

Frequently Asked Questions



1. Will Vocational courses be offered on campus in Australia in 2022?

We will no longer be offering our Vocational Training program on campus in Australia. However, Pastoral Leadership and Worship Music streams are still available at our USA Campus and Online.

2. Why did Hillsong College change course offerings in Australia and Online?

We are grateful for the impact our Vocational courses have had on our students over the decades, and we believe that our best days are ahead. As times have changed in recent years, we saw a need to diversify courses and equip the future leaders of the Church in greater ways. This is why we will continue to offer our Vocational Training Program in the USA and Online while adjusting our Australian and Online offerings.

While our courses have changed, our community and our dedication to building the local Church, through practically equipping future leaders, remains the same.

3. What's the difference between Pastoral Leadership and undergraduate Diploma of Ministry?

Our Pastoral Leadership stream is embedded in our Vocational Training Program, offered online and in the USA. Our new undergraduate Diploma of Ministry is a higher education qualification that can be earned in Australia and online.

Our Diploma of Ministry will prepare you practically for ministry while equipping you with a globally recognized qualification that directly transfers into other HC courses or partner universities. This is a great first step for those who wish to obtain their degree and continue their studies in the future.

Although our Pastoral Leadership program is also accredited, the credits earned are lesser than our Diploma. The Pastoral Leadership program is ideal for someone who aims to take a gap year or upskill their ministry skills.

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4. How can I develop in worship and music in the Diploma of Ministry, Associate Degree in Ministry or Bachelor of Ministry?

Throughout the duration of your Bachelor of Ministry, which our Diploma and Associate degree flow into, you'll have the opportunity to choose up to ten elective subjects in worship and music.

The College also runs several extra-curricular initiatives to provide worship-minded students with opportunities to play, grow in their craft and worship together. Students have access to our band rooms and recording studios, as well as getting involved in a College chapels.

Our Hillsong College Campuses are based within our global Hillsong Church locations. As a student, you will be able to volunteer in areas that interest you most across church life. Many students who choose worship and music electives will get the chance to put the theory into practice across weekend services, HC Chapels or within their local church community.

In addition, you will be learning from trainers who have years of ministry and music experience who are dedicated to your development beyond the classroom.

5. What does a typical week look like for an undergraduate student? How many days of the week will I be in the classroom?

Time spent in the classroom is dependent on your choice of electives. You should expect that a normal week would include three days in the classroom in addition to your practicum.

"*Practicum*" is the practical ministry-placement embedded within all our courses at Hillsong College. You can expect four hours of practicum placement either during the week or in weekend services. You can also choose to level-up your ministry experience by getting involved as a volunteer in Church life across a week

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6. What does practical ministry training look like in the Diploma, Associate and Bachelor courses?

Within all our new courses there is a portion of your qualification that will be competency focused. This means that you will need to be assessed on your knowledge and your ability to apply your knowledge in practical ministry environments.

Our Hillsong College Campuses are based within our global Hillsong Church locations. This makes it possible for you to volunteer in areas that interest you most across church life. Not only will you be equipped through your education, but your learning will be solidified through being a part of our community, serving within Church, and being surrounded by ministry leaders who are making an impact.

7. What's the difference between the Vocational Training and Higher Education (undergraduate & postgraduate) courses?

Our Vocational Training Program is competency-based tertiary level training, where the courses are built around developing particular ministry skills. These programs have been very successful over the years in providing a practical grounding in leadership and ministry. These programs are accredited in the Vocational Education and Training sector in Australia, a sector that is relevant to the Australian context, but has not translated easily around the world into different ministry, employment or education settings.

Our new Higher Education programs, whilst still focused on developing skillful leaders and ministers, also provide increasing rigor, breadth, and depth as the learning progresses, thus providing students with the sophisticated understanding that they need to succeed in an increasingly complex world. These programs are accredited in the Higher Education sector in Australia and transfer easily with full recognition around the world.

Within all our undergraduate and vocational programs, hands-on ministry training remains as a key feature.

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8. What are the benefits of getting my qualification in ministry?

In present times, it is more prevalent than ever for pastors and leaders within ministry to be best equipped to build the Church. Our undergraduate and postgraduate courses at Hillsong College provide the theory, training, and foundations for a fruitful lifetime within ministry.

In addition, obtaining a higher education qualification in ministry provides more options for further study. We understand that not everyone aims to gain a degree when studying ministry but preparing practically while obtaining a higher education qualification will provide more opportunities to continue your studies, if you would like to do so, in the future.

9. Is financial assistance available at Hillsong College?

All Hillsong College undergraduate and postgraduate courses qualify for FEE-HELP, Austudy, Abstudy and Youth Allowance funding for Domestic (Australian) students. Please consult studyassist.gov.au for eligibility details.

For international students, after your first semester, you are eligible to pay your semester tuition fees through a payment plan. This allows students to pay off their semester fees incrementally throughout their studies. In addition, depending on which country you are from, your government may have financial assistance options available for international studies. Please consult your local government websites to find out more.

10. What happens if my visa isn't approved in time for the upcoming semester?

You will have a few different options:

1) You can start studying straight away by joining our online program. This means that when your visa is approved you can then swing in to on-campus study. This form of study allows you to schedule it into your week and time-zone with maximum flexibility.

2) You can stream into our classes for a period of time, engaging live with your trainers and other students. Again, once your visa is approved you can come and study with us on campus. This form of study will be timetabled for the Australian time-zone.

3) You can defer the commencement of your studies until the next intake.
