li> </ul>

For more information, please see our visa pages: <https://www.abertay.ac.uk/international/visa-information/>

### **I have heard about biometric information, what is required?**

As part of the visa application process you will be required to provide:

- Your fingerprints and,
- Digital photographs

Your visa application will not be processed until you have provided the necessary biometric information.

### **How and where do I get my Biometrics information taken?**

Your biometric information will be taken at your nearest Visa Application Centre (VAC), or if your country does not have a VAC, then you will be able to have your biometrics taken at your local British mission. Your fingerprints or finger scans will be taken electronically. You will also have your digital photographs taken at the same time.

### **Conditions for Biometrics:**

- No decoration for example Henna.
- No cuts, bruises or other markings on your fingertips (before your finger scans are taken).
- Any cuts or bruises to the face must have healed or disappeared prior to having your photograph taken.
- Digital photographs must be of your full face, no sunglasses, hats or any other head covering can be worn (unless you wear it for cultural or religious reasons but the face must not be covered).

### **Assessing and understanding your costs**

In order to ensure you are fully aware of the cost involved in studying and living in the UK, the following information should help you in your preparation of necessary funds.

### **How much money will I need to bring with me to the UK?**

The two most important costs are your tuition fees and living expenses. Please make sure you have sufficient funds for both without the need to source employment in the UK to help towards these costs and/or recourse to public funds. Please also remember that in order to qualify for the student visa you must be able to show that you have enough funds to pay for your first year of course fees PLUS £9,135 for living expenses (this is calculated as £1,015 for each month of your program up to a maximum of £9,135 for a program lasting nine months or more).

### **How much are the tuition fees at Abertay?**

Tuition fees will vary depending on the level of the course you wish to apply for. For full details of tuition fees for the academic year please refer to page (8) or <https://www.abertay.ac.uk/study-apply/money-fees-and-funding/tuition-fees/>.





## Tuition fees

COURSE	TUITION
<b>Undergraduate degrees (fee per academic year)</b> BSc (Hons) Computer Games Technology BSc (Hons) Computer Game Applications Development BA (Hons) Computer Arts BSc (Hons) Computing BSc (Hons) Cybersecurity BSc (Hons) Ethical Hacking BA (Hons) Game Design and Production	£15,500
All other undergraduate (Bachelors) programmes	£14,000
<b>Postgraduate degrees</b> MSc Ethical Hacking and Cyber Security MProf Games Development MSc Computer Games Technology MSc Counselling MSc Accounting and Finance (CIMA Gateway)	£17000a £17000a £17000a £15000a £15000a
<b>Postgraduate Research degrees (per academic year)</b> PhD/MPhil/Masters by Research - subjects in Food, Environment, Engineering, Science and Sport PhD/MPhil/Masters by Research - subjects in Computing, Computer Games, Ethical Hacking, Cybersecurity PhD/MPhil/Masters by Research - subjects in Counselling, Psychology, Sociology, Management, Marketing, Business, Accountancy, Economics, Mental Health Nursing	£15750 £14750 £13750
<b>English Language courses</b> 5-week Pre-Sessional English Programme 9-week Pre-Sessional English Programme  These prices do not include accommodation	£1100 £2200

### Tuition fees – further information

a - There may be additional charges where the MSc is not completed within 18 months.

Students undertaking more than a full-time complement of modules will normally be charged for the excess modules.

If you are an international student, your fees also include free membership to the Abertay Gym, and to the nearby V&A Museum in Dundee, which opened in 2018. The V&A Dundee is the first design museum in Scotland and the first Victoria and Albert museum outside London. International fees per year are listed above.

If you are studying at Abertay as part of an Exchange programme between your home university and Abertay, then you do not pay tuition fees to Abertay, you will continue to pay them to your home university.

## How do I pay my tuition fees?

[www.abertay.ac.uk/studying/money-fees-funding/fees/](http://www.abertay.ac.uk/studying/money-fees-funding/fees/)

Please note: All overseas students are required to pay a 50% non-refundable, non-transferable deposit in order to confirm their place and receive a Certificate of Acceptance for Study (CAS). Furthermore the remaining 50% must be paid prior to or on registration.

- **Cheques** should be made payable to "University of Abertay Dundee"
- **Postal order** should be made payable to "University of Abertay Dundee"
- **Banker's Draft** should be made payable to "University of Abertay Dundee". It is not necessary to use a special bank to obtain a bank draft – use your own bank to provide you with this service.
- **Credit/Debit card** (e.g Visa/Mastercard/Switch/Solo) by telephoning our Finance department with this number +44 (0) 1382 308833
- **Cash** (in person only – please do not send cash by post)

- **Bank transfer** using the following information:
  - Address: Royal Bank of Scotland, 3 High Street, Dundee
  - Sort Code: 83-50-00
  - Account Name: University of Abertay Dundee
  - Account No: 10503800
  - IBAN No: GB52RBOS83500010503800
  - SWIFT BIC: RBOSGB2L

### What are the living expenses for Dundee?

The table opposite will provide you with an approximate indication to the likely costs of living in Dundee from your accommodation and fuel bills to everyday living costs.

We therefore recommend for courses of 12 months or less you budget for costs of £1,015 per month excluding tuition fees and for courses of 12 months or more, you budget for costs of £9,135 to cover your first year of study excluding tuition fees.



## Living expenses for Dundee

What are the living expenses for Dundee? The below table will provide you with an approximate indication to the likely costs of living in Dundee from your accommodation and fuel bills to everyday living costs.

With Dundee being a smaller city than that of Glasgow, Aberdeen, Edinburgh or England in general, the living expenses are slightly less in comparison. We therefore recommend you budget for costs of £6500+ per annum excluding tuition fees and flights.

### Average cost of living per month:

All below costs are an approximate guide therefore could be slightly more or less than stated below.

Accommodation	£300 - £400+
Electricity/Gas	£30 - £50+
Food	£100 - £150
Laundry	£12
Textbooks <sup>1</sup>	£12 - £30
Mobile/Cell <sup>2</sup>	£25
Personal Hygiene Items	£10 - £12
Library Photocopying – A4	5p single sided 8p double sided 20p single colour 38p double sided

<sup>1</sup>Textbooks can be bought second hand reasonably cheaply and will also be found in the University Library.

<sup>2</sup>Please note that this average cost does not include how much you would perhaps spend on social calls per month.

### Electrical - average cost per item:

Small electrical appliances i.e hairdryer/kettle/iron	£15 and under
Laptop/notebook	£250 upwards, second hand

### Clothing - average cost per item:

T-shirts/Underwear	£3+
Lightweight shirts/sweaters	£5+
Jeans/casual trousers/skirts	£15
Lightweight outdoors jacket	£20
Heavier sweater, heavier shoes	£20+
Raincoats and other	£30+
Outerwear boots	£30+
Winter coat	£50

Please note that you may be able to find above items cheaper in a supermarket than from a retail store in the city centre.

### Travel - average cost per item:

Travel by bus (in and around Dundee)	Day saver ticket costs £3.60 or Student Saver (weekly) ticket costs £10.00.
Travel by bus outside Dundee	Megabus Travel from £2 return. Booking in advance will keep the cost low.





### Social and specific items - average cost:

Alcohol (wine/beer)	£3 - £7
Newspapers/ magazines	30p and upwards
Telephone charge cards (for use in public telephones)	Available in £5, £10, £15 & £20
Restaurant meal	£8 per head +
Cinema ticket	£6.50
Theatre ticket	£10+
Concert ticket	£20
Nightclub entry	£5+
Leisure centre i.e. swimming/tennis etc.	£3.90+

Please note: Student discounts are offered at many local shops, theatres, cinemas, museums, galleries, bars/nightclubs and leisure facilities. Student discounts are also available for transport (bus/train). Please ask the Student Association for more details.

### Miscellaneous - average cost:

Insurance (Endsleigh Insurance) <sup>3</sup>	£16.00 per year
Television License	£157.50 this amount can be paid monthly. Please note: You must be covered by a TV Licence to download or watch BBC programmes on iPlayer - live, catch up or on demand.
Haircut	from £6 (men) from £25+ (women)
Personal health insurance	Prices will vary

<sup>3</sup>[www.endsleigh.co.uk](http://www.endsleigh.co.uk)

## Preparing for your journey

Before you arrive in the UK and Abertay University, it is important that you are fully prepared for your journey and arrival at the university. Below are some handy hints, tips and suggested documentation to help with your transition to university life and living in Dundee.

### What documents will I need for my journey to the UK?

- A valid passport any visa documentation you need.
- An air ticket and any connecting travel tickets/ instructions.
- If Applicable vaccination certificates i.e. Meningitis 'C' strain and Tuberculosis. Please view [www.meningitis.org](http://www.meningitis.org) , [www.nhs.uk/conditions/tuberculosis/pages/introduction.aspx](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/tuberculosis/pages/introduction.aspx)
- A letter of acceptance/unconditional offer letter from Abertay.
- Originals or certified copies of any degree certificates or qualifications you have obtained.
- Some warm clothing.
- UK Currency – There are Bureau De Change kiosks in most airports. It is recommended to bring £200 in cash with you on arrival.
- A list of what you are carrying in your luggage in case you have to make a luggage claim.
- Any prescribed drugs you are taking plus a letter from your Doctor explaining what they are.
- Travel adaptors for your electronics – they may be different to where you are from.

### Accommodation Requirements

- You will need a duvet, pillows, mattress protector (recommended) and bedding sheets. This is not supplied by the Accommodation so you will need to bring it with you or buy it on the first day you arrive which could be difficult if you arrive late at night. More information on what you need for your Accommodation can be found on p.24.

### Place of Study

Do you have your unconditional offer letter?

Do you have sufficient funds for living expenses?

Have you advised Abertay of your arrival details?

Do you have a contact for when you arrive at Abertay or other meeting point e.g. Dundee railway or bus station?

Have you planned your journey from the point of entry to your final destination?

### For your Journey

Do you have all your travel tickets?

Have you obtained a letter from your doctor for any prescribed drugs you may need to bring with you?

Have you ordered British currency and/ or appropriate debit/credit cards for your immediate arrival expenses?

Have you checked whether you need permission to transfer money to the UK?

Have you checked whether your own government has restrictions on the amount of money you can take out of your country?

Have you taken out travel, personal and medical insurance?

Have you checked with your local British Mission what you must declare at customs?

Have you weighed your bags to ensure they are within your baggage allowance and is easily transportable for your ongoing journey?

Pack some clothes in your hand baggage in case of delayed or lost luggage.



## Travelling to Dundee

Many flights to the UK land at London Heathrow, London Gatwick or Manchester International first before taking a connecting flight to Edinburgh or Dundee. The duration from Heathrow, Gatwick or Manchester International to Edinburgh or Dundee is approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes. Flights to Edinburgh from Amsterdam, Frankfurt and a number of other European countries have flight durations of approximately 1-2 hours.

If arriving at Edinburgh airport, the Airlink 100 bus service will take you directly to the City Centre where onward travel by train or bus to Dundee can be arranged. Alternatively, you can take a bus from Edinburgh airport to Halbeath Interchange where you can then take the Megabus to Dundee. The bus fare from Edinburgh airport to Halbeath is included in the price when you purchase the Megabus journey from Edinburgh airport to Dundee. Just show the bus driver. Please note that the train or bus service to Dundee varies in price and duration but is approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes.

Travel from London to Dundee via road or rail will vary in price, times and duration. Dundee has its own airport with direct flights from London City Airport. To organise your transfer to Dundee, please see the travel websites at the back of this guide.

Once you have arrived in the city, you can arrange a taxi to the Halls of Residence. Some of the Accommodation is within walking distance but you may have baggage to carry so arranging a taxi is recommended. There are taxi service details at the back of this guide. Ride apps such as UBER do not operate in Dundee so keeping the local taxi service numbers handy is advised.



## COVID-19/Medical and Vaccination Information

### COVID-19

Abertay will be keeping new and returning students up to date on the latest updates and how they affect life at Abertay on our COVID 19 Information page.

<https://www.abertay.ac.uk/coronavirus/>

This will include opening hours on campus, teaching delivery, quarantine and other important government guidelines relevant to international students.

If you need support or advice while at Abertay, please contact [sez@abertay.ac.uk](mailto:sez@abertay.ac.uk)

### Medical insurance

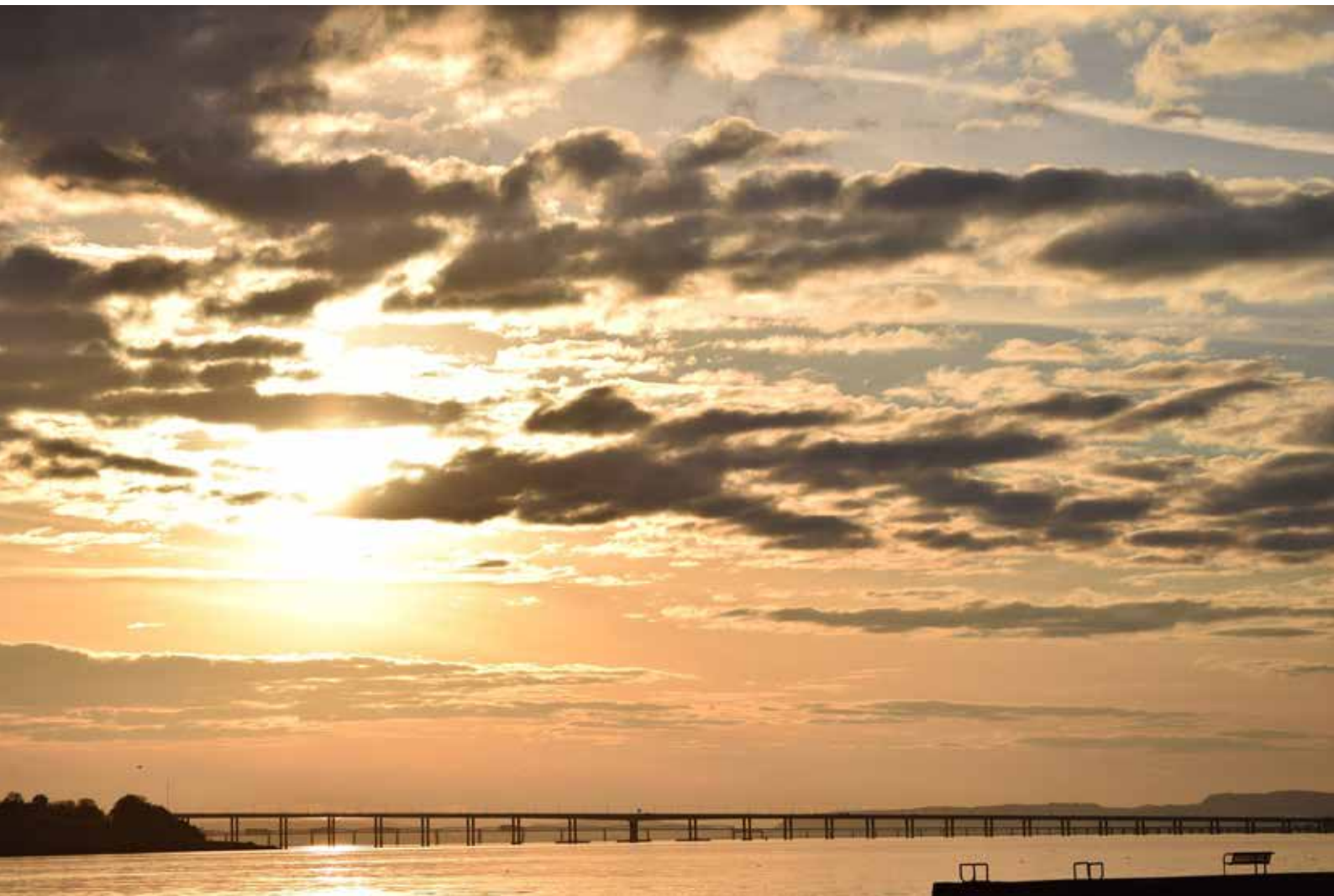
Although you may be eligible for free NHS treatment during your studies in the UK, it is advisable to also secure medical insurance which would cover for any other eventualities for example your policy may cover the following - lost fees if you are unable to complete your course, costs of returning home if a relative is ill, cost of returning you to your home country for treatment and or repatriation.

### Vaccinations

It is always advisable to make sure your vaccinations are up to date before traveling to another country. The most common vaccinations to ensure are up to date for the UK are Meningitis 'C' strain and Tuberculosis. For more information please go to

[www.meningitis.org](http://www.meningitis.org)

[www.nhs.uk/conditions/tuberculosis/pages/introduction.aspx](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/tuberculosis/pages/introduction.aspx)





## Scholarships

Abertay University offers and accepts many scholarships, which help to pay for your tuition fees and living costs during your time at University. Here are a few of our most popular scholarships and the key details for each.

**Abertay International Scholarship** – For international undergraduate students, an award of £3,000 is deducted from the tuition fee for each year of study, up to a maximum of 4 years. You do not need to apply for this scholarship, you will be automatically considered for this once we have received and processed your application.

<https://www.abertay.ac.uk/study-apply/money-fees-and-funding/scholarships/abertay-international-scholarship/>

**International Postgraduate Abertay Scholarship** – For international students who are studying a postgraduate taught Masters, an award of £3,000 will be deducted from the tuition fee. There is no application for this scholarship, we will automatically assess you for this once we have received and processed your application.

<https://www.abertay.ac.uk/study-apply/money-fees-and-funding/scholarships/international-postgraduate-abertay-scholarships/>

**Chevening Scholarship** – Funded by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the Chevening Award is a Scholarship provided to eligible candidates looking to study a postgraduate degree in the UK. Candidates must have previous work experience in order to qualify. This scholarship does require an application and you will have to meet the required criteria to be considered. Applications can only be made at certain times throughout the year. The Chevening Award is typically open for applications in August and closes in November.

<https://www.abertay.ac.uk/study-apply/money-fees-and-funding/scholarships/chevening-scholarship/>

**Scottish Saltire Scholarship** – For students from Canada, India, Japan, USA, Pakistan, China or Hong Kong studying a full time Masters programme in one of the following areas:

Science, Technology, Creative industries, Healthcare and medical sciences or Renewable and clean energy.

The award of £8,000 will be granted on a stringent set of criteria being met and a competitive application process. Applications typically close in the summer of each year.

<https://www.abertay.ac.uk/study-apply/money-fees-and-funding/scholarships/scottish-saltire-scholarships/>

For more information on the scholarships we offer, please visit: <https://www.abertay.ac.uk/study-apply/money-fees-and-funding/scholarships/> or contact the International team at [international@abertay.ac.uk](mailto:international@abertay.ac.uk)



## Transferring money

You should plan ahead. There are a number of ways of bringing money into the country, but even the quickest method can take one or two days for the transfer arrangements to be completed. Therefore please check the following prior to departure:

- Do you need permission to transfer money to the UK?
- Is there a limit on how much you can transfer to the UK?
- Are there any financial regulations that you must comply with?

The various options open to you are listed below:

- **Credit Cards** – Most banks and retail establishments in the UK will accept MasterCard or Visa. These can be used to withdraw cash from cash dispensing machines and enable you to access funds when you first arrive and before you have opened a bank account. There are normally surcharges attached to this, so do check with your bank.
- **Debit Cards** – You may be able to use your debit card to withdraw cash from your home bank account. Please check with your bank prior to leaving your country about whether this is possible and what charges may apply.
- **International Money Order** – This can be purchased from home prior to travel and can be exchanged for cash at a Post Office using your Passport as identification. The money order must be in British (Sterling) currency and can also be

made payable to your UK institution if you wish, allowing you to pay for your tuition fees. Any additional expenses such as living costs should be placed on a separate money order.

- **Transfer of funds<sup>5</sup>** – This is one of the quickest ways of transferring money from a bank in your country to one in the UK. You can use this method only when you have opened a bank account in the UK. The transfer must be organised with your bank either by yourself, on the phone, online banking or through your parents at home. It is therefore very useful to bring your bank's telephone number and/or to set up your online banking to organise this type of transfer. Please note that if you wish to transfer any funds to the University, make sure to make it clear what the funds are to be used for i.e. to pay for fees or accommodation etc and provide your student ID number if known.

### Money on arrival

You may need approximately £200 in British (sterling) currency on arrival in the UK. This is to pay for transport, meals and any necessities for the first few days if needed. Do not carry any more than this in case it gets lost.

<sup>5</sup> Please note that the university cannot act as a bank and transfer funds from another source i.e. sponsor into cash/ cheque or your personal bank account for you.







## Opening a bank account

**Most UK banks do not allow foreign nationals to open a bank account until they are a registered student with student visa and UK address. Abertay needs to provide you with proof of registration. Letters from the University confirming your address and student status are available from Support Enquiry Zone (SEZ) who are based on the ground floor of the Library you can also contact them at [sez@abertay.ac.uk](mailto:sez@abertay.ac.uk).**

However, some banks such as HSBC ([www.hsbc.com](http://www.hsbc.com)) have branches around the world where you can open foreign currency accounts. The advantage of doing this is that it is easy to make payments in advance of your arrival, for example, paying a deposit in order to secure a private flat which can involve quite a lot of money. It is also useful in obtaining a Visa to study (should you require one), as you will be able to show your financial status in sterling, which some embassies require. A list of web sites for other UK banks can be found at the end of this guide.

If you are planning on opening a bank account when you arrive at the University it is important that you have the following documents ready as this will speed up the process of opening a bank account.

- Passport.
- Visa (if applicable).
- Letter from the University confirming your student status and address both in the UK and home country<sup>6</sup>
- If you are privately renting, you may be required to present your original lease or contract.

For more information please refer to [www.moneyadvice.service.org.uk](http://www.moneyadvice.service.org.uk)

<sup>6</sup> Please allow for 24 - 48 hours for your letter. During busier periods please allow letters to be delayed by more than 48 hours.

## Employment

The conditions stated within your visa will tell you whether you are allowed to work part-time or full-time in this country. Nearly all international students are now able to work part time whilst studying. If your visa conditions confirm that you are restricted but not prohibited from work you will be entitled to work up to a maximum of 10-20 hours per week during term time and up to as many as 40 hours per week during vacation periods. Further information can be sought through the Advisory Service once you have arrived at Abertay, or by looking at the following link <https://www.ukcisa.org.uk/Information--Advice/Working/Student-work>.

### National Insurance Number

See <https://www.gov.uk/national-insurance> for more details.

### Part-time employment

Many international students choose to work in the UK during their studies. Part-time employment can provide an opportunity to make new friends and the chance to learn more about Dundee and its people. More importantly, it helps to improve your employability; with the chance to learn and develop work-related skills. Other benefits include, practice at making applications and improving your language skills – whilst earning extra cash of course!

A good place to start your search for a job is the university's Careers Service. They can offer practical advice and guidance when searching and applying for work and frequently post suitable vacancies on their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/AbertayCareers>

Alternatively, try local newspapers, the government job search site - [www.gov.uk/jobsearch](http://www.gov.uk/jobsearch), recruitment agencies, shop windows or friends and other contacts. Students can be successful in gaining work in local retail outlets, call centres, bars and restaurants and administrative offices. These types of opportunities are better suited to a student's timetable as hours worked can be flexible. It is sometimes possible to find a job related to your course – talk to a Careers Adviser to discuss this in more detail.

The following websites are a good source of information for International students considering working part-time:

#### Study UK (British Council):

<https://study-uk.britishcouncil.org/>

#### UKCISA (The UK Council for International Student Affairs):

[www.ukcisa.org.uk](http://www.ukcisa.org.uk)

#### Directgov:

[www.gov.uk/browse/working](http://www.gov.uk/browse/working)

#### Tax Advice:

[www.hmrc.gov.uk/students](http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/students)

Tel: 0845 300 0627 (Mon-Fri 8am-8pm, Sat 8am-4pm)

#### National Insurance:

[www.hmrc.gov.uk/ni/intro/number.htm](http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/ni/intro/number.htm)

Tel: 0845 600 0643









## Post-Study Work Visa – The Graduate Route

As of Summer 2021, any international student that has successfully completed an undergraduate or master's degree will be able to stay in the UK for a further 2 years (PhD graduates can stay for 3 years) to pursue employment opportunities. This will require a separate visa application.

Please visit <https://www.gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration> for more information.

## Registering with the Police

Some visa nationals will have a requirement stamped in their visa/passport to register with the Police on arrival in Dundee/Scotland/UK within 7 working days.

The following countries are those who are required to register with the Police: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Bolivia, Brazil, China, Columbia, Cuba, Egypt, Georgia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libya, Moldova, Morocco, North Korea, Oman, Palestine, Peru, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Ukraine, Uzbekistan and Yemen, and holders of stateless documents.

What do you need to take with you?

- 2 recent passport size colour photographs
- your passport
- your visa 'vignette' (sticker in your passport), if you applied outside the UK
- the letter you got from the Home Office when your application was approved, if you applied inside the UK
- your biometric residence permit, if you have one

If your spouse and family accompany you whilst you are studying in the UK, they will also need to register. You must notify the police if you change your address or extend your 'Leave to Remain'.



## Families

There are a number of things you might like to consider before deciding whether or not to bring your family with you to the UK. If you wish to bring your wife/husband and/or children you should check that you meet the current requirements here: <https://www.gov.uk/student-visa/family-members>. You will need to provide evidence of your relationship when you apply.

Currently, you must be a graduate (Masters or PhD) student studying for 9 months or longer in order to qualify. You will make their application at the same time as you apply for your student visa.

## Children

**Pre-school age** – There are a number of nurseries/playgroups for small children in Dundee. Childcare is an additional cost, so do take this into consideration.

**Schooling** – Children aged 5 – 16 are required by law to go to school and will be entitled to free schooling. For details of schools in the Dundee area contact Dundee City Council, Dundee House, 50 North Lindsay Street, Dundee on +44 (0)1382 434900, or alternatively log onto the website at [www.dundeecity.gov.uk](http://www.dundeecity.gov.uk).







## Accommodation

### Fast Facts

Once you have a firm offer from Abertay you can apply for accommodation with us in our halls. If you apply by 1 August you'll be guaranteed a room. For full details of room options, pricing and how they are equipped, see "Accommodation" on our website [www.abertay.ac.uk/life/accommodation/](http://www.abertay.ac.uk/life/accommodation/)

We have 4 Halls of Residence at Abertay University which you can start looking into at any point. Just search "Accommodation" on our website or use this link: <https://www.abertay.ac.uk/accommodation/>

Applications for our accommodation open in late Spring typically. You will be notified of the exact date of this nearer the time so please keep an eye on your student email and Oasis. If you apply by August 1st then you will be guaranteed a room.

The arrival details and room key pick up process will be shared with you once you have confirmed you are happy with the room offer. Typically, the move in dates to our Halls of Residence are the weekend prior to Freshers Week.

The contract for all residences is for the full duration of the academic session, inclusive of Christmas and Easter vacations. The contract is 40 weeks in duration with 43 and 51 week contracts available for Parker House.

When allocating accommodation, the University gives priority to first entrants and to overseas students who are new to Dundee. For those who do not wish to be placed in the University accommodation, our Residences Office staff are happy to give information on finding accommodation within the private rented sector.

Typically, the pick up point for your keys will be the Student Enquiry Zone (SEZ) on the ground floor of the library. Our Residences team will be in touch to

arrange your key pick up and what time/date is best for you. For any questions or enquiries about our Accommodation, please email [Residences@abertay.ac.uk](mailto:Residences@abertay.ac.uk).

### Co-habiting students and students with families

The University has limited number of double/premium rooms in Lyon Street which are ideal for couples who wish to live in University accommodation for the duration of their studies. The Accommodation Officers are happy to give advice on finding suitable accommodation in the private sector or in local authority housing for students planning on coming to Dundee with their families.

### How to apply for University accommodation

Once a course offer becomes Unconditional Firm, that is once a student has been offered a place on a course, met the conditions and accepted the offer, the student's status on the University system changes and an Orientation Pack is sent out automatically from our Registry department. This contains details on how to apply for accommodation online as well as other useful information. If you are applying as an international student you can register on our website as soon as accommodation opens, (usually in mid to late May) as long as you have formally accepted your offer from Abertay.

### What will happen once you apply for University accommodation?

Once the Residences Team receives your application, it will be processed in turn. They will allocate you a room based on your age and the preferences you have made. You will receive a response by email within seven days of applying.

### Bedroom essentials for halls

We don't supply bedding, so bring your duvet, pillows and sheet with you. Also bring a mattress protector unless you're staying at Parker House, which supplies one. If you don't want to carry bulky bedding on your journey, you can go



shopping in Dundee or buy a set from our online store and it will be in your room when you arrive.

Other essentials for halls:

- Plates and cutlery
- Towels
- Cooking utensils e.g. spatulas, wooden spoons
- Cleaning materials
- Toilet paper
- Clothes hangers

#### What not to bring for halls:

Don't bring items such as fridges, freezers, tumble dryers, microwaves, toasters, kettles and heaters. They're not permitted unless with specific cause such as medication that must be kept in a fridge (this list is not exhaustive).

#### Residences Officers

Tel: +44 (0)1382 308059

Email: residences@abertay.ac.uk

#### Private Accommodation

If you are looking to rent private accommodation in Dundee, the cost of renting per month can range from approximately £300 per month up to approximately £800 per month depending on what size of property you are looking to rent and area of the city.

The majority of properties for rent in the Dundee area are fully furnished. This means the property already has a bed, table, sofa/chairs, washing machine, cooker and fridge etc.

Please note that you may be able to find private accommodation cheaper than the approximately stated amounts above, however you must be aware that the cost of rent will be reflected by the age/ contents and style of the property and the area.

The University holds no responsibility for the representation of private accommodation in Dundee nor can the University recommend or endorse any individual landlord or company when making your decision. Dundee City Council has a landlord accreditation scheme to help you identify responsible landlords.

You can check to see if the landlord/property you are interested in is listed on the register here <https://www.dundee.gov.uk/service-area/neighbourhood-services/community-safety-and-protection/private-landlord-registration> (click on Public Search, then Public Search facility).



When considering private accommodation there are a number of things to think about. Dundee City Council provide help and advice about renting in the private sector here

<https://www.dundee.gov.uk/service-area/neighbourhood-services/housing-and-communities/housing-options-in-dundee/renting-in-private-sector>

If you do consider private accommodation as with any lease, you should be sure of any terms before signing. The following services can provide help, information and advice:

- **Citizen's Advice Scotland:** <https://www.cas.org.uk/>
- **Shelter Scotland:** <https://scotland.shelter.org.uk/>







## What Dundee has got to offer

London's Trafalgar Square has Nelson on his column, Edinburgh's Princes St has its monument to Sir Walter Scott and Belfast has a statue of Queen Victoria outside City Hall. In Dundee, we embrace the historic and the modern in equal measure. Our stunning waterfront is dominated by two world-class visitor attractions: the brand new Victoria & Albert Museum of Design and the Antarctic Expedition Ship, RRS Discovery, built in 1901.

Dundee enjoys perhaps the best location of any Scottish city, spreading along the northern shore of the Tay River, Dundee has more parkland per head than any other city in the UK! You can easily walk or cycle around the city and are never too far from our hills, beach or waterfront. The city boasts tourist attractions of national importance in the McManus Galleries and Verdant Works museum. Add in the attractive seaside town of Broughty Ferry and the Dundonians themselves - among the friendliest, most welcoming and most entertaining people you'll meet...

As Scotland's fourth largest city (after Glasgow, Edinburgh and Aberdeen), Dundee grew greatly through the industries of Jute, Jam and Journalism, affectionately referred to as "The 3 J's". Dundee is very proud of its industrial heritage and many of the mill buildings repurposed into residential and commercial properties. You will be able to see the remnants of the Jute industry in the many public buildings and parks which were gifted to the city and its people by the mill owners. Contemporary Dundee is an UNESCO City of Design, and a hub for the creative industries, technology and innovation. The city is experiencing an artistic and cultural renaissance.

The city has two universities an Islamic & Arabic Centre and a college: University of Dundee, Abertay University, Al-Maktoum Institute of Islamic & Arabic studies and Dundee & Angus College which means over 40,000 students study in the city each year.

Within the last 20 years the software/gaming production industry in the city has grown dramatically and Dundee is now responsible for 10% of Britain's digital entertainment industry with an annual turnover of £100 million. Many popular gaming titles were produced in part or whole in Dundee including Lemmings and Grand Theft Auto. Geographically, Dundee is in a prime position in Scotland. Only Dundee can boast to have more parkland per head than any other city in the UK! You can easily walk or cycle around the city and are never too far from our hills, beach or waterfront.

Positioned on the shore of the river Tay and surrounded by hills, the weather in Dundee is unpredictable but on the whole mild. Dundee is in fact the sunniest city statistically in Scotland with 1400 hours of sunshine per year. Dundee has many student friendly areas and is bustling with social areas and entertainment facilities. With theatres, nightclubs, exhibition spaces, cinemas, a science centre, restaurants, a bowling alley, gyms, swimming pools and an observatory to name a few, you are spoilt for choice and never bored! For more information log onto Dundee's information portal <https://www.dundee.com/>



## English Language Support

### Counselling

The Counselling and Mental Health Service is part of Student Services and is free and confidential for all Abertay students.

At the moment counselling and mental health appointments are taking place via telephone and video link. This is to comply with Covid 19 regulations and allows support to be offered without the need to travel to campus.

Counselling is an opportunity to explore issues that concern you without judgement. Sometimes life at university can be full of challenges, particular in light of the uncertainties of the 'new normal'. If you are feeling overwhelmed in anyway, please come and talk to the team. Here are just some of the issues students have brought to us:

- Homesickness
- Feeling low
- Anxiety
- Stress
- Relationship difficulties
- Loneliness
- Self esteem
- Panic attacks
- Mental health issues

It is good to talk – and sometimes you need to talk to an experienced counsellor or Mental Health Advisor, contact: [counselling@abertay.ac.uk](mailto:counselling@abertay.ac.uk)  
See more here - <https://www.abertay.ac.uk/life/student-support-and-services/counselling>

### Pre-sessional English Language Courses

#### Intensive English for Academic Purposes Programme

The Pre-Sessional Programme runs during the The IEAP Programme runs for six weeks during July and August, and is for International students who plan to study for a degree at Abertay University. It is designed to help you get the most from your time here by preparing you for your degree, as well as helping you to familiarise yourself with the university and the city of Dundee. And of course, you'll meet other students!

Although some students are required to attend as a condition of their offer from the university, the 5 week Pre-Sessional Programme is recommended for all international students because of the benefits it provides. The programme consists of 20 hours of classes a week, focussing on developing the four skills:

**Writing:** including understanding and planning different assignments, using sources, avoiding plagiarism, and improving your accuracy.

**Reading:** strategies to help you to read academic books, journal articles and internet sources more effectively.

**Listening:** strategies for both formal settings such as lectures, and informal discussions and conversations.

**Speaking:** including giving presentations and taking part in seminars.

Successful study in the UK also involves other skills: academic literacy, critical thinking, independent learning, and research skills. Additionally, we aim to develop your language skills so you can communicate with confidence in and out of class. For more information on the programme, please see: <https://www.abertay.ac.uk/course-search/preparation-courses/five-week-pre-sessional-programme/>

### **English for Study**

English for Study classes and workshops are provided FREE and are held throughout the academic year.

The classes are designed to support international students with coursework and to help to develop the Academic English skills you need, including strategies for reading university texts, understanding and planning different assignments, using sources, avoiding plagiarism, and improving your accuracy when writing in English. Speaking classes both develop presentation and seminar skills and provide lots of practice. In addition we run grammar workshops, to review and extend your knowledge of the rules of English, and pronunciation classes which allow individualised exercises and practice.

For students undertaking long assignments, particularly postgraduates, dissertation writing courses are held at different points during the academic year. Details of upcoming classes can be found on Blackboard, in the Learning Zone section, along with details of how to register for classes. We also offer a drop-in service for individual support, including help with assignments – you can find us on level 2 of the Library.

For more information contact:

**Liz MacDougal,**  
**Senior Language & Learning Development Advisor,**  
**Abertay Language Centre**  
[l.macdougal@abertay.ac.uk](mailto:l.macdougal@abertay.ac.uk)



## Useful information

### Contacting the University [Correspondence]

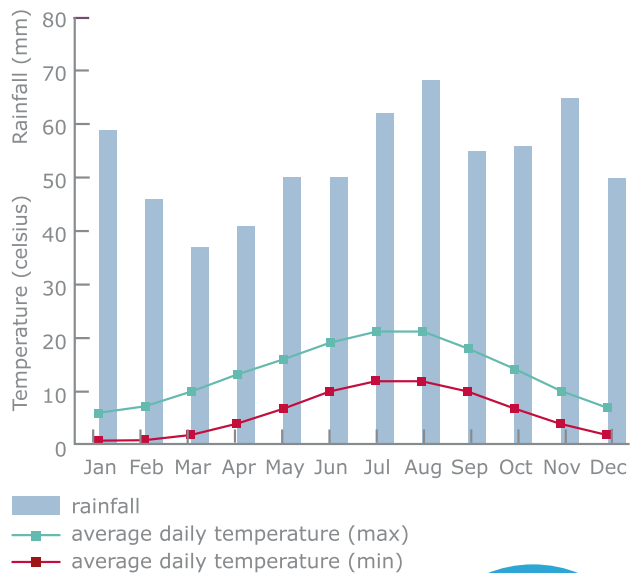
Please make sure that any contact made with the University either by mail or Email has your correct full name as stated in your Passport. This will ensure your application(s) is processed quickly and effectively.

### Climate

Dundee has the most sunshine hours in Scotland.

However, during the summer months it can be warm and sunny. On the whole the climate is considered mild. January and February is the coldest time, when the temperature can be below freezing at night, with occasional snow.

### Average Monthly Daytime Temperature range:



Over 60 nationalities are represented in our student community.

Dundee is the sunniest city in Scotland with 1400 hours of sunshine per year.

Dundee has an overall population of over 148,260 with a student population of approximately 40,000.

26% of our students are from overseas and EU countries.

### Clothing

During autumn (October, November) and winter (December, January and February) months you should make sure you bring warm and waterproof clothing with you, as the weather tends to get wet and cold and you may experience snowfall.

## Electricity

In the UK, electricity works on 240 volts/ 50 cycles and most sockets take 13amp square pin fused plugs. Please make sure if you bring any electrical equipment with you that it is compatible. If you wish to stay in Halls of Residence, conditions may apply, please refer to your student accommodation handbook.

## Shopping and Banks opening times

General and Clothes Shops	Monday - Saturday	09:00 - 17:30/18.00
	Thursday (later opening hours)	09:00 - 19:00/19:30
	Sunday	12:00 - 17:00
Supermarkets	Open 7 days	07:00 - 20:00 (some 24 hours)
Banks and Building Societies	Monday - Friday	09:00 - 17:00
	Saturday	09:00 - 12:00
	Sunday	Closed

## Cheques and Postal Orders

It is advisable to send any money by post using a bank cheque or postal order. Postal Orders can be easily obtained from the local post office. For more information log onto [www.postoffice.co.uk/postal-orders](http://www.postoffice.co.uk/postal-orders).

## Recorded Delivery, Registered Mail and Special Delivery

If you need to send important documentation for example your passport(s) to the Home Office please use Special or Registered mail. By sending your documents using special or registered mail, you are automatically given a receipt (including reference code), as proof of posting, and your parcel must be signed for on delivery. You will also be able to track and trace where your parcel is within the postal system using the post office website and reference number from your receipt.

## Driving in the UK

In the UK we drive on the left-hand side of the road.

If you are planning on driving in the UK you must make sure of a valid driving licence and must also make sure of the following:

- The vehicle has been registered and has valid road tax for that particular vehicle.
- The driver of the vehicle has insurance against risk of injury to other people and vehicles.
- The vehicle has passed its Ministry of Transport Test (MOT).

If your licence was issued in the EEA you can drive for as long as your licence remains valid or you can apply at any time to exchange it for a British one. If your licence expires while you are here and you wish to continue driving in the UK, you must obtain a British licence. For license information for all other countries please refer to the following link

<https://www.gov.uk/driving-nongb-licence>

Please note that if you have not driven in the UK previously, you may want to consider driving lessons in order to familiarise yourself with the UK driving system.

## Register with a Doctor

You will need to register with a GP Surgery (Doctors Practice) once you have arrived in Dundee. You can follow this link to find your nearest GP Surgery and what you will need to do to register. Please remember to bring a letter from your current doctor detailing your current prescribed medication, if you have any, so that the Doctor knows what you are taking and that they can continue to provide these. Hawkhill Medical Centre and Hillbank Health Centre are a short walk away from the University.

**IMPORTANT: You should still purchase health/medical insurance in case you need to be repatriated to your home country to continue hospitalisation and to be close to family. If you do not have this insurance it can cost you £5000+ to be airlifted home. The spouse and/or dependents of eligible international students are also eligible for NHS treatment.**

**Register with a Dentist:** Dental problems cannot be dealt with by doctors, so make sure you register with a local dentist. Not all treatment is free, even under the NHS. You may be able to apply for help with health costs, including prescriptions and dental care.

For help finding local Doctor and Dentist details and further NHS recommendations, please visit here: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/getting-medical-care-as-a-student/>

You will receive this information formally from the Advisory team, when you register.

## Religion

The University is a multifaith and multicultural institution. The Chaplaincy seeks to serve the whole University community in a spirit of openness, friendship and mutual respect, and maintain a directory of the many places of worship in Dundee and Tayside together with contact numbers.

It serves both as a reference point for those with particular faith needs and as a forum for dialogue between those of different faiths.

The Chaplaincy is part of Student Services and works closely with the Student Association. The Chaplaincy seeks to be a resource for the conscious broadening and developing of the spiritual insight and ethical awareness of those willing to be challenged by the broader implications of University life.

The work of the Chaplaincy is guided by members of staff and student representatives. Student Services manages a number of prayer rooms / quiet rooms across campus for groups and individuals of all faiths and none to meet, pray, meditate or reflect.

We have Contemplation Rooms and Multifaith Rooms available for students. Students can book the book the multifaith space via the SEZ booking pages and staff can book the space by contacting SEZ directly. Please find more information here - <https://www.abertay.ac.uk/life/student-support-and-services/faith-and-belief/>

The Islamic Prayer Rooms are maintained by the Abertay Islamic Society. There are two prayer rooms, one for females and one for males, and they can be found in the Baxter Building in rooms 3057 and 3059. Get in touch with the Islamic society for more information by emailing [societies@abertay.ac.uk](mailto:societies@abertay.ac.uk).



## Help at the University

### Support Enquiry Zone (SEZ)

There are a number of specialist services within the University's SEZ Directorate that provide high-quality, professional, non-judgemental, confidential counselling, information, advice and guidance on issues related to money, wellbeing, disability and careers.

### Where to find SEZ

Level 1, the Bernard King Library.

### Advisory Service

We are here to help support you in your academic and professional development by providing advice which is professional, caring, student-centred and accessible. We provide support with funding issues, alternative funding options, guidance on money management, international student support, visa and immigration enquiries and all general welfare and pastoral support issues. If you are experiencing any difficulties, or you would like advice, then please do not hesitate to contact us by emailing **advisory@abertay.ac.uk**.

### University Chaplaincy

The University has a number of honorary Chaplains who can be contacted at any time by contacting SEZ on 01382 308051 or email **advisory@abertay.ac.uk**.

### Advisor for Students with Disabilities

For more information please log onto the following page on our website **<https://www.abertay.ac.uk/life/student-support-and-services/disabled-student-support>** or alternatively you can telephone or email.

## How to contact SEZ

**Tel: +44 (0) 1382 308051**  
**Email: [sez@abertay.ac.uk](mailto:sez@abertay.ac.uk)**  
**or [advisory@abertay.ac.uk](mailto:advisory@abertay.ac.uk)**

Tel: +44 (0)1382 308051

Email: **[disabilityadvisors@abertay.ac.uk](mailto:disabilityadvisors@abertay.ac.uk)**

### Student Academic Support

How you study is as important as what you study. Student Academic Support is here to help you improve the way you study so you can improve your grades.

Here are some of the topics we can help you with:

- Taking control of your own studies
- Organising yourself and making the most of your time
- Thinking for yourself
- Effective reading and research skills
- Writing better coursework
- Proof-reading
- Maths and statistics
- Group work
- Revision and exam techniques

Furthermore please have a look at the following web learning resource for international students coming to study in the UK  
**[www.prepareforsuccess.org.uk](http://www.prepareforsuccess.org.uk)**.





• **Do I need private health insurance or is the treatment under the National Health Service enough for Overseas students?**

All international students in full time education in Scotland are eligible for NHS (National Health Service) treatment, whatever the length of studies from the first day of arrival in Scotland. This also applies to their dependants, i.e. their spouse and children under 16 years of age. It is still advisable to take out private health care insurance in case you need to be repatriated to your country to continue hospitalisation.

From April 2015. Any student wishing to study in the UK for more than 6 months, will be required to apply for and pay for an Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS) as part of your visa application for the UK. For further information please visit [www.gov.uk/healthcare-immigration-application/overview](http://www.gov.uk/healthcare-immigration-application/overview)

• **Do I need any specific vaccinations?**

Tuberculosis and Meningitis 'C' strain are common worldwide and so it is important to make sure you are vaccinated against both before you arrive in the UK. The UK has a national programme of vaccination against these two diseases. Up to date medical advice suggests that all students should ensure they are vaccinated as students are designated as a 'high risk' group for these diseases.

For more information on vaccines see page 14.

• **Should I take lots of medicine with me or isn't it that expensive in Scotland?**

Please only bring prescribed medicine including a doctor's letter explaining what each medicine is with you. For all other medicines, they can be purchased quite cheaply at a pharmacy.

• **Can I get assistance with health costs?**

Yes. As a student you may be eligible for full or part exemption towards the cost of the following:

- NHS Dental treatment
- NHS wigs and fabric supports
- Sight tests, glasses and contact lenses
- Travel to receive NHS treatment under the care of a consultant.

In order to be eligible for help or exemption, you must complete an HC1 form, which is available from your local doctor's surgery (GP) or post office. You can download an HC1 form from the following webpage: [www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/HealthCosts/1128.aspx](http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/HealthCosts/1128.aspx)

• **Is the Scottish accent difficult to understand and will I have any language problems in the lectures?**

The Scottish accent is regional and therefore can be stronger in some areas. To accustom you to the Scottish accent try viewing AbertayTV at [www.youtube.com/user/abertayTV](http://www.youtube.com/user/abertayTV). AbertayTV will not only allow you to familiarise yourself with the Scottish accent, but allow you to view some of the University and students who are and who have previously attended. You may also wish to log into BBC Radio Scotland [www.bbc.co.uk/scotland/radioscotland](http://www.bbc.co.uk/scotland/radioscotland). It will normally take a couple of weeks for your ear to become attuned to the accent.

If you have the required English language proficiency, you shouldn't have any difficulties in lectures.

• **Do I need warm clothes in September/October or is it OK if a package with winter clothes is sent on later?**

During the months of September and October the weather begins to turn colder and wetter and therefore it is recommended that you bring suitable clothes with you, however you can have heavier weight clothing sent on to you before November.



• **Do I need an adapter for using the electricity with my hairdryer/notebook etc?**

Yes. You will need an adapter for using electricity. You will need to bring a square 3 pin fused adapter plug with you. You should be aware that some appliances will not work in the UK, as they do not have the ability to cope with 240 volts.

• **Should I change some money in my home country or will there be a possibility at Edinburgh airport?**

It is advisable to bring some sterling £ with you. However there is a Bureau de Change in Edinburgh airport where you will be able to exchange traveller's cheques or money.

• **Where can I go shopping just after my arrival to get some food?**

There are a variety of large supermarkets and smaller specialist food stores available in Dundee:

- Alnoor Halal Food Store  
202 Blackness Road, Dundee, DD1 5PL
- Bismallah Halal Food Store  
154 Hilltown, Dundee, DD3 7BG
- The Health Store  
95 Commercial Street, Dundee, DD1 2AF
- Lidl Supermarket West Marketgait
- Matthews Chinese Market  
Gellatly Street, Dundee, DD1 3DY
- Continental Food Store  
146 Hilltown, Dundee, DD3 7BJ
- Tesco Supermarket Riverside Drive (open 24hrs)  
Kingsway
- Global Grocers and Butchers  
9 Guthrie Street, Dundee, DD1 4DP
- Polski Skelp Kubus Dundee (Polish Deli)  
317 Hilltown, Dundee, DD3 7AQ
- Russian Food Store (Slavyanski)  
236 Blackness Road, Dundee, DD2 1RG
- Wing Fung Cash and Carry  
45-47 Trades Lane





- **Is it safe to drink the water?**

Yes, in the UK it is safe to drink water from the tap.

- **How can I improve my English?**

When you start your degree course you will be able to enrol on free English study classes, which will help with your coursework and understanding during lectures.

The University also has a Student Academic Support centre where they offer sessions on essay writing, presentation skills, exam techniques and much more.

For further information on English Study classes please log onto [www.abertay.ac.uk/courses/ug/english](http://www.abertay.ac.uk/courses/ug/english) or alternatively if you require further information on our Student Academic Support centre please log onto [www.abertay.ac.uk/studying/support/academic](http://www.abertay.ac.uk/studying/support/academic).

- **Should I bring my IELTS/TOEFL certificate with me?**

Yes. Please make sure you bring your certificates with you, as you will be required to provide evidence of your English language proficiency. This does not apply to EU Articulation Scheme students. For those students their home university must sign their EU Articulation Scheme Application Form to confirm ability in the English language. EU Articulation Scheme students do not need to send or bring other proof of proficiency.

- **Should I insure my belongings and if so how do I do this?**

Yes, you should insure all your personal belongings when you arrive in the UK. For more information on how to insure your personal belongings log onto [www.endsleigh.co.uk](http://www.endsleigh.co.uk).

- **Does the University have a swimming pool?**

No, unfortunately the University does not have a swimming pool; however there is a fully equipped gymnasium for your use. The nearest swimming pool is an approximate 5-minute walk from the University campus and as a student you will also receive a discount on all leisure activities at all leisure centres in Dundee. For more information on sports available at the University log onto [www.sport.abertay.ac.uk](http://www.sport.abertay.ac.uk).

- **What societies and clubs does the University offer?**

The University currently has 38 clubs and societies that you can join. These range from anime, ethical hacking, esports, film, food and forensics, to the African Caribbean club, the LGBTQ+ and Game Creation, to name a few! There is something for everyone and many of the clubs are free or have a minimal fee to join. All are very welcoming and if you don't see something you like, the Abertay Student Association will help you set up your own club - <https://www.abertaysa.com/societies>.

- **How can I prepare myself for Academic Life in the UK?**

There are various ways in which you can prepare yourself for life in the UK and there may be various aspects of living in the UK which concern you. The following website has been created in order to give you an insight into what it is like to study in the UK. [www.prepareforsuccess.org.uk](http://www.prepareforsuccess.org.uk)



## International Abertay – Social Media Section

The International Team at Abertay University are here to help you with any aspect of the process. Our team cover the entire globe, so depending on where you are from, we have a member of the team to help you out. Please find the best contact for your below:

### **Beth Meehan**

United States, Canada, Latin America  
b.meehan@abertay.ac.uk

### **Emma Sheldon**

Europe and Central Asia  
e.sheldon@abertay.ac.uk

### **Fin Hackwood**

Middle East and North Africa  
f.hackwood@abertay.ac.uk

### **Doug Watters**

Sub-Saharan Africa  
d.watters@abertay.ac.uk

### **Janice Grant**

India, Pakistan and South East Asia  
j.grant@abertay.ac.uk

### **Elaine Russell**

East Asia  
e.russell@abertay.ac.uk

### **Evie Jackson**

Study Abroad  
e.jackson@abertay.ac.uk

We have a number of social media channels that we would love you to follow and get involved in. The official Abertay University channels are:



<https://www.facebook.com/AbertayUni/>



<https://www.instagram.com/abertayuni/?hl=en>



[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaLxNUjn3IRuWOKTQT\\_hfw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaLxNUjn3IRuWOKTQT_hfw)



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/university-of-abertay/about/>



<https://twitter.com/AbertayUni>

The International Team at Abertay have also set up dedicated social media channels for you to join, please see the links below:



@AbertayGoesGlobal  
<https://www.instagram.com/abertaygoesglobal/>



"Abertay University - International Group"  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/234490010936797/>

We will also have a WhatsApp group chat set up, so you can meet your new classmates and roomies ahead of arriving on campus.

You will also receive regular Newsletters from us so keep an eye out for those, there may be important information in there that we want you to see.







## International Exchange and Study Abroad

As an international student, you can study abroad during your Abertay degree, and we have a range of university partners in Europe, the Americas and Asia. If you're interested, look out for Abertay Goes Global events during the year, or speak to the International Team.

### Visiting Students

Much of the information in this booklet relates to Visiting Students, however as your application and journey to and through Abertay is a little different, there will be a few differences to the process, these will be explained to you by the Study Abroad Team. Visiting Students are defined as those who are part of an exchange or visiting programme with Abertay and their host university, who will be at Abertay for one semester or 1 academic year.

## Useful organisations

### Outside the University

#### Citizens Advice Bureau Dundee

Dundee Central Library  
Level 4 Wellgate Centre  
Dundee DD1 1DB  
T: +44(0) 1382 307494  
W: [www.dundeecab.org](http://www.dundeecab.org)  
E: [contactus@dundeecab.org](mailto:contactus@dundeecab.org)

#### UK Visas and Immigration

[www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-visas-and-immigration](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-visas-and-immigration)

#### British Council

W: [www.britishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.britishcouncil.org.uk)

#### Foreign and Commonwealth Office

– for information on visas  
W: [www.fco.gov.uk](http://www.fco.gov.uk)

#### United Kingdom Council for International Student Affairs (UKCISA)

9 – 17 St Albans Place  
London N1 0NX  
T: +44(0) 020 7107 9922 W: [www.ukcisa.org.uk](http://www.ukcisa.org.uk)

#### Dundee City Council

Tayside House  
Dundee DD1 3RZ  
T: +44(0) 1382 434000  
W: [www.dundee.gov.uk](http://www.dundee.gov.uk)

### UK Banks

#### Bank of Scotland

[www.bankofscotland.co.uk](http://www.bankofscotland.co.uk)

#### Clydesdale Bank

[www.clydesdalebank.co.uk](http://www.clydesdalebank.co.uk)

#### Santander

[www.santander.co.uk](http://www.santander.co.uk)

#### Royal Bank of Scotland

[www.rbs.co.uk](http://www.rbs.co.uk)

#### Nat West Bank

[www.natwest.com](http://www.natwest.com)

#### Halifax Bank

[www.halifax.co.uk](http://www.halifax.co.uk)

#### HSBC

[www.hsbc.com](http://www.hsbc.com)



## Useful addresses and telephone numbers

### SEZ (Student Enquiry Zone)

Ground Floor, Library  
Bell Street  
Dundee DD1 1HG  
T: +44(0) 1382 308051  
F: +44(0) 1382 308122  
E: sez@abertay.ac.uk  
W: www.abertay.ac.uk

### IT Service Desk

F: +44(0) 1382 308888

### The Advisory Service

Abertay University Student Services  
Level 2, Library  
Bell Street  
Dundee DD1 1HG  
T: +44(0) 1382 308051  
F: +44(0) 1382 308122  
E: advisory@abertay.ac.uk  
W: www.abertay.ac.uk

### Student Recruitment Office

Abertay University  
Bell Street  
Dundee DD1 1HG  
T: +44(0) 1382 308080  
F: +44(0) 1382 308081  
E: sro@abertay.ac.uk  
W: www.abertay.ac.uk

### Residences Office

Abertay University  
Bell Street  
Dundee DD1 1HG  
T: +44(0) 1382 308059  
F: +44(0) 1382 308118  
E: residences@abertay.ac.uk  
W: www.abertay.ac.uk

### Taxi Services

Dundee City Taxis  
W: <https://dundeecitytaxis.com/>  
T: 01382 20 40 60

### Tele Taxis

W: <https://teletaxisdundee.com/>  
T: 01382 82 58 25

### Dundee City Cab

W: <https://dundeecitycab.com/>  
T: 01382 20 50 20

## Travel websites

### Edinburgh Airport

[Getting into the City Centre from Airport]

[www.edinburghairport.com](http://www.edinburghairport.com)

### Glasgow Airport

[www.glasgowairport.com](http://www.glasgowairport.com)

### Virgin Trains

[www.virgintrains.co.uk](http://www.virgintrains.co.uk)

### East Coast Trains

[www.eastcoast.co.uk](http://www.eastcoast.co.uk)

### Scotrail Trains

[www.scotrail.co.uk](http://www.scotrail.co.uk)

### Train line timetable

[www.thetrainline.com](http://www.thetrainline.com)

### CityLinking Coach service

[www.citylink.co.uk](http://www.citylink.co.uk)

### Megabus (Very cheap bus fares, can only be booked online)

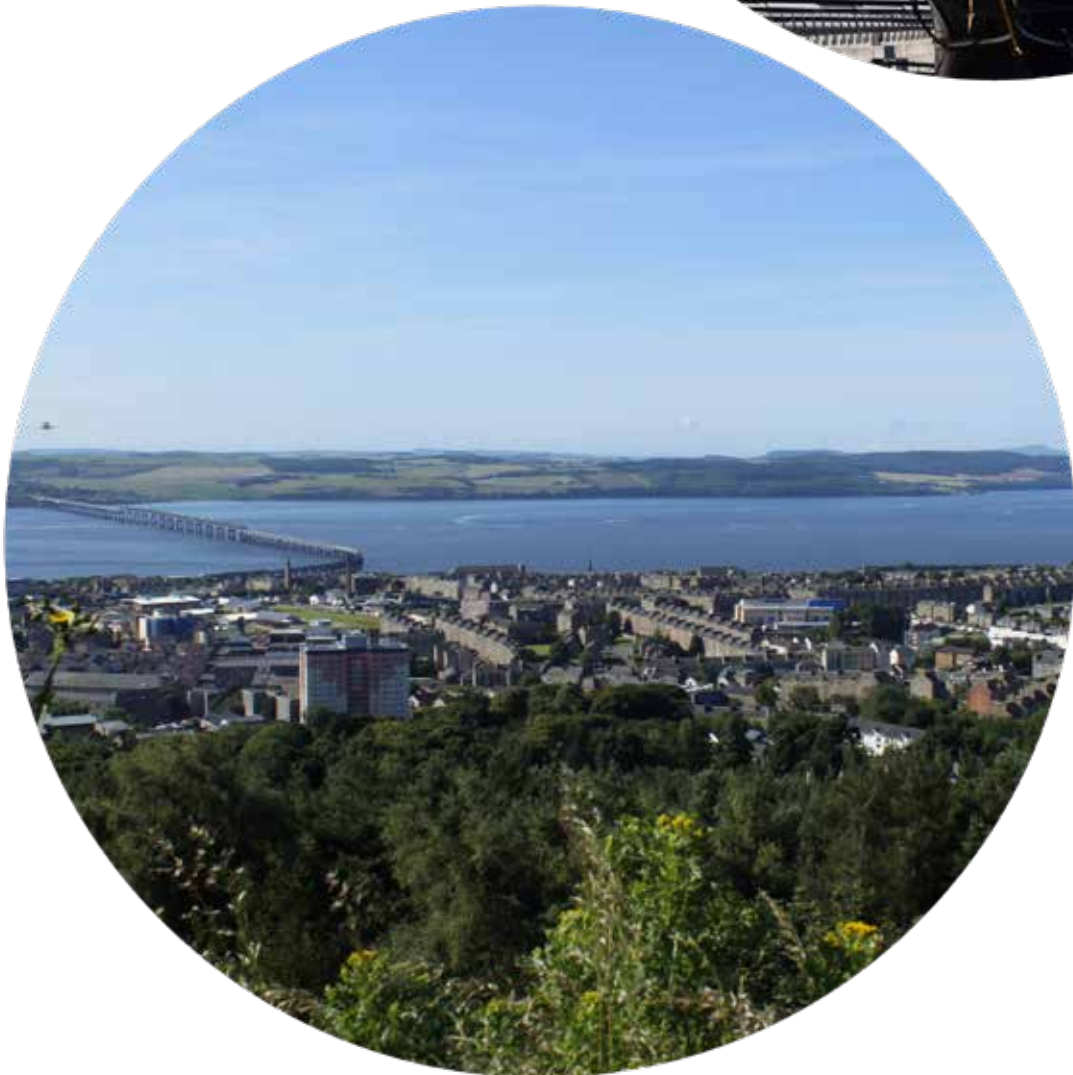
[www.megabus.com](http://www.megabus.com)

### Travel Line Scotland

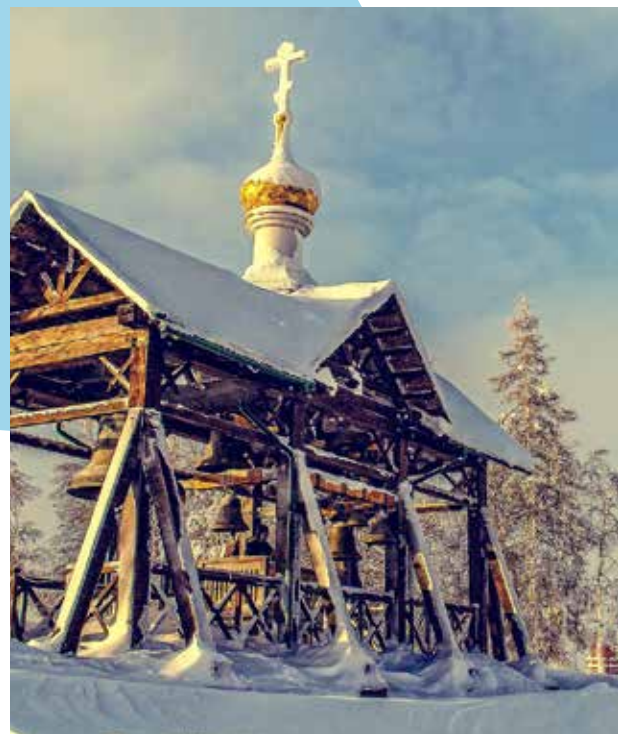
[www.travelinescotland.com](http://www.travelinescotland.com)

### For Cheaper flights to the UK and Europe

[www.skyscanner.net](http://www.skyscanner.net)











# abertay.ac.uk

## **Abertay International Team Pre-Arrival**

Abertay University | Bell Street | Dundee | Scotland | DD1 1HG

**E:** International@abertay.ac.uk

Switchboard: +44 (0)1382 308000

Post Arrival – SEZ@abertay.ac.uk

 <https://twitter.com/AbertayUni>

 <https://www.facebook.com/AbertayUni>

*Abertay University is a charity registered in Scotland No: SC016040.*