



2017 Overseas Student Handbook

20 Hayman Road, Bentley WA 6102

Phone: (08) 6313 6200

Email: office@vose.edu.au

Web: www.vose.edu.au

CRICOS Provider Code: (VET) 01052B (HEd) 02650E

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Our Mission:

Vose’s mission is to equip the Christian community with the best thought and practice through a world class seminary.

In preparing this booklet, Vose staff used their best endeavours to ensure that the information contained within it is accurate. Prospective candidates are encouraged to make their own enquiries to verify this information and obtain any updates and revisions.

January 2017

Admission, Enrolment and General Information

Vose Seminary offers courses in both the Vocational Education and Training Sector (Certificate and Diplomas) and the Higher Education Sector (undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate degrees of the Australian College of Theology – ACT).

Vose Seminary presently only engages a single Education Agent for students expressing interest in our courses from South Korea. Prospective students from all other countries are encouraged to contact the Seminary directly at office@vose.edu.au or by telephone +61 8 6313 6200.

Overseas students may enrol for full time study in these nationally accredited courses. Please refer to the Admissions Policy available on our website.

Please note, however, that Vose Seminary does not accept applications from prospective students who are under eighteen (18) years of age.

Courses Offered to Overseas Students

Vose Awards (CRICOS Provider Number 01052B)

Certificate IV in Ministry (CRICOS Course Code: 088808K)

Diploma of Ministry (CRICOS Course Code 088809J)

English Readiness for Life and Ministry

Course

Australian College of Theology (ACT) Awards – Undergraduate (CRICOS Provider Number 02650E)

Diploma of Ministry (CRICOS Course Code: 054659K)

Associate Degree of Theology (CRICOS Course Code: 054716F)

Bachelor of Ministry (CRICOS Course Code: 054670D)

Bachelor of Theology (CRICOS Course Code: 054676J)

Combined Bachelor of Ministry / Bachelor of Theology (CRICOS Course Code: 086274G)

Australian College of Theology (ACT) Awards – Graduate

Master of Divinity (CRICOS Course Code: 054688E)

Graduate Diploma of Divinity (CRICOS Course Code: 054685G)

Australian College of Theology (ACT) Awards – Postgraduate

Master of Arts (Ministry) Standard Pathway (CRICOS Course Code: 054698C)

Master of Arts (Ministry) Accelerated Pathway (CRICOS Course Code: 094615B)

Master of Arts (Theology) Standard Pathway (CRICOS Course Code: 054703M)

Master of Arts (Theology) Accelerated Pathway (CRICOS Course Code: 094614C)

IELTS Scores

Except in the case of those who have a tertiary qualification taught in English from a country on the current (at time of student's enrolment) University Admissions Centre English Language Proficiency policy country list, overseas candidates whose first language is not English will be required to sit an IELTS test.

For students wishing to enrol in the Certificate, Diploma, BCS, BMin and BTh degrees, an overall band score of 6.5 is required; with a minimum of 6.0 in each subtest. VET Students must achieve an overall band score of 5.5 with no module score under 5.0, excepting where the course is taught in their own language. Alternatively, candidates may provide evidence of having completed a Vocational or Higher Education qualification in Australia, in English, within the past 4 years to demonstrate English Proficiency. Entry to the Certificate IV in Ministry course is not subject to any further entry requirements.

For students wishing to enrol in the GradCert, GradDip, MDiv or MA courses, an average of 7.0, with at least 7.0 for reading and writing, and 6.5 for listening and speaking is required. Those seeking entry to the MTh, DMin, PhD and ThD degrees must obtain an average of 7.5, with at least 7.5 in reading and writing, and 7.0 in listening and 6.5 in speaking.

No test result that is more than three years old will be accepted. In such cases students will be required to resit the test. For more information and a list of IELTS equivalence tests, see the *Admission Policy – English Language Proficiency*, available at www.vose.edu.au/policies

For more information on IELTS tests, please refer to the following website:

www.immi.gov.au/students/english-requirements.htm.

Admission Procedure

Overseas students seeking admission into Vose should apply as follows.

- Identify courses that may be of interest.
- Check with the local Australian Embassy regarding the possibility/ probability of being granted a Visa or online at www.immi.gov.au/students/index.htm.
 - *Note the Visa Assessment Level relevant to your country.*
- Ensure you meet the entrance requirements. Arrange to have an IELTS test if necessary. (Your embassy should advise you of dates and requirements or see www.ielts.org for test centres.
- Complete the Application for Enrolment form and send to Vose Seminary including translated (*if not in English*), certified copies of academic qualifications and IELTS scores, together with the non-refundable application fee of AUD\$1,000 for ACT students, and non-refundable AUD\$300 for VET students.
- Your application will be assessed and should you be successful an 'Offer of Enrolment' will be sent with an acceptance letter for you to sign and return.
- On receipt of the completed Acceptance of Offer of Admission letter and Application Fee, Vose Seminary will send a 'Confirmation of Enrolment' certificate, which you require in order to apply for a student visa through the Australian Embassy or High Commission in your country.
- Please arrange your travel to arrive in Australia at least one week prior to commencement of your course.

Preferred Dates for Overseas Admission Applications

Semester 1: 30th September (of the year before you intend to start)

Semester 2: 31st March (of the year you intend to start)

Candidates whose applications are received after these dates may have difficulty in obtaining visas before the proposed commencement date. Acceptance of enrolment does not guarantee that a visa will be granted. Students should make enquiries with their local Australian Embassy.

Preferred Dates for Unit Enrolment

Once a candidate has been accepted, they can enrol in the required units each semester. An Enrolment Form is available on the Seminary web site and should be returned three weeks prior to commencement.

Preferred Dates for Unit Enrolment:

Semester 1: by 31st January

Semester 2: by 30th June

Unit Enrolments may be accepted until the commencement of lectures.

Credit Transfer and Recognition of Prior Learning

Overseas students may apply for Credit or Recognition of Prior Learning for studies that may have undertaken previously. Please contact Vose for further information. Application for credit needs to be lodged at the same time as the application for admission. If credit is granted this may reduce the period of study and will be reflected in the offer letter provided to the student. Any applications for credit need to be accompanied by certified copies of evidence relevant to the units for which credit is being applied. The Course Advisor will review the evidence and the student will be informed in writing of the outcome of their application.

Facilities at Vose Seminary

Vose Library is a significant Christian library, existing to resource both Vose students and others in Western Australia. Over the last five decades, we have built up a collection we are proud of, consisting of 44,000 books and thousands of journals, including 80 current titles. Our library is constantly growing and innovating, adding 2000 new titles each year. It is the place to keep pace with development in Christian thinking and practice. Our collection includes a broad range of Christian perspectives as well as secular writers, with an evangelical focus and a Baptist heritage.

Vose Seminary has a number of training rooms that provide a comfortable learning environment. Our dining room includes a student kitchen, with tea and coffee provided.

Modes of Study and Assessment

The majority of training at Vose occurs in the classroom. Students attend lectures as per the timetable provided during the enrolment phase. In class, students participate in discussions and take notes from the lecturer's presentations that they may use later in their assignments. Vose does offer some of its units via Distance. Overseas students may only complete up to a maximum of 25% of their course via Distance Learning. Should an overseas student wish to take up Distance Learning, this first needs to be approved by the Course Advisor.

Assessment for the majority of Vose courses are through written assignments. Students may also be asked to give presentations and on occasion, work on a group project. Exams are also used as an assessment item in some units.

Working with Children

Students at Vose Seminary are reminded that Western Australian law requires all people involved in working with children to have a Working with Children (WWC) card. This also includes volunteer work in churches. Therefore, students enrolling in some units which involve contact with children (e.g. ministry placement or internships) will be required to obtain a Western Australian WWC card **before** the enrolment in that unit can be accepted. Further details are available at <http://www.checkwwc.wa.gov.au/checkwwc>.

Visa Conditions for Overseas Students

Overseas Students are reminded of visa requirements related to health cover and class attendance. While studying in Australia, Overseas students are required to arrange and maintain adequate Overseas Student Health Cover. For more information go to <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/Publishing.nsf/Content/Overseas+Student+Health+Cover+FAQ-1>

It is a visa requirement that Overseas Students maintain good class attendance. Please refer to <http://www.border.gov.au/Trav/Stud>. In the event that a student is absent from more than 20% of lectures, the lecturer will notify the Academic Dean or their representative who will contact the student. Vose may at this point implement an Intervention Strategy if it feels the student is at risk of underperforming or breaching the conditions of their visa.

As it is an Australian Government directive that overseas students complete their course within its timeframe, Vose Seminary and the Australian College of Theology require overseas students to take on a full-time load, which means 4 units (16 cps) per semester.

Enrolment may be Deferred, Suspended or Cancelled

Students who wish to defer their studies must apply to Vose Seminary in writing. The application must be addressed to the Registrar and Academic Dean or their representative.

Students must have evidence to support their request for a deferment. For example, where a student requires a deferment due to medical illness, it is expected that a valid, signed medical certificate will be provided as evidence. Vose will evaluate the evidence provided and reserves the right to determine the suitability of that which is provided.

Once Vose has the application and the required evidence, the Registrar, in consultation with the Academic Dean or their representative, will decide whether or not to grant the student the requested deferment. Items that the Registrar and Academic Dean or their representative will take into consideration include, amongst other things:

- The student's academic progress to date.
- The student's attendance records to date.
- Whether the student is likely to continue to complete their course within the timeframe of their original Confirmation of Enrolment.

The student will be informed in writing of the outcome of their application and will be asked to sign their agreement to any conditions placed on the request being granted and their understanding of their overall obligations.

Should a request be denied, the student may access the Seminary's Dispute Resolution Policy for Overseas Students and follow the guidelines outlined in this document.

Further information describing what circumstances would be considered for the potential approval of a deferment, suspension and cancellation can be found below:

- i) Overseas students may defer studies at Vose Seminary when significant personal circumstances have interfered, or threaten to interfere, with the educational process. These significant personal circumstances may include, but are not limited to,
 - a. The health and physical well-being of the student or their spouse or family members, whether residing in Australia, in the student's country of origin, or in a third country.
 - b. The economic well-being of the student and/or their spouse or family members, whether residing in Australia, in the student's country of origin, or in a third country.
 - c. Changes to the personal freedom and social well-being, whether actual or threatened, that are brought about by legal, criminal, or political processes and which have a direct affect upon the student, the student's spouse or family members, whether residing in Australia, in the student's country of origin, or in a third country.

A student's enrolment may be suspended under the following circumstances:

The enrolment of an overseas student may be suspended if:

- a. The student's academic performance does not meet with the minimum expectations of Vose Seminary – details of these expectations are contained in the *Course Progress Intervention Policy*, available online from the Vose policies page - www.vose.wa.edu.au/view/information/policies.
- b. The student's attendance at class does not meet the minimum expectations stipulated by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship – details of these expectations are contained in the *Course Progress Intervention Policy*, available online from the Vose policies page - www.vose.wa.edu.au/view/information/policies.
- c. The student does not meet the financial obligations of an overseas student at Vose Seminary contained with the Acceptance of Offer of Admission document signed by the student during the admission process.

A student's enrolment may be cancelled under the following circumstances:

The candidature of an overseas student may be cancelled if, following the implementation of the procedures outlined in the Vose Seminary *Course Progress Intervention Policy*

- a. The student does not re-enrol in a subsequent semester;
- b. The student's academic performance does not improve and remains below the minimum expectations of Vose Seminary;
- c. The student's attendance at class continues to fall short of the minimum expectations stipulated by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship;
- d. The student does not meet the financial obligations of an overseas student at Vose Seminary contained with the Acceptance of Offer of Admission document signed by the student during the admission process.

Where the Seminary has chosen to suspend or cancel a student's enrolment, the Seminary will inform the student in writing of this decision.

Where a student wishes to appeal the decision to suspend or cancel their enrolment, they may access the Seminary's Dispute Resolution Policy and Fees, Charges and Refund Policy for Overseas Students available at www.vose.wa.edu.au/view/information/policies and follow the guidelines outlined in this document.

Further Information

Students interested in ACT Awards (Higher Education Sector) should also refer to the *ACT Overseas Student Handbook*.

In addition to information in this booklet your attention is drawn to documents on the Seminary website:

- The Australian Government document, "The ESOS framework – providing quality education and protecting your rights". This document can be found at <http://www.vose.edu.au/upload/documents/the-esos-framework.pdf?1453166205> under the title of Education Services for Overseas Students Framework in documents and forms for students.
- "Intervention Strategy Policy" (for Higher Education Sector Students) and "Course Progress Intervention Strategy Policy" (for VET Sector Students). These provide details of the Seminary's monitoring of your progress in studies, intervention strategies should there be risk of unsatisfactory progress, and grounds on which the student's enrolment may be deferred, suspended or cancelled.

Fees and Charges

Overseas Students are encouraged to read the Vose Seminary Fees, Charges and Refund Policy available on its website. This policy provides important information pertaining to student defaults on payments and refunds.

Overseas students Fees (2017)

A Non-refundable application fee \$300 (VET) / \$1000 (ACT)

Annual enrolment fee \$600 (VET) / \$300 (ACT)

Direct debit setup fee: \$(100)

Direct debit bounced payment fee: (\$5)

Vose Awards (Vocational)

Certificate (1 year)	\$6,200
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Diploma (1 years)	\$6,200
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ACT Awards (Higher Education Sector)

Diploma Degree (1 year)	\$15,840
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Bachelor Degree (3 years)	\$47,520
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Graduate Diploma of Divinity (1 year)	\$17,536
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Master of Divinity (3 years)	\$52,608
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Master of Arts (2 years)	\$25,408
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Doctorates (3 years)	\$38,112
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**These are based on the 2017 fees, it is likely that there will be yearly increases roughly in line with the Consumer Price Index (CPI).*

Vose Seminary requires a full semester's fees paid before commencing study. These fees are held in a separate account and drawn on to cover semester fees. The remaining fees will need to be paid as soon as possible, but at least one semester paid in advance of the start of each new semester.

Please refer to the attached Fees Schedule and our website for information pertaining to refunds.

Financial Assistance

The Seminary is unable to offer any scholarships, work or other means of support. Overseas students seeking financial assistance should do so through other means.

Transfers between educational providers

From another provider to Vose

Vose Seminary will not enrol a student wishing to transfer from another registered provider's course prior to the student completing a minimum of six months of that principal course except where:

- The original provider has ceased to be registered;
- The course in which the student is enrolled has ceased to be registered;
- The original provider has provided a written letter of release;
- The original provider has had a sanction imposed on its registration that prevents the student from continuing his/her course;
- Any government sponsor of the student considers the change to be in the student's best interest and has provided written support for that change.

From Vose to another provider

The Seminary will grant a letter of release at no cost to a student when the student has provided a letter from another registered provider confirming that a valid enrolment offer has been made. Students must have studied for 6 months before the letter of release will be granted.

If granted such a letter of release, you are reminded that you will need to contact The Department of Immigration and Border Protection at www.immi.gov.au to seek advice on whether a new student visa is required.

If Vose Seminary does not grant your request for a letter of release, you will be provided with a written reason for the refusal. You also have the right to appeal the decision in accordance with the Seminary's *Dispute Resolution Policy for Overseas Students*.

The Seminary will maintain a record of all requests from students for a letter of release and the assessment of, and decision regarding the request on the student's file. Please refer to the Transfer between Education Providers policy found on the website.

Course Progress and Intervention Policy / Dispute Resolution Policy

The seminary's policies for Overseas Students are available at www.vose.wa.edu.au/view/information/policies.

Frequently Asked Questions

Making complaints about a course of an education provider

Who should I complain to?

In the first instance you should always access the internal complaint handling process available at your education provider.

What happens if I am not satisfied with the internal complaints/appeals process at my education provider, or if they do not have a complaints body/process?

For complaints against a privately owned education provider – refer to the Overseas Student Ombudsman: www.oso.gov.au/

For complaints against a publicly owned education provider – refer to the state or territory ombudsman in the state/territory where the provider is located: www.ombudsman.wa.gov.au; (08) 9325 5000.

Is Vose's education provider public or private?

Vose is a private education provider. Public education providers are generally owned by Commonwealth, state or territory governments, such as TAFE and universities. Private education providers are generally for-profit businesses and are not owned and operated by Commonwealth, state or territory governments, such as many non-TAFE vocational education and training sector providers and non-university higher education providers.

What can I complain about?

- Enrolment issues
- Fees and refunds
- Transfers (release letters)
- If you believe your matters/concerns have not been dealt with fairly by your education provider
- Mistreatment or misconduct by an education provider

What if I am not satisfied with the quality of the course provided?

You may raise your concerns and complaints with the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) for vocation education and training sector courses and the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) for higher education sector courses.

Legal Services

The Western Australian Government and Vose Seminary are committed to providing the necessary legal support to international students facing legal issues.

Overseas Student Liaison Officer

Vose Seminary provides a range of support services to overseas students and has a formal Dispute Resolution Policy for Overseas Students available at <http://www.vose.wa.edu.au/view/information/policies/>. Students are encouraged to contact the Overseas Student Liaison Officer, Academic Dean or their representative. Whenever possible, grievances will be handled within the Seminary. However, should these internal processes not resolve the matter, provision is made for external independent grievance handling/dispute resolution.

External Formal Concern

Notwithstanding the above, in matters of dispute resolution, overseas students may exercise their rights to other legal remedies and may contact the International Education Conciliation Service.

The Department offers a free independent conciliation/ mediation service through the International Education Conciliator. Through conciliation, mediation and dispute resolution processes the Conciliator attempts to resolve disputes between overseas students and their institutions.

The Conciliator is able to discuss issues of concern at any stage of the internal complaints and appeals procedure, however, will not become involved in the case until the parties have attempted to resolve the dispute themselves and that attempt has failed.

The International Education Conciliator does not replace the providers internal appeal process (as discussed in Standard 8.1 of the National Code) but is an adjunct service for both students and providers. The Conciliator does not provide an external appeal mechanism as described in Standard 8.3 of the National Code.

Information provided to the Conciliator is confidential but may be shared with other government agencies and other relevant organisations in the following circumstances:

The party asks for or gives permission for the information to be shared with another organisation;

- It is required or authorized by law;
- Disclosure is necessary for law enforcement;
- Disclosure will prevent harm to another person; and
- It is reasonably believed to be in the public interest.

If either a student or a member of staff at an institution would like to discuss a particular case with an independent person, they can contact the International Education Conciliator by telephone on 08 9441 1900, facsimile 08 9441 1900 or email conciliation@des.wa.gov.au

Discrimination

Have you experienced racial abuse?

According to current Australian law it is unlawful to vilify or treat a person unfairly because of their race or religious belief.

If you are an overseas student studying in Western Australia and have been involved in an incident that you regard as harassment, bullying or that is racially motivated, you are encouraged to report it to your educational institution and the Western Australian Police.

You can contact the Western Australian Police Assistance Centre on 131 444.

Do you think you have been discriminated against?

Discrimination on the basis of race or religious conviction is prohibited under the *Western Australian Equal Opportunity Act, 1984*. The Act makes it unlawful to discriminate against people on the grounds

of sex, marital status or pregnancy, family responsibility or family status, race, religious or political conviction, impairment, age or gender history in the areas of:

- Work
- Accommodation
- Provision of goods
- Facilities and services
- Access to places and vehicles
- Land
- Membership of clubs

If you feel you have been discriminated against on any of the above grounds, you can lodge a complaint with the Commissioner for Equal Opportunity Telephone (08) 9216 3900 or see www.eoc.wa.gov.au for more information. All complaints must be submitted in writing, either by completing the form on the website or by written email or letter.

The Commissioner will investigate and attempt conciliation. If your complaint is not resolved it may be referred for hearing to the State Administrative Tribunal.

Crisis Services

A variety of telephone counselling services including Lifeline offer free crisis counselling 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Lifeline can be contacted on 13 11 14.

Crisis Care provides 24 hour emergency welfare assistance.

Help is available for domestic violence, family problems and any emergency support:

Perth metropolitan area ph: (08) 9223 1111

Country callers ph: 1800 199 008

Other agencies and a description of the assistance they provide, together with their contact details, is available at http://www.omi.wa.gov.au/omi_msd_listing.cfm?organisation=20

Health Services

The Australian Government requires overseas students to obtain Overseas Health Cover Insurance (OSHC) for the entire length of the study period prior to being granted a visa and arriving in Australia. The cost of OSHC varies depending on the type of cover required.

The Department of Immigration and Citizenship requires each Overseas Student to maintain OSHC for the duration of their time on a student visa in Australia.

Vose Seminary does not have an agreement with a specific OSHC provider. You will need to arrange to take out OSHC with a provider of your choice. A list of registered providers of OSHC in Australia is included below. Visit these websites to find detailed information on what they cover and to decide which provider is right for you.

- Medibank Private www.medibank.com.au
- Australian Health Management www.ahm.com.au
- BUPA Australia www.overseasstudenthealth.com
- OSHC Worldcare www.oshcworldcare.com.au

Your OSHC will help cover the cost of any medical or hospital care you may need while studying in Australia, and will contribute towards the cost of most prescription medicines, and an ambulance in an emergency.

OSHC does not cover dental, optical or physiotherapy. Additional cover may be purchased from some the OSHC providers mentioned above or else the following private health insurance agencies:

- Overseas travel insurance, or
- General treatment cover with any Australian private health insurer. www.privatehealth.gov.au or www.iselect.com.au.

If you marry or have a child born after your arrival in Australia, and you only have a single OSHC policy you must change to a family policy. A receipt or other proof of your OSHC payment must be supplied to the Registrar as ***Proof of insurance***. The OSHC should commence when you arrive in Australia.

If any details of your insurance change you will need to inform the Registrar.

Services

In the event of an incident please find below telephone numbers of local safety and support services:

<i>Safety and Security</i>	
Life-threatening or time-critical emergency	
This number will connect you to an operator and can access help for FIRE, POLICE and AMBULANCE attendance at any time of the day or night for 24-hour service. Calls to 000 and 112 are free.	000 or from a mobile phone 112
Disaster situation such as a fire, cyclone, storm, flood, road crash, hazardous material spill, earthquake or a tsunami or search and rescue operations on land and water	132 500
Nearest Police Station	131 444
Reporting a crime (Police)	131 444
Crime Stoppers Hotline	1800 333 000
National Security Hotline	1800 123 400
Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES)	132 500
<i>Health and Community Support</i>	
Health Direct - 24 Hour Health Advice line	1800 022 222
Mental Health Emergency Response Line	Metro: 1300 555 788 Peel: 1800 676 822
Lifeline	13 11 44
Beyond Blue (Depression/suicidal)	1300 224 636
Family Help Line	9223 1100
Parenting WA Line	6279 1200 Toll free: 1800 654 432
NGALA Family Resource centre	9368 9368
Pregnancy Counselling	1300 737 732
Sexual Assault Centre	9340 1828
Alcohol and Drug Information	9442 5000
Poisons Information Centre	13 11 26
Legal information	1300 650 579
<i>Other Services</i>	
Electrical faults (24-hour service)	13 13 51
Gas Faults (24-hour service)	13 13 52
Telephone Faults (Fixed home phone)	13 2203
Water or Sewerage Faults	13 1375
Trans Perth (Public transport)	136213
Perth Taxis:	
Black & White Taxis (including disability services)	131 008
Swan Taxis	13 13 30
Swan Taxis Disability Taxi Service	9422 2240
Download the Uber app (www.uber.com)	

Public Hospitals

Armadale Health Service 3056 Albany Highway Armadale, Western Australia 6992 Phone (08) 9391 2000	Bentley Health Service 18-56 Mills Street Bentley, Western Australia 6102 Phone (08) 9334 3666
Fremantle Hospital Alma Street Fremantle, Western Australia 6160 Phone (08) 9431 3333	Joondalup Health Campus Shenton Ave Joondalup, Western Australia 6027 Phone (08) 9400 9400
Fiona Stanley Hospital 102-118 Murdoch Drive Murdoch, Western Australia 6150 Phone (08) 6152 222	Kalamunda Community Hospital Elizabeth Street Kalamunda, Western Australia 6076 Phone (08) 9257 8100
King Edward Memorial Hospital 374 Bagot Road Subiaco, Western Australia 6008 Phone (08) 9340 2222	Princess Margaret Hospital for Children Roberts Road Subiaco, Western Australia 6008 Phone (08) 9340 8222
Rockingham - Kwinana Hospital Elanora Drive Rockingham, Western Australia 6168 Phone (08) 9599 4000	Royal Perth Hospital Wellington Street Perth, Western Australia 6000 Phone (08) 9224 2244
Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital Hospital Avenue Nedlands, Western Australia 6009 Phone (08) 9346 3333	Swan District Hospital Eveline Road Middle Swan, Western Australia 6056 Phone (08) 9347 5244

Emergency services close to Vose

The nearest hospitals to Vose Seminary and which have emergency departments are:

Adults: Royal Perth Hospital, Sir Charles Gardiner Hospital & Fiona Stanley Hospital

Children: Princess Margaret Hospital

Help from your home country

The consulate representing your home country is also able to provide help during your studies in Western Australia.

As the official representative of your country, your Consul works to protect your interests when you are away from home.

To find the contact detail of your consulate in Western Australia, visit the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade website <http://protocol.dfat.gov.au/Consulate/list.rails>

Living in Perth, Western Australia

Western Australia is the largest of the Australian states covering about one third of the continent.

Perth, the Capital of Western Australia, situated near the coast on the Swan River, has an estimated population of 2.19 million people. It enjoys a warm, sunny climate with the hottest month being February when the daily temperatures have an average maximum of 30°C (with several days peaking at 40°C) and a minimum of 19°C. The coolest month is July when the temperatures range between 18°C maximum and 9° minimum (with some nights dropping as low as 0°C). The average annual rainfall of 880 mm occurs mainly between May and September.

Suburbs extending in a 40km radius of Perth have an extensive coastline with good beaches suitable for bathing and other areas providing great surfing. Parks and children's playgrounds are spread throughout the suburbs. The area has excellent sporting facilities and clubs representing most sports.

Perth is a multicultural society, with its population drawn from all areas of the world.

Public Transport

Perth has a large public transport network incorporating trains and buses. Being opposite Curtin University means the Seminary is well serviced by public transport, particularly during University Semesters. These include Circle Route 98 and 99 for many major centres and Routes 71, 72, 73, 75 as well as Routes 100 and 101 between Canning Bridge Railway Station and Curtin University Bus Station. These routes are subject to change. Visit the Transperth website <http://www.transperth.wa.gov.au/> for up to date timetables and other public transport information.

Employment

Your Student Visa allows you to work while you are studying in Australia. You cannot work until you have commenced your course in Australia. Once your course has commenced you are permitted to work a maximum of 40 hours per fortnight when your course is **in session**, and unlimited hours when your course is **not in session**.

Accommodation

Accommodation may be available in the **local area** including rooms in private residence, flats or private rentals.

Cost of Living

Living expenses in Australia can vary, depending on your personal taste and whether you have a family to care for. An overseas student living in Perth should budget a minimum of \$475AUD per week (single) or \$825AUD (families) to cover the costs of living.

Students should budget for items such as:

- Rent
- Phone
- Electricity
- Gas
- Water (may be included in rent)
- Food, meals
- Clothing
- Transport (car or public transport)
- Health Insurance

Shopping Facilities

Perth City Trading Hours

Monday	8:00am – 9:00pm (most trade from 9:00am – 5:30pm)
Tuesday	8:00am – 9:00pm (most trade from 9:00am – 5:30pm)
Wednesday	8:00am – 9:00pm (most trade from 9:00am – 5:30pm)
Thursday	8:00am – 9:00pm (most trade from 9:00am – 5:30pm)
Friday	8:00am – 9:00pm Late Night Shopping
Saturday	8:00am – 5:00pm
Sunday	11.00am – 5.00pm

Most supermarkets and major retailers are open until 9:00pm Monday to Friday.

Perth Metropolitan Suburbs

Monday	8:00am – 9:00pm (most trade from 9:00am – 5:30pm)
Tuesday	8:00am – 9:00pm (most trade from 9:00am – 5:30pm)
Wednesday	8:00am – 9:00pm (most trade from 9:00am – 5:30pm)
Thursday	8:00am – 9:00pm Late Night Shopping
Friday	8:00am – 9:00pm (most trade from 9:00am – 5:30pm)
Saturday	8:00am – 5:00pm
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Most supermarkets and major retailers are open until 9:00pm Monday to Friday.

Education

Western Australia has a 3-tiered educational system.

Primary School

Secondary School

Tertiary Education

Kindergarten

While Kindergarten in Western Australia is not compulsory, most children attend because parents understand that it helps give their children the best start to school. In some schools, children attend for some full days and some half days each week, while in other schools they attend only for half days or only for full days.

Children can start Kindergarten when turning four years old by 30 June of the year they attend.

Primary School - Pre-Primary to Year 6

In 2013, here in Western Australia Pre-primary was made the first compulsory year of school.

Children in Pre-Primary to Year 6 attend school five full days a week.

Pre-Primary	children turning five years of age by 30 th June of the year they start Pre-Primary
Year 1	children turning six years of age by 30 June of the year they start Year 1.
Year 2	children turning seven years of age by 30 June of the year they start Year 2.
Year 3	children turning eight years of age by 30 June of the year they start Year 3.
Year 4	children turning nine years of age by 30 June of the year they start Year 4.
Year 5	children turning 10 years of age by 30 June of the year they start Year 5.
Year 6	children turning 11 years of age by 30 June of the year they start Year 6.

Secondary School - Year 7 to 12

Western Australian secondary schools are generally from Years 7 to 12 and most children start Year 7 in the year they turn 12 and start Year 12 in the year they turn 17.

Dependents of overseas students must enrol in either a government or non-government school and may be required to pay full fees. Tuition fees range from about \$5,000–\$20,000 per year for primary and secondary education.

Quarantine

Please note: because Australia is an island and relatively free from pests and diseases it has strict quarantine laws. Food or plant materials may not be brought into the country. Any food or plant material must be declared to customs on entry.

Further Information

More detailed information about services available to Overseas Students may be found on various websites, including: <http://studypertth.com.au/>

Students are encouraged to read the following document found on the Vose website: "The ESOS framework – providing quality education and protecting your rights".
<http://www.vose.wa.edu.au/upload/documents/the-esos-framework.pdf?1453166205>