

Monash Postgraduate Association (MPA) feedback to food retailers, September 2019

The MPA is the representative body for all coursework and research graduates on all Victorian campuses of Monash University.

Notes on feedback from the MPA Executive Committee:

All campuses

- An emphasis on sustainable packaging and utensils
- A ban on sale of water in plastic bottles
- Cheaper food options
- Healthier food options
- Wider range of vegetarian and vegan options
- On campus businesses should be required to disclose information on foods served, for example, calories, fats, MSG, preservatives, colouring, etc. so that students can make better informed choices.
- Self-serve vending machines that can dispense meals such as noodle packets, sandwiches, and ready-made dinners after-hours (in conjunction with provision of access to microwaves and hot water).

Clayton campus

Clayton postgraduate numbers 2018			
13,391	GPG 9720	F/T 6731	On-campus 5592
			Off-campus 1139
	P/T 2989		On-campus 1572
			Off-campus 1417
	HDR 3671	F/T 2872	On-campus 2448
			Off-campus 424
P/T 799		On-campus 606	
		Off-campus 193	

GPG = Graduate coursework students, HDR = Graduate research students

Operating times for food retailers on Clayton campus

The majority of graduate research students (HDR) are located on Clayton campus. Full-time and part-time HDRs can be oncampus 24/7, every day of the year, especially those running lab experiments which require constant attention. They often work long hours, late into the night.

Part-time GPG are likely to be domestic students working full-time and therefore attending campus after-hours only. This cohort require access to food up to the end of last lectures (10pm?) on a week-day and all day Saturday and Sunday which is the only time they are able to access the library.

In addition to points made for all campuses, Clayton campus graduates would like:

- Fresh bread bakery
- Fresh fruit and vegetables

Caulfield campus

Graduate Coursework – 7539 students, comprising:

Part-time (largely domestic) – 1371, and

Full-time (largely international) - 6168

Opening times for food retailers on Caulfield campus

The majority of postgraduates located on Caulfield campus are graduate coursework (GPG). Part-time GPG are likely to be domestic students working full-time and therefore attending campus after-hours only. This cohort require access to food up to the end of last lectures (10pm?) on a week-day and all day Saturday and Sunday which is the only time they are able to access the library.

There is a very small HDR population on Caulfield campus. Having a supermarket close by mitigates many of the problems experienced by students studying on Clayton campus.

In addition to points made for all campuses, Caulfield campus graduates would like:

- A wider range of international foods on campus