

Ara Institute of Canterbury

International Fees 2026

ara.ac.nz/international



Why study at Ara?

- New Zealand Government-owned
- Established 1906
- 97% of our graduates feel safe
- 13,000 students per year
- Over 1,000 international students (from over 50 countries) per year
- Approved provider for Pathway visas under the Immigration NZ pilot programme
- Small class sizes (average of 20 students per class)
- More than 150 study options



Why study in Christchurch?

- #1 top education system globally
- 50+ schools welcoming international students
- 38% cheaper than Sydney to rent in Canterbury
- 365+ walking, hiking and mountain biking tracks within 20 minutes of the city centre

Programme listings

							IELTS Entry Requirement				
Qual	Programme	Also available in Timaru	Level	Duration	Commences	Indicative Tuition Fees NZ\$ per year	Overall	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking
ENGLISH FOR FURTHER STUDY (NZCEL)											
C	NZ Certificate in English Language (General)	T	3	18 weeks	Feb/Jul	\$8,503	IELTS 4.5	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
C	NZ Certificate in English Language (Applied)	T	3	18 weeks	Feb/Jul	\$8,503	IELTS 5.0	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5
C	NZ Certificate in English Language	T	4	18 weeks	Feb/Jul/Sep	\$8,503	IELTS 5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
C	NZ Certificate in English Language		5	18 weeks	Feb/Jul/Sep	\$8,503	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
FOUNDATION											
C	Study and Employment Pathways	T	3	6 months	Feb/Jul	\$13,286	IELTS 5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
C	Study and Employment Pathways	T	4	6 months	Feb/Jul	\$13,286	IELTS 5.5	5.5	5.0	5.5	5.0
ARCHITECTURAL STUDIES											
G	Construction Management		7	1 year	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
G	Quantity Surveying		7	1 year	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
G	Building Information Modelling (BIM)		7	1 year	Feb	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
B	Architectural Studies		7	3 years	Feb	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
B	Construction (with specialisations in Construction Management and Quantity Surveying)		7	3 years	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
D	Architectural Technology		6	2 years	Feb	\$23,672	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
D	Construction (with specialisations in Construction Management and Quantity Surveying)		6	2 years	Feb/Jul	\$23,672	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
CREATIVE											
M	Master of Creative Practice		9	1.5 years	Feb	\$27,458*	IELTS 6.5	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
P	Postgraduate Diploma in Creative Practice		8	1 year	Feb	\$29,229*	IELTS 6.5	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
B	Design (with specialisations in Applied Visual Art, Fashion, Motion Design, and Visual Communication)		7	3 years	Feb	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
D	Digital Media and Design	T (only)	5	1 year	Feb	\$26,572	IELTS 5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
C	Creativity	T	4	6 months	Feb/Jul	\$13,286	IELTS 5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
C	Digital Media and Design	T	4	6 months	Jul	\$13,286	IELTS 5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
C	Fashion		4	6 months	Feb/Jul	\$13,286	IELTS 5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
BUSINESS											
M	Applied Management (180 credit)		9	1.5 years	Feb/Apr/Jul/Oct	\$27,458	IELTS 6.5	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
M	Applied Management (240 credit)		9	2 years	Feb/Apr/Jul/Oct	\$27,635	IELTS 6.5	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
P	Applied Management		8	1 year	Feb/Apr/Jul/Oct	\$29,229	IELTS 6.5	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
P	Applied Management		8	6 months	Feb/Apr/Jul/Oct	\$14,614	IELTS 6.5	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
G	Applied Management		7	1 year	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
G	Business Information Systems		7	1 year	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
G	Business Transformation & Change		7	1 year	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
G	Event Management		7	1 year	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
G	Human Resource Management		7	1 year	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
G	Innovation and Entrepreneurship		7	1 year	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
G	Marketing and Sales		7	1 year	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
G	Operations & Production Management		7	1 year	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
G	Project Management		7	1 year	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
G	Strategic Management		7	1 year	Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
G	Supply Chain Logistics		7	1 year	Feb	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
B	Accounting		7	3 years	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
B	Applied Management (with specialisations)		7	3 years	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
D	Business (with specialisations)		5	1 year	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
C	Business (Administration & Technology)		4	6 months	Jul	\$13,286	IELTS 5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
C	Business (Administration & Technology)		3	6 months	Feb/Jul	\$13,286	IELTS 5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
COMMUNICATIONS & MEDIA											
B	Broadcasting Communications		7	3 years	Feb	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
COMPUTING & ICT											
G	Information & Communication Technologies		7	1 year	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
B	Information & Communication Technologies		7	3 years	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
D	Cybersecurity		6	1 year	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
D	Web Development and Design		5	1 year	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
D	Information Technology Technical Support		5	1 year	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
C	Information Technology Essentials*		4	6 months	Feb/Jul	\$13,286	IELTS 5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0

							IELTS Entry Requirement				
Qual	Programme	Also available in Timaru	Level	Duration	Commences	Indicative Tuition Fees NZ\$ per year	Overall	Listening	Reading	Writing	Speaking
ENGINEERING											
B	Engineering Technology (Electrical)		7	3 years	Feb	\$29,761	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	6.0	6.0
B	Engineering Technology (Civil)		7	3 years	Feb/Jul	\$29,761	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	6.0	6.0
B	Engineering Technology (Mechanical)		7	3 years	Feb/Jul	\$29,761	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	6.0	6.0
D	Engineering (Electrical)		6	2 years	Feb	\$28,116*	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
D	Engineering (Civil)		6	2 years	Feb/Jul	\$28,116*	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
D	Engineering (Mechanical)		6	2 years	Feb/Jul	\$28,116*	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
D	Engineering (Electronic)		6	2 years	Feb	\$28,116*	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
HOSPITALITY & SERVICE INDUSTRIES											
D	Hospitality Management		5 & 6	2 years	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
D	Cookery (Advanced) - Cookery Strand	T	4 & 5	2 years	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
D	Cookery (Advanced) - Patisserie Strand	T	4 & 5	2 years	Feb	\$26,572	IELTS 5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
C	Baking (Generalist) (Career Baker)	T	4	1 year	Feb	\$26,572	IELTS 5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
C	Food & Beverage Service		3 & 4	1 year	Feb	\$26,572	IELTS 5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
HAIR & BEAUTY											
D	Beauty Therapy		5	1 year	Feb	\$26,572	IELTS 5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
C	Beauty Therapy	T	4	1 year	Feb	\$26,572	IELTS 5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
HEALTH											
P	Osteopathy		8	1 year	Feb	\$29,229*	IELTS 6.5	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
B	Medical Imaging		7	3 years	Feb	\$29,761	IELTS 6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5
B	Midwifery		7	4 years	Jan	\$29,761	IELTS 7.0	7.0	6.5	6.5	7.0
B	Musculoskeletal Health		7	3 years	Feb	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
B	Nursing	T	7	3 years	Jan/Mar/Jul	\$29,761	IELTS 6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5
B	Social Work		7	4 years	Feb	\$26,572	IELTS 6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5
D	Enrolled Nursing		5	1.5 years	Mar	\$26,572	IELTS 6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5
C	Health and Wellbeing (Social and Community Services)		4	1 year	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
C	Exercise		4	6 months	Feb/Jul	\$13,286	IELTS 5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
LANGUAGES AND EDUCATION											
C	English Language Teaching to Speakers of Other Languages (CELTA)		5	1 month	May	\$5,588	IELTS 7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0
C	Early Childhood Education	T	5	1 year	Feb	\$26,572	IELTS 5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
C	Early Childhood Education	T	4	6 months	Jul	\$13,286	IELTS 5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
C	Early Childhood Education	T	3	6 months	Feb	\$13,286	IELTS 5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
OUTDOOR EDUCATION											
M	Sustainable Practice		9	1.5 years	Feb/Jul	\$27,458*	IELTS 6.5	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
P	Sustainable Practice		8	1 year	Feb/Jul	\$29,229*	IELTS 6.5	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
G	Sustainability and Outdoor Education		7	1 year	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
B	Sustainability and Outdoor Education		7	3 years	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
D	Outdoor and Adventure Education (Multiskilled)		5	1 year	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
C	Outdoor and Adventure Education (Multiskilled)		4	1 year	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
PERFORMANCE											
B	Music		7	3 years	Feb	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
B	Music Theatre		7	3 years	Feb	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
C	Music		4	1 year	Feb	\$26,572	IELTS 5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
C	Performing Arts		4	1 year	Feb	\$26,572	IELTS 5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
SCIENCE											
G	Laboratory Technology		7	1 year	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	6.5	6.0	6.0	6.5
B	Applied Science (with specialisations in Human Nutrition, Health Promotion and Sport & Exercise Science)		7	3 years	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
D	Applied Science		6	1 year	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
D	Applied Science		5	1 year	Feb/Jul	\$26,572	IELTS 5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
D	Veterinary Nursing		6	2 years	Feb	\$26,572	IELTS 6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
C	Animal Management with Companion Animal strand		4	1 year	Feb	\$26,572	IELTS 5.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0

Legend: C Certificate D Diploma B Bachelor G Graduate P Post Graduate M Master's

*Study grant has been applied **Entry requirements and fees are subject to change.

Fees 2026

English Language courses

Course	Duration	Start Date	Fees
Administration fee			\$280
Student Services Levy			\$9.82 per week
Intensive English	4 weeks (Minimum)	Every Monday Starts 6 Jan Finishes 19 Dec	\$414 per week
English plus Volunteer Work	8 weeks	Flexible	\$3,240
Work placement fee			\$350
NZCEL (New Zealand Certificate in English Language) Level 3 Level 3 Applied Level 4 Academic Level 5	Full-time: 18 weeks	Full time: 10 Feb, 21 Jul, 15 Sep (Level 4 & 5 only)	\$8,503 per semester
CELTA	Part-time	7 Jul, 8 Nov	\$5,621 plus levy of \$87
Customised group programmes	4 weeks (Minimum)	Please enquire	Please enquire

Exam fees

IELTS exam fee	\$410
Pearson Test of English exam fee	\$410

Other fees

Student Services Levy	\$392.50 per year
Student carpark	\$6.00 per day

Medical and travel insurance

International students (including group students) must have appropriate and current medical insurance while in New Zealand.

The cost of insurance for a full-time student is:

Months	Premium	Months	Premium
12	\$925	6	\$471
11	\$825	5	\$399
10	\$742	4	\$299
9	\$681	3	\$270
8	\$597	2	\$200
7	\$531	1	\$114

Living expenses

We recommend you budget **\$1667** per month for living expenses including accommodation and general living costs.

Homestay providers and fees

Provider one: **New Zealand Homestay**

Recommended to individual students aged 18 and over.

For terms and conditions, please visit:

[Student Homestay Pricing - New Zealand Homestay](#)

Provider two: **NZEAS**

Recommended to individual students aged under 18 and group students.

For terms and conditions, please visit:

ara.ac.nz/explore/accommodation/homestays/

Fees	Providers:	
	New Zealand Homestay	NZEAS
Placement/matching fee	\$300 (over 18 years)	\$280 incl GST
Airport transfer	\$120	\$80 incl GST (individual) \$50 incl GST (group - 3 or more, each)
Student request to change homestay	Not applicable	\$180 incl GST
Under 18 code of practice monitoring	Not applicable	\$200 incl GST

New Zealand Homestay packages (price per week)			
Room type	Meals	Over 18	Under 18
Private room	Complete homestay - 3 meals, 7 days per week	\$370	\$400
Private room	Traditional homestay - 2 meals Mon to Fri, 3 meals Sat & Sun	\$340	\$370
Private room	Dinner only	\$310	Not available

NZEAS packages / prices			
Students	Long term weekly - no lunch	Long term weekly - incl lunch	Short term daily (less than 28 days) - no lunch/incl lunch
Single student	\$350	\$380	\$55 / \$60

Transportation

metroinfo.co.nz

metroinfo.co.nz/nextbus

timaru.metroinfo.co.nz

Note: Fees are correct at the time of publication and are subject to change without notice.