

## Personal safety tips

Melbourne is a beautiful and safe city but everyone must take sensible precautions to protect their own safety. Please read and follow the suggested advice.

- Take the time to speak with teachers, students, family friends who have lived in Melbourne for some time to learn about Melbourne and personal safety precautions.
- If you have just arrived in Melbourne, try to find another student who lives in the same area as you – this is a good opportunity to meet people and you may decide to travel together.
- If you have night classes on campus move your car towards the end of the day closer to classroom. If necessary, approach your teacher for approval to do this, they will understand your need.
- If you have a night class and you are concerned about walking to the car or bus stop, ask your teacher to contact the security officers on campus so they can be in the area. You will find that security officers will be present around buildings where night classes take place as normal procedure.
- Place emergency contact numbers into your mobile. Refer to the emergency contact details you received on orientation day. If you have misplaced the details, the International Students programs Office will be able to help you.
- At night, walk in well lit areas and focus on where there are other people present.
- Know the street names and area in which you live in case of emergencies.
- Generally be aware of what is happening around you.
- Travel in train carriages with lots of people.
- A personal alarm can be a good deterrent.
- In case of emergency do not hesitate to contact police by calling 000 and report crimes. If your English skills are limited, use the telephone interpreter service for translation. It is important to understand that in Australia police are friendly and are servants of the people and are therefore required to enforce laws and protect people.
- Don't show that you have money - wallet in the pocket, laptop, iPod etc.
- Never carry large sums of money and do not count money in public places.
- Use the ATM (money machine) during the day, if possible.
- If harassed by someone in a car, try to get their number plate details and report the incident to the police

- Travel with friends and other students as much as possible.
- Always lock the doors and windows of your accommodation and car.
- Never hitchhike, take a lift from someone you don't know or offer of lift to someone you don't know.
- If you are interested in going out to night clubs, bars or the CBD at night, please speak with other people of your age who live Melbourne to learn about the safest places to go, what to watch out for and how to travel to the location.
- Only swim at patrolled beaches where lifesavers are visible and always follow safety instructions at any location.

Always feel comfortable speaking with a teacher, Chisholm Student Support Services, the Compliance Coordinator in International Students Programs. We are here to support and assist in any way possible.