



Foundation Studies Program
Diploma of Business Administration
Bachelor of Business
Bachelor of International Business

**IMPORTANT POLICIES AND
PROCEDURES**

2006



Important policies and procedures

This is a summary of key policy and procedures affecting students at ACN campuses. For full policy details, students are referred to the ACN website Twww.latrobe.edu.au/acn, the La Trobe University website <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/policies/index.html>, and the La Trobe University *Undergraduate Handbook* <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/handbook>

Fees, enrolments and refunds

	Domestic Students			International Students*		
	Foundation Studies	Diploma of Business	Bachelor of Business	Foundation Studies	Diploma of Business	Bachelor of Business
Per subject	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,500**	\$1,181.25	\$1,181.25	\$1,900
Per semester (4 subjects)	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$6,000**	\$4,725	\$4,725	\$7,600
Application fee (non-refundable, all programs)	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$150

* Please note that this table does not include other fees for international students such as Overseas Student Health Cover, airport transfers, accommodation placement or homestay.

** Price may vary according to the subjects taken. The rate for accounting and law subjects is \$1562.00 per subject.

Payment of fees

Each semester's fees are due and must be paid before the beginning of classes. Commencing students will receive details of the amount due on their letter of offer. Re-enrolling students who have completed re-enrolment forms will receive an invoice.

Payment may be made by direct deposit, bank draft or credit card. If you pay by direct deposit please provide a copy of the direct deposit receipt to the Admission Manager or General Manager.

Students with outstanding fees will not have results issued to them and may have their enrolment suspended or terminated.

Enrolment and re-enrolment

After receiving a letter of offer and paying any deposit required, commencing students must complete an enrolment form and select initial

subjects. This is generally done at the orientation meeting just before the commencement of classes each semester. Continuing Degree students are required to re-enrol for the full academic year in October each year. Foundation Studies and Diploma students generally enrol on a semester-by-semester basis.

Student status

A student remains a student only until the start of the next Semester for which they are not enrolled. This means a student who has a Semester 1 enrolment only will cease to be a student on the first day of Semester 2. Students enrolled in all semesters of the next year will continue to be students until the first day of Semester 1 of the following year.

Change of subjects

Subject to academic approval you may change subjects during the first two weeks of semester. To change subjects you must complete a "Variation of Enrolment Form" and submit it to an academic advisor for approval. Should it not be approved or the approval results in an alteration to fees, the student will be notified within three days.

Withdrawal from a subject

Withdrawals are considered to have occurred from the time completed and signed variation or withdrawal forms are received by your campus administration. Subject to approval, you may withdraw from individual subjects without financial penalty until the end of the fourth week of the semester (the 'census date' for enrolments). Any unused portion of fees paid will be credited to future semesters. Please note carefully the refund conditions below. Subjects withdrawn before the census date will not appear on a student's academic transcript.

There will be no refund of fees paid or due if a student withdraws from individual subjects after the end of the fourth week of semester. Withdrawals received after the census date and before the end of week eight will appear on student's academic transcript as a 'withdrawal – not to be counted a fail'. *Withdrawals received after week eight are counted as fails.*

Enrolment Changes – Informing DIMIA

Students may only apply to change details of their enrolment in accordance with the rules set out above. The Academic Director/Campus Manager must approve all changes. Students must be informed at the time that they apply to change their enrolment that ACN is required to report the changes to DIMIA.

Where an International student is required to take extra subjects (including repeated subjects) to complete their course, and these subjects do not constitute a full-time load, the student need not be enrolled in full-time study.

Any changes to a student's enrolment that affects the nature or duration of their course, including deferment or suspension of their course, must be reported to DIMIA via PRISMS.

Visa regulations are subject to change by DIMIA.

Refund of Tuition Fees

The policy on the refund of tuition fees has been determined in accordance with the National Code of Practice for Registration Authorities and Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students ("the National Code"), the Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000 ("ESOS Act 2000") and Education Services for Overseas Student Regulations 2001 ("ESOS Regulations 2001"). This policy applies to all commencing international and domestic students irrespective of who pays the tuition fees.

Important Note: In the event that –

- (a) Australian Campus Network (ACN) does not start the course on the agreed starting date; or
- (b) the course ceases to be provided by La Trobe University through ACN at any time after it starts but before it is completed; or
- (c) the course is not provided in full to the student because a sanction has been imposed on La Trobe University under Part 6 of the ESOS Act 2000 and the student has not withdrawn before the day of default, all tuition fees paid by the student are fully refundable within two weeks after the default day in accordance with the provisions of the ESOS Act 2000 and the ESOS Regulations 2001.

1. Refunds

1.1 A student who fails to meet degree/diploma progression rules and who is not permitted to re-enrol will be eligible for a refund of fees paid in advance of notification of exclusion.

1.2 In the event that an offer of a place is withdrawn because the offer was made by La Trobe University on the basis of incorrect or incomplete information being supplied by the applicant/student the tuition fees paid for the semester are refundable less an administrative fee of up to 10% of the tuition fee for one semester.

1.3 Where a student, after accepting an offer of a place, gives a minimum of four weeks written notice before the commencement of the semester of an inability to undertake the course, the tuition fees paid for the semester are refundable less an administrative fee of up to 10% of the tuition fee for one semester.

1.4 Where a student gives less than four weeks written notice before the commencement of the semester of an inability to undertake the course, 50% of the tuition fees paid for the semester are refundable.

1.5 Where a student withdraws from a course after the commencement of the course but within the first four teaching weeks of the semester, 50% of tuition fees paid for the semester are refundable.

2. Refunds in exceptional circumstances

Where a student or the student's personal representative in the case of the death of a student gives written notice prior to the end of the Friday of the fourth week of the semester that he or she is withdrawing from a course due to exceptional circumstances being:

- (i) inability to obtain a student visa; or
- (ii) illness or disability; or
- (iii) death of the student or a close family member (parent, sibling, spouse or child) or;
- (iv) a political, civil or natural event which prevents full payment of fees or the student's attendance;

La Trobe University, as applicable, may in its sole discretion having regard to the exceptional circumstances grant a total or partial refund of tuition fees subject to the provision of documentary evidence in support of the application for a refund which is acceptable to La Trobe University.

3. Deferral of studies

Subject to paragraph 4 of this policy, where a student, after accepting an offer of a place, gives written notice before or after the commencement of the course of their intention to defer their place in the course to the next available intake, all tuition fees will be transferred to the next available intake. The "next available intake" may be the following semester, or the following year, depending on the course. A place may be deferred for up to 12 months. If, after deferring, a student gives written notice that they do not intend to take up their deferred place, 50% of the tuition fees paid are refundable.

4. No refunds

A student who withdraws or defers from a course for whatever reason after the Friday of the fourth week of the semester shall not be eligible for a refund of tuition fees paid for that semester. Note: This also applies to continuing students.

5. Fees refunds related to International Students who obtain Permanent Resident Visa Status

5.1 An international student who is granted Permanent Resident status in Australia is liable to

pay the Domestic Student fees. Permanent Resident status is recognised from the date stamped on the student's passport, not the date on which the application for status is made. If the student has already paid the tuition fees applying to international students for the semester, a total refund of these fees will be payable to the student if the student has obtained Permanent Resident status by the Friday of the fourth week of the semester.

5.2 If the student obtains Permanent Resident Status after the first four teaching weeks of a semester, the student will be classified as an international student for the remainder of that semester.

The student will be liable to pay the tuition fees applying to international students for that semester. From the following semester, the student will be classified as a Permanent Resident and will be liable to pay the Domestic Student fees.

6. Agreement

When La Trobe University accepts an international student's application for enrolment this policy on the refund of tuition fees will constitute a written agreement between La Trobe University, as applicable, and the international student for the purposes of the ESOS Act 2000 and the National Code.

7. Payment of refunds

7.1 Students seeking a refund must apply in writing to the Registrar of ACN no later than four weeks after the commencement of the semester.

7.2 Refunds will be reimbursed in the same currency as the fees were originally paid in and will normally be made in the student's home country.

7.3 Refunds (including any discretionary refund granted under paragraph 2) will be paid to the student within 4 weeks after receipt of a written claim from the student.

8. Review process related to fees refund

8.1 Any decision made by La Trobe University through ACN relating to the refund of fees is subject to review by the University Ombudsman pursuant to the University's Statutes and Regulations.

8.2 This agreement does not remove the right to take further action under Australia's consumer protection laws.

9. Privacy statement

The University without using and disclosing personal information provided by students is unable to effectively process applications for enrolment and arrange health insurance cover for overseas students.

The University may disclose personal information provided by students:

- to its service providers such as organisations which assist students with their applications and the finalisation, processing and administration of those applications;
- where disclosure is required or allowed by law; and
- where the student has otherwise consented.

The University may disclose personal information provided by students relating to the student and any other members of the student's family who are covered under the student's overseas student health cover membership, to the University's Overseas Student Health Care provider, for the purpose of the provider communicating with the student in regard to managing the student's overseas student health cover.

Subject to the provisions of the Information Privacy Act 2000 (Vic.), a student may access personal information collected about him/her and held by ACN and/or La Trobe University by contacting the ACN Registrar.

Refund of Accommodation Fees

Where a student gives written notice to the Registrar up to 4 weeks before the commencement of the semester, the Accommodation Placement and Homestay Fees are refundable in full, unless an Accommodation placement has been made.

Where a student gives written notice to the Registrar less than 4 weeks before the commencement of the semester, or in the event that an Accommodation Placement has been made, a cancellation fee will apply, equal to the Accommodation Placement Fee and the first two weeks accommodation payment.

If a student wishes to leave Homestay Accommodation at any time, the student is required to give two weeks notice in writing to the Registrar. Special cancellation fees may apply for other accommodation arrangements.

Academic Policies

Academic Progress

Every course offered by the University must be completed within a specified period of time; typically, three-year bachelor courses must be completed in six years of full-time study or nine years part-time study.

All students will be required to maintain a minimum rate of academic progress through their program of study or be subject to conditions imposed upon their enrolment by the Board of Examiners' Committee. The minimum rate of progress is to achieve a pass rate of at least 50% of subjects enrolled in each semester. The Board of Examiners' Committee will not exclude a student in their first semester of study, but any student falling below this rate in the first semester will have to achieve an overall 50% or better in their first two semesters or else they will be identified as an "academic progress" candidate.

Any Academic Progress condition placed on a student will remain on the student's academic transcript.

Each semester, the University reviews the progress of the students; those whose academic progress is deemed to be unsatisfactory may be required to show cause why their enrolment should be permitted and may be refused re-enrolment or have their re-enrolment options limited.

Attendance at class

As this is a face-to-face program, attendance at all classes is expected and monitored. A poor attendance record can result in a student being barred from attending examinations. International students with an attendance rate of less than 80% in the middle of the semester are formally warned. If an international student's attendance remains below 80% for the entire semester the matter is reported to DIMIA. This usually results in cancellation of the student's visa.

Assessment

In all subjects, except some in the Information Technology major, the final mark awarded comprises 30% internal assessment and 70% final examination.

Internal assessment

Internal assessment is assignments, essays and class tests that are completed during the semester. Your lecturer will select assessment tasks which suit the nature of the subject and help prepare you for the final exam.

The timely submission of internal assessment is a requirement in all subjects, and failure to submit without an acceptable reason can result in a zero mark being awarded.

All written work submitted must include an Assessment Cover Sheet on which you have signed the statement of authorship.

All internal assessment must be submitted by the due date or marks will be deducted. Written work will not be accepted for assessment after similar marked work has been returned to other students.

Final examination

The final examination is held in the exam period and is two or three hours long. Depending on the subject, exam questions may be multiple-choice, short answer, problem solving, case studies or essays. Please refer to the section on examinations below for further information.

Final grades

Your final grade is determined from both your internal and examination assessment. To pass any subject the overall mark you obtain must be 50% or higher AND the mark in the Final Examination in the subject must be 40% or higher.

Students are awarded one of the following grades:

Grade

A	80-100%
B	70-79%
C	60-69%
D	50-59%
N	Failure.
NS	Did not present any work for assessment by examination, by other forms of assessment, or by both. To be counted as a failure.
NX	Excluded from examination. To be counted as a failure.

KN Withdrawal. Counted as a failure – when more than two-thirds of the subject teaching has been completed.

SA May present for supplementary assessment.

SAH May present for supplementary hurdle assessment.

SP Special examination granted.

Where there is no grade listed, this indicates that no formal grade has yet been recorded; either the subject is ongoing or additional assessment is required.

Supplementary assessment

1. The University recognises two situations in which it is appropriate to provide the opportunity for supplementary assessment to facilitate student progression.
 - Students who obtain 50% or more in a subject but who have failed to meet a hurdle (compulsory) requirement in a subject will be offered a supplementary assessment in order to meet this requirement (but see 3). Upon successful completion of supplementary assessment, the original mark will stand.
 - Students who have passed at least two-thirds of their total subject enrolment for the year shall be offered supplementary assessment in any failed subject for which a mark of 45% or more has been obtained (but see 3). Upon successful completion of supplementary assessment the final mark for the subject(s) will be 50%.
2. A supplementary assessment shall not be awarded where less than 45% is obtained in a subject nor where greater than one-third of a student's yearly enrolment is failed.
3. Students who fail to complete the internal assessment for a subject may be denied supplementary assessment.
4. Students shall be given a minimum of 10 days' notice for supplementary (and special) examinations.
5. Supplementary assessments are held in January each year for students in the Bachelor of Business and in approximately week three of semester Foundations Studies and Diploma of Business Administration students.

Special Consideration

Students who feel that difficulties during their study have badly affected their results may apply for special consideration.

Relevant factors may include:

- economic hardship
- physical disability
- continual illness
- English language learning difficulties
- family or personal problems
- lack of educational facilities at home
- geographic isolation

Requests for Special Consideration must be submitted within 72 hours of the date of any final examination missed. Students must complete a 'Request for Special Consideration' form and supply originals of supporting evidence. Medical certificates will only be accepted if they are from registered medical providers in New South Wales, Queensland or Western Australia and if they state explicitly that you were not fit to sit an examination, or complete internal assessment, on a specific date or for a specific period of time.

Reconsideration of results

If you have valid reasons for thinking that the mark you have been awarded for either internal or examination assessment is incorrect then you may seek further information and/or appeal the mark awarded. There are several steps in this process:

1. You must write to your Campus Manager or Academic Director *within 14 days of receiving your grade*, explaining clearly the reasons why you think the grade you have been awarded is wrong.
2. In the case of final examinations a copy of your exam script will be returned by La Trobe University, and a member of the academic staff will review your script and provide feedback on your performance. If you are still not satisfied with the mark awarded you may write to the Associate Dean (External Programs) of the Faculty of Law and Management requesting a re-assessment of your examination.
3. In the case of internal assessment a member of the academic staff at ACN will review your work and provide feedback.
4. In no case may a reassessment lead to a lower mark.

Examinations

Bachelor of Business examinations are set and marked by La Trobe staff. La Trobe University lecturers also moderate a proportion of all grades of student assessment and have representation on the Board of Examiners' Committee with external examiners, which approves all final grades and makes recommendations regarding Academic Progress and Qualifications.

Examination timetables

Timetables for end-of-semester examinations are posted on noticeboards, and on the resource website six weeks before examinations. Seating allocation will be posted outside the examination venue 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the examination.

Examination Rules

1. A candidate may bring into the examination venue writing instruments, an eraser, a ruler and such other materials and instruments as are prescribed for a particular examination. For this purpose, such other materials shall be those specified by the examiner and published as footnotes to the examination timetable. Normally, such materials will be detailed in the examination timetable, on the noticeboard and at the entrance to the examination venue.
2. A candidate must bring to an examination venue and make available upon request by an authorised officer of the Examinations Committee such means of identification as is prescribed from time to time.
3. A candidate may not bring into an examination venue, unless otherwise prescribed, any materials or paper or electronic instrument that contains or conveys any information relating to the subject or course for which the examination is being conducted.
4. A candidate shall neither communicate with nor receive any communication from any other candidate during any examination.
5. Smoking is not permitted within any examination centre.
6. A candidate should normally remain silent throughout an examination unless it is necessary, for the purpose of the examination, to communicate with an examiner.

7. A candidate must, unless otherwise directed by the examiner, occupy that seat specified alongside his/her name on the list of designated candidates' seat numbers.
8. A candidate shall not normally be permitted to enter an examination venue if a period of thirty minutes has expired since the commencement of the writing period.
9. A candidate shall not normally be permitted to leave an examination venue during the first thirty minutes or during the final fifteen minutes of the period specified for writing.
10. A candidate shall not normally be permitted to commence writing during the period specified for the reading of an examination paper.
11. A candidate may not remove from an examination venue or any attached storeroom any material, script books or such items provided for an examination unless permitted to do so by an authorised member of the Examination Committee. Unless otherwise directed, a candidate must not leave the examination venue before an examiner has collected all the material.
12. A candidate shall comply with all directions to candidates set out on any examination material supplied or specified on any notice displayed at the entry to an examination centre or announced by an examiner.
13. Any student, whether or not a candidate for an examination, shall not act in any way or cause any act which may disrupt any examinations or cause any hardship or difficulty to other candidates or examiners.

For the purposes of these rules:

1. An examination shall be deemed to run from the time at which candidates are invited to enter an examination venue by the examiner until such time as all candidates are permitted to leave an examination venue.
2. Authorised members of the Examinations Committee shall be such members of staff that have been given authority to supervise the examination venue by the Examination Committee, and
3. An examination venue shall be any area designated by the Examination

Committee for the purpose of conducting an examination.

4. If during an examination a student is found in possession of unauthorised material he/she could face disciplinary action. 'In possession' means on, or next to that student's desk or chair, in or on their clothing, on their body (or in their wallet or purse).
5. Failure to secure or hand in unauthorised material prior to the commencement of writing time may result in a penalty for academic misconduct in accordance with the University Regulations.

Academic Misconduct

La Trobe University has strict rules to ensure that students' work for assessment is actually the result of their individual effort, skills and knowledge and has not been produced by means that will give an unfair advantage over other students. La Trobe's full Academic Misconduct Policy can be viewed at <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/policies/academicmisconduct.pdf>

Plagiarism

Plagiarism occurs when someone copies or reproduces another person's words or ideas and presents them as his or her own without proper acknowledgement. This includes copying the work of other students. It is a form of cheating and will be dealt with accordingly.

To avoid plagiarism students must acknowledge all sources from which they have obtained material or ideas used in assignments.

It is a serious act of misconduct to knowingly assist another student to plagiarise material (e.g. by lending a completed work to another student so that it can be copied and handed in as that student's own work). Such misconduct will be punished as severely as is plagiarism itself.

The penalties for plagiarism are severe and are governed by University legislation. A student found to have plagiarised may be allocated no marks for the particular piece of work involved, or may be allocated a fail grade in that subject. In severe or repeat cases the student may be excluded from the University.

Syndication

You must also take care that, unless specifically instructed that a piece of work for assessment is to be produced jointly with other students, the work you submit has been prepared by you alone. If you collude with other students to prepare a piece of work jointly, or copy each other's work and pass it off as an individual effort, it is syndication and is against University regulations. It is also unacceptable to copy another student's work without his or her knowledge.

Cheating in examinations

Students must only bring to the examination venue those materials that are allowed under the examination rules. If students bring in any unauthorised materials, such as notes, they breach

of the University regulations and it will be regarded as cheating, whether or not the student has used the materials in the exam.

Penalties for academic misconduct

The Board of Examiners' Committee deals with breaches of regulations. If a student is alleged to have plagiarism or syndicated internal assessment, the matter will be referred to the Academic Director, who will inform La Trobe University. Penalties for plagiarism and syndication include from a deduction of marks and awarding a mark of zero for the work. Repeat and or serious instances may result in failure of an entire subject, or suspension/exclusion from further study. Cheating in examinations is referred to the Faculty of Law and Management Academic Misconduct Committee. If the allegation is proved, a penalty, normally failure of the subject, will be imposed. Severe penalties, such as suspension or expulsion can be imposed in appropriate cases.

Other important policies

Equal Opportunity

In keeping with the spirit and provisions of Commonwealth and States' Equal Opportunity Legislation and University's policies, we are committed to a policy of equal opportunity in education and employment. As employers and educators, we are opposed to, and accept that they have a responsibility to eliminate from their structures, any source of direct or indirect discriminatory practice or behaviour, including racism, sexism, homophobia or discrimination based on disability, parenthood or childlessness, religious or political conviction, age, industrial activity, lawful sexual activity or sexual orientation, physical features, pregnancy, or marital, parental or carer status.

Students with disabilities

La Trobe University is committed to a policy of Equal Opportunity in education, employment and the provision of services. As an employer, an educator, and a service provider, the University has a moral and legal responsibility to eliminate from its structures and practices any source of direct or indirect discrimination affecting staff and students with a disability and to take action where harassment may occur.

If you have with ongoing disabilities which affects your study you should inform administrative staff at your campus as soon as possible, so that appropriate action can be provided to ensure you have equal opportunity in your education. La Trobe's full policy can be viewed at

<http://www.latrobe.edu.au/equity/equity/6eqpols/dispol.html>

Copyright

If you reproduce material protected by copyright without the permission of the copyright owner, you may infringe copyright. Reproducing part of a work may infringe copyright if a part is important; it need not be a large part. Copyright owners are entitled to take legal action against people who infringe their copyright. ACN/La Trobe/Oxford Brookes Universities do not authorise individuals to make infringing reproductions of copyright material.

It is a your responsibility to make sure that any reproductions they make do not infringe copyright.

If copying material for research or study, you are not infringing copyright if the copying is 'fair dealing'. In deciding whether their use is fair, students should take into account:

- the purpose and character of the dealing;
- the nature of the work or adaptation;
- the possibility of obtaining the work within a reasonable time at an ordinary commercial price;
- the effect of the use upon the potential market for, or value of, the work; and
- where only part of the work or adaptation is copied, the amount and substantiality of the part copied in relation to the whole work or adaptation.

