

2024 MASA'S COMPLETE UNI GUIDE

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MASA



MONASH ACCOUNTING STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

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About MASA

The Monash Accounting Students' Association (MASA) is a non-profit, student-run organisation that aims to bridge the gap between university students and industry corporations in the accounting field.

MASA endeavours to provide invaluable insights and advice into all things accounting, including career advice, business/industry knowledge or simple tips on how to balance a balance sheet. MASA strives to assist all university students with their career prospects, and equip students with professional and personal development tools to ensure they achieve their maximum potential.

MASA's Vision for 2024

In 2024, MASA aims to become a leading example for professional associations across the commerce field, through:

- Facilitating a positive, supportive culture of like-minded individuals with a similar interest in the accounting field
- Providing students with the necessary resources and industry opportunities to empower their career journey, and enhance their professional and personal growth

Building a strong connection amongst accounting industry, committee and ordinary members through professional events, publications and promotions about MASA.



President's Address



Welcome to MASA!

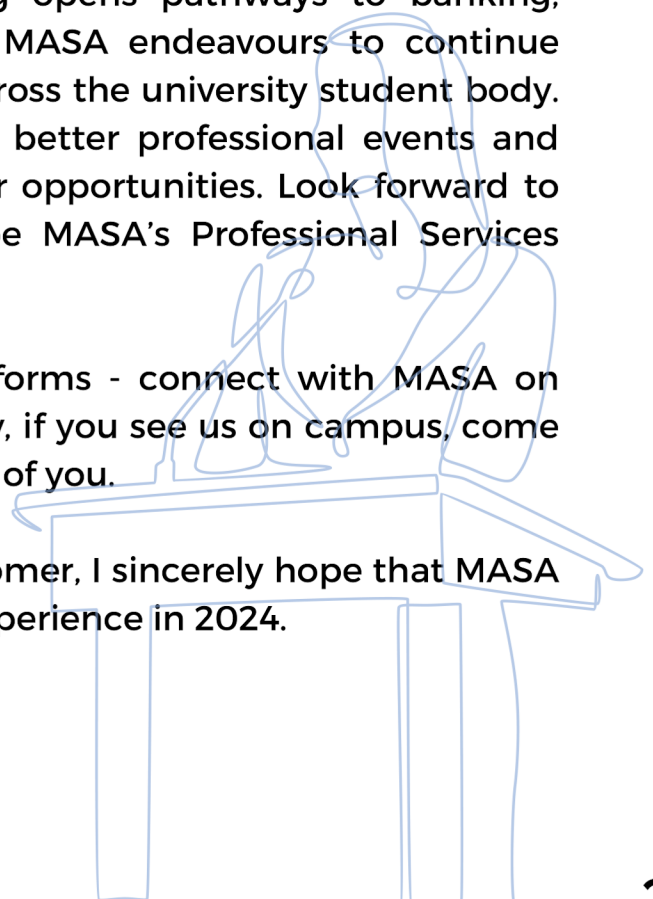
As a non-profit, student-run organisation with a primary objective of fostering meaningful connections between university students and industry professionals, MASA believes in the importance of providing a welcoming and supportive environment to all university students to enquire about all things accounting, to learn of various career opportunities and to inspire its members to strive to become the best version of themselves.

We understand that many of you feel uncertain regarding how to navigate university and your future career. This is completely normal! This guide provides invaluable insights into how to maximise their university experience, and advice to help students succeed in their chosen career path. Here, you'll have access to a range of useful resources to assist you in understanding your chosen field of study, and the job opportunities available.

Accounting is more than balancing 'debits' and 'credits' on a balance sheet - pursuing a degree and career in accounting opens pathways to banking, finance, private equity, and more. This year, MASA endeavours to continue seeking opportunities to broaden its impact across the university student body. We have committed to delivering bigger and better professional events and increasing awareness regarding external career opportunities. Look forward to our flagship events in 2024 - our first will be MASA's Professional Services Evening, arriving in March!

We are most active on our social media platforms - connect with MASA on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn! Additionally, if you see us on campus, come and say hi! I'm truly excited to get to know each of you.

Whether you're a returning member or a newcomer, I sincerely hope that MASA will be a positive influence on your university experience in 2024.



Commerce majors

A number of Commerce majors are offered at Monash University.

The more common ones are as listed below (this is not an exhaustive list):

Major	Info
Accounting (Clayton, Caulfield)	Focuses on the preparation and audit of financial reports for managers, owners and other stakeholders. Can lead to roles in the accounting profession
Actuarial Studies (Clayton)	Applies mathematical and statistical methods to assess risk in insurance, finance and other industries. Can lead to employment in finance and business fields in roles such as investment operations for asset managers, brokers and banks, and long-term strategic planning for large companies.
Business Analytics (Clayton)	Uses data to guide businesses to make informed decisions. Data analytics professionals are needed in many organisations to help analyse the impact of decisions and to predict the likelihood of future events.
Econometrics (Clayton)	Focuses on interpreting empirical evidence and data to predict possible outcomes and risks associated with each course of action. Requires an interest in and an aptitude for mathematics. Econometricians help policy makers in the decision making process and evaluate the effectiveness of current policies.
Economics (Clayton)	Explores theories regarding the relationship between goods and services, and individuals, households, firms and governments. Economists analyse how trends can impact society and seek to improve living standards. Can also set you up for employment within the public sector, including economic planning, policy analysis, public taxation, and other forms of government spending
Finance (Clayton)	Seeks to achieve the efficient allocation of money in assets, equity and liabilities. Potential career paths included in the corporate sector, such as consultant, treasurer, investment banker and investment analyst.
Management Studies (Clayton)	Emphasises the assumptions and practical implications of different management theories, organisational behaviour and strategic management. May lead to professional and managerial roles within a range of industries.
Marketing Science (Clayton)	Explores marketing theory and the analysis of solving business challenges that require marketing input. Can lead to a variety of roles in any industry, with a focus on using marketing to achieve organisational goals.

Insight into a First Year Majoring in Accounting



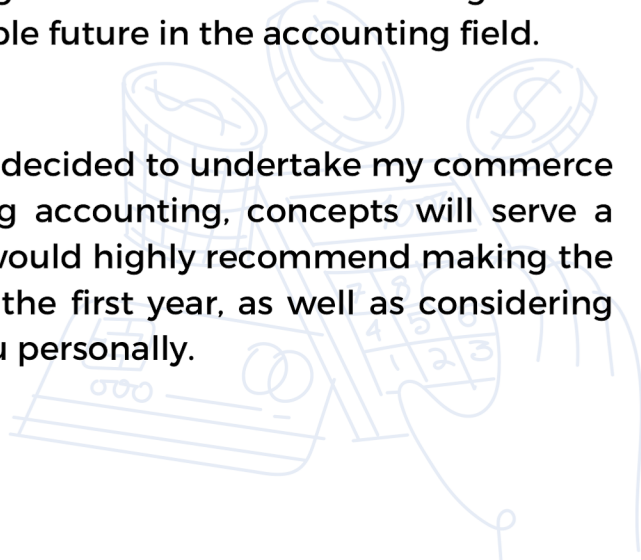
Cherry Cao - 2023 First Year/Publication Officer

My interest in accounting first sparked when I undertook the subject during VCE. I found that accounting correlated strongly with the world around me. All problems, scenarios and decisions I encountered could fall within the world of accounting, commerce and business. I felt that commerce was a field where I could apply knowledge learnt into practice, thus solidifying my interest in pursuing further studies in commerce.

During my first year, I undertook the financial accounting unit (ACC1100) and thoroughly enjoyed it. It was exactly how I imagined going into my first year at university would be like. The tutorials were a highlight of my week, providing an opportunity to collaborate with peers and solidify our learning. Not only was I able to fully grasp and understand foundational concepts on a deeper level than what was taught during high school, but I was also able to delve into the practical aspects of the accounting profession, by practising my skills using the MYOB software. This helped me gain an insight into what it would be like to work as an accountant, which was truly an enjoyable learning experience that made me anticipate going to every accounting tutorial. I was curious as to where an accounting major would take me and decided to explore further.

Alongside commerce, I am also completing a double degree in Law. Compared to other commerce units I had undertaken during my first year, I felt that studying accounting best pathed a future for me to explore an area of interest, being the corporate law and tax field. The useful link between my two degrees served as another significant deciding factor that inspired me to pursue a possible future in the accounting field.

Thus, upon approaching the end of my first year, I decided to undertake my commerce major in accounting. I am certain that studying accounting concepts will serve a significant purpose in almost everyone's future. I would highly recommend making the most out of the accounting units offered during the first year, as well as considering what a future in accounting would look like for you personally.



Professional Accreditation

There are many undergraduate accounting programs at Monash University that meet the Professional Accounting Accreditation Guidelines Australia and New Zealand. CPA Australia and Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand (CA ANZ) set the technical and professional competency areas and learning outcomes guidelines.

A Monash Accounting undergraduate degree may give you membership or entry to the following bodies:



- Has a one-exam pathway for you to become a CGMA designation holder
- Invitation to an intensive workshop to help you prepare for the Strategic Case Study exam.
- Passing Exam + At least 3 years of relevant work experience, you will apply for CIMA membership and become a CGMA designation holder.



- Exemptions from Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) papers up to and including the "operational level of the CIMA Qualification Framework".
- A fast-track pathway for high-achieving Bachelor level students to gain a CIMA qualification after graduating with an Accounting qualification



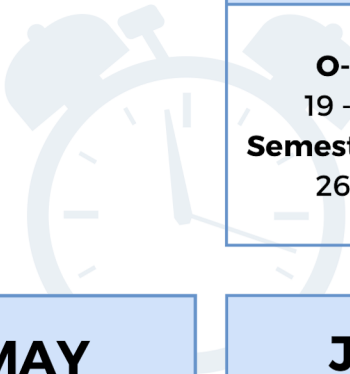
- There is an Accelerate program between ACCA and Monash University, which gives you the opportunity to register and start preparing for professional level exams with ACCA before graduation.
- Entry to the ACCA professional qualification with up to 9 fundamental level paper exemptions



- Entry to the Chartered Accountants Program of the Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand

Semester Dates

Semester 1



FEB	MAR	APR
O-Week: 19 - 23 Feb Semester 1 Starts: 26th Feb	Census Date: 31 Mar	Mid Semester Break: 1-5 Apr
MAY	JUN	JUL
Semester 1 Ends: 24 May SWOTVAC: 27 - 31 May	Final assessment: 3 - 21 Jun	Results published: 8 Jul
AUG		
		Deferred and Supplementary Assessments: 5 - 9 Aug

Semester 2

JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT
O-Week: 15 - 19 Jul Semester 2 Starts: 22 Jul	Census date: 31 Aug	Mid Semester Break: 23 - 27 Sep	Semester 2 Ends: 18 Oct SWOTVAC: 21 - 25 Oct Final assessment 28 Oct - 15 Nov
NOV	DEC	JAN 2025	
Last Day of Final Assessment: 15 Nov	Results Published: 2nd Dec	Deferred and Supplementary Assessments: 13 - 17 Jan 2025	

Exploring Campus Study Spaces

Sir Louis Matheson Library

The Sir Louis Matheson Library is a popular library amongst Monash University students. The library is open from 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday, and 1pm to 5pm on Weekends. You can locate the library on 40 Exhibition Walk. The Matheson Library has open discussion areas, discussion rooms, silent study areas, individual study carrels and computer workstations.

Law Library

The Law Library is undoubtedly the top study destination for Law students. The library is open from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday and is located at 15 Ancora Imparo Way. The ground level of the Law Library is an open discussion area, with computer workstations. Levels 1 and above are silent study areas, with individual study carrels available. 4 discussion rooms are available on the fourth floor of the Law library.

Hargrave Andrew Library

The Hargrave Andrew Library is another popular study location for Monash students. The library is open from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday and is located near the science faculty building on 13 College Walk. The library has open discussion areas, silent study areas, individual study carrels and computer workstations for students to actively engage in productive learning.

Discussion Rooms

Discussion Rooms are closed off rooms designed for group studying and collaboration. Bookings for discussion rooms can be made on the LibCal website, or by scanning a QR code. Bookings are to be made in 30 minute slots, with a 2 hour maximum limit per day.

Exploring Campus

Monash Food

The Clayton Campus Centre is Monash University's busiest and most popular destination for a hearty meal in between classes. There are a variety of options available!

Campus Centre



Near Monash Sport



Hargrave Andrew Library



Learning & Teaching Building



Exploring Campus

Health Services

Monash has a Wellbeing Hub that is open from 9:30am to 4:30 pm Monday to Friday, located in Campus Centre next to the MSA Must Theatre. The Wellbeing Hub provides free of charge services to support and better students' mental health.

The University Health Services medical team offers medical services, such as:

- General medical consultations
- Wellness support
- Immunisations
- Mental health
- Referrals to specialists and pathology
- And other like services

The medical team can be found on the ground floor of 21 Chancellors Walk, between 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday. Medicare cardholders are able to receive bulk billed services. A face to face appointment at the Clayton campus can be arranged by phone on (03) 9905 3175. Make sure to fill out the registration form before the first appointment through the patient registration form

Patient Registration Form:

https://www.monash.edu/_data/assets/pdf_file/0014/223610/patient-registration-form.pdf

For emergency health services, contact the ambulance on 000 when required, or contact campus security on 333 (9905 3333) for assistance.



Exploring Campus

Parking Spaces

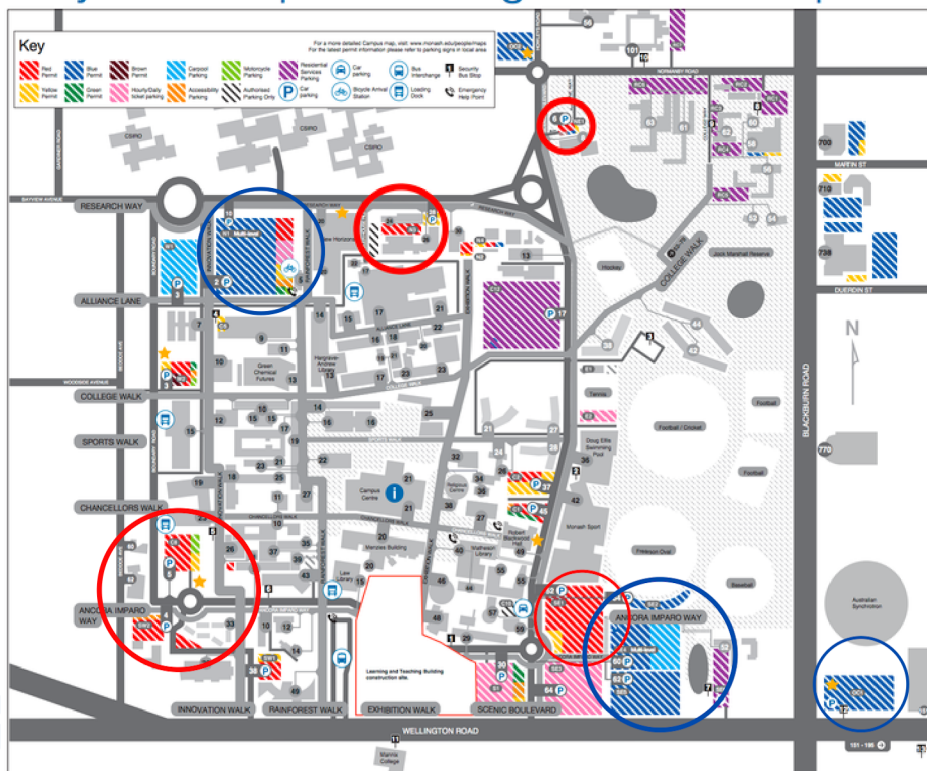
Blue Permit

Blue permit parking is available from 8:30am Monday to Friday. Parking fees start at \$0.56 per hour until 4pm, with a maximum cap of \$2.79 per transaction.

Blue parking locations:

- 2 Innovation Walk Level 1-6 (N1)
- 3 Alliance Lane (W1)
- 54 Scenic Boulevard (SE2)
- 60 Scenic Boulevard (SE4)
- 62 Scenic Boulevard (SE5)

Clayton Campus Parking & Access Map



Red Permit

Red permit parking is available from 10:30am Monday to Friday. Parking fees start at \$1.03 per hour until 5pm, with a maximum cap of \$5.17 per transaction.

Red parking locations:

- 10 Research way Ground level (N1)
- 2 Innovation Walk Level 1 (N1)
- 20 Ancora Imparo Way 1-4 hour parking (S2)
- 52 Scenic Boulevard (SE1)

Tips for Smooth Uni Transitions

Starting a new semester at university can be both exciting and challenging, whether you are a new or returning student. This new transition can cause significant changes in our life, leading to mental health challenges and stressful situations. However, MASA is here to tell you that you are not alone in this journey! Below, we offer you some tips on ensuring a smooth start of a successful semester!

STEP ONE: Acknowledge that being nervous is NORMAL!

After a long break, or the start of a new experience, this new environment may begin to feel overwhelming. It's important to allow yourself time to adjust, and take things slow and steady. Just like in your academics, making friends and learning new things about your new campus is an enjoyable process that takes time.

STEP TWO: Learn about your campus and the opportunities it offers:

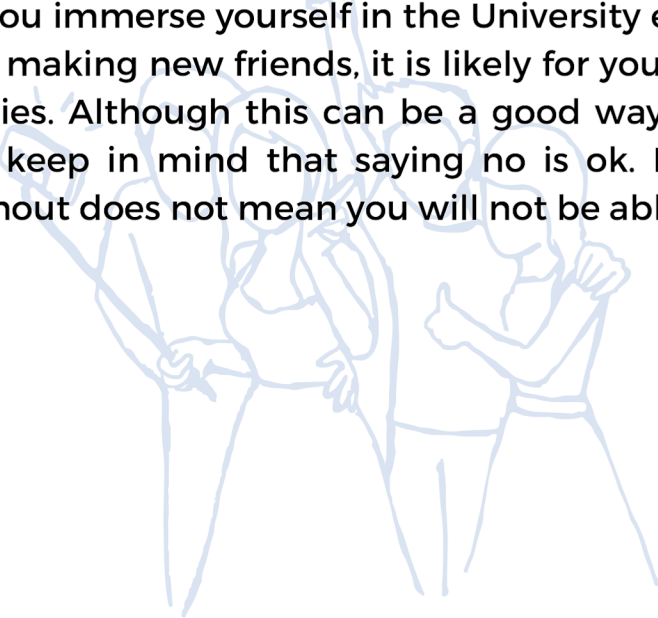
Once you've started to settle down, taking some time to learn more about your campus can allow you to feel more familiar with your new surroundings.

Familiarise yourself with the various support services, networking opportunities, and social events that Monash offers. The wide range of resources are all available online to help you succeed academically and personally.

Moreover, with a broad range of student groups to match everyone's unique interest, joining a group can enhance your university experience as you build connections with like minded peers.

STEP THREE: It's ok to say no!

As you immerse yourself in the University experience, joining new interest groups and making new friends, it is likely for you to begin attending various events and parties. Although this can be a good way to balance your academic and social life, keep in mind that saying no is ok. Not attending every gathering due to burnout does not mean you will not be able to make or keep good friendships!



Tips for Smooth Uni Transitions

STEP FOUR: Organize your time:

Whilst exploring your campus and meeting new people is an exciting aspect of your time in uni, it is essential to maintain a balance and stay organised to excel in your studies. Organising your time effectively will help prevent stress from last minute assignments and minimizes possibilities of burnout and cramming. To achieve this balance, consider:

- Utilising planners and calendars to keep track of deadlines
- Creating schedules to allocate time for studying, socializing and hobbies (etc.)
- Setting realistic goals
- Incorporating breaks, exercise and relaxation in your routine to ensure maximum mental and physical productivity.

STEP FIVE: Look after your mental health:

Studying at Uni may present new sets of challenges that can be stressful and overwhelming for many students. During these times, it is important to seek help from friends, family or even monash councillors that are readily available to guide you through your feelings. Monash provides resources on how to manage your stress, and many support services to help manage your study load, and ensure you are at your best!

Monash telehealth counselling:

In Australia: (03) 9905 3020

Outside of Australia: counselling-clayton@monash.edu



Career Counselling

As students navigate through their university journey, they begin to enter the evolving landscape of education and employment, eventually having to face the challenges of preparing for a successful career. Monash University has recognized and addressed this challenge through the establishment of an extensive support network in career counselling. With a vast range of helpful tips and tricks, their system is designed to facilitate students with the necessary guidance towards their professional journey.

1. Career Connect

Career Connect is the central hub for all inquiries related to your career. Through this system, you are able to access a range of information and services for various stages of your career development. The Monash Career Connect team is there to help prepare students with a range of skills and coaching to hone your abilities within the employment market.

2. Career Consultations

Monash Career counselling is a scheduled service with one of their experienced career advisors. With this personalised session, students can explore their career opportunities in collaboration with their own interest, skills and aspirations. These advisors are here to help student in various stages, identifying your strengths and interest to create personalised career plans, resumes, interview preparation, and more for your academic and professional development

3. Career Workshops & Events

Monash careers offers a wide variety of workshops that cover topics on leadership skills, job searching skills and essential soft skills in creating your own professional profile. These programs aim to equip you with the skills and knowledge needed within the workforce, guiding you to combine your academics towards your career, thus honing your employability skills for future opportunities.

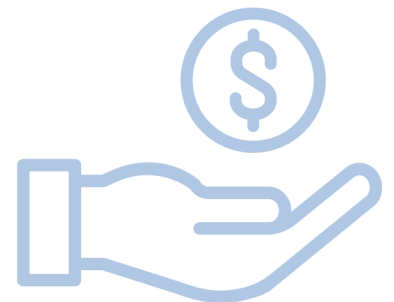
Many of these resources and tools are all provided online and on Moodle, (e.g. career guides) that can be viewed at your own time and pace.

Scholarships & Grants

Monash University offers a number of scholarships and grants. Notable opportunities in commerce-related fields include:

- **Monash International Leadership Scholarship:** Designed for international students who have received an undergraduate or postgraduate course offer.
- **Ian Little Honours Scholarship:** Aimed at high-achieving students undertaking an honours degree (either Commerce or Economics). No application is required.
- **Monash Hardship Scholarship:** Offered to students experiencing difficult circumstances, including a disability or long term medical condition.

Each scholarship has different eligibility criteria, application processes and deadlines. A good place to start is the Monash University scholarship website, where you can filter the offered scholarships by faculty and other relevant factors.



Once you have done research on scholarships that align with your personal circumstances, make sure you gather all required supporting documents and apply online in the application portal before the relevant deadline. After submission, keep an eye out on your emails for communications regarding your application. If you are successful, the university will contact you.

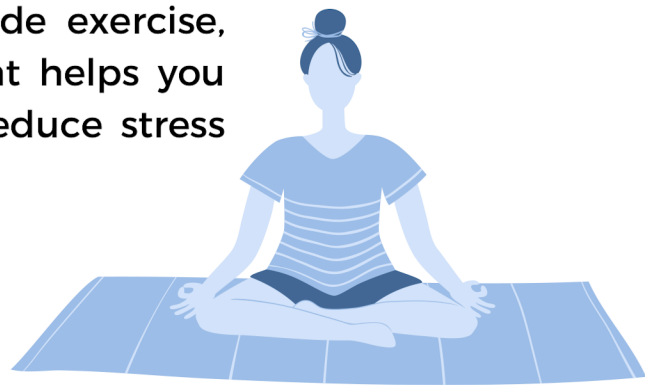
Overall, the main takeaway is that each scholarship will have specific requirements and processes, so it is important to carefully review and familiarise yourself with the application process for each scholarship you intend to apply to.

Prioritising Mental Health

The transition to university brings about numerous challenges, however the most important is to prioritise mental health. In this guide, MASA will explore practical approaches to help you maintain a healthy balance between academic pursuits and your wellbeing, fostering resilience and laying the foundation for a successful and enjoyable university experience.

1. Self-Care Routine

Establish a regular self-care routine that includes activities that bring joy and relaxation. This can include exercise, meditation, reading, or any other activity that helps you unwind. Allocating time for self-care helps reduce stress and promotes mental well-being



2. Open Communication

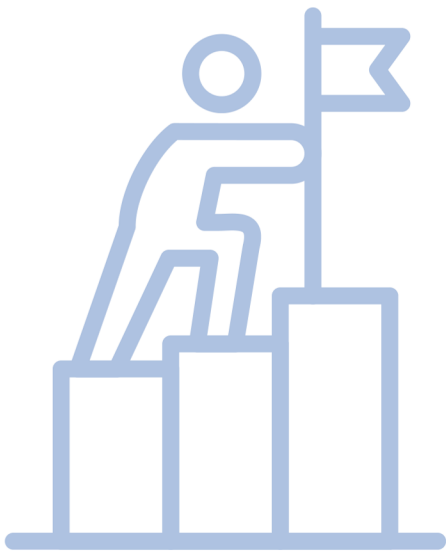
Foster open communication with friends, family, or a mental health professional. Sharing your thoughts and feelings with someone you trust can provide emotional support and alleviate the burden of carrying everything on your own. Professional therapists can offer valuable insights and coping strategies.



Prioritising Mental Health

3. Healthy Lifestyle Choices

Prioritise a healthy lifestyle by focusing on proper nutrition, regular exercise, and sufficient sleep. Physical well-being is closely linked to mental health, and maintaining a balanced lifestyle contributes to improved mood and resilience against stress.



4. Set Realistic Goals

Establish achievable and realistic goals for yourself. Break down large tasks into smaller, manageable steps. This can help prevent feelings of overwhelm and boost your confidence as you make progress. Celebrate achievements, no matter how small, and acknowledge that it's okay not to accomplish everything at once.

5. Boundaries and Time Management

Establish clear boundaries to manage stress and prevent burnout. Learn to say no when necessary and prioritise tasks based on importance and urgency. Effective time management can contribute to a sense of control and reduce the likelihood of feeling overwhelmed, allowing you to focus on activities that positively impact your mental health.



Jobs for Students

Monash Jobs for Students

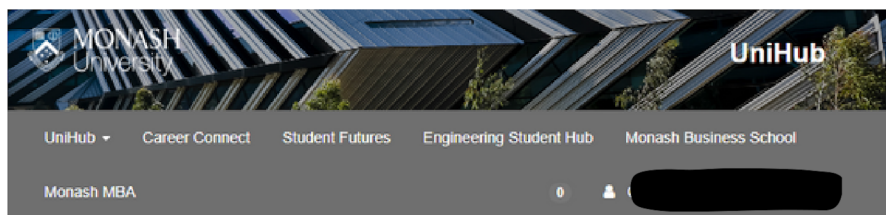
Monash offers many job opportunities for students, which not only provides financial support but also experience that can be relevant to your field of study. Roles include areas related to administration work, customer service, research, and marketing.

To apply, register an account on the Monash Jobs for Students program page. You will be required to fill in information such as your enrolment details, employment history, availability and experience, and most importantly your resume.

Once registered, as suitable positions arise, students may be contacted directly by the Jobs for Students team or invited to apply for opportunities that match their skill sets. Some opportunities are also advertised on the Career Gateway platform, just search for roles listed under the employer 'Jobs for Students'.

UniHub

For students and graduates looking for a wider range of employment and career opportunities. Unihub offers a variety of jobs on a graduate level and on a casual level, ranging from tutors to vacationer roles at the Big 4 companies.



Search positions

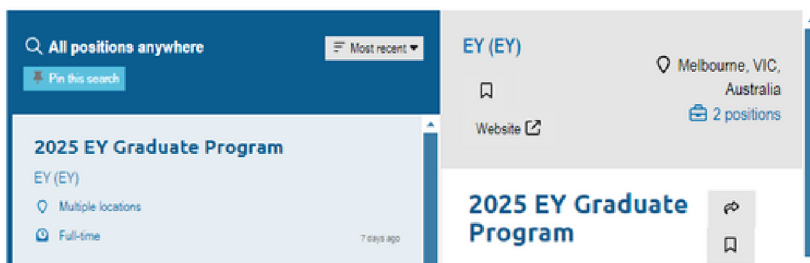
Keywords
eg. Casual Research Assistant (during summer vacation)

Position types
2 Position types

Contract hours
Contract hours

Location
Search locations...

▼ More filters



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