



What are the benefits of participating in the Connect Adelaide Experience?

Previously, international students have greatly enjoyed the opportunity to informally connect with staff and other international students within the formative first few weeks of their arrival at UniSA.

By participating you will;

- Learn about Australian culture and traditions
- Opportunity to improve your English-language by speaking with people outside of the classroom
- This experience will also enhance your sense of community at the UniSA
- Foster a stronger connection with Adelaide by exploring the city beyond the campus

Must be over 18 to participate.

You must be 18 years of age to be eligible to participate in the Connect Adelaide Experience. Students are required to confirm this as part of the online registration for legal reasons.

What are the costs associated with my participation?

The volunteer will cover all costs associated with the Connect Adelaide Experience activity/meal. You may however, need to cover your own travel costs to your arranged activity, unless otherwise negotiated with your matched volunteer.

Can I choose when to join?

Registration will open from 5th February 2018 through to the 2nd March 2018. Given the high number of international students enrolling in our University every study period we recommend you register as soon as possible to avoid disappointment, as places are limited.

Student/Volunteer 'meet and greet' event.

To make your connection with the volunteer more comfortable all students and volunteers participating are invited to attend an organised but casual 'meet and greet' event/afternoon tea on campus. You will have the opportunity to get to know your matched volunteer before you attend your activity. An email will be sent to you closer to the time with details.

How often will I meet with my UniSA staff volunteer?

As this is a welcome and transition initiative, the expectation is that you and the volunteer will initially meet at the organised 'meet and greet' event for your first introduction. From there you will negotiate together a time to meet again for a casual meal/sporting or tourist activity as early as possible of your commencement to study. After this there is no obligation to you to continue, however if agreed by you and your volunteer to continue or stay in touch you can do so.

What are the selection criteria for the matching process?

When matching you with a staff volunteer the preferences and interests that you both have indicated in your respective online registration form will be the main compatibility criteria. We also seek to match where possible you with a volunteer from the campus location that you will be studying. Once we have matched you to your volunteer you will receive an email with all necessary information.

Can I select the UniSA Staff Volunteer myself?

This is, unfortunately not possible primarily due to privacy reasons. You do however, have the opportunity to clearly indicate your interests and/or special requirements in the online registration form. When you are being matched with a volunteer your interests and/or requirements are taken into consideration as much as possible.

Can I be matched with a volunteer who is hosting multiple students?

Yes, you can request to be matched with a volunteer who is hosting multiple students. You will need to indicate this option in the online form. There is no guarantee, however, we will do our best to accommodate your request.

Can my Partner/Spouse participate?

Yes, your partner/spouse can participate as well. If possible, we will match you with a volunteer who has agreed to also welcome family members.

What activities can I do with my Staff Volunteer?

There are many activities you can undertake together, e.g. share meal at their home, going to the park for a BBQ or picnic, visit a wildlife park, go to the beach or undertake a sporting or tourist activity, etc. It will depend on your respective interests.

Will my participation give me enough time for my studies?

Your studies will be your main priority. This joint activity should be therefore undertaken during your leisure times or when you don't need to focus on your studies. The idea is to meet with your volunteer as early as possible of your commencement to study. Speaking openly with your matched volunteer is very important.

What if I after making arrangements I am unable to meet with my staff volunteer due to study or work commitments?

We understand that things can come up, however, as long as you let your volunteer know you can't make it early enough and not to wait until the last minute to advise them, particularly in case they might have made special arrangements for you e.g. (prepared a special meal, invited friends for you to meet, bought a ticket for you to an event, sports game etc.)

Who do I contact if I have any concerns or further questions regarding registration or participation?

Contact the Student Advisers via email at internationalsupport@unisa.edu.au or phone Anne Mahlo, Team Leader: Student Adviser (International) on 8302 0614 or Louise Evershed, Student Adviser (International) 8302 0630.