



Queensland Floods – More Information for International Students

Key Messages

- Further to Despatch 47, distributed 11 January 2011, the floods in Australia continue to worsen.
- At the moment, the major floods are in Queensland. Students due to travel to other states should not be concerned.
- International students due to travel to begin study in a flood affected area should:
 - visit the [Bureau of Meteorology website](#) to check if they are travelling to a flood affected area
 - check with their airline carrier to ensure their flight is running as scheduled, as some regional airports have closed
 - keep in contact with their education provider and
 - follow advice from their local emergency services and police, keep clear of flood waters and comply with evacuation orders.
- **Information for international students at universities**
The following universities may be in flood affected areas and it is encouraged you monitor their websites regularly to keep abreast of up-to-date information:

[Queensland University of Technology](#)

[University of Queensland](#)

[University of Southern Queensland](#)

[Griffith University](#)

[Central Queensland University](#)

[University of Sunshine Coast](#)

[Australian Catholic University Brisbane](#)

Universities Australia is the peak body for Australia's universities. Important information can be found on their [website](#).

A message from the Universities Australia CEO can be read in **Attachment A**.

- **Information for international students at TAFE colleges**

The most current source of information for all students and staff is located on the [Department of Education and Training website](#).

The announcements section provides links to Frequently Asked Questions for [staff](#) and [community](#)

A detailed update on the conditions of all schools and TAFE colleges throughout Queensland can be accessed at [Update on schools and TAFE colleges](#).

- **International students at other institutions**

The following providers in QLD have also been identified as being affected:

[Carrick Higher Education](#) (Brisbane campus only)

[College of Law](#) (Brisbane campus only)

[JMC Academy](#) (Brisbane campus only)

[Sarina Russo Schools Australia](#)

- Students can also be directed to the International Students Hotline on 1300 363 079 for any general enquiries.

Rockhampton

- International students attending CQUniversity Rockhampton campus should continue to keep in contact with CQUniversity and follow all advice from local authorities.
- Rockhampton airport remains closed until further notice and students are advised to contact their airline carrier for further information.
- See Despatch 46 for more information regarding the Rockhampton region.

For more information

- Comprehensive weather information and warnings can be found at [www.bom.gov.au](#). For any other information related to the Queensland floods visit the Queensland Government website at [www.qld.gov.au](#).
- The key messages in this Despatch can be used to respond to queries from international students and relatives of international students about the Queensland floods.

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Attachment A

Message from Universities Australia

"Universities Australia is the peak body for Australia's universities. Its Chief Executive Glenn Withers advises, on behalf of members, that Universities Australia acknowledges the difficult circumstances faced by many people at present as a result of the serious flooding in certain parts of the country and to flag how members are responding to assist their own communities and the broader population so badly hit by these events.

Universities themselves are major institutions which contribute to the economic, social and cultural fabric of their wider communities. CQUniversity, for example, is serving as an evacuation centre, with the University's Rockhampton and Emerald campuses collectively providing shelter, facilities and support to over 400 flood-affected Queenslanders. Similarly, the University of Southern Queensland is working hard to ensure all its staff are accounted for and being looked after as the flooding extends to the Toowoomba area. USQ has a dedicated team to determine the safety of colleagues, their families and the students, and is doing everything possible to support all staff and students at this time. Universities in affected areas are providing further information for their staff and students and communities through their websites and by email and other communication.

Additionally, Universities Australia member universities outside the affected areas are demonstrating their commitment to community engagement by providing direct financial and other support and assistance to those affected by the floods across the country. This includes assistance through expertise and resources being provided by fellow universities to those affected.

Some universities further have in place donation schemes that allow them directly and indirectly to provide financial assistance in such circumstances. Another avenue for support is available via state-endorsed donation schemes through which many Universities Australia members are choosing to contribute. The university community is therefore monitoring the situation, responding pro-actively in an organised and systematic way and ensuring that the welfare of its staff and students and wider communities are its central focus during this challenging time inflicted by the forces of nature".

Glenn Withers

