



Options Career Information Bulletin

Edition 1

31/01/2017 to 10/02/2017

Table of Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| Apprenticeships and Traineeships | 4 |
| Pathways to Australian Apprenticeships | 4 |
| What is an Australian apprenticeship? | 4 |
| Australian Defence Force | 6 |
| Australian Defence Force (ADF) GAP Year | 6 |
| Australian Defence Force (ADF) Work Experience | 6 |
| Australian Defence Force Information Sessions | 6 |
| Defence Jobs website | 7 |
| Career Exploration | 8 |
| Five strategies to kick start your career exploration | 8 |
| Competitions | 10 |
| Sunflower Competition | 10 |
| The 1-Minute Film Competition | 10 |
| Course and Institution Updates | 11 |
| Are you a future University of Melbourne student? | 11 |
| CQUniversity (CQU) brief overview | 11 |
| Head Start at the University of Southern Queensland (USQ) | 11 |
| James Cook University (JCU) | 11 |
| Leadership days at the University of the Sunshine Coast (USC) | 12 |
| Learn what engineers do at an Engineering Link Project in 2017 | 12 |
| News from Griffith University | 12 |
| NIDA courses in Brisbane | 13 |
| Oxford and Cambridge Summer Academy | 13 |
| Photography and Video Production workshops at QSFT | 13 |
| Semester 1 Experience Days at Bond University | 13 |
| Updates from the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) | 14 |
| Updates from the University of Queensland (UQ) | 14 |
| Employment | 16 |
| Job clusters: A new way of looking at jobs | 16 |
| Skill shortages in Queensland | 16 |
| The jobs in demand in 2030 | 17 |

| | |
|---|----|
| Financial Assistance and Scholarships | 19 |
| A website to help you manage your money | 19 |
| ANU Tuckwell Scholarship Roadshow | 19 |
| Did you know there are thousands of scholarships on offer each year in Queensland? | 19 |
| The Tuckwell Scholarship | 20 |
| Gap Year Program News | 21 |
| Gap Year Program updates | 21 |
| Thinking of a Gap Year? | 21 |
| Indigenous | 23 |
| National Indigenous Youth Parliament | 23 |
| Occupational Information | 24 |
| Interested in security or policing as a career? | 24 |
| Open Days, Expos and Career Markets | 25 |
| Brisbane City Welcome Festival for international students | 25 |
| Career and tertiary expos in Queensland in 2017 | 25 |
| New York Film Academy Open Day | 25 |
| University Open Days in Queensland in 2017 | 25 |
| World Science Festival Brisbane | 25 |
| QTAC and Tertiary Entry | 27 |
| I am new to all this. What do I have to do to get into a uni course in 2018? | 27 |
| Preparing for the Undergraduate Medicine and Health Science Admissions Test (UMAT) | 27 |
| Undergraduate Medicine and Health Science Admissions Test (UMAT) | 28 |
| Study Skills | 30 |
| A checklist for study | 30 |
| Youth Enrichment Activities | 31 |
| Join the YMCA Queensland Youth Parliament | 31 |

Apprenticeships & Traineeships

Pathways to Australian Apprenticeships

If you are interested in an Australian apprenticeship but don't know where to start, [Australian Apprenticeships Pathways](#) is a useful website to visit. The following are two of the sections you will find on this site.

Search helps you find apprenticeships and traineeships based on industry groups. For example, if you are interested in electronics, click on Qld and the Electrical, Electronics and Utilities industry group for a list of jobs and information about them.

Self-help is packed with helpful information including:

- A step by step guide to getting an apprenticeship
- Links to information on wages and financial support
- Case studies about real people in apprenticeships and traineeships

Australian school-based apprenticeship information for those who want to begin their apprenticeship early.

What is an Australian apprenticeship?

Australian apprenticeships are simply referred to as apprenticeships or traineeships. An Australian apprenticeship combines structured training (e.g. through TAFE or another Registered Training Organisation) with practical on-the-job training with an employer. As an apprentice or trainee, you enter a training contract with your employer. You are paid for your work and, when you complete your training, you receive a nationally accredited qualification.

Apprenticeships are required for skilled trade areas such as electrical, plumbing, carpentry, cabinet-making, automotive, hairdressing, etc. Traineeships are undertaken in vocational areas such as office administration, information technology, tourism, hospitality, beauty therapy, etc. Traineeships can take from one to three years to complete, while apprenticeships can take up to four years to complete.

Apprenticeships and traineeships can be full-time, part-time or school-based. A school-based apprenticeship or traineeship allows you to start your training while you are still at school. It will contribute credit towards your Queensland Certificate of Education. You can find out about school-based apprenticeships and traineeships on the [Apprenticeships Info website](#).

There are over 500 jobs that offer Australian apprenticeships in over [30 different industries](#). Read about the different types of apprenticeships and traineeships that are available in Queensland on the [Queensland Training Information Service website](#).



AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE

Australian Defence Force (ADF) GAP Year

Want a gap year with a difference? Consider joining the Australian Defence Force (Army, Navy or Air Force) for a year. This is an excellent way of trying out a Defence job. The ADF Gap Year program applications for 2018 will open in March 2017. You can register your interest in the program on the [ADF Gap Year website](#) to receive updates.

Australian Defence Force (ADF) Work Experience

Thinking of applying for the ADF when you finish school? As joining the ADF is a lifestyle decision not just an occupational decision, it is essential that you explore this career option thoroughly. One way to do this is through work experience. Visit the [Defence Work Experience Program website](#) to look for work experience options in Queensland. Applications are available on the site. You should discuss your interest in an ADF work experience program with your school Guidance Counsellor/Officer before applying.

Australian Defence Force Information Sessions

Mooloolaba – Wednesday 1 February 2017 at 6 pm - *Defence Careers Information Session* at The Yacht Club, 33-45 Parkyn Parade, Mooloolaba. Book your spot [here](#).

Townsville – Wednesday 1 February 2017 at 6 pm - *Trade Careers Information Session* at Defence Force Recruiting Townsville, 143 Walker Street, Townsville. Book your spot [here](#).

Brisbane – Thursday 2 February 2017 at 6 pm - *Defence Careers Information Session* at Brisbane Defence Force Recruiting, Level 13, 295 Ann Street, Brisbane. Book your spot [here](#).

Charters Towers – Thursday 2 February 2017 at 6 pm - *Trade Careers Information Session* at Charters Towers Excelsior Library, 130 Gill St, Charters Towers. Book your spot [here](#).

Mount Isa – Thursday 2 February 2017 at 6.30 pm - *Parents and Teachers Defence Careers Night* at Ibis Styles Mt Isa Verona, Corner Rodeo Drive and Camooweal Street, Mount Isa. Book your spot [here](#).

Brisbane – Monday 6 February 2017 at 5.30 pm - *Women in Defence* at Brisbane Defence Force Recruiting, Level 13, 295 Ann Street, Brisbane. Book your spot [here](#).

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

Defence Jobs website

The [Defence Jobs website](#) is your first port of call for information about jobs with the Australian Army, Navy and Air Force. Use the site to answer the following questions.

Am I eligible to join? What is the application process? - Answers to these questions can be found at the [Recruitment Centre](#).

What jobs can females apply for in the Australian Defence Force (ADF)? – Click [here](#) for information about women in the ADF.

What Defence jobs would suit me? - Use the [Job Finder tool](#) to find jobs in the ADF you would enjoy.

How can I experience what it is like before I join? - There are several resources on the website that can increase your understanding of life in the Defence Forces. For example:

- [Enter the Storm](#) to experience the Navy's Triton Storm exercises.
- Visit [Submariners](#) to experience working and living under water.
- [Discover ADFA](#) by taking an interactive journey inside the Australian Defence Force Academy.
- Check out [What is Up?](#) for Air Force experiences.
- Enrol in an online course that simulates training in the Army at the [Royal Military College](#).
- Connect with the ADF on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#) for current activities.

Real ADF experiences can be had by doing an [ADF work experience](#); spending your [gap year](#) working in the Army, Navy or Air Force; joining [the Air Force for a year](#) to see what it is like or joining the [Defence reserves](#).



Five strategies to kick start your career exploration

Before you start, know that:

- You are exploring jobs for your first step, not for your whole life. The future world of work will offer you many exciting opportunities that could lead to other jobs that, perhaps, haven't been invented yet.
- There is not one 'ideal' job for you. There may be several that will give you the things you want from a job (e.g. enjoyment, challenge, good income, working in a team, prestige, management opportunities, work/life balance, variety, skill development, self-employment, respect, travel or a combination of these).

Strategy 1. Make a list of the jobs you have already thought of. The list can include your dream job (i.e. the job you would love to have but doubt you will ever get).

Strategy 2. Talk with five people who know you well (include a parent/guardian and a teacher). Ask them what jobs they think you would like and why. Some of their suggestions will be worth investigating further, so add them to your job list.

Strategy 3. Think about your favourite subjects at school. Use the [Career Bullseyes](#) to find jobs related to these subjects. Select the jobs you find interesting and add them to your job list.

Strategy 4. Do a questionnaire. There are many career questionnaires that can help you learn more about yourself and the jobs you might like. Choose one of the following:

- [Job Outlook – Career quiz](#)
- [myfuture](#) (Sign up when entering this free site for the first time)
- [Career Quest](#).

Add to your job list the jobs you found interesting based on the questionnaire you did.

Strategy 5.: You probably have 10 or more jobs on your list by now. The next step is to research these jobs and end up with three or four you like the most. The following websites will help you. Delete from your list any jobs that don't come up to your expectations.

- [Job Outlook](#)
- [myfuture](#) (Log in and go to Occupations)
- [The Good Universities Guide – Careers Guide](#) (Click on the relevant industry area to find the job)
- [The Good Careers Guide e-book](#) (Use the Index to find the job. Put the page number for the job at the top of the e-book and Enter)

You now have a list of jobs worth exploring further. You can do this by interviewing people already in the jobs; doing work observation (i.e. following a person in the job for a couple of days) and/or doing work experience in the job. Your school Guidance Counsellor/Officer can help you organise these activities.

Competitions

Sunflower Competition

Registrations for the 2017 University of Queensland [Sunflower Competition](#) are now open. The competition is for Years 7 – 12 students and involves documenting the growth of sunflowers and associated group activities. Participants need to register by 7 February 2017. The planting date is 28 February 2017.

The 1-Minute Film Competition

The 1 -Minute Film Competition is an initiative of Australian Teachers of Media (ATOM) and ClickView. It provides Australian and New Zealand primary and secondary students with the opportunity to make a 60-second short film or animation, and win prizes in the process. The theme for 2017 is 'Tomorrow'. Applications close on 28 July 2017. Find out more on the [website](#).



Are you a future University of Melbourne student?

The University of Melbourne has a [Future Students website](#) to help you explore the university, its courses and application processes. Click on 'Information for' on the top menu for specific information for high school students. Also, you can subscribe to the MyMelbourne monthly newsletter on the Future Students website.

CQUniversity (CQU) brief overview

Locations - CQU has 11 locations in Queensland. These include campuses or study centres in Biloela, Brisbane, Bundaberg, Cairns, Emerald, Gladstone, Mackay, Noosa, Rockhampton, Townsville and Yeppoon. Visit the [Locations webpage](#) for more information about these campuses/centres.

Range of courses – CQU offers [apprenticeships and traineeships](#), [TAFE courses](#) and university programs. Visit the home page of the [CQU website](#) for links to the fields of study available. Modes of study include on-campus, full-time, part-time and distance education depending on the course.

Pathways - There are several pathways into degrees at CQU. These include through certificate and diploma vocational courses and the [Skills for Tertiary Education Preparatory Studies \(STEPS\)](#).

Start Uni Now (SUN) – SUN enables students in Years 11 and 12 (Year 10s in the November term) to study CQU subjects while still at school. The application due date for Term one is 17 February 2017. You may be eligible for direct entry into a degree program at the end of Year 12 if you pass at least one SUN subject from a degree program. Visit the [SUN website](#) to see if SUN is for you.

CQU videos – The [CQU YouTube site](#) has videos on the CQU locations and courses. They are brief and will give you a good overview of CQU and what it offers.

Head Start at the University of Southern Queensland (USQ)

USQ's Head Start program gives students in Years 10, 11 and 12 an opportunity to study a university subject while still at school. Successful completion of certain subjects could lead to guaranteed entry and academic credit into related degrees at USQ. The closing date for applications for Semester one 2017 is 6 February 2017. An Orientation Evening will be held on 16 February 2017. Find out more on the [Head Start website](#).

James Cook University (JCU)

If you live in North Queensland, or you have always wanted to, JCU offers many course options. JCU's main campuses are in Cairns and Townsville. It has smaller campuses in Brisbane (which offers courses to international students), Mackay, Mt Isa and on Thursday Island. Visit the [Campuses site](#) for more information about these locations.

Use the [JCU website home page](#) to browse the courses on offer. JCU courses have a tropical focus, preparing students for the issues facing northern Australia and the tropics. However, this does not limit students, as JCU graduates find employment all over the world.

Prospective students and their parents are welcome to visit the JCU campuses. [Guided campus tours](#) are available and need to be booked at least two weeks in advance. Before you go, you can explore the Cairns and Townsville campuses via [interactive maps](#). You can also access the [accommodation options](#) available.

Leadership days at the University of the Sunshine Coast (USC)

These events are for Year 12 student leaders (prefects, school captains, house captains, sport captains, etc.) to develop their leadership skills. In 2017, they will be held on:

- Monday 6 March at Sippy Downs campus
- Tuesday 7 March at Gympie campus
- Wednesday 8 March at Fraser Coast campus.

Details can be found on the [Leadership Days website](#).

Learn what engineers do at an Engineering Link Project in 2017

The Engineering Link Group, together with host universities, invite students in Years 10 – 12 who are interested in learning about engineering to participate in one of the Engineering Link Projects (ELPs) to be run in Queensland this year. Visit the [website](#) for information about ELPs and to sign up for updates. The dates and venues for the 2017 ELPs are:

- 26 and 27 June - CQ Engineering Link Project – CQUniversity, Rockhampton
- 6 and 7 July - SQ Engineering Link Project – Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane
- 17 and 18 July - NQ Engineering Link Project – James Cook University, Townsville
- 20 and 21 July - FNQ Engineering Link Project – James Cook University, Cairns.

Keep an eye on the website for registration due dates to avoid missing out on these popular programs.

News from Griffith University

GriffithBUSINESS Ambassadors Program – This program is for capable students in Years 10 and 11 who are currently studying a business subject to become Business Ambassadors. Ambassadors meet three times a year to participate in workshops on nominated topics. Visit the [website](#) for more information. If you are interested in being a Business Ambassador for your school, talk to your business teacher as you need to be nominated by your school.

The GriffithBUSINESS Year 12 Program – This program provides Year 12 business students with an opportunity to experience university study while still at school. The program consists of a three-day intensive on-campus experience in one of three strands - Business Management, Commerce, or Tourism, Hotel, Event and Sport Management. Interested students should visit the [website](#) for more information. The application due date is 6 February 2017.

Tertiary Preparation Workshop for music students – This workshop can help you prepare for the theoretical and practical requirements of the audition process when you apply for tertiary courses later this year. It will be held on 26 – 30 June 2017 at the Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University, South Bank. For more information and to apply, visit the [website](#).

Explore Griffith – Start your exploration of Griffith university on the [Study at Griffith webpage](#). Learn about Griffith campuses and courses, university life and much more.

NIDA courses in Brisbane

The [National Institute of Dramatic Art](#) (NIDA) will offer courses in Brisbane again in 2017. The following courses begin on 5 February and will be held at the TAFE Qld Brisbane Southbank campus.

- [Drama for Grades 9 - 10](#)
- [Acting for Grades 11 and 12](#)

Oxford and Cambridge Summer Academy

This program is for students aged 14 – 19 years who are interested in a short study experience at Oxford or Cambridge Universities in the United Kingdom. Several sessions of the program are offered during July and August in 2017. Find out more at the [Oxford and Cambridge Summer Academy website](#).

Photography and Video Production workshops at QSFT

The [Queensland School of Film and Television](#) (QSFT) will offer the following workshops in February 2017:

- Introduction to Photography from 9 am – 1 pm on Saturday 11 February
- Introduction to Video Production from 9 am – 1 pm on Saturday 25 February.

The workshops will be held on the QSFT campus located at 22 Warwick Street, Annerley, Brisbane. Click [here](#) to download the application form.

Semester 1 Experience Days at Bond University

These events provide Year 10, 11 and 12 students (the topic determines the year level) with the opportunity to experience what life is like at Bond both inside and outside of the classroom while exploring a specific study area. The Semester one 2017 Experience Days are:

- 5 April - Criminology - Year 10, 11 and 12

- 20 April - Architecture - Year 10, 11 and 12
- 28 April and 12 May - Bond Business School Year 12 Extension Program
- 18 May - Communications and Digital Media - Year 10, 11 and 12
- 25 May - International Relations - Year 10, 11 and 12
- 29 May - Film and Television - Year 10, 11 and 12
- 6 June - Careers in Business and Hotel Tourism Management - Year 11 and 12
- 7 June - Careers in Actuarial Science and Commerce - Year 11 and 12
- 8 June - Careers in Sport Day - Year 11 and 12
- 17 June - Experience Careers in Health - Year 12
- 22 June - Environments, Planning and Urban Design - Year 10, 11 and 12
- 29 June - Psychology - Year 10, 11 and 12

For more information and to register, visit the [Experience Days website](#). You can download a copy of the Experience University Life Wall Planner from this site.

Updates from the Queensland University of Technology (QUT)

2017 course offers - So far, QUT has made 12,800 offers for courses commencing in Term one 2017. As a Year 12 student, it is not too early for you to begin exploring your tertiary options for 2018. The [QUT website section for high school students](#) will help you start your exploration of the options available at QUT.

BlueShift business case competition – This competition is for students in Years 11 and 12 from all over the world. In teams of three to five, students are required to analyse and prepare a written solution to a real-life business case. The best teams will present their ideas to a panel of judges at QUT Gardens Point campus in May 2017. Registrations are now open and will close on 10 March 2017. Visit the [BlueShift competition website](#) for information about how to enter and prepare for the competition.

QUT Caboolture Student Business Competition – If you attend a North Brisbane or Sunshine Coast high school, you can enter this competition which will be held in May 2017. It is like the BlueShift competition as it requires teams of students to work through a business case study and present to a panel of judges. Visit the [competition site](#) for more information.

Applications are open for QUT's 2017 High School Research Internships - Students in Years 11 and 12 can apply to undertake a week-long work placement during the Easter holidays working with QUT scientists. You must meet eligibility requirement for entry to this program. Visit the [website](#) for more information. Applications close at midnight on Sunday 12 February 2017.

Updates from the University of Queensland (UQ)

High school student site – Use this [site](#) to start your exploration of UQ. Find out about courses, pathways to UQ and the activities you can participate in as a high school student.

2017 UQ Science Ambassador Program – Through this program, science teachers nominate up to four Year 11 students to interact with UQ and assist their school's science teachers to raise the profile of science in the school. If you are in Year 11 and are interested in being a part of this program, talk to your science teacher and visit the [website](#). Applications close on 1 March 2017.

FEAST in 2017 - Interested in agriculture, animals, vet science, food or the environment? Consider attending FEAST (Future Experiences in Agriculture, Science and Technology). FEAST is a five-day residential program held at UQ's Gatton Campus for students in Years 10 – 12 (preference is given to Year 11s and 12s if places are limited). In 2017, FEAST will be held from 25 - 29 June (during the school holidays). You can register your interest in attending FEAST on the [website](#) to receive updates and information about application dates.

Register now for Experience Science 2017 - If you are in Years 10 – 12, the Experience Science 2017 program at the St Lucia campus provides an opportunity to find out what it's like to study science at UQ and how science is applied in industry and everyday life. The event will be held in July. Contact your Science teacher or Guidance Officer/Counsellor if you are interested in attending this program as registrations are usually made through your school. Visit the [Experience Science website](#) for more information.

Taste of Languages – In February 2017, the School of Languages and Cultures at UQ is offering a series of interactive sessions for students and their teachers in specific languages - Chinese, French, Japanese and German. Interested students should talk to their language teacher or Guidance Officer/Counsellor about attending as registrations are through your school. See the [Upcoming Events website](#) for details.

Employment

Job clusters: A new way of looking at jobs

The Foundation for Young Australians (FYA) researched 1,000 occupations, and found there were seven large job clusters based on similar skills wanted by employers. These clusters are:

- The Artisans (builders and maintainers)
- The Generators (sellers and servers)
- The Coordinators (balance the books and do repetitive tasks)
- The Informers (teach and provide information)
- The Designers (use expertise to construct or engineer things)
- The Carers (improve the wellbeing of others)
- The Technologists (understand and manipulate digital technology).

The implications of this way of looking at jobs are:

- The skills you get from working in one job could, on average, be transferred to 13 other jobs. Consequently, it is important to recognise the skills you have and understand their transferability.
- With seven new job clusters, you could choose a cluster based on your strengths and interests rather than on one dream job.
- You could get a 'foot-in-the-door' to a job cluster through an entry level job in the cluster.
- Some job clusters have stronger prospects than others. It would be wise to consider clusters with strong prospects and jobs that are most likely to grow.
- You could develop a portfolio of skills that will give you a broad range of options within the type of work you want to do in the future. This could future proof your employment.

Read FYA's full report, [The New Work Mindset](#), to see examples of jobs within job clusters and the transferable skills they share. The FYA has developed a fun [quiz](#) to identify a job cluster for you based on how you respond to the quiz. If nothing else, it will help you understand the job cluster concept. After you complete the quiz, read '[What the blazes should I study so I can get a job in the future?](#)' for more about job clusters.

Skill shortages in Queensland

Something to consider when exploring future jobs is employment prospects (i.e. what are your chances of getting a job when you finish your education or training program). One step in this process is to explore the current skill shortage areas in Queensland.

Skill shortages occur when employers can't fill, or have difficulty filling, vacancies. The latest Queensland skill shortage information (for 2015-2016) from the [Commonwealth Department of Employment](#) includes the following jobs.

State-wide shortages

- Accountant
- Surveyor
- Special Education Teachers
- Medical Diagnostic Radiographer
- Sonographer
- Optometrist
- Motor Mechanics
- Welder (First Class)
- Metal Machinist (First Class)
- Panelbeater
- Bricklayer
- Carpenters and Joiners
- Painting Trades Worker
- Fibrous Plasterer
- Airconditioning and Refrigeration Mechanic
- Butcher or Smallgoods Maker
- Chef
- Cabinetmaker

Regional Queensland shortages (in addition to those jobs listed above)

- Hospital and Retail Pharmacists
- Physiotherapists
- Midwife
- Vehicle Painter

For other skill shortage information, visit:

- [Australia-wide occupational skill shortages](#)
- [Trades included in the national skills needs list.](#)

The jobs in demand in 2030

According to [The Future of Work – Setting kids up for success in the future job market](#) report, the 2030 jobs will be:

- **High tech jobs** - Know-how and specialists, from designing the next drone to teaching, e.g. electrical engineer, primary school teacher.
- **High touch jobs** - Do and deliver, from house renovations to creatively pursuing a passion, e.g. plumbers, personal assistant, photographer.
- **High care jobs** - Personal and emotionally engaged, from looking after young people to taking care of the household, e.g. childcare worker, fitness instructor.

“Two core skill types are needed for the future job market, hard (specialist knowledge) and soft (people) skills. Young people are required to know how to program and interface with technology, but they also need to know how to communicate, collaborate and think critically for success”.

Read the report to learn more about the future of work. The report has case studies and infographics to explain the concepts presented.

Financial Assistance & Scholarships



A website to help you manage your money

The Australian Securities and Investment Commission has developed the [MoneySmart Rookie website](#) to help 16 – 25 year olds make smart financial decisions. The resources on the site include videos, interactive website resources and community education guides. The topics covered are Credit and debt, Getting a car, First job, Moving out of home, Mobile phone plans and deals, Online transactions and Studying.

ANU Tuckwell Scholarship Roadshow

During February, Australian National University (ANU) representatives will travel across Australia to present the ANU Scholarship Roadshow, featuring the Tuckwell Scholarship. The Roadshow events for Queensland are:

- [Townsville](#) on 22 February 2017 from 5.30 – 7.30 pm at Rydges Southbank Townsville, 23 Palmer Street, Townsville.
- [Logan](#) on 23 February 2017 from 11.30 am – 12.30 pm at the Beenleigh Events Centre, Kent Street and Crete Street, Beenleigh
- [Brisbane](#) on 23 February 2017 from 5.30 – 7.30 pm at Novotel Brisbane, 200 Creek Street, Brisbane.

Students and parents are invited to attend these events.

Did you know there are thousands of scholarships on offer each year in Queensland?

Universities, TAFE Queensland, private education providers, the Commonwealth and Queensland governments, some professional associations and industry groups offer scholarships. Common categories include:

- Sporting scholarships
- Equity scholarships for low income students, students with disability, women and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders
- Scholarships for specific fields of study
- Financial hardship scholarships
- Campus scholarships
- International student scholarships
- Academic scholarships.

A scholarship can help with course fees, textbooks, accommodation costs, transport and living expenses. No matter what your further education and training goals, it's worth finding out what's available. You can get scholarship information from:

- Scholarship pages on university, TAFE Queensland and other education institute websites
- [Study Assist website](#)
- [The Good Universities Guide](#)
- Your school Guidance Officer/Counsellor.

Scholarship information is generally available on university websites from second term each year. Except for Bond University, Queensland university scholarship application due dates usually occur between October and December each year. The application due date for [Bond University scholarships](#) is 31 July 2017 for Australian Year 12 students. Applications for Bond open in April.

The Tuckwell Scholarship

This generous scholarship (\$21,700 each year – this is the 2016 rate) is available for students applying to study at the Australian National University in Canberra. Stage one applications for 2018 open on 6 March 2017 and close on 27 March 2017. Visit the [Tuckwell Scholarship website](#) for information about the selection criteria and the three-stage application process.



Gap Year Program News

Gap Year Program updates

- Applications for the [Letz Live](#) UK gap year program in 2018 will close on 7 April 2017. It is strongly suggested that you register your interest early. Letz Live will hold an [information evening](#) on Tuesday 28 February 2017 at the Southport Community Centre, Gold Coast.
- [Southern Cross Cultural Exchange](#) will hold an [information session](#) from 7 – 9 pm on 7 February 2017 at Ruth Fairfax House, 89-95 Gregory Terrace, Brisbane.
- [Student Exchange Australia and New Zealand](#) will hold an [information session](#) in Brisbane from 7.30 pm on Thursday 2 February 2017 at Brisbane Square Library, Community Meeting Room, 266 George Street.
- [World Education Program](#) (WEP) will hold an [information evening](#) from 7 – 8.30 pm on 22 February 2017 at the Fulton Trotter Lounge, 129 Leichhardt Street, Spring Hill. Please register to attend.
- [World Education Program](#) (WEP) will hold an [information evening](#) on the Sunshine Coast from 6.30 – 8 pm on 15 February 2017 at the Lake Kawana Community Centre, 114 Sportsman's Parade, Bokarina. Please register to attend.

Thinking of a Gap Year?

Are you thinking of taking a break from study after Year 12? Over the last few years this time off study has become known as a 'Gap Year'. You might decide to take a gap year to:

- Have a rest from study
- Work to earn money for further study, buy a car, travel, etc.
- Take time to explore your career options
- Concentrate on an activity (e.g. sport, music, art).

Just as there are many reasons for taking a gap year, there are many things you can do during a gap year, including:

- Travelling
- Working overseas or in Australia
- Doing a traineeship or a short course
- Going on an overseas exchange
- Volunteering overseas or in Australia
- Doing work experience to check out a possible future job.

Some students organise these activities themselves while others use the services of a gap year organisation. Whichever way you go about it, it is important to start your planning early (Year 11 is a good time to start). The following are some of the gap year organisations.

- African Conservation Experience <http://www.conservationafrica.net/>
- AFS Intercultural Programs Australia <http://www.afs.org.au/>
- Antipodeans Abroad <http://www.antipodeans.com.au/>
- Australian Defence Force Gap Year <http://www.defencejobs.gov.au/education/GapYear/>
- Camp America <http://campamerica.com.au/>
- Global Vision International <http://www.gviaustralia.com.au/volunteer-options/under-18/>
- Green Army <http://www.environment.gov.au/land/green-army>
- InterExchange <http://www.interexchange.org/>
- International Exchange Programs <http://www.iep.com.au/>
- Latitude Global Volunteering <http://www.latitude.org.au/>
- Letz Live <http://www.letzlive.org/>
- Overseas Working Holidays <http://www.owh.com.au/>
- Projects Abroad <http://www.projects-abroad.com.au/>
- Rotary Youth Exchange <http://www.ryea.org.au/>
- EA Ski and Snowboard Training <http://www.easkiandsnowboard.com/>
- Student Exchange Australia and New Zealand <http://studentexchange.org.au/>
- Southern Cross Cultural Exchange <http://www.scce.com.au/>
- Volunteering Queensland <http://www.volunteeringqld.org.au/web/>
- World Education Program Student Exchange <http://wep.org.au/info/>
- Young Endeavour <https://www.youngendeavour.gov.au/>

Always thoroughly investigate any gap year organisation you are considering. Get your parents involved in this process.

Indigenous

National Indigenous Youth Parliament

The 2017 National Indigenous Youth Parliament (NIYP) is your chance to come to Canberra, meet Australia's leaders, learn about democracy and have your say on important issues. It will be held from 23 – 29 May 2017. Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people aged 16 to 25 years are eligible to apply. Visit the [Australian Electoral Commission website](#) to apply for NIYP. Applications close on 3 March 2017.

Occupational Information



Interested in security or policing as a career?

There are several employing organisations you can investigate. These include:

- [Queensland Police Recruiting](#)
- [Australian Federal Police](#)
- [Australian Defence Force](#)
- [Australian Secret Intelligence Service](#)
- [Australian Security Intelligence Organisation](#)
- [Australian Department of Immigration and Border Protection](#)
- [Queensland Corrective Services](#)
- [Queensland Boating and Fisheries Patrol.](#)

Once on the websites for these organisations, you need to find out:

- Jobs (job titles) employed by the organisation
- What are the duties undertaken in these jobs?
- Entry requirements – age, education level, tests required, physical/medical requirements, criminal checks, drivers licence, etc.
- Will part of the process be to investigating your social network sites?
- If you get the job, do you have to live away from home?
- Do they recommend you do specific university or TAFE courses?
- Would having a second language be an advantage?
- What is the recruitment process?
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Can you contact the organisation by email from the website for other questions you might have?

If you find all this totally confusing, make an appointment to see your school Guidance Officer/Counsellor.



Brisbane City Welcome Festival for international students

Brisbane City welcomes international students at this festival to be held from 2 - 6 pm on Saturday 4 March 2017 at City Botanic Gardens. In addition to live music and entertainment, the event will have over 50 exhibitors, including education institutions, transport providers, banks, agents, community groups, tourism and leisure operators and student accommodation providers to help new students get settled into the city. Please register your attendance by Thursday 23 February 2017 to receive a certificate on the day. Click [here](#) to find out more.

Career and tertiary expos in Queensland in 2017

Career and tertiary expos are a great resource for exploring career and course options. At these events, you can talk to representatives from universities, TAFE, private colleges, employers, and industry groups. These events are held throughout Queensland, usually during the first half of the year. They will be reported in this bulletin.

New York Film Academy Open Day

New York Film Academy located on the Gold Coast offers tertiary level courses in film making and acting. Short term and evening courses are available also. The academy will hold an open day on Saturday 25 February 2017 from 12 noon to 2 pm. Students under 18 years must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. Visit the [website](#) to RSVP.

University Open Days in Queensland in 2017

It is essential to attend an open day event at the university (or universities) you wish to apply to for studies next year. The open day gives you an opportunity to talk to lecturers and current students about the courses you are interested in. You can also check out the campus, the support services offered and social and cultural activities available. Open days usually occur between July and early September each year. This bulletin will inform you of open days as they arise.

World Science Festival Brisbane

Do you wonder what science is all about? This is the festival where you find out through an interesting and entertaining program. The festival will take place between 22 and 26 March 2017 at various venues around Brisbane and regional Queensland. View the program on the [festival website](#). Check out the Apprenticeship Programs before they sell out.



QTAC & Tertiary Entry

I am new to all this. What do I have to do to get into a uni course in 2018?

In Queensland, you apply for most tertiary courses through the [Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre](#) (QTAC). QTAC is a non-government, not-for-profit organisation. It processes applications on behalf of Queensland universities, some interstate universities, TAFE Queensland and some private colleges.

In June each year, QTAC distributes the *QTAC Guide* to all Year 12 students in Queensland. This book contains information about the application and offer process and the courses offered through QTAC.

The online application usually opens in early August and the 'on-time' application due date is at the end of September. There are several offer rounds from November to February, with the major offer round in mid-January. While Year 12 students apply in September, they usually have until early January to change their course preferences (for most courses) for the major offer round in January.

Through QTAC you can apply for up to six courses at different institutions. However, you only receive one course per offer round. It is recommended that you connect with QTAC on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#) for important news updates.

Apply directly to Queensland education institutions that do not use the services of QTAC. Queensland students can apply for interstate courses through interstate tertiary admissions centres (the exception is Tasmania where you apply directly to the University of Tasmania). To find out more about universities in Australia and the courses they offer, visit:

- [QILT](#)
- [The Good Universities Guide](#)
- [Rate your Uni.](#)

Preparing for the Undergraduate Medicine and Health Science Admissions Test (UMAT)

While you can't study specific content for UMAT, it is important to prepare for the test. The UMAT website offers [general preparation information](#) and [strategies](#). However, the most effective preparation is to practice sitting for the test, using the same conditions and time limits as the real test. You can purchase practice tests from the [UMAT website](#).

Several organisations offer preparatory courses for students who plan to sit for UMAT. These include:

- [MedEntry](#)
- [Hubbards School](#)
- [MedStart](#)
- [National Institute of Education.](#)

Note the following from page 8 of the UMAT 2017 Information Booklet:

‘Please note: Neither the UMAT Office nor the UMAT Consortium universities recommend or endorse any particular texts or preparation courses. Nor do they support any commercially available preparation courses or have any association with commercial courses. Thus, the UMAT Office is unable to comment on their relevance or usefulness. It is possible that some commercial preparation courses might provide misleading information or advice to candidates. Neither ACER nor the UMAT Consortium conduct UMAT preparation courses.’

However, some students find these preparatory programs helpful in preparing them for the test and helping them gain confidence in sitting for the test. It is recommended that you talk to other students who have already participated in these preparatory programs before registering for a program.

Undergraduate Medicine and Health Science Admissions Test (UMAT)

Some institutions require that students applying for medicine and other health science courses sit for UMAT as part of the application process. Students need to register to sit for UMAT by 2 June 2017 on the [UMAT website](#). The exam will be held on 26 July 2017 and the results will be released in late September 2017.

You can download a UMAT 2017 Information Booklet and purchase UMAT practice tests from the UMAT website. A new, free UMAT 2017 App is available. Go to the UMAT website for instructions on how to download it.

You will need a UMAT score for admission to the following courses in Australia and New Zealand:

- Charles Sturt University – Dental Science
- The University of New South Wales - Medicine
- The University of Newcastle/University of New England - Joint Medical Program
- Western Sydney University - Medicine
- Charles Darwin University - Clinical Sciences
- The University of Queensland - Medicine (provisional entry), Dental Science
- The University of Adelaide - Medicine, Dental Surgery
- Flinders University - Clinical Sciences/Medicine
- University of Tasmania - Medicine
- La Trobe University - Health Sciences in Dentistry/Master of Dentistry, Oral Health Science (UMAT only required for non-Year 12 applicants)
- Monash University - Medicine
- Curtin University - Medicine
- The University of Western Australia - Medicine (Direct Pathway), Dental Medicine (Direct Pathway)
- The University of Auckland - Medicine
- University of Otago – Medicine, Dental Surgery.

Note: To be eligible to sit for UMAT students must be in their final year of secondary schooling or higher. Year 11 students are not eligible to sit for UMAT.



Study Skills

A checklist for study

It is the start of a new school year. This is the perfect time to polish your study skills. The following checklist will get you started.

- Have a place to study without distractions - somewhere quiet, without TV, music, computer or mobile.
- Study the hard subjects first, when you're most alert and focused.
- Have a specific time of the day for studying and make it the same time every day if possible.
- Work out how long you can concentrate before you lose focus. It's going to be different for everyone, so keep track of your ideal concentration time. Then take breaks when you're approaching your limit. Limit breaks to five minutes.
- Have everything you need close by (e.g. books, notes, pens, pads, etc.).
- Avoid eating a large meal before studying, as it will make you drowsy.
- Let friends and family know your allocated daily study time, and ask them not to disturb you. Put your study schedule on the fridge.
- Start studying when you say you will. Delaying the start will only make the task harder.
- One thing at a time. Multitasking may sound smart, but it means you're not giving each task your full attention.
- Never study too close to going to sleep. Give yourself at least half an hour of relaxation before turning in. Sleep is essential to achieving your best.

Youth Enrichment Activities

Join the YMCA Queensland Youth Parliament

Are you interested in community issues? Think you can do a better job than our current politicians? Then you might be interested in joining the YMCA Queensland Youth Parliament (QYP). If you are between 15 and 25 years of age, you are invited to nominate. Nominations for the 2017 program open on the 30 January 2017, and close on the 20 February 2017. QYP is a Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority accredited educational program (participation can contribute credit towards your Queensland Certificate of Education). Details about the program and the nomination form and can be accessed from the [QYP website](#).