

FAQs – Bachelor of Agriculture Business Management at Muresk Institute

What will happen to current students?

Students will maintain normal course progression and all current students will be fully supported to complete the course.

Under Central Regional TAFE's Agreement for Academic Collaboration with Charles Sturt University students must be offered the option to complete the Bachelor of Agriculture Business Management:

- in the same or similar delivery mode (face to face or online);
- by transfer to another Charles Sturt University campus in Australia;
- by transfer to another university with a credit package; or
- transfer their admission to the Charles Sturt University distance education study mode.

How much will this cost students?

There will be no new costs to existing students.

Where would the current students complete their course?

Current students will be able to complete their studies at Muresk Institute.

Students can elect to transfer to Curtin University with appropriate credit arrangements. The subjects from the Charles Sturt University degree will be mapped to the equivalent subjects in Curtin University's three year degree in agribusiness, and credit will be given based on this mapping.

Charles Sturt University offers the course in an online mode and many students already study subjects online so they may choose to continue in this mode.

Will the course be offered at Muresk Institute in 2018?

Yes, the course will continue in 2018 for existing students, but there will be no new enrolments.

How many students are doing the degree?

There are 13 first year students, 23 second year students and nine third year students.

How many students will be affected by stopping the course?

None, as all current students will be supported to complete the course.

What other options are available for students in WA who wish to partake in this course?

Curtin University offers a three year agribusiness degree. The course is also offered online with Charles Sturt University. Curtin University will also be offering an associate degree at Muresk Institute in 2019.

Murdoch University has a similar offering with a double degree in animal sciences and crop and pastures.

Will the associate degree from Curtin University be the same course as the course currently running at Muresk Institute?

Curtin University will offer an Associate Degree in Agribusiness from 2019.

The new course will offer flexible delivery modes including face to face teaching at Muresk and Bentley Campuses and online and distributed learning. Block teaching will also be considered to address the seasonal work commitments associated with farming that students may have.

Will the associate degree from Curtin University have practical aspects of the course on site at Muresk Institute?

Yes, the course will include face to face teaching at Muresk Institute.

Why did the expressions of interest and the actual enrolments in 2017 vary so much?

It is common for expressions of interest to be significantly higher than actual enrolments. Some students accepted offers at other universities and others deferred their enrolment.

What did the independent review commissioned into the course conclude?

An independent evaluation of the program was conducted in 2016. The report identified risks with the viability of the course because of unrealistic student enrolment targets and noted advice to the previous government of the high risks of the program.

There have been allegations that students faced difficulty enrolling in the course this year due to technical issues with online enrolments. Is this true?

Muresk Institute is a facilitator of further education, not a provider. Consequently, students do not enrol through the Muresk Institute website for any course at the facility.

There were four occasions where the Muresk Institute website may have been down for up to two hours from November 2016 to March 2017. However, the Muresk website only receives expressions of interest from prospective students.

All students must enrol through the relevant university or training provider, in this case Charles Sturt University.