



# **Options Career Information Bulletin**

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# Apprenticeships & Traineeships

## Apprenticeships and Cadetships with NOJA Power

NOJA Power is a Queensland company that produces medium-voltage outdoor switchgear. It has advertised the following positions of interest to Year 12 students.

- **Systems Electrician Apprenticeship** – Applications are invited from Year 12 school leavers. Applications close on 18 November 2016.
- **Engineering Cadetship** - The cadetship will support the successful applicant while they study a B Engineering degree at the university of their choice. They will be free to attend lectures and benefit from practical work experience when not at uni, while earning an Engineering cadet wage. Once the degree is completed, they will have a full-time position as a professional Engineer with NOJA Power. Applications for this position close on 25 November 2016

Visit the [NOJA Power website](#) for details about these positions and the application process.

## Tips for writing a resume for the Construction Industry

The following tips come from [Construction Skills Queensland](#).

- The resume should be written in a clear, readable format. It should include your employment history (including work experience), education, achievements (even those unrelated to the construction industry), certificates and contact details.
- When listing your work experience, mention the project you worked on, the tasks you participated in and the tools you used.
- Job seekers are expected to provide an up-to-date resume that is tailored for each job application. Have a few versions of your resume to submit for the different jobs you may apply for.

The banner features a dark background with a complex, glowing blue network of lines, resembling a neural network or a digital map. The text 'AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE' is centered in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

# AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE

## Defence Information Sessions

**Sunshine Coast** – Wednesday 2 November 2016 at 6 pm - *Defence Careers Information Session* at Mooloolaba Yacht Club, 123 Parkyn Parade, Mooloolaba. [Book a spot.](#)

**Brisbane** – Thursday 3 November 2016 at 6 pm - *Health Careers Networking Evening* at Victoria Park Golf Complex, 223 Herston Road, Herston, Brisbane. [Book a spot.](#)

Roma – Thursday 3 November 2016 at 6 pm - *Defence Careers Information Session* at Roma Explorers Inn, 44778 Warrego Highway, Roma. [Book a spot.](#)

**Mt Isa** – Thursday 3 November 2006 at 6.30 pm - *Defence Careers Information Session* at Mount Isa PCYC, 67 Isa Street, Mount Isa. [Book a spot.](#)

**Brisbane** – Monday 7 November 2016 at 5.30 pm - *Women in Defence Information Session* at Defence Force Recruiting Brisbane, Level 13, 295 Ann Street, Brisbane. [Book a spot.](#)

**Toowoomba** – Wednesday 9 November 2016 at 6 pm - *ADFA Future Leaders Networking Evening* at City Golf Club Toowoomba, 254 South Street, Toowoomba. [Book a spot.](#)

**Gold Coast** – Thursday 10 November 2016 at 6 pm - *ADFA Future Leaders Networking Evening* at RACV Royal Pines Resort, Ross Street, Benowa. [Book a spot.](#)

**Sunshine Coast** - Monday 14 November 2016 at 6 pm - *ADFA Future Leaders Networking* at Mantra Mooloolaba Beach, 7 Venning Street, Mooloolaba. [Book a spot.](#)

**Gold Coast** – Monday 14 November 2016 at 6 pm – *Defence Careers Information Session* at Defence Force Recruiting Gold Coast, 14 Edgewater Court, Robina. [Book a spot.](#)

Further information about these events and Army Reserve Information Sessions can be accessed on the [Facebook](#) site.



## **Having trouble making career decisions?**

If you are finding it difficult to make career decisions, perhaps you need to reflect on how much research you have done. If your research strategy has been scattered and lacking focus, you could benefit from the tips in the myfuture website's article [Researching careers: A great place to begin](#). The tips include:

- Developing a job ideas list by using the [My career profile](#) (you have to register for myfuture and it's free) on the myfuture website to help you select jobs that match your interests.
- Reading about the jobs on your job ideas list in the [Occupations](#) section of the website. Cross off jobs on your list that don't appeal to you once you know more about them.
- Once you have narrowed down your job ideas list, use [information interviews](#) with people already in the jobs to add depth to your research.
- You could also do [work experience](#) to test out if this is the job for you, at least in the immediate future.

## **How to choose a course if you're not sure about a future career**

What are you going to do next year? Are you sick of this question? You're in Year 12, you know you want to go to university next year, but you can't choose a course because you don't know what you want to do in the future. Perhaps you're tossing up between two fields and are worried you might make the wrong decision. The following options might offer you a solution.

**Consider a dual degree** – If you are interested in a couple of fields of study, investigate the possibility of doing a [dual/double degree](#). A dual degree can usually be completed in a shorter time than two single degrees. However, it will take longer than a single degree. Many universities offer 'fast-track' options such as trimester calendars or summer schools which may allow you to complete the dual program sooner.

**Choose a generalist degree** - Generalist degrees are a good choice if you have a broad area of interest but aren't sure which exact career is for you. They allow you to explore your options without committing to a single specialisation in the first year. For example:

- If your interests are in humanities, you could choose an Arts degree that allows you to study a variety of subjects before deciding on a specialisation/major.
- If you are more science oriented, think about choosing a B Science that has a range of subjects that you could explore during your first year.
- If you know you are interested in business but don't know much about the various areas of business, select a business course that will expose you to many areas in your first year before you choose a major.

**‘Try out’ a field of study** - If you’re still weighing up the pros and cons of a certain field, but aren’t sure if you want to commit to three or four years of study, why not try a lower-level, shorter qualification in the field? For example, a diploma course usually takes one year of full-time study and will give you a good idea of whether it’s the right study field for you. Depending on the diploma you choose, you may be granted credit into a degree course. You could also enrol into a single unit (subject) to gain some insight into a field of study you are considering. Single units may also be credited if you choose to complete a course in the field.

**Take a gap year** - Taking a gap year is another option, as it gives you time to think about your options. You can use a gap year to travel, gain some work experience or do voluntary work. Whatever you do, don’t waste the year. Do something that will help you decide what you want to do the following year.

Some of the above information is adapted from the [Good Universities Guide website](#). The [Support Centre](#) on this website has more ideas.



## **Course & Institution Updates**

### **Airline Academy of Australia**

Airline Academy of Australia is a private training organisation located at Archerfield Airport, Brisbane. It offers training programs for pilots, aircraft maintenance engineers and flight attendants. For more information about the courses offered and where they can lead, see the [Airline Academy website](#).

### **Australis College**

This college, located in Spring Hill, Brisbane, offers accredited diploma and certificate courses in the following fields of study:

- Business and Management
- Financial services
- Information and Technology
- Natural health
- Beauty services
- Community services and Counselling
- Aviation.

Australis offers flexible study options. Visit the [College website](#) for more information.

### **Basair Aviation College**

Basair Aviation College specialises in training students to become commercial pilots. In Brisbane, the college is located at Archerfield Airport. If you want to know what it is like to fly a plane, the Archerfield Airport campus offers a one hour Trial Instructional Flight for \$220.00. Find out more on the [College website](#).

### **Beauty and Hair Summer School Workshops**

The Brisbane School of Hairdressing and the Brisbane School of Beauty offer a summer school program for students interested in trying out a career in beauty or hairdressing. The three-day program includes:

- Introduction to hair design including long hair styling
- Nail art and nail care
- Basic makeup application with tips and techniques for contouring



- Communication and job presentation
- Personal styling.

On the last day, students will be pampered with a Mini-Makeover. The program will be offered on 16, 17 and 18 January 2017 for \$150. Find out more on the [website](#).

### **Christian Heritage College (CHC) LAUNCH program**

CHC is a Christian college of higher education. It offers accredited courses in Business, Education and Humanities, Liberal Arts, Social Sciences and Ministries. It is located at Carindale, Brisbane. The LAUNCH program provides secondary students with an opportunity to study up to two CHC subjects in Semester 2 of Year 11 and/or Semester 1 of Year 12 (one unit per semester). Successful completion of a CHC subject may provide automatic admission to a degree course at CHC on completion of Year 12. Applications for 2017 Semester One and Semester Two are now open for 2017. Find out more at the [LAUNCH program site](#).

### **GriffithBUSINESS Year 12 Program**

This program helps students transition from school to tertiary studies by providing them with opportunities to experience business studies at university. Students can choose from three strands:

- Business Management
- Commerce
- Tourism, Hotel, Event and Sport Management (not available at Logan campus).

Students can apply for GriffithBUSINESS if they are about to enter Year 12, studying a relevant Year 12 subject, achieving high results and are supported by their school principal or business teacher. Visit the [GriffithBUSINESS webpage](#) for details and to apply. Applications close on 6 February 2017.

### **Jazz Music Institute (JMI) Summer Jazz Clinic in Brisbane**

JMI's Brisbane campus is located at Bowen Hills. It offers accredited degree, diploma and certificate courses in jazz performance. From 10 - 13 January 2017, the institute will run its Summer Jazz Clinic. The clinic is open to all ages and abilities. The key areas of focus will be:

- Theory and harmony
- Small ensemble performance
- Improvisation techniques.

Visit the [Summer Jazz Clinic webpage](#) for details of the program and to register.

### **JMC Academy's holiday workshops**

JMC will hold introductory workshops for high school students in Brisbane on the following topics in January 2017 during the school holidays:

- Maya and Mudbox Workshop
- Ableton Live Workshop
- Animation and Game Development Workshop
- Pro Tools Workshop
- Music, Audio, and Entertainment Business Workshop
- Film and Television Workshop.

For more information and to registration for these workshops, go to the [JMC website](#).

### **JMC's Creative Industry Internships**

[JMC Academy](#) offers Diploma and Degree courses in Animation, Audio Engineering and Sound Production, Contemporary Music and Performance, Digital Design, Entertainment Business Management, Film and Television Production, Game Development and Songwriting. It has recently announced a new internship program that will be fully rolled out for the February 2017 intake. Students will be given an opportunity to participate in professional internships as part of their course. The internships will give students an opportunity for hands-on experience within the industry. Read [How to turn your internship into a job](#) on the JMC website.

### **McGregor Summer School: A Music, Visual and Creative Arts Retreat**

The [McGregor Summer School](#) will be held from 8 – 14 January 2017 at the University of Southern Queensland, Toowoomba campus. This event is the perfect opportunity to run away from reality and fully immerse yourself in an artist's life for seven days. Enrolments are now open and will close on 8 December 2016. Visit the website for details of the program and to register.

### **Meet University of the Sunshine Coast (USC) events**

The following [Meet USC events](#) give you an opportunity to check out your local Sunshine Coast campus and have your study questions answered.

- Meet USC Sippy Downs - 9 November 2016; drop in any time between 1 and 4.30pm
- Meet USC Fraser Coast - 10 November 2016; drop in any time between 1 and 4 pm
- Meet USC Gympie – 21 - 25 November 2016; drop in anytime between 8.30 am and 5.30 pm
- Meet USC Sippy Downs – 8 December 2016; drop in any time between 1pm and 4.30pm.

Please register on the website to attend these events.

### **News from the University of Queensland (UQ)**

**More flexibility in UQ's B Engineering** – From 2017, the B Engineering will have mid-year entry. Also, a new subject will run over Semester Two and the Summer Semester to allow mid-year entry students to complete the common first year engineering subjects by the start of their second year, and join the main cohort for most of the remainder of their study.

**Special Admissions Scheme for the B Laws** – This scheme considers more than just your OP/Rank. It also considers the level of disadvantage you have experienced. To be eligible for this scheme you need to identify with one or more of the following equity groups:

- Financial disadvantage
- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent
- First in immediate family to attend university.

Visit the [Special Admissions Scheme webpage](#) for details and to access the application. The closing date for applications is 4 November 2016. Applicants to this scheme are encouraged to apply for the [TC Beirne School of Law Leadership, Excellence and Diversity \(LEAD\) Scholarship](#). Applications for this scholarship also close on 4 November 2016.

**The UQ Toolkit** – This is a collection of helpful web pages for UQ students, especially new students. It includes:

- Dictionary of UQ terminology - this can help you understand the language of university study
- FAQs – Answers questions on admissions (e.g. UQ Bonus Scheme, choosing courses and much more).
- MyAdviser - provides information on the processes you are likely to encounter when studying at UQ
- UQ Answers - has a section for future students to ask questions about studying at UQ.

Visit the [UQ Toolkit webpage](#) to access this useful 'tool'.

**School holiday robotics** – Visit [the website](#) for information about the Introduction to Robotics, Artificial Intelligence and RoboGals workshops offered in December 2016.

**UQ's Community Access Program** - The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences [Community Access Program](#) provides an opportunity for members of the community to access individual subjects without undertaking a whole degree or applying through QTAC. To apply you need to be at least 18 years or have completed Year 12. You could explore this program as an alternative pathway to university.

### **Photoshop course at TAFE QLD Brisbane**

There are still a few places available for [Using Photoshop to make the most of your digital images](#). This course will be held from 9 – 30 November 2016 every Wednesday night from 6 – 9 pm in Room 2015, Level 2, H Block, South Bank campus. The course cost is \$350. To enrol, call the Customer Service Team on 13 72 48 (you may require the following information – DP number: 384175; Class number: 41737). You are to bring to class a Compact Digital Camera, Digital Camera or phone, a USB and some of your images.

### **Sarina Russo Institute**

This private college, with training centres in Brisbane, the Gold Coast, the Sunshine Coast and some regional locations, offers accredited diploma courses in:

- Business
- Community Services
- Hospitality Management

- Leadership and Management
- Practice Management.

It also offers a range of short courses, including Coffee Making and Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA). For further information, visit the [Institute's website](#).

## **Updates from the Queensland University of Technology (QUT)**

**Real Decisions event** – After you receive your Year 12 results, you may have questions about courses, ordering preferences, upgrading, offers and what uni will be like. QUT's [Real Decisions event](#) on Tuesday 20 December 2016 from 9 am – 1 pm at the Gardens Point campus, and from 2 – 5 pm at the Caboolture campus, will provide answers to these questions.

**Student Sharehouse Blog** – Find out about university life from a student perspective at the [Student Sharehouse](#).

**QUT's College of Excellence** - The [College of Excellence](#) is an extra-curricular, professional and personal development program for high achieving students at QUT. Vice Chancellor's scholars and merit scholars are automatically approved to join the College. Other students can apply. Their application is assessed on their GPA and their involvement in QUT programs.

**Accommodation** – QUT Accommodation Services provides information on several different accommodation options, including student apartment complexes, catered student accommodation, sharehouse accommodation or homestay. Other accommodation services include an accommodation vacancies database and advice about finding a place to live. Visit the [Accommodation](#) website for information.

**Upgrading pathways for B Medical Imaging** – Entry to this course in 2016 was very competitive (cut-off in the mid OP 2 band). Students who may not receive the required OP are encouraged to include another QUT degree which has a lower OP cut-off among their QTAC preferences to give them an upgrade pathway. To gain entry to the [B Medical Imaging](#) after one year of another degree will require a grade point average of 6.00. Once you gain entry to the Medical Imaging course, it will still take four years to complete it as there is no other course that will give you credit into Medical Imaging.

**Admission process for international students** - The admission process for international students completing Year 12 in Australia is different to the process for domestic students. Check the [step-by-step admission guide for international students](#).

**Options for international students who don't get into their first preference** – If you are in this position, you should visit the [QUT International College](#) website for other options available to you.

**QUT scholarships** – Applications for many of these scholarships close in November. Visit the [Scholarships webpage](#) for details.

## **Use QILT to compare institutions and their courses**

Finding it difficult to make final decisions about the institution you want to attend? The [QILT](#) (Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching) website can help you compare study experience and employment

outcomes data from Australian higher education institutions to select the institution with all the qualities you want.

### **What's new at the Australian Catholic University (ACU)?**

**A pathway to teaching for students without required prerequisites** - The Diploma in Educational Studies (Tertiary Preparation) is designed for students who want to become a teacher but do not meet the entry requirements for the following ACU teaching courses:

- B Early Childhood Education (Birth to Five Years) – Prerequisite: English (4, SA)
- B Education (Primary) – Prerequisites: English (4, SA); Maths A, B or C (4, SA); one of Agricultural Science, Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, Marine Science, Marine Studies, Physics or Science21 (4, SA)
- B Education (Early Childhood and Primary) – Prerequisites: English (4, SA); Maths A, B or C (4, SA); one of Agricultural Science, Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, Marine Science, Marine Studies, Physics or Science21 (4, SA)
- B Teaching/B Arts – Prerequisites: English (4, SA); Maths A, B or C (4, SA)
- B Teaching/B Exercise Science – Prerequisites: English (4, SA); Maths A, B or C (4, SA)
- B Teaching/B Science – Prerequisites: English (4, SA); Maths A, B or C (4, SA); and one Authority Science subject (4, SA)

You apply directly to ACU for the Diploma in Educational Studies. Visit the [ACU website](#) for further details

**What are the characteristics and skills of a Psychology graduate?** – ACU has developed a flyer titled, *10 Reasons to Hire a Psych Grad*. You can download the flyer from the [ACU website](#).

# Employment

## **Now is the time to apply for holiday jobs**

According to an article in last Saturday's 'Careers' section of the *Courier Mail*, October is one of the peak months for recruiting casual workers in retail for the upcoming Christmas season. The article stated that [Super Retail Group](#) (includes BCF, Rebel, Rays, Supercheap Auto, Goldcross Cycles and Amart Sports) has 900 Christmas jobs on offer throughout Australia. [Myer](#) has also started to recruit. The article added that retail employers are looking for employees who are passionate about customer service and retail. They also need to be available during busy times, such as weekends and some late nights. It was noted that many permanent jobs started with casual holiday employment. If you want a holiday retail job, do a search for 'casual retail jobs' on job search sites such as [Seek](#), [Spot Jobs.com](#), [Adzuna](#), [Careerone](#) and [Job Active](#).

## **The most important skills for tomorrow**

The following item is adapted from an [article](#) published by the World Economic Forum.

The world of work is changing faster and more drastically than ever before. Based on research from the World Economic Forum, 35% of the skills necessary to thrive in a job today will be different five years from now. How can we prepare for a workplace of the future if we're not quite sure what it will look like? What skills or expertise should students focus on acquiring today if they want to succeed tomorrow? Five experts from the Forum's Young Global Leaders community suggested that the following skills will be required:

**Soft skills** – These include teamwork, knowledge of digital tools, an understanding of rules and regulations, responsibility and commitment.

**Data literacy with a strong dose of empathy** - Data is one of the driving forces of the Fourth Industrial Revolution. However, without empathy (i.e. the ability to understand and share the feelings of others), data-driven models can make it harder to see the humanity behind the numbers.

**Skills that computers will never master** - The jobs that even artificial intelligence can't replace are those that require strong human character traits e.g. empathy, the ability to persuade and to work well with others, a positive attitude, the ability to retrain and adapt to new situations as old skills become obsolete and the resilience to thrive in an uncertain world.

**Transferable skills** – These transferable skills include critical thinking, adaptability, problem-solving, leadership, flexibility and teamwork.

**An entrepreneurial spirit** - It is not enough to be innovative or collaborative, it's also about knowing when to apply each of these skills and how they can be used in a business context. Financial literacy is also important.

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The information contained within this document has been gathered from a range of sources including publicly available websites, institutional and organisational newsletters. Every effort has been made to ensure the information provided is accurate and up-to-date at the time of publication. This document can only be distributed and used by members of the school community of the school that has purchased membership to Options Career Information. For more information, see <https://www.optionscareerinformation.com.au/disclaimer>.

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# Financial Assistance & Scholarships



## **2017 Aspiring Teacher Grants**

These Queensland Government grants provide financial support of \$2,500 for up to 25 high-achieving secondary students commencing an initial teacher education program in Queensland in 2017. Applications are now open and will close on 11 December 2016. For eligibility criteria and the application process, visit the [SmartJobs website](#).

## **Adam Scott Foundation Sports Business Scholarship**

The Adam Scott Foundation in partnership with Griffith University sponsors this scholarship. The Foundation would like to support a student who has overcome adversities in life and is passionate about business and sport. The scholarship will cover the student contribution charges (i.e. HECS). Applicants must apply and gain entry to Griffith's B Business (Sports Management) programs. Visit the [Griffith Scholarships site](#) for more information and to access the online application form. Applications close on 26 January 2017.

## **ADG Engineering Bursary**

Two of these bursaries will be awarded to commencing female students in the B Engineering (with Honours) at the Griffith University's Gold Coast campus. Each bursary is worth \$1000. Applications close on 24 February 2017. Visit the [Griffith Scholarships site](#) for details.

## **CQUniversity scholarships**

School leavers in the Central Queensland region are encouraged to apply for scholarships if they plan on heading to CQU next year. There are more than 90 scholarships on offer to students from all types of backgrounds and academic strengths (not just OP 1 students). Many of the scholarships are donor funded. Equity scholarships are also available. Interested students should visit the [Scholarships website](#) for information on available scholarships and eligibility requirements. Applications for donor funded scholarships close on 6 November 2016.

## **Dream Big Engineering Scholarship Program for Year 12 girls**



Each year, Calibre Consulting offers the Dream Big Engineering Scholarships for Year 12 girls to encourage more women to enter the engineering field. Applications are now open and will close in November 2016 (or as vacancies are filled). See the [Calibre Consulting website](#) for more information.

### **Horizon Scholarship**

The Horizon Scholarship is offered to students entering their first year of university in a degree related to agriculture. It offers \$5,000 per year, mentoring partnerships, professional development workshops and more. Applications for the 2017 scholarship program will open on 1 November 2016. Visit the [Horizon Scholarship website](#) for more information.

### **Information and Communications Technology Excellence Scholarships at UQ**

These scholarships are open to Year 12 students (domestic and international). Their purpose is to encourage and assist first year students to study information and communications technology. The award is valued at \$3,000. The scholarships are open to students intending to enrol in one of the following programs at the University of Queensland (UQ) in 2017:

- B Information Technology
- B Engineering (Honours)
- A dual program which includes either of the above courses.

Visit the [UQ Scholarship website](#) for more information and to apply. Applications close on 23 January 2017.

### **Selected scholarships at James Cook University (JCU)**

**Friends of Good Schooling Scholarship in Education** – This scholarship aims to encourage aspiring teachers who are capable and highly committed to the work of education but who may struggle with the high cost of living away from home. Applications for this scholarship close on 24 January 2017. Visit the [JCU Scholarship webpage](#) for details.

**JCU Access Fund** – There are three different awards under this fund, two of which are for full-time students in their first year of study experiencing financial hardship. Applications open on 1 November 2016 and close on 31 July 2017. See the [JCU Scholarships webpage](#) for more information.

Visit the [JCU Scholarships webpage](#) for other scholarships for commencing JCU students.

### **The Leeanne Bond Scholarship for Women in Engineering**

This scholarship is for a female student undertaking their first year of the B Engineering (Honours) program at the University of Queensland (UQ). Applications open on 4 November 2016 and close on 13 March 2017. See the [UQ Scholarship website](#) for details.





## Gap Year Program News

### **The benefits of taking a gap year**

The following list of benefits is adapted from a myfuture newsletter. The benefits include:

- If you're unsure about your future direction, having the time to be clear on what you want to do can be valuable. This could lead you to being more focused when going back to study later.
- Using the time during a gap year to get some work experience or gain skills can stand you in good stead in your future studies and career.
- Volunteering during a gap year can be very satisfying and not only offers new skills and diverse experiences but also can look good on your resume and add to your employability.
- Many people taking a gap year travel interstate or overseas to volunteer or seek work experience. If this is an option you want to pursue, remember to stay safe. The Australian Government's [Smartraveller advisory service](#) contains valuable advice and information on staying safe overseas.

Taking a gap year is not for everyone. To get the most out of the experience you need to plan your time well. It is one option among many, but offers many benefits.

# Indigenous

## **A new Indigenous scholarship and bursary for school-leavers interested in natural health**

Endeavour College of Natural Health has recently announced this scholarship. Two scholarships will be offered for the B Health Science in Naturopathy or Nutritional and Dietic Medicine for full-time study in 2017. The scholarship will cover 100% of tuition fees for the duration of the degree and includes a text book bursary of \$500 during the first year. The online applications are now open on the [Endeavour website](#) and will close on 28 November 2016.



# Miscellaneous

## Youth online

The Queensland Government has developed this [webpage](#) for young people. It provides links to a range of information and services, covering topics such as:

- Education and training
- Life skills and turning 18
- Work and career
- Driving and transport
- Health and looking after yourself
- Sport, recreation and leisure
- Being safe and knowing your rights.

The site includes a section on helpful apps for young people and links to support services.

# Occupational Information



## **Careers with Code: Game changing jobs of the future magazine**

*Careers with Code* is a magazine for students in Years 9 – 12 who are interested in future careers that mix computer science with other skills, interests and passions. The magazine is packed with case studies and information about pathways and courses. It can be downloaded for free from the [Careers with Code website](#).

## **Interested in working in the community care and disability sector?**

This sector is one of the largest in Australia. It provides a range of services aimed at improving the quality of life for people with support needs, including those who:

- Are elderly, frail or infirm
- Have physical or intellectual disabilities
- Have mental health issues.

The sector employs people from a broad range of occupations, from project managers to community care assistants. Do the Career Quiz on the [Care Careers website](#) to find jobs within the sector that suit your personality and work goals.

## **What jobs are there in the timber industry?**

The [Growing Careers website](#) provides information about jobs associated with the forestry and wood products industry. Use the 'Find a career' section on the website to learn about over 50 jobs associated with the timber industry. Other features of the website include course information, employer profiles and videos.

## **What's the difference between a psychologist and a psychiatrist?**

Both occupations are trained to provide treatments for mental health problems. However, the type of treatments they deliver and the methods of diagnosis they use may be different. Their training pathways are also different. The [My Health Career website](#) provides the following information about the differences:

### **Psychologist**

- Complete a B Arts or B Science (or a B Psychology) at a university with Honours in psychology, which generally includes substantial practical experience in a clinic to help people with everyday problems such as stress and relationship difficulties.
- Completing a clinical Masters or a Doctorate to become clinical psychologists in which they have additional experience in a hospital or community mental health service environment and enables them to specialise in treating people with a mental illness.
- Total training generally takes six to eight years, during which they will receive extensive training in psychotherapy and research methodology.

### **Psychiatrist**

- Complete a medical degree at university which covers human anatomy, biochemistry and physiology, function of the body's organs, including the central nervous system and the effects of all drugs.
- Undertake specialist training in psychiatry focusing on psychiatric and psychological treatments and social and other health impacts in addition to their biological knowledge.
- Total training generally takes a minimum of twelve years.

## Open Days, Expos & Career Markets



### **Australian College of Applied Psychology (ACAP) Info Session**

[ACAP](#) offers courses in Psychology, Counselling, Case Management, Coaching, Social Science, Youth Work and Social Work. It will hold an Info Session from 6 pm on Wednesday 23 November 2016 at its Brisbane campus located at 410 Ann Street, Brisbane. Please [register](#) to attend this session.

### **Torrens University Australia Info Night in Brisbane**

[Torrens University Australia](#) is Australia's newest university. It has campuses in Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Brisbane. The Brisbane campus is located at 90 Bowen Terrace, Fortitude Valley. On its Brisbane campus, Torrens offers vocational, undergraduate and post graduate courses in Business and Design in conjunction with its partner schools, APM College of Business and Communication and Billy Blue College of Design. The University will hold an Info Night from 6 – 7 pm on Tuesday 15 November 2016 at its Brisbane campus. For more information about this event and to register, visit the [website](#).





# QTAC & Tertiary Entry

## **Tertiary application reminders**

**Have you put important dates in your phone or diary?** Include:

- Scholarship application due dates
- QTAC major offer-round dates and other possible offer-round dates (check the [Course Offer Dates](#) on the QTAC website)
- When Year 12 results are mailed and when you can access them on the [Student Connect website](#)
- The last date you can change preferences for the major offer round on 16 January 2017 (see [Key Dates and Fees](#) on the QTAC website).

**Do you have all QTAC documents and numbers in a safe place?** Include:

- Your *QTAC Guide*
- A copy of your QTAC preferences
- Your QTAC password
- Your QTAC reference number
- Your LUI and Learning Account password.

If you are going overseas during the Christmas holidays, you should take these items with you.

**Do you have a Tax File Number (TFN)?** You will need this to apply for Commonwealth Government loans (e.g. HECS, FEE-HELP, VET Student Loan) when you enrol at a university, TAFE or accredited private college after you receive an offer of a course place. Visit the [Australian Taxation Office website](#) for information on obtaining a TFN.

## **University information sessions after you receive your Year 12 results**

Most universities hold information sessions in December for students who have received their Year 12 results and are reviewing their QTAC preferences and/or deciding on their future direction. The following are a selection of these sessions in 2016.

- **Australian Catholic University** – [Know Your Options Information Session](#) on 19 December 2016 from 3.30 – 6 pm.
- **CQUniversity** – [On-campus Info and Online Chat Session](#) from 9 am – 1 pm on 19 December 2016.
- **Queensland University of Technology** - [Real Decisions](#) at the Gardens Point campus from 9 am – 1 pm on Tuesday 20 December 2016 and at the Caboolture campus from 2 – 5 pm on Tuesday 20 December 2016.

- **University of Queensland** - [OP Results Advice Night](#) from 4 – 7 pm on 19 December 2016 at the St Lucia campus.
- **University of Southern Queensland** – [USQ Study Options Event](#) will be held 10 - 11 am on 19 December 2016 at the Springfield campus. [USQ Study Options Evening](#) will be held from 5 – 7 pm on 19 December 2016 at the Ipswich campus.

# Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority

## **Queensland senior assessment and tertiary entrance systems**

The Queensland Government has released its final position on the new senior assessment and tertiary entrance systems. Visit the [QCAA website](#) to access the report. On this site, you can download flyers for parents and students.



# Study Skills

## Ever had a memory block in the middle of an exam?

The following information is adapted from [What causes mind blanks during exams?](#), an article published in The Conversation on 26 October 2016.

When you are preparing for an exam in a setting that is predictable and relatively low-stakes (e.g. at your desk at home), you can engage in cold cognition (i.e. logical and rational thinking processes). However, when you enter a somewhat unpredictable and high-stakes exam situation, you enter the realm of hot cognition (i.e. non-logical and emotionally driven thinking processes). Hot cognition is usually triggered in response to a perceived threat or highly stressful situation. It can lead to irrational thoughts such as “If I fail this exam, I won’t get into uni. I’ll be a failure for life”. This thinking triggers a physiological stress response in the brain that can lead to working memory being wiped clean and recall mechanisms being disrupted. The authors of the article suggest the following strategies to prevent mind blanks.

- **De-stress before an exam** – Strategies such as relaxation and cognitive-behavioural techniques (e.g. confronting irrational thoughts) have been shown to reduce the stress of exams. See your school Guidance Officer/Counsellor for help with learning these techniques.
- **Preparation** - When preparing for an exam, try not to do so in a highly relaxed soothing environment. Push yourself in ways that will simulate a test situation. For example, after a study session, set yourself some exam questions based on the information you have just revised. Set a time limit for completing the questions. The more you prepare under exam-type conditions, the less likely you are to perceive the ‘real’ exam as a threat.

The following related articles from The Conversation are also worth reading:

- [Revising for exams – why cramming the night before rarely works](#)
- [How to overcome exam anxiety.](#)



# Year 12 Questions

## QTAC FAQs

**Q Will I get an offer for all the courses I applied for through QTAC?**

**A** No. You will only receive one offer for your highest eligible course. Therefore, it is essential to order your courses according to your preference, putting the course you most want first.

**Q Will I get a letter in the mail from QTAC with my offer on it?**

**A** No. QTAC will notify you by email if you have received an offer. You need to log on to your application on the QTAC website for details of your offer and to respond to your offer. Because there are many offer-round dates (see [Course offer dates](#)), you must monitor your emails regularly.

**Q What do I have to do when I receive an offer?**

**A** You must respond to QTAC by the due date. You usually have four days to respond. If you don't respond by the due date, your offer will lapse and your application will become inactive. When you respond to your offer, you have two main options:

- Make an outright acceptance, deferment or rejection OR
- Conditionally accept, defer or reject your offer so you can be considered for higher preferences in future offer rounds.

See more information about responding on p. 16 of the *QTAC Guide* and on the [Offers](#) page on the QTAC website.

**Q Is there anything I can do if I don't respond to an offer by the due date?**

**A** Yes. Contact QTAC immediately. QTAC may be able to reinstate your offer.

**Q What happens after I have accepted an offer of a course place?**

**A** You enrol at your institution by the due date. Most institutions will have an 'Enrol here' link on the QTAC website. If there's no enrolment link, your university will contact you directly.

**Q I have applied for courses that start in Semester One and Semester Two on my QTAC application. Is this OK?**

**A** Yes, if the Semester One courses are listed before the Semester Two courses. However, a better strategy is to put only Semester One courses on your application in the first instance. After the major offer-round for Semester One courses on 16 January 2017, you can put Semester Two courses on your application.

**Q What should I do if I don't get an offer?**

**A** First check your application on the QTAC website. You may be ineligible for the courses you applied for. This will be indicated on the Preferences page of your application beside each course preference. Reasons for not receiving an offer may include:

- Quota restrictions (that is, your OP/rank did not meet the cut-off)
- Failure to satisfy minimum entry requirements (e.g. prerequisite subjects, audition)
- Failure to pay QTAC processing charges
- Preferencing your courses incorrectly (e.g. putting semester two courses before semester one courses; not including a 'good' pathways option for your 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> preferences)
- Applying after the due date for the offer-round
- Not responding to an earlier offer.

If you were ineligible for the courses you applied for, you can change your course preferences for consideration in any subsequent offer-round if further offers are made. QTAC usually publishes remaining course vacancies on its website after a major offer-round. You can also contact QTAC by phone, email or Facebook for advice.