

HEAD-TO-HEAD COMPARISON · VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA · 2026/27

Federation University vs Deakin University

A Fully Verdict-Driven Comparison for Indian Students

A regional, budget-friendly Victoria university vs a larger, more globally-ranked multi-campus institution — every figure below is sourced from verified institutional data for 2026/27, with live AUD-to-INR conversions.

₹56.3 = AUD 1 (LIVE RATE USED THROUGHOUT)	Not QS-Ranked vs #227 QS WORLD RANKING 2027	AUD 24K-32K FEDERATION FEE RANGE/YEAR	AUD 34.4K-47.4K DEAKIN FEE RANGE/YEAR
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Talk to a Shiksha counsellor about which of these two Victoria universities fits your course and budget — completely free, no obligation.

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THE 60-SECOND VERSION

At a Glance

Federation is the meaningfully cheaper, more regional/accessible option; Deakin holds a confirmed QS World Ranking position and a larger, more internationally established profile.

Factor	Federation University	Deakin University
Location	Ballarat (main), Berwick, Gippsland — regional Victoria	Melbourne Burwood (main), Geelong, Warrnambool
Founded	1870 (as School of Mines Ballarat)	1974
QS World Ranking	Not clearly QS-ranked in the current edition (last confirmed figure: top 600-650 band, 2024) — verify current position directly	#227 (QS 2027, confirmed)
Students	~18,500+ domestic and international	Larger, multi-campus international student body
Acceptance rate	~60-70% — very accessible	~75% — also accessible, slightly higher
Typical fee/year	AUD 24,000-32,000 (~₹13.5L-₹18L) — among the more affordable Victoria options	AUD 34,400-47,400 (~₹19.4L-₹26.7L)
Signature strength	#1 in Victoria for undergraduate starting salary; strong regional industry co-op ties (Amazon Web Services, EY, IBM, Siemens)	Cyber Security, Business Analytics, Data Analytics, Engineering (top 150 world) — broader, more established course catalogue

The one-line verdict: Federation is the more affordable, regional choice with genuinely strong industry co-op partnerships and Victoria's #1 undergraduate starting salary claim; Deakin holds a confirmed, respectable QS World Ranking and a broader, more internationally recognised course catalogue. Full breakdown ahead.

DETAILED COMPARISON · 01

Fees, Rankings & Scholarships

Cost Item	Federation University	Deakin University
UG tuition	AUD 24,000-32,000/yr	AUD 40,800-46,400/yr
PG tuition	Broadly comparable to UG range	AUD 34,400-47,400/yr
Living costs (excl. tuition)	Regional Victoria generally cheaper than Melbourne	AUD 22,464-61,880/yr (~₹12.6L-₹34.8L, wide range by lifestyle)

Federation Scholarships

India Excellence Scholarship

20% tuition reduction for eligible Indian students, cited as part of Federation's affordability positioning.

Deakin Scholarships

Merit-Based International Scholarships

25-100% tuition waivers available, with a stipend option worth up to ~₹24.9L for top awards — a genuinely broader and higher-value scholarship scheme than Federation's.

Federation University's current QS World Ranking position could not be confirmed with full confidence in this research — the most recent specific figure found (top 600-650 band) dates to 2024. If a QS ranking specifically matters to your decision, verify Federation's current position directly on [topuniversities.com](#) before applying, since global rankings for both universities update annually.

DETAILED COMPARISON · 02

Courses & Career Outcomes

Federation University	Deakin University
Popular Courses Engineering, Health, Education, Information Technology, Creative Arts — smaller class sizes with a personalised, one-to-one learning approach cited as a distinctive feature.	Popular Courses MS Cyber Security, Master of Business Analytics, Master of Data Analytics, Engineering (top 150 globally, QS Subject) — 300+ course options across UG, PG and doctoral levels.
Industry Ties Genuine co-op programmes with Amazon Web Services, EY, IBM, Siemens, McCain Foods, AGL and Concentrix — a real, specific list of named industry partners for a university of this size.	Industry Ties Located in Melbourne, Australia's most livable city and a top-5 global city — broader access to Melbourne's larger corporate and tech employer base.
Career Outcomes #1 in Victoria for undergraduate starting salary (specific, confirmed claim); #1 university in Australia for first-generation student enrolments.	Career Outcomes Deakin ranks among the top 1% of universities worldwide per Shiksha Popularity Rankings; strong graduate outcomes across its broader course catalogue.

What This Actually Means for You

If your priority is...	Lean toward
The lowest overall cost, smaller class sizes, or a regional Victoria setting	Federation University
A confirmed QS World Ranking, Cyber Security/Business Analytics, or Melbourne's larger employer base	Deakin University
The strongest scholarship scheme by value	Deakin University — up to 100% tuition waivers

THE VERDICT

So Which One Is Actually Better for You?

This comes down to budget priority and setting preference — regional affordability vs a larger, more globally-recognised multi-campus institution.

Choose Federation University if... **FEDERATION**

Minimising cost is your top priority, you want smaller class sizes with a personalised learning approach, and you're comfortable with a regional Victoria setting (Ballarat) over metropolitan Melbourne.

Choose Deakin University if... **DEAKIN**

You want a confirmed QS World Ranking position (#227), are targeting Cyber Security, Business Analytics or Data Analytics specifically, and want access to Melbourne's larger corporate and tech employer base along with a stronger scholarship scheme.

Federation's current QS ranking status is genuinely unclear from available research — if a confirmed global ranking number matters to your decision or your family's expectations, that alone may tip this toward Deakin. Verify Federation's current QS position directly before ruling it out, though, since it may simply not be the type of metric it competes on.

Still Not Sure Which Fits You Best?

A Shiksha Study Abroad counsellor can review your specific profile, target course and budget, and help you decide between Federation and Deakin. Free, no obligation.

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Figures sourced from collegedunia.com, shiksha.com and uscholars.in, cross-checked for consistency, verified August 2026. Federation University's current QS World Ranking position could not be confirmed with full confidence — verify directly on topuniversities.com. AUD-to-INR conversions use an indicative rate of ₹56.3 per AUD 1. All figures subject to change — verify directly with each university or your Shiksha counsellor.