



Options Career Information Bulletin

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Apprenticeships & Traineeships

Can I start an apprenticeship or traineeship at school?

If you have a very good idea of what you want to do when you leave school (do work experience in the area to make sure), and your parents and school support you, it is possible to commence an apprenticeship or traineeship while you are still at school. These are called School-based apprenticeships and traineeships (SATs).

The major advantage of a SAT is getting a head start on training for the job you want when you leave school while still being eligible to complete your secondary education. Normally, when you have a SAT, you spend one or two days with your employer and the rest of the week at school. You will also be required to do a formal course through TAFE or another registered training organisation in addition to your on-the-job-training.

It is possible to complete a traineeship while you are still at school. Apprenticeships, however, normally take longer. School-based apprenticeships are usually converted to full-time apprenticeships when you leave school. Find out more about SATs on the following websites:

- [Queensland Government website](#)
- [Queensland Training website](#).

Organise an interview with your school's VET Coordinator and/or Guidance Counsellor/Officer to talk about SATs.

Having a driving licence may give you an edge when applying for an apprenticeship

In some trade areas employers are more likely to take on an apprentice who has a driver's licence. This is especially true in the construction industry where there are multiple and changing worksites. Having to depend on parents and/or public transport to get to the worksite may not be practical or even possible.

If you are interested in applying for an apprenticeship, especially in the construction industry, consider applying for your learner licence when you become eligible (16 years of age). Once you turn 17, have 100 hours or more of supervised driving experience and pass the practical driving test, you will be issued a provisional licence. This licence allows you to drive unsupervised. Visit the [Department of Transport and Main Roads website](#) to find out more about obtaining a driver's licence.

I'm doing a Certificate III in Fitness. Why do I need a Blue Card?

Students studying a VET (Vocational Education and Training) course in which they are required to do a work placement in sport, fitness and active recreation involving young people (under 18 years of age) are required, by law, to have a Blue Card. The Blue Card system in Queensland is used to monitor those who work with young people. Its aim is to reduce the risks of harm to young people by creating a safe and non-threatening environment. The Registered Training Organisation (RTO) conducting the VET course (a school or outside organisation) is responsible for applying for Blue Cards on behalf of the students doing the course. You can read more about Blue Cards on the [Blue Card Services website](#).

AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE

Australian Defence Force Information Sessions

Gold Coast – Monday 13 March 2017 at 6 pm - *Defence Careers Information Session* at Defence Force Recruiting Gold Coast, 14 Edgewater Ct, Robina. Book your spot [here](#).

Mt Isa – Wednesday 15 March 2017 at 6 pm - *Trade Careers Information Session* at Mt Isa Ibis Styles, corner Rodeo Drive and Camooweal Street. Book your spot [here](#).

Online – Thursday 16 March 2017 at 5.30 pm - *ADFA Facebook Live Q&A*. Visit the [website](#) for more information.

Gold Coast – Thursday 16 March 2017 at 6 pm - *Engineering Careers Information Session* at Defence Force Recruiting Gold Coast, 14 Edgewater Ct, Robina. Book your spot [here](#).

Park Ridge – Thursday 16 March 2017 at 6 pm - *Defence Careers Information Session* at the Park Ridge Tavern, 3698 Mount Lindsay Highway, Park Ridge. Book your spot [here](#).

Toowoomba – Monday 20 March 2017 at 6 pm - *Trade Careers Information Session* at Defence Force Recruiting, Toowoomba, Milne Bay Training Depot, O'Quinn Street. Book your spot [here](#).

Brisbane – Monday 20 March 2017 at 6 pm - *Submariner Careers Information Session* at Defence Force Recruiting Brisbane, Level 13, 295 Ann Street, Brisbane. Book your spot [here](#).

Maroochydore – Tuesday 21 March 2017 at 6 pm - *Trade Careers Information Session* at Defence Force Recruiting Maroochydore, 37 Primary School Court. Book your spot [here](#).

Rockhampton – Tuesday 21 March 2017 at 6 pm - *Gap Year Information Session* at Empire Apartment Hotel, 5 East St, Rockhampton City. Book your spot [here](#).

Mackay – Wednesday 22 March 2017 at 6 pm - *Defence Careers Information Session* at Quest Mackay, 38 Macalister Street. Book your spot [here](#).

Brisbane – Wednesday 22 March 2017 at 6 pm - *Gap Year Information Session* at Defence Force Recruiting Brisbane, Level 13, 295 Ann Street, Brisbane. Book your spot [here](#).

Toowoomba – Wednesday 22 March 2017 at 6 pm - *Submariner Careers Information Session* at Defence Force Recruiting, Toowoomba, Milne Bay Training Depot, O'Quinn Street. Book your spot [here](#).

Gladstone – Thursday 23 March 2017 at 6 pm - *Gap Year Information Session* at Gladstone Mercure, Cnr Bell and O'Connell Street, Barney Point. Book your spot [here](#).

Sunshine Coast – Thursday 23 March 2017 at 6 pm - *Submariner Careers Information Session* at Mooloolaba Yacht Club, Shop G14, The Wharf - 33-45 Parkyn Parade, Mooloolaba. Book your spot [here](#).

Toowoomba – Thursday 23 March 2017 at 6 pm - *Gap Year Information Session* at Defence Force Recruiting Toowoomba, Milne Bay Training Depot, O'Quinn Street, Toowoomba. Book your spot [here](#).

Brisbane – Monday 27 March 2017 at 5.30 pm - *Women in Defence Information Session* at Defence Force Recruiting Brisbane, Level 13, 295 Ann Street, Brisbane. Book your spot [here](#).

Cairns – Tuesday 28 March 2017 at 6 pm - *Submariner Careers Information Session* at Defence Force Recruiting, Level 1, 55 Lake Street, Cairns. Book your spot [here](#).

Townsville – Wednesday 29 March 2017 at 6 pm - *Submariner Careers Information Session* at Defence Force Recruiting Townsville, 143 Walker Street. Book your spot [here](#).

Gold Coast – Wednesday 29 March 2017 at 6 pm - *Gap Year Information Session* at Defence Force Recruiting Gold Coast, 14 Edgewater Ct, Robina. Book your spot [here](#).

Sunshine Coast – Wednesday 29 March 2017 at 6 pm - *Gap Year Information Session* at Mooloolaba Yacht Club, Shop G14, The Wharf, 33-45 Parkyn Parade, Mooloolaba. Book your spot [here](#).

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

Defence Work Experience Program

Work experience is one way to find out if a military life is for you. Visit the [Defence Work Experience website](#) (click on 'Placements' and 'Qld') for a list of work experience opportunities in the next few months. The following are examples:

- [Women in Navy Technical Trades Camp](#) in Cairns from 9 – 13 April 2017
- [Army Familiarisation and Field Experience](#) at Gallipoli Barracks, Enoggera from 29 – 31 May 2017
- [Air Force Introduction and Familiarisation](#) at RAAF Amberley from 12 – 14 June 2017
- [HMAS Cairns – Navy Overview](#) from 20 – 23 June 2017
- [Women in Air Force – Flight Camp](#) at RAAF Amberley from 27 – 30 June 2017

You will need to speak to your school Guidance Officer/Counsellor or Work Experience Coordinator about applying. This is a popular program, so start your application early.

Gap Year is open!

You can now apply for the 2018 Australian Defence Force (ADF) Gap Year, to experience life in the Navy, Army or Air Force. It's an opportunity to experience military life, without committing to a longer period. An ADF Gap Year is a way to have an adventurous year, gain valuable skills and work experience and get paid for it. In 2018 there are 14 roles to choose from; ranging from admin to artillery, to flight crew. Applications are available for a short time. This is a very popular program, so if you have a serious interest in it, apply now. See the [Defence Jobs website](#) for more information and to apply.



The High Five of career development

The High Five are wise concepts to follow when making career decisions. They are adapted from The Real Game.

Change is constant - The world of work is always changing. You also change as you develop personally and experience life. Don't be afraid of change; accept it and use it as an opportunity.

Know yourself and follow your heart - One of the most important skills in career management is self-awareness – knowing your interests, abilities, values, aspirations and the things/people that influence you. Start your job ideas list with jobs you would most like (your dream jobs) even if they are currently unrealistic. Exploring these jobs can get you started and lead to other jobs you hadn't thought of.

Focus on the journey - It is good to have goals – short and long term. However, we should not be so focused on these that we miss opportunities that may emerge along the way.

Learning is ongoing - Learning doesn't stop just because you finish your course and get a job. Just as change is constant so is the need to keep up to speed with new technologies, new methods of practice and emerging trends in your career field.

Access your allies - These are the people who can help and support you during your career journey. They can include your school guidance officer/counsellor, teachers, your family and friends, sport coaches and others within your social network. You can learn much from other people's experiences.

Competitions

2017 Young ICT Explorers competition

Young ICT Explorers is a competition in which school students submit an information and communication technologies (ICT) related project. Teams of up to four students can register for this competition through their school by 4 June 2017. Students have until 23 June 2017 to submit their project report. Projects could include a mobile phone application, computer game, website, digital art, robot, short film or animation. The best teams will be invited to the judging event later in the year. Visit the [Young ICT Explorers website](#) for details. Ask one of your teachers to register your school if you want to participate in this competition.

A competition for young composers

The Score IT Competition is part of the Queensland Music Festival. The competition requires young composers to create an original composition for a short film produced by the Griffith Film School. Register on the Score IT [website](#). The competition closes on 19 May 2017.

The 2017 SAE ATOM Awards for film and media excellence

The ATOM (Australian Teachers of Media) Awards are for achievement in film and media. There are several award categories for secondary students, including documentary, animation, fiction and music videos. Visit the [website](#) for details. Entries close on Friday 2 June 2017.



Course & Institution Updates

Admission to the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) through special entry programs

The following are special entry programs offered by QUT. Extra bonus entry points (OPs and ranks) can be allocated through these programs. The maximum number of bonus points a student can receive for QUT courses is 5 OPs or 10 ranks. Details about the following programs can be accessed [here](#).

Educational Access Scheme (EAS) - This [program](#) helps students who may have experienced educational disadvantage during their preparation for tertiary study. Students can receive a bonus of up to three OPs or six ranks and other benefits. Applications are via the QTAC application by completing the Educational Access Scheme section. If you're from a low-income background, you may be eligible for the Q-Step Scheme under the EAS financial hardship category. The Q-Step Scheme offers a guaranteed Equity scholarship to successful applicants in addition to the OP or rank bonus. Visit the EAS webpage on the QTAC website [here](#).

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students: Centralised Assessment Selection Program (CASP) – This [program](#) is offered through the Oodgeroo Unit and is an alternative entry program to university. The benefits of the program include gaining entry to the course you want, financial support and a good start to your studies through the Pre-Orientation Program.

Elite Athlete Entry Program - [This program](#) helps elite athletes (coaches, referees, competitors) gain entry to QUT courses through an entry bonus of up to three OPs or six ranks. The program assists its students to manage the demands of their studies and their sport.

Subject entry bonus scheme – Under this [scheme](#), students who have completed the equivalent of four semesters at senior school level with a passing exit grade in Maths C, Languages other than English, Physics and Engineering Technology are allocated entry bonus points. Completing university subjects can also earn bonus points.

Australian Catholic University (ACU) Early Achievers' Program

The Early Achievers' Program (EAP) at ACU considers the contribution you have made to your community through your school, local community organisations, cultural and/or religious groups, not just your OP or rank, for entry to ACU courses. An additional benefit of this program is that successful applicants receive an early offer of a course place. The dates for entry in 2018 are:

- Applications open on Wednesday 26 April 2017
- Applications close on Monday 17 July 2017
- Early offers to study in 2018 will be released by the end of August 2017.

Also, Early Achievers will benefit from opportunities to enhance their leadership and volunteering skills while at ACU. Visit the [Early Achievers' website](#) to view videos on how to prepare, submit and monitor your EAP application.

Business or Commerce degree - What's the difference?

Institutions can differ in what they call their business-related degrees. For example, the Queensland University of Technology includes all its business specialisations/majors in its B Business. Griffith University and the University of Queensland offer both a business degree and a commerce degree with different specialisations/majors in each degree. When researching business/commerce degrees, it is important to identify the specialisations or majors offered as this may influence the types of jobs you can apply for immediately after you graduate. According to Chartered Accountants of Australia and New Zealand (CA) 'business' focuses on how individual organisations operate, while 'commerce' focuses more on the wider commercial and economic environment.

Charlton Brown

Charlton Brown is a private registered training organisation and employment agency that trains and places graduates in employment locally, nationally and internationally. It is in Brisbane's Fortitude Valley and offers courses in Early Childhood, Aged Care, School Aged Children, Disability Support, Youth and Justice, Business and Leadership and Welfare and Community Services. If you are interested in finding out more about these courses, visit the [website](#).

Flexible programs at the Australian National University (ANU)

ANU, located in Canberra, offers a range of flexible (e.g. B Laws/B Actuarial Studies) and vertical (e.g. B Arts/Master of International Relations) double degree programs. Find out about the options available on the [website](#). Queensland students may be interested in the scholarships offered at ANU. These include:

- The [Tuckwell Scholarship](#)
- The [National University scholarship](#).

Students interested in applying for ANU courses are required to apply through [UAC](#) at the end of September each year.

Griffith University notes

New dental program – The current B Oral health in Dental Science/Graduate Diploma of Dentistry pathway to dental registration will be replaced by the [B Dental Health Science/Master of Dentistry](#), commencing in 2018. One of the features of this new program is that hands-on training will begin in the first year of studies.

Careers in Commerce - This is a mini-conference for Year 11 and 12 students. It will introduce students to a range of careers available for commerce and business graduates in accounting, economics, business law, finance and financial planning. The event will be held from 9 am – 2.30 pm on Friday 20 October 2017. Talk

to your business teacher or Guidance Officer/Counsellor if you would like to attend this day as registrations are made through your school. For more information, visit the [website](#).

Interstate Student and Family Day at the University of Melbourne

The University of Melbourne is holding an information day for interstate students and their families on Friday 21 April 2017 from 9 am - 4:30 pm. This event is for interstate students who are thinking of attending the University of Melbourne to study an undergraduate degree. There will be presentations about the university, undergraduate degrees and graduate pathways, scholarships, student services, accommodation options and financial assistance. Visit the [website](#) for details and to register to attend.

Jschool

Jschool is a private college that offers an accredited one-year Diploma of Journalism. The course prepares students for an entry-level position in journalism. For more information, visit the [Jschool website](#).

Medical Administration Training (MAT)

MAT offers accredited training for employment in the health industry through face-to-face and online courses such as:

- Medical Reception & Terminology Course
- Medical Terminology
- Health Administration
- Certificate III Business Administration
- Diploma of Practice Management
- Infection Control in a Health Setting
- Managing difficult and challenging behaviours
- Develop Keyboarding Speed & Accuracy

MAT is an approved supplier for Certificate III Guarantee funding. Visit the [website](#) for more information.

Medical schools in Australia

Queensland students interested in gaining entry to a medical course can apply to medical schools throughout Australia. The [Australian Medical Council website](#) has a list of Australian medical schools with links to each school. There are three major entry points for medical courses in Queensland. These are:

- Direct entry from Year 12 (Bond University and James Cook have this type of entry)
- Graduate entry after completing an undergraduate degree (Griffith University and the University of Queensland have this type of entry)
- Provisional entry for high achieving Year 12 students (Griffith University and the University of Queensland have this type of entry)

Some of the other states/territories also offer these three pathways. Visit the following websites for more information about medical studies pathways in Australia.

- [Australian Medical Association – Becoming a doctor](#)
- [Medical Board of Australia – Medical Specialisations](#)

News from CQUniversity (CQU)

TAFE study options at CQU - CQU is Queensland's only dual-sector university offering direct pathways between TAFE and university-level qualifications. CQU offers a wide range of qualifications from accounting and bookkeeping, aged care, beauty, business, childcare, community care, disability, hospitality, human resources management, information technology, management, nursing, occupational health and safety, paramedic science, project management, supply chain and logistics, tourism and visual arts. To find out more about TAFE and training options at CQU, click [here](#).

CQU Campus Update - CQU has recently expanded by opening new campuses in Perth and Townsville. You can view all current CQU locations [here](#).

Upcoming Events and Activities – The following is a list of CQU upcoming events.

- [Online Chat Session](#) – This event will be held on Tuesday 9 May 2017. Its aim is to provide information for students interested in studying at CQU.
- [Bundaberg University Experience](#) – This is a free one-day on-campus event providing Year 12 students an opportunity to explore their post-school options. It will be held on Friday 12 May 2017.
- [STEPS Information Session](#) – STEP is a free Centrelink approved course designed to help students acquire the skills, knowledge and confidence they need to gain entry to university courses. The event will be held at most CQU campuses on Friday 26 May 2017.
- [Mackay University Experience](#) This is a free one-day on-campus event for Year 12 students. Students will be able to explore their post school options. The event will be held on Friday 19 May 2017.

You can view more CQU events [here](#).

The Joint Medical Program

The [Joint Medical Program](#) (JMP) is offered jointly by the University of Newcastle and the University of New England. You can study on either a metropolitan (Newcastle) or rural (New England) campus. Clinical venues will give students metropolitan, regional and rural experience so students will be prepared to practise anywhere in Australia. This is a direct entry program that Year 12 students can apply for. There are no subject prerequisites for admission to this course. However, students may benefit from completing Chemistry and English. Applicants need to sit for UMAT and apply through [JMP](#) and [UAC](#). For more information, read the Joint Medical program brochure [here](#).

University of Queensland (UQ) Robotics Workshops during the school holidays

The Faculty of Engineering, Architecture and Information Technology at UQ will offer the following workshops during the coming school holiday period.

- 11 April 2017 – Introduction to Robotics for students in Years 7- 12 –
- 13 April 2017 - UQ Robogals Workshop - Robotics Workshop for Girls in Years 4 - 8

Find out more on the [website](#).

University of Queensland (UQ) updates

Careers that shape the world – This event will be held on 19 April 2017 (the first week back at school after the Easter holidays). It provides Year 11 and 12 students with seminars on a range of study topics that will help them discover the careers that are right for them. This is a popular event. It is important to register early for the sessions you are interested in. Visit the [website](#) to explore the options available.

UQx – UQx offers free online courses (MOOCs) from UQ. Browse the courses available on the [UQx website](#). Students can choose to receive a verified certificate for a course for a small fee.

UQ Employability Advantage Award – This program encourages undergraduate students to further develop their skills beyond the classroom and to produce well-rounded, highly sought-after graduates. You can enrol in the program at any time during your undergraduate (including honours) degree. Find out more on the [website](#).

UQ apps - UQ students have access to several useful apps, including:

- UQ Checklist for new students
- UQ Timetable Planner to help students plan their semester timetable
- UQnav helps students find where things are on UQ campuses

Find out more at [App Central](#).

UQ is looking for Australian parents interested in their child's higher education - Research is being undertaken at UQ to understand the preferences and decision-making of students in Years 11 and 12. To be eligible to participate in the study, you must have a child studying in Year 11 or 12 in any high school in Queensland, and you and your child must be willing to participate in the survey. Visit the [website](#) if you wish to participate in this research project.

The UQ Faculty of Business, Economics and Law (BEL) Student Employability Team (SET) - Students doing a degree in Business, Economics or Law at UQ have access to a student employability service (BEL SET). The team assists in the placing of students with employers and the provision of employability events. Learn more about BEL SET on the [website](#).

FEAST registrations are now open - FEAST is a five-day residential program held at the UQ Gatton Campus for students in Years 10 – 12 who are interested in agriculture, animals, vet science, food and/or the environment. It will be held from 25 - 29 June 2017 (during the school holidays). This is a popular program, so register early on the [FEAST website](#). Registrations close on 31 March 2017.

Upcoming events at Bond University

Experience Days in April – These events provide you with a chance to gain a deeper understanding of courses you are interested in. You also have an opportunity to check out the campus and experience a day

as a university student. The following experience days, for students in Years 10 – 12, will be held in April 2017:

- Criminology Experience Day from 9 am – 3 pm on 5 April.
- Architecture Experience Day from 9 am – 3 pm on 20 April.

For more information and to register to attend, visit the [Experience Day website](#).

Bond Business School Year 12 Extension Program – If you are interested in a career in business and studying at Bond, this is the program for you. It is a two-day workshop (28 April and 12 May 2017) that will help you transition to university business studies by building on your current school studies. Eligible students who successfully complete this program will gain early direct entry to Bond University. Two \$5,000 bursaries will also be awarded. Find out more on the [Bond website](#). Talk to your school Guidance Officer/Counsellor or business teacher if you would like to attend this program.

Student for a Semester – Through this program high achieving Year 11 and 12 students living on the Gold Coast, Brisbane or Northern NSW are invited to enrol in a Bond University subject, attend lectures and tutorials on campus, complete assignments and sit their subject exams. Applications for the May 2017 program are now open and will close on 7 April 2017. Visit the [website](#) to download a Student for a Semester information flyer.

UQ College at St Lucia campus

UQ College is a company owned by the University of Queensland (UQ) and located at the St Lucia campus. It provides alternate pathways to university study. The programs offered include:

- **Tertiary Preparation Program** – This free 28-week program is offered in January, May and September. It is an approved UQ Bridging Program and provides recognised prerequisite subjects. Students who successfully complete this program can apply through QTAC with an entry rank based on their results in the program. Apply directly to UQ College for this program.
- **Associate Degree in Business** – This is a 16-month program. Successful completion (minimum GPA of 4) may provide an option to gain entry to UQ's B Business Management with advanced standing. You apply through QTAC for this program, with intakes in January and September.
- **Mathematics B, Chemistry and Biology bridging programs** – These intensive, full-fee bridging programs will be offered over a four-week period from Tuesday 21 November 2017 – Saturday 16 December 2017. Successful completion will meet the subject prerequisites in these subjects for UQ degrees and may be accepted by other institutions (it is important to check this with the relevant institution). Results will be available in time to be used in the QTAC January 2018 major offer round. Apply directly to UQ College for these programs. Applications close on 25 October 2017.

You can access more information about these programs from the [UQ College website](#).

Disabilities

Employment assistance through Ostara Australia

Ostara Australia offers employment services to assist people disadvantaged through age, health, disability or cultural background with finding and keeping sustainable employment. Visit the [website](#) to learn more about this organisation and the services it offers.

Employment

PaTH Internships

PaTH internships will be available from 1 April 2017. This program helps job seekers gain work experience by taking part in an internship placement with a local business for between 4 - 12 weeks. During this time, the job seeker has an opportunity to show an employer what they can do and how they fit into the business. The internships are unpaid. However, interns will receive an extra \$200 a fortnight on top of their income support payment. There is the potential to be given a full-time job at the end of the traineeship.

To be eligible to participate in a PaTH internship, job seekers must:

- be aged 17 – 24
- be on [income support](#)
- have [mutual obligation requirements](#)
- be registered with [Jobactive](#), [Transition to Work](#) or [Disability Employment Services](#) for at least six months.

Visit the [Jobactive PaTH site](#) for more information.

Recent articles

Robots are becoming our colleagues and we should realise how great this is - We have been told repeatedly that automation is going to take over our jobs. However, this article suggests that we are entering a world of wonderful opportunity and not one of digital doom and gloom. In the future, robots will perform more and more jobs, which will make our enterprising (and ultimately human) skills, more sought after than ever. Computers will likely continue to become extensions of our ideas and processes, not a force to be competed with. Read the full article on the [Foundation for Young Australians \(FYA\) website](#).

If you're young and work in hospitality, you need to read this – This article looks at the things you need to know so you don't get ripped off. Topics include pay, breaks, sick leave, and trials. Access the article from the [FYA website](#).

The five jobs robots will take first – This [LinkedIn article](#) responds to an Oxford University forecast that 47% of USA jobs could be automated in the next two decades. The article provides an argument that suggests that middle management; commodity sales people; report writers, journalists, authors and announcers; accountants and bookkeepers and doctors may be among the first jobs to go.

The most promising jobs of 2017 – This LinkedIn article lists the most promising jobs in America this year based on the potential for career advancement, job growth and salary. The jobs include pharmacist, sales

engineer, product manager, scrum master (check that one out!), clinical nurse, tax manager and data architect. Read the full list in the [article](#).

A survival guide for the coming AI revolution – This article from a recent Conversation newsletter suggests three survival steps.

- Recognising AI – Accept that AI is already here.
- Identify where AI thrives - Have a look around and note the tasks that require huge amounts of data processing. AI is particularly good at any task that requires an enormous amount of repetitive processing. Avoid these jobs.
- Devise an action plan – There are two options here: resist or make friends with AI. The author suggests the latter plan will be more productive.

Access this entertaining article [here](#).

Why is labour market information important?

Would you apply for a job as a production line worker, bank teller, postman/postwoman or video retailer? Probably not, because you know the long-term employment prospects for these jobs are either nil or very limited. To make good career decisions for the future, you need to have some idea of the employment prospects for the jobs you are interested in. The following resources can be helpful in this process.

Australian Jobs website – This is a new online resource that provides information on the labour market and how it is changing. It is based on the annual Australian Jobs publication. It can help you understand where the jobs of tomorrow will be and how to prepare for them. It also highlights what skills and traits employers in different industries value the most and outlines job prospects for over 350 occupations. Visit the website [here](#). You can download the hardcopy report from this site.

Labour Market Information Portal (LMIP) – Content on the [LMIP](#) is divided into three sections:

- Explore the data – here you can find regional labour market data, including five-year growth figures by industry
- Gain insights – here are reports based on the data, including the 2016 Industry Employment Projections Report
- Downloads – this section allows you to download a range of data as an Excel file.

The Department of Employment website – The [Skill Shortages](#) webpage on this site identifies the areas of skill shortage nationally and by state/territory. It also provides skill shortage information by occupation.

Job Outlook - The [Job Outlook website](#) provides information (skills, knowledge, abilities, interests, and activities relevant to each occupation) on over 300 occupations. Included in the information for each occupation is a section on job prospects which includes the number of workers in the occupation and the expected employment growth for the next five years.

Graduate Careers Australia – This [website](#) provides a range of graduate-related publications and research on topics such as salary trends and graduate employment opportunities. The [GradStats document](#) is helpful as it contains the employment and salary outcomes of recent higher education graduates.

Phone Apps - There are also several phone apps that can provide some labour market information. For example, **Career Quiz Australia** and **Job Seeker** can be downloaded for free from the iTunes app store and Google Play. **CareerMe** can be downloaded for free from the Apple App Store and the Android Marketplace.

Financial Assistance & Scholarships



Business, Economics and Law Scholarships for women of Samoan heritage

Current Year 12 students of Samoan heritage can apply for the [JM Donnelly Scholarship](#) once they have enrolled in a Business, Economics or Law course at the University of Queensland next year. The scholarship is valued at \$3000. Visit the scholarship website for more information.

Scholarships for female engineering students

Female Year 12 students interested in studying engineering at the University of Queensland next year should be aware of the following scholarships they can apply for once they gain entry to the course in 2018.

- [Leeanne Bond Scholarship for Women in Engineering](#)
- [WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff Scholarship for Women in Engineering](#)
- [Kathy Hirschfeld Scholarship for Women in Engineering](#)



Gap Year Program News

Gap Year Program events

Letzlive/Tutors Worldwide will hold the following information evenings in March 2017. Visit the [website](#) to register your attendance.

- Gold Coast – Tuesday 21 March from 7 – 8.30 pm at Southport Community Centre, 6 Lawson Street, Southport
- Brisbane – Monday 27 March (more details will be provided on the website shortly)
- Toowoomba – Wednesday 29 March (more details will be provided on the website shortly)

Southern Cross Cultural Exchange will hold the following information sessions from 7 – 9 pm:

- 21 March 2017 at Ruth Fairfax House, 89-95 Gregory Terrace, Brisbane.
- 27 March 2017 at Beach Club Resort, Mooloolaba, Sunshine Coast

Visit the website [here](#).

Cultural Care Au Pair will hold Information meetings on Saturday 18 March 2017:

- 10 am at EF International Language School, 164 Melbourne Street, South Brisbane
- 9.30 am at Studio Village Community Centre, 87 Village Way, Oxenford, Gold Coast.

Visit the [website](#) to register your attendance.

Indigenous

Indigenous Accountants Australia website

Indigenous Accountants Australia is a combined network of the major accounting bodies in Australia - CPA Australia and the Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand. Together they work with some of the major employers in the business world to promote accounting as a profession and offer support to all Indigenous students undertaking business, finance and accounting studies. To find out more, visit the [website](#).



National Youth Week

National Youth Week will be held from 31 March - 9 April 2017. The theme for Queensland this year is Be Bold, Be Brave, Be You. This week is an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of young people aged 12 to 25 and to acknowledge their positive contribution to our communities. Activities have been organised throughout the state as part of the celebration. Visit the [Brisbane Youth Week website](#) and the [PCYC website](#) for information about events near you.

Occupational Information



Careers with stem online magazines

The [Careers with STEM website](#) has recently released its 2017 Careers with Science and Careers with Health magazines. The magazines are packed full of short articles, information about courses, case studies and activities. You can download them or read them on line.

What do meteorologists do?

Meteorologists forecast the weather and study the atmosphere to improve our understanding of climate. Specialisations include: Climatologist, Hydrometeorologist, Meteorological Consultant and Research Meteorologist. Those interested in this area should be flexible and resourceful and have ability in science, especially physics and mathematics. A degree in science or applied science with a major in mathematics, physics, meteorology or atmospheric studies is usually required. The following Queensland universities offer a B Science or B Applied Science with majors in mathematics and/or physics:

- CQUniversity
- Griffith University
- James Cook University
- Queensland University of Technology
- University of Queensland
- University of Southern Queensland
- University of the Sunshine Coast

For further information about these occupations, visit the [Bureau of Meteorology website](#). Read a profile of a Severe Weather Meteorologist [here](#). Do an occupational search on the [myfuture website](#) (Sign up to this free site if this is your first visit). Go to 'Occupations' and do a search for meteorologist.

What does a Patent Examiner do?

People in this occupation are responsible for examining patent applications for inventions to see if they qualify for a patent. According to IP Australia, a patent is 'a right that is granted for any device, substance, method or process that is new, inventive and useful'. A patent gives the owner exclusive rights to sell the invention. [IP Australia](#) is the national patent body and is the major employer of patent examiners. You can see a video and read a profile about this job on the [ABC Ace Day Jobs website](#).

Open Days, Expos & Career Markets



Chartered Accountant information session

This session will be held from 5.15 – 7 pm on Wednesday 29 March 2017 at Chartered Accountants ANZ Brisbane Office, Level 13 Waterfront Place, 1 Eagle Street, Brisbane. The session will provide information on the Chartered Accountants (CA) program and give you an opportunity to speak to CA staff. Register to attend on the [website](#).

Endeavour Twilight Open Day

The Endeavour College of Natural Health offers bachelor degree courses in natural medicine. Areas covered include Acupuncture, Myotherapy, Naturopathy, Nutritional and Dietetic medicine and Complementary Medicine. The college will hold a Twilight Open Day from 6 – 8.30 pm on Thursday 6 April 2017 at its Brisbane and Gold Coast campuses. See the [Endeavour website](#) for more information and to register to attend.

World Science Festival (WSF) - Taking science out of the lab and on to the streets

Most of the Festival events will be held between 22 – 26 March 2017 in Brisbane and some regional locations. Visit the [WSF website](#) for a look at the exciting presentations and activities available (some of which are already booked out). An event not to miss is [Street Science](#) to be held from 10 am – 4 pm on Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 March at the South Bank Parklands and the Queensland Museum.

Overseas Studies

USA sports scholarships and university placements

Many universities and colleges in the USA offer sports scholarships to students from other countries. To be considered for these scholarships you have to be able to demonstrate your sporting and academic potential. The process involved in researching available scholarships and applying for them is quite complex. There are several organisations that offer a service to help you through the process. The following are examples. It is important to find out as much as you can about the organisations and, if possible, talk to previous clients.

- **Study and Play in the USA** – This organisation has had over a decade of experience helping young Australians gain sports scholarships in the USA. During this time, it has established regular contact with head coaches in a wide range of sports across the US. Visit the [website](#) for more information.
- **Aus Recruit** – This organisation is a scholarship placement agency that represents talented student-athletes interested in obtaining sport scholarships to US universities. It has been operating since 2002. Read about the services provided by Aus Recruit on its [website](#).
- **Internationally Educated** – This organisation assists students and their families through the selection and application process for US universities. More information on the [website](#).
- **Student Placement Australia New Zealand** – This organisation offers several programs including an athletic and academic scholarships program through Go Campus. Find out more on the [website](#).



QTAC & Tertiary Entry

How do OPs compare with ATARs?

All states in Australia, except Queensland, call their Year 12 tertiary entry score an Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR). The ATAR is a number between 0 and 99.95 (highest) with increments of 0.05. The Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) provides all Tertiary Entrance data (OP/FPs and ATAR) to QTAC. If you are applying for interstate courses, the relevant tertiary admissions centre can obtain your ATAR directly from QTAC.

Tables converting OPs to QTAC selection ranks and QTAC selection ranks to ATARs can be accessed from the [QTAC website](#). Note that these tables are based on 2016 Year 12 results so can be used as a guide only. You can learn more about ATARs and how to obtain an ATAR statement from the [Student Connect website](#).

I'm not eligible for an OP. Can I still apply for courses through QTAC?

Yes. When you apply to QTAC, you will be given an OP ineligible rank based on your best 20 semester units of Authority subjects, Authority-registered subjects and Vocational Education and Training (VET) from your Learning Account. Sitting for the QCS Test could improve your OP ineligible rank if this is to your advantage. Use the OP Ineligible Estimator on the [QTAC website](#) (scroll down to the Year 12 students section) or talk to your school Guidance Officer/Counsellor to get an idea of how QTAC will calculate your OP ineligible rank.

You may receive additional ranks if you complete other qualifications that can be included in your Learning Account (e.g. Certificate III, Certificate IV, Diploma or acceptable music/speech and drama qualifications). If you receive more than one rank, the rules of the institutions you apply for will determine which of these ranks becomes your first order rank (the rank you are usually selected on). Note that you must still meet the subject prerequisites and any other entry requirements of the courses you apply for.

Interstate tertiary applications

In addition to applying through QTAC for Queensland tertiary courses, you can apply for courses in other states. All states except Tasmania use a tertiary admissions centre like QTAC. All applications are online. The application due date for courses commencing in Semester one 2018 is at the end of September in all states. It is recommended that you familiarise yourself with the application information on the relevant websites.

- **New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory** - [Universities Admissions Centre](#) (UAC)
- **South Australia and the Northern Territory** - [South Australian Tertiary Admissions Centre](#) (SATAC)
- **Tasmania** - Apply directly to the [University of Tasmania](#)

- **Victoria** - [Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre \(VTAC\)](#)
- **Western Australia** - [Tertiary Institutions Service Centre \(TISC\)](#)

What are cut-offs?

In simple terms, cut-offs are the OP/rank of the last QTAC applicant to be given a course place before all the available places in the course were filled in any given offer round. Cut-offs are not normally predetermined. They are the result of supply and demand. That is:

- Number of places available in the course
- Number applicants who meet the minimum entry requirements
- OP/rank of those applicants. Note that an applicant's OP or rank may be improved by bonuses e.g. Educational Access Scheme, Subject Bonus Schemes.

Consequently, cut-offs can change from year to year. For example, the following are the OP cut-offs in the QTAC January offer round for two courses in selected years.

Year	UQ B Arts	QUT B Creative Industries
2003	OP 8	OP 6
2006	OP 12	OP 12
2011	OP 10	OP 8
2014	OP 12	OP 10
2015	OP 12	OP 11
2016	OP 12	OP 13
2017	OP 11	OP 13

The OP/rank cut-offs for entry to courses commencing in Semester one 2017 (based on cut-offs for the major offer round on 16 January 2017) can be found on the [QTAC website](#).

Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority

2017 QCS Test special provision

Special provision is available to students who are affected by a medical condition, an impairment or exceptional circumstances that may act as a barrier to their access to the test or to their demonstration of achievement in the test. Applications are submitted to the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) by your school. Applications close on 21 May 2017. If you feel that you meet the above criteria, contact your school Guidance Officer/Counsellor. More information is available on the [QCAA website](#).



Study Skills

Are you an expert procrastinator?

Do you regularly and voluntarily delay or postpone something until a later date? You are probably aware by now that procrastination can be counterproductive as it can cause stress and guilt and make life more difficult in the long term. So, why not do something about this unhelpful habit. Seek Learning offers the following procrastination tips.

Set goals and schedules - Your first step is to understand exactly how much study you need to do each week and make yourself accountable by setting specific, achievable goals and making a schedule. You're far less likely to procrastinate if you tell yourself that you've allocated study for a specific part of the day than if you just promise to study *sometime* today.

Eat the frog - As the author of dozens of novels, short stories, non-fiction works and essays, Mark Twain knew a thing or two about productivity, and famously advised people to "eat a live frog" first thing in the morning - figuratively, of course. The live frog is the biggest and most important task of the day, and it's often the most unpleasant. Your 'live frog' is the task most likely to lead to procrastination if you don't tackle it straight away. By eating the frog first, you can get on with your day knowing the toughest job has already been achieved.

Dangle a carrot - Is there something else you'd rather be doing? Think of that more enjoyable activity as a carrot you can dangle in front of yourself. Promising yourself a reward after you've completed your study session can be a wonderful motivator to get it done.

Eliminate temptation - What temptations usually lure you into procrastination mode? Figure out what they are and then eliminate them so you can focus on your study goals. For example, if you find it hard to sit down and study when you know household chores need to be done, take your books or laptop to the local library, where laundry and dishes can be put out of sight and mind. If you find yourself checking emails or browsing Facebook, download a productivity app that blocks certain websites on your computer for a set period of time.

Forget perfection - Many of us procrastinate because we fear failure, we're intimidated by a task, or because we put ourselves under pressure to do something perfectly. Instead of aiming for perfection or feeling overwhelmed, focus on just getting started. Simply read the first page of your text book, or begin jotting down notes for your essay. Getting something done is far better than doing nothing at all and you'll often find that once you get the ball rolling, your motivation to continue will increase.

Visit [Seek Learning](#) for more study tips. While you're at the computer watch a video on [How to stop procrastinating](#).

Youth Enrichment Activities

Join a LEO Club

Leo clubs are sponsored by Lions Clubs International. They encourage young men and women, 12 – 30 years of age, to serve others in their community and around the world. Find out more on the [Leo Clubs website](#).

National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) 2017

NYSF is a 12-day residential program that runs during the summer school holidays each January in Canberra. The program is for students entering Year 12 who are passionate about science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM). It aims to show participants the wide variety of study and career options in STEM fields. Students apply to attend this program through their local Rotary Club. Expressions of interest are now open and will close on 31 May 2017. Visit the [NYSF website](#) for detailed information about the application.