

Wintec Orientation Handbook



A Pre-Departure Guide For International Students





Welcome to Wintec

We're looking forward to meeting you in person!

We've put together some information to help prepare you for study and student life in Hamilton, New Zealand.

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Meet your International Student Services Team



PRE-DEPARTURE INFORMATION

Accommodation

It is important for you to find accommodation before you arrive in New Zealand. The International Centre team can help you find accommodation, or you can choose to find your own. To learn more about the accommodation options in Hamilton click on the link below:

www.wintec.ac.nz/international/Pages/guides.aspx

What To Bring

If you are going to study and live in New Zealand, you may feel unsure as to what you should pack and what you will need. You can buy almost everything you need in New Zealand at a good price, so we recommend you do some shopping once you arrive to replace items that are not worth paying to ship across the ocean. This is especially true of large or heavier items. Click below for packing tips:

www.wintec.ac.nz/international/files/international_packing_tips.pdf

Airport Transfer

To ensure you have the best start to your time in New Zealand, Wintec can arrange transfers from the Airport direct to your place of accommodation. To learn more about the transportation options click on the link below:

www.wintec.ac.nz/international/files/Shuttle-Request-Form.pdf

Under 18s

As required by the Wintec policy and Code of Practice for Pastoral Care of International Students, under 18 students must live with a Wintec approved homestay, parents or designated caregiver which means under 18 students will not be allowed to rent a flat/room/house apartment or live on their own. The International Centre will meet with each student quarterly to ensure that they are happy with their accommodation arrangement and life in New Zealand. To read the Under 18 guidelines click the link below:

www.wintec.ac.nz/international/files/under_18_information_guidelines.pdf

PRE-DEPARTURE CHECKLIST

- ☐ Letter of Offer from Wintec and receipts for payment of tuition and accommodation fees
- ☐ Other official identification such as driver's licence, national ID card, medical records and any other essential information
- ☐ Credit card(s) and/or traveller cheques and some New Zealand currency for when you first arrive
- ☐ Receipts of your belongings, for example laptop, camera, etc. This will make it easier for you to claim on insurance if these get lost, stolen or damaged
- ☐ Insurance documents (in English)
- ☐ Photos of family and home (optional)
- ☐ National costume or any other traditional items so that you can participate in our multi-cultural days or other cultural events
- ☐ Laptop computer and cellular phone with roaming access (optional)
- ☐ World-wide electrical plug adapter for New Zealand
- ☐ Appropriate clothing and personal items

What NOT to bring with you:

New Zealand has very strict border control laws. When you arrive at the airport, New Zealand Customs staff will x-ray your luggage, and your bags will be checked by customs dogs for food and drugs. Do **NOT** bring the following with you:

- Any food that is cooked, uncooked, fresh, preserved, pickled, dried or packaged - this includes fruit, seeds and airline snacks. This can include animal or vegetable products that you are bringing in for medical reasons, or herbs and spices used for cooking.
- Illicit drugs and any equipment used to take drugs e.g. pipes (please note: prescription medicine is allowed but these must be for you and you must have a letter from your doctor with you)
- Firearms, weapons and/or flammable goods (e.g. lighters, pressurised canisters)
- More than NZ\$10,000 in foreign currency

ORGANISING YOURSELF ON ARRIVAL TO NEW ZEALAND

Banking

When you arrive you should open a New Zealand bank account. It is safer than keeping cash on you. A basic account can be opened with a small deposit e.g. \$100, your passport and proof of address in Hamilton. There are a number of banks close to Wintec.

New Zealand's five largest banks are:

ANZ	www.anz.co.nz
Westpac	www.westpac.co.nz
ASB	www.asb.co.nz
BNZ	www.bnz.co.nz
Kiwibank	www.kiwibank.co.nz

Cost of Living

New Zealand uses the New Zealand dollar (NZ\$ or \$) as currency. You should arrive in New Zealand with some New Zealand dollars in mixed notes (\$5, \$10 and \$20 notes) as credit cards and traveller's cheques are not accepted by all stores. Prices for typical items are shown in the table:

Item	Cost (\$NZD)
Cup of coffee	\$3.50-\$5.00
Can of Coke	\$1.50
Sandwich	from \$4.00
Pair of jeans	\$150.00
Ticket to an international concert	\$80.00
Movie ticket	\$12.00-\$17.00
Ticket to a major sporting event	from \$35.00
Pair of branded sports shoes	\$150.00

We have more information on our website:
www.wintec.ac.nz/international/general/Pages/index.aspx

Health & Wellbeing

Wintec has Health Service Centres located at Hamilton City Campus and Rotokauri Campus. The health services are available for both Wintec students and staff. For a list of offered services click on the link below:

www.wintec.ac.nz/healthcentre/pages/index.aspx

Security & Insurance

New Zealand is a safe country, and security staff patrol Wintec buildings and facilities 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For more information about Security at Wintec click on the link below:

www.wintec.ac.nz/security

You **MUST** have insurance while you are in New Zealand. This is an Immigration New Zealand requirement and the insurance must cover you from the time you arrive in New Zealand, until one week after the end of your visa.

For more insurance information click on the link below:

www.wintec.ac.nz/international/general/Pages/insurance.aspx

Transportation

If you want to buy a car in New Zealand, you need to have a New Zealand-recognised driver's license and ensure that your vehicle is insured. Hamilton also offers a public bus service. For more info: www.gobus.co.nz

You can purchase a Buslt card at the Hamilton Transport Centre to get public transport discounts.

Work while you study

Your visa label will tell you if you are allowed to work in New Zealand. If your visa allows you to work, you may work up to 20 hours per week during the semester and full-time during the summer vacation (December-January). The current adult minimum wage is \$15.25 before tax and applies to all employees aged 16 and over. The Student Life Team will be able to assist you with CV writing, job interview skills and job search advice. Contact them at careers@wintec.ac.nz.

Shopping

Shopping malls & districts

Centre Place www.centreplace.co.nz

Westfield Chartwell www.westfield.co.nz/chartwell

The Base www.the-base.co.nz

Electricity and accessories

New Zealand uses 220-240V AC, 50 Hz which is the same as Europe and Australia. Adapters, electronics and small appliances can be purchased at the following stores:

Noel Leeming www.noelleeming.co.nz

JB HIFI www.jbhifi.co.nz

Harvey Norman www.harveynorman.co.nz

Supermarkets

There are a several supermarkets close to Wintec:

Countdown www.countdown.co.nz

Pak'NSave www.paknsave.co.nz

Wellmart Chinese Supermarket www.wellmart.co.nz

Garden Fresh Asian Supermarket www.bit.ly/25DyP29

Household Goods

If you need to purchase household items such as kitchenware, blankets & bedding, we recommend the following outlets:

K-Mart www.kmart.co.nz

The Warehouse www.thewarehouse.co.nz

Briscoes www.briscoes.co.nz

YOUR FIRST DAY ON CAMPUS

Welcome to Wintec!

We know you'll be excited to explore your new surroundings. When you first arrive on Campus, please visit the International Centre team - we can help you become orientated and show you where you need to go. Wintec has three main campuses (Hamilton City Campus, Rotokauri, and Hamilton Gardens), and three smaller regional campuses. Find out about what we've got on campus for our students:

[Student Services & Facilities](#)

[On Campus Food Outlets](#)

[Health Services](#)

[Parking & Security](#)

WHAT'S ON - HAMILTON

Hamilton is New Zealand's largest inland city and within an hour's drive to some of the most amazing regional destinations.

Local Events & Activities

[Hamilton & Waikato Tourism](#)

[Visit Hamilton](#)

[Eventfinda](#)

[Wintec Student Events Calendar](#)



EXPLORING NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand is full with exciting things to do. The hardest part of planning your experience in New Zealand will be deciding which to do first! You can find activities that suit your interests below:

Adventure

Walking and Hiking

Home of Middle Earth

Water Activities

Sports

Skiing

Nature and Wildlife

Māori Culture

Tours

More information about the wonders on offer in New Zealand can be found on the official travel website: www.newzealand.com/int/



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT POLICIES

New Zealand Education Providers, like Wintec have an important responsibility for International Students' welfare. Wintec observes and is bound by a range of policies that affect you.

For a list of all Wintec policies, related forms and Code of Practice information can be found below:

[Wintec Policies](#)

[Wintec Forms](#)

[Code of Practice](#)

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

24/7 Emergency Services

Police, Ambulance, Fire

Phone: 111

Hamilton Police Station

6 Bridge Street, Hamilton Central

Phone: 07 858 6200

Wintec International Centre

Office Hours: 8.30am-4.30pm

Phone: 07 834 8800 ext 7778

Wintec International Centre

24/7 After Hours Emergency:

Phone: 021 703 730

Wintec Student Apartments:

Phone: 021 826 558

Wintec Security:

Phone: 0800 852 900

Embassies in New Zealand

www.mfat.govt.nz/Embassies

