

La Trobe University vs Deakin University

Two well-regarded Melbourne universities —
which one actually fits your course, budget and career plans?

● LA TROBE

● DEAKIN

What's inside this decision guide

A side-by-side comparison of two Melbourne-based Australian universities frequently shortlisted together by Indian applicants — La Trobe University and Deakin University. Built from official rankings, fee pages and third-party study-abroad sources current for 2026-27.

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#207 vs #233

QS World Rank 2026 — Deakin ranks higher

AU\$28K+

Deakin's UG fees start meaningfully lower

72% / 75%

Acceptance rate — both genuinely accessible

Want a personalised answer instead? Talk to Shiksha — for FREE

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<https://www.wa.link/fgitij>

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At a Glance

Two well-regarded Melbourne-based universities

■ La Trobe ■ Deakin

Parameter	● La Trobe	● Deakin
QS World Rank 2026	#233 (up from #242 in 2024)	#207
THE World Rank 2026	#251–300	Ranked, competitive band
Main campus	Bundoora (Melbourne), plus Bendigo, Albury-Wodonga, Mildura & Sydney	Burwood (Melbourne), plus Geelong, Warrnambool, and CBD city sites
Students	~36,000–38,000	14,000+ international students
Acceptance rate	~72%	~75%
Notable strength	#1 Australia for student satisfaction (cited); strong in nursing, archaeology, sustainability, life sciences	#1 Melbourne for teaching quality (Good Universities Guide 2026); strong industry connections

Deakin holds the higher global ranking of the two (QS #207 vs #233) and leads on teaching-quality recognition in Melbourne specifically. La Trobe counters with a strong student-satisfaction reputation and particular strength in health sciences, sustainability and research-oriented programmes. Both are genuine, well-regarded choices — not a case of one being clearly superior.

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Tuition, Living Costs & Scholarships

Deakin runs meaningfully cheaper on headline UG fees

Parameter	● La Trobe	● Deakin
UG tuition/year	AU\$42,000–44,600 (Rs. 28.1–29.9L)	AU\$28,000–35,000 (Rs. 18.8–23.4L)
PG tuition/year	AU\$43,800–44,200 (Rs. 29.3–29.6L)	AU\$30,000–42,000 (Rs. 20.1–28.1L)
Weekly living costs	AU\$757–1,775/week (Rs. 0.5L–Rs. 1.2L/wk)	Comparable Melbourne-wide living costs (not separately published)
Headline scholarships	High Achiever Scholarship, Early Acceptance Grant, Vice Chancellor Scholarship	Scholarship for Excellence (up to AU\$5,000/yr), Vice-Chancellor's International Scholarship (IT students)
Need-based support	Course-specific and merit-based awards	Deakin Student Support Scholarship: AU\$1,000–10,000 for financial/personal hardship

Conversion used: A\$1 ≈ Rs. 67 (indicative rate, August 2026) — rates fluctuate daily.

Deakin's undergraduate fee range starts meaningfully lower than La Trobe's (from AU\$28,000 vs AU\$42,000, roughly Rs. 18.8L vs Rs. 28.1L), though at the postgraduate level the gap narrows since La Trobe's PG fees sit in a tighter band while Deakin's stretch up to a similar ceiling for premium programmes. Always check your specific course fee rather than relying on the overall range.

■ Not sure which scholarship you genuinely qualify for at either university? Let's check together
 — [WhatsApp us](#) | [Register free](#)

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Course Strengths & Entry Requirements

Where each genuinely excels

LA TROBE UNIVERSITY

Strongest in health sciences (nursing, biomedical sciences), archaeology, education, sports science and sustainability research. Popular postgraduate routes for Indian applicants include MS Business Analytics, Master of Data Science and MBA. La Trobe has also been cited as Australia's #1 university for student satisfaction in some rankings.

DEAKIN UNIVERSITY

Strongest in Business, Health Sciences, Engineering, IT and Education, with genuine industry connections and a practical, career-focused teaching philosophy. Deakin was rated #1 in Melbourne for teaching quality (Good Universities Guide 2026) and reports strong graduate employment outcomes, including a widely-cited 10-year median graduate salary around AU\$84,000.

Entry requirements (both universities)

Requirements are broadly similar: a recognised senior secondary qualification for undergraduate entry or a bachelor's degree for postgraduate entry, an academic average typically equivalent to 60–70%, and IELTS 6.0–6.5 overall with no band below 6.0 (higher for select degrees). Neither university is meaningfully harder to enter than the other on paper — course-specific competitiveness (e.g. nursing, physiotherapy) varies more than the university-wide average.

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Which One Fits You?

Matching the decision to your priorities

Want the higher global ranking and a genuinely cheaper undergraduate entry point

→ **Choose Deakin**

QS #207 vs #233, a lower starting UG fee, and the #1 Melbourne teaching-quality rating make Deakin the stronger headline pick for many applicants.

Targeting Nursing, Health Sciences, Archaeology or Sustainability-focused research

→ **Choose La Trobe**

Genuine subject depth in these specific fields, plus a strong student-satisfaction reputation and a large, established international community.

Still unsure which fits your specific course and budget

→ **Talk to Shiksha before you decide**

A free 15-minute call can pressure-test your choice against your actual profile and check current scholarship eligibility at both.

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Get Free Counselling from Shiksha

Your next step starts here

Choosing between La Trobe and Deakin isn't about which is objectively 'better' — it's about matching your course, budget, and career plans to the right fit. Shiksha Study Abroad's counsellors can help you:

- Compare specific programmes (not just universities) across both shortlists.
- Check your real eligibility for scholarships at either university.
- Understand which campus and course structure fits your career goals.
- Plan your application, deposit, and visa (Subclass 500) timeline so nothing is left too late.

Tap below to get started — it's 100% FREE

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All figures in this guide are 2026-27 planning estimates from official university pages, QS World Rankings 2026, and third-party study-abroad sources, current as of mid-2026. Always verify current fees, entry requirements and course details directly with each university before applying.

Still torn between La Trobe and Deakin?

Our counsellors help Indian students match their course, budget and career goals to the right university — and flag anything you should double-check before applying. Completely free of cost.

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Figures in this guide are 2026-27 planning estimates compiled from official La Trobe University (latrobe.edu.au) and Deakin University (deakin.edu.au) pages, QS World University Rankings 2026, the Good Universities Guide 2026, and third-party study-abroad sources, current as of mid-2026. INR conversions use an indicative rate of A\$1 ≈ Rs. 67 (August 2026). Fees, entry requirements and scholarships vary by programme and change periodically — always verify current details with each university before applying.