LEAP Open Day Hints & Checklist

Open Day Hints

Who can attend?

Anybody can attend Open Day, and it’s important to remember that you don’t have to wait until Year 12 to go along. You might be in a lower year level at the moment and just beginning to consider university in the future - this is a great time to get a head start on finding out more about higher education and the study options available.

Open Days are also a great chance for parents/guardians to find out more about their child’s future study options.

What happens at Open Day?

Universities run tours of their campuses, have staff and student representatives from different courses and faculties to talk about what they do and have information available about all different study services.

Among the presentations, activities, food and fun, you also have an opportunity to talk informally with students who are studying in the courses you are considering.

Open Days also give you a chance to soak up the culture of university life while you’re still deciding your options for future study.

While you are there, you can take the opportunity to ask questions about courses, facilities and your future plans, as well as exploring campuses, from teaching and learning areas to libraries, cafes, social spaces and accommodation.
Open Day Checklist

"Must do" items to tick off

☐ Visit the areas such as students support services and student lounges to check out what it’s like to be a student. Does the campus feel like a place you’d like to belong?

☐ Go on a campus tour and see what facilities and resources are available on campus.

☐ Don’t just talk to university staff: make sure you chat with some current students of the institution. They are experts on what it’s like to study there, and have recently gone through the process of selecting and getting into their course.

☐ Bring someone along with you. Parents/guardians are a great option as they may have information they want to find out too. A friend or other family member can also be helpful and make you feel comfortable making your first trip onto a campus.

☐ Check out the stands of student clubs and societies that look interesting. Joining these can be an exciting addition to your university experience. They cover a huge range of interests, and usually offer lots of social opportunities and freebies.

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"Must find out" items to tick off

- Different pathways into the courses in which you’re interested?
- Any prerequisite subjects or tasks for the courses you’re considering?
- The time commitment of the course you’re considering (how many years it takes to complete the course, how many hours per week will you need to attend lectures and tutorials, and do extra reading and studying—uni doesn’t have set hours like school)?
- What public transport and parking options are available if you are going to travel to uni?
- What accommodation is available if you are considering moving away from home to go to uni?
- What facilities are available on campus. (Libraries, cafes, banks, book stores, security services are all usually found at uni campuses, but check, if any of these are essential to deciding the uni and campus you’d study at).

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What questions should I ask current university students?

- Why did you choose to study at this university/ campus?
- What year are you in?
- Do you live away from home? What is it like? How do you make ends meet?
- Do you work part-time? What jobs does your course lead to?
- What do you wish you’d known before you started studying at uni?
- What are the best and worst things about uni, in your opinion?
- How have you enjoyed your course so far – what are the teaching / facilities / support like.
- What’s this area like to live in, or commute to by car or public transport?

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What questions should I ask University staff?

- What are the prerequisites for the course(s) I’m considering applying for?
- Does the uni have any careers advisers I can talk to?
- What are my options if I don’t get the ATAR for my course preferences?
- What services, teaching & learning support, and on-campus facilities are available for uni students?
- Who should I contact if I have more questions about applying for courses?

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What questions should I ask students and staff about on-campus accommodation?

☐ Who can live on-campus at this university?
☐ How long can I live on-campus for?
☐ Am I guaranteed a place in on-campus accommodation if I’m accepted into a course?
☐ How do I apply for accommodation?
☐ What type of accommodation is available? (i.e. single rooms, shared room, shared or private bathroom and kitchens, room or flat living).
☐ What extras are available for students who live on-campus? (i.e. food, support services, social program, sports and recreational facilities).
☐ What are the costs of living on-campus?

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REMEMBER TO UPDATE YOUR CAREER ACTION PLAN TO REFLECT WHAT YOU LEARNED AT THE OPEN DAY