



Options Career Information Bulletin

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Apprenticeships & Traineeships

Apprenticeship Support Australia

For information about apprenticeships, visit the [Apprenticeship Support Australia website](#) and click on 'Apprentices'. Here you will find information about apprenticeship wages, qualifications, registered training organisations, school-based apprenticeships, how to get an apprenticeship and how you can access mentoring support. On the site, you can also schedule a free career consultation with a career adviser.

Apprenticeships through Group Training Organisations

Registering with a Group Training Organisation (GTO) is one strategy to try when looking for an apprenticeship. GTOs employ apprentices and trainees and place them with a host employer until the apprenticeship or traineeship has been completed. For more information about GTOs, visit the [Group Training Australia website](#). This site includes a list of GTOs and their contact information. The Pathways to Success section of the website has short videos of apprentices and trainees talking about their training.

The banner features a dark blue background with a network of glowing, light blue lines that resemble a neural network or a complex web of connections. The text 'AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE' is centered in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE

Upcoming Defence Force Information Sessions

Gold Coast – Thursday 20 April 2017 at 6 pm - *Commando Information Session* at Defence Force Recruiting Gold Coast, 14 Edgewater Ct, Robina. Book your spot [here](#).

Mackay – Thursday 20 April 2017 at 6 pm - *Trade Careers Information Session* at Quest Mackay, 38 MacAlister Street, Mackay. Book your spot [here](#).

Cairns – Friday 21 April at 6 pm - *Pilot and Aviation Careers Information Session* at Defence Force Recruiting Cairns, 55 Lake Street, Cairns. Book your spot [here](#).

Townsville – Wednesday 26 April 2017 at 6 pm - *Commando Information Session* at Defence Force Recruiting Townsville, 136-184 Ogden Street, Townsville. Book your spot [here](#).

For details and dates for Army Reserve Information Sessions, visit the [Defence Jobs Australia Facebook page](#).



Career planning tools

[CAREERinsite](#) is a Canadian website that has several free career planning tools. A way to use this site and tie it into Australian occupational information is:

- Scroll down to 'Get started' and sign up.
- Do the 'Know yourself' quiz. The quiz can help you identify the job activities you like. The report at the end of the quiz summarises your preferences and links these to a list of jobs. Select jobs from the list you would like to explore further.
- The 'Explore options' section encourages you to:

- read about the jobs you have selected. For Australian content, go to Occupations on the [myfuture website](#) (sign up if this your first visit to the site) or Explore Careers on the [Skillsroad website](#)

- talk to people already in these jobs

- try the jobs (e.g. do work experience or follow someone already in the job for a couple of days).

Through these activities, you can narrow down your list of jobs, retaining those you most like.

- The 'Get ready' section helps you compare the remaining jobs on your list.
- The 'Take action' section helps you develop an action plan for your next step which could be to apply for a course or to find a job.

Got a business idea but don't know where to start?

Visit the [Enterprise Network for Young Australians \(ENYA\) website](#). ENYA is a not-for-profit organisation run by young people for young enterprising people who are eager to start their own business. The ENYA site has a range of resources, including a step-by-step process for getting funding for your business.

How to make better career decisions

The myfuture website has a resource called The Adventures of You executive function guide. Executive functions are the mental skills needed to make decisions, including career and course decisions. These include planning, reasoning, prioritising, problem solving, task flexibility, execution and monitoring actions. [The Adventures of You site](#) includes three animated videos that will help you understand these skills.

Skillsroad – a career exploration website

The [Skillsroad](#) website has many activities that can help you get started on your career exploration. They include:

- Career quiz – learn more about yourself, your strengths and talents and the jobs you might be attracted to
- Job fit Test – are you job ready? Find out by doing this test
- Explore careers – comprehensive information on over 350 jobs
- Industry videos – listen to the stories of people already on the job
- Training and study options – information about apprenticeships and traineeships, university, Vocational Education and Training.

The site also provides information on job seeking skills such as finding a job, preparing for interviews, resume builder and a jobs board. A Work Readiness course can be accessed for a fee from the site.

Competitions

BUFTA short film competition

Bond University Film and Television Awards (BUFTA) is a short film competition for aspiring filmmakers from Years 11 and 12 across Australia. There are six categories in the competition – Animation, Comedy, Documentary, Drama, Experimental Film and Music Video. Entries open on 1 May 2017 and close on 30 September 2017. Visit the [BUFTA website](#) for competition details and to view the 2016 BUFTA Gala Awards Ceremony.

Screen It 2017

Fancy yourself as a filmmaker, animator or video game creator? This is the competition for you. Screen It is Australia's national moving image competition for school-aged students. This year the theme of the competition is 'Time'. Entries for 2017 close on 25 September. For details, resources and a look at last year's winners, visit the [website](#). Talk to a teacher or your school Guidance Officer/Counsellor about entering this competition.

The Spaghetti Bridge Competition

This competition tests the engineering skills of students and provides them with experience in the planning, creativity, problem solving and team work required for a career in engineering. Teams are challenged to build the strongest bridge weighing no more than 300 g (including a load plate), constructed with only store-bought spaghetti and glue and to span a gap of 35 cm. Students from Years 7 to 12 are encouraged to compete for cash prizes. This year there will be three test locations:

- Townsville – 13 August 2017 – James Cook University
- Northern Brisbane/Sunshine Coast – 18 August 2017 – St Eugene College, Burpengary
- Central/Southern Brisbane/Gold Coast – 21 August 2017 – venue to be confirmed.

Find out more on the [Spaghetti Bridge Competition website](#). Talk to your Science and/or Maths teachers about entering this competition.

Young Australian Art Awards

Students from primary and secondary schools are invited to participate in this competition. There are five art categories: Indigenous, Drawing, Painting, Computer Art and Photography. There are three age groups:

Junior (Prep to Year 4), Middle (Year 5 to Year 8), Senior (Year 9 to Year 12). To enter your artwork, you will need to obtain a digital image of your piece of work and submit this image online through the [website](#). Entries close on 6 October 2017.



Applying for medicine/dental/physiotherapy/veterinary courses at James Cook University (JCU)

The following courses offered by JCU require a QTAC application as well as a direct application to JCU.

- B Medicine/B Surgery (Townsville campus)
- B Dental Surgery (Cairns campus)
- B Veterinary Science (Townsville campus)
- B Physiotherapy (Townsville campus)

These JCU courses have a rural, remote, tropical and Indigenous communities focus. Consequently, an important requirement of the JCU direct application is to demonstrate interest, experience, understanding and/or exposure to rural and/or remote locations and conditions. Applicants living in metropolitan areas will find this challenging. You will need to think creatively about how you can obtain the experience/knowledge this year. Some ideas are:

- work-experience during the holidays with a rural practitioner
- attend [FEAST](#) and/or [TASTE](#) (for vet science)
- interview practitioners who have worked in rural/remote areas
- research the challenges for practitioners in rural/remote areas
- learn about Northern Australia
- find out as much as you can about the content of the JCU courses from brochures, the JCU website, career expos, [TSXPO](#) and other career/course events
- organise a guided tour of the relevant JCU campus (see the [website](#))
- if possible, attend a JCU open day (13 August 2017 for the [Townsville campus](#) and 20 August 2017 for the [Cairns campus](#)).

You can view last year's (2016 applications for entry in 2017) JCU direct application [here](#). The applications website is usually updated in July for the following year. The due date for applying to QTAC is 29 September 2017. The date for submitting the JCU direct application form is normally the same as the QTAC due date. This date will be confirmed in the *QTAC Guide* distributed to schools in May/June. You can access the prerequisites for the courses from the [JCU website](#).

Bond with Bond seminars

Students considering applying to Bond University at the end of Year 12 are invited to these seminars. They will be held in:

- Cairns - 28 April 2017 from 6.30 pm - 7.30 pm at Hilton Cairns, 34 Esplanade, Cairns
- Brisbane - 15 June 2017, from 6 – 8 pm at Marriott Brisbane, 515 Queen Street, Brisbane

- Townsville - 27 June 2017 from 6 – 7.30 pm at JAM Restaurant, 1 Palmer Street, South Townsville
- Toowoomba - 11 July 2017 from 6 – 8 pm at Toowoomba Grammar School, 24 Margaret Street, Toowoomba
- Gold Coast - 12 July 2017 from 6 pm – 8 pm at Bond University, 14 University Drive, Robina

Visit the [Bond with Bond website](#) for more information and to register to attend.

Events at the University of Southern Queensland (USQ)

Get writing workshop: Words begat words – As part of the USQ Get Writing Prize, a short story and poetry competition for high school students, USQ is running free writing workshops for any high school student that is interested in attending. This workshop will focus on editing. It will be held from 4 – 6 pm on Wednesday 26 April 2017 at the Toowoomba campus. [Register](#) for details about the workshop.

Years 11 and 12 Student Experience Days – These events will provide students in Years 11 and 12 with an opportunity to participate in an academic taster session related to their career and study interests as well as general topic sessions about university life. The experience days will be held from 8.15 am – 2.30 pm on:

- Tuesday 2 May 2017 at the Ipswich campus
- Thursday 4 May 2017 at the Springfield campus
- Thursday 11 May at the Toowoomba campus.

Visit the [website](#) for more information and to register your attendance.

Careers Day at the Ipswich campus – Year 9 and 10 students are invited to an on-campus experience that will explore the study options available. Schools can now submit an expression of interest to attend this event to be held on Friday 9 June 2017. Visit the [website](#) for details.

James Cook University (JCU) Information Session in Mackay

JCU will hold this event from 5 – 7 pm on Wednesday 3 May 2017 at Mackay Grande Suites, 9 Gregory Street, Mackay. This session is an opportunity to explore your study options at JCU. Please [register to attend](#) this session.

Meet the University of the Sunshine Coast (USC) event

USC will hold this event at its Fraser Coast campus from 3 – 6 pm on Tuesday 9 May 2017. On the day, you can check out the campus facilities, attend a career planning session and information sessions on study areas you are interested in. Visit the [website](#) for details and to register for this event.

News from CQUniversity (CQUni)

Capricorn Careers Expo - If you are a school student, school leaver, looking to upskill or searching for a career change, visit the CQUni booth at the Capricorn Careers Expo on Wednesday 10 May 2017 from 9 am –

3 pm. The event will provide an opportunity to speak with CQUni academics and teachers, while exploring your career and pathway opportunities. Entry to the event is free.

University Experience Bundaberg - University Experience is a free, one day on-campus event allowing Year 12 students to explore their post-high school options, including both higher education degrees and TAFE. This year's [CQUni Bundaberg University Experience Day](#) will be held on Friday 12 May 2017 from 8.30 am - 2.30 pm. The event will provide high school students with an opportunity to experience a day in the life of a university student.

Open Days - If you are interested in finding out more about CQUniversity, or have specific questions about your course of interest, student support services, or anything else to do with studying with CQUni, come along to an event and get the answers you need to start your studies. CQUni holds annual Open Days as well as on-campus Information Sessions, TAFE Expos and even Online Chat Sessions, so there's bound to be an event to suit you. [Register your interest](#) to keep up-to-date with event updates as they're promoted.

More upcoming events and activities

- Friday 21 April 2017 - [STEPS Information Session](#) at many CQUni campuses. STEPS is a free, Centrelink approved pathways course that is designed to help you acquire the necessary skills, knowledge and confidence to enter university.
- Tuesday 9 May 2017 - [Online Chat Session](#). Online/Facebook Messenger chat for students interested in studying at CQUni.
- Friday 19 May 2017 - [Mackay University Experience](#). Free one day on-campus event allowing Year 12 students to explore post-school options.
- Friday 26 May 2017 - [STEPS Information Session](#) at many CQUni campuses.

NIDA Term two classes in Brisbane

The National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA) will be offering [Acting for Grades 11 and 12](#) this term in Brisbane. The program will be delivered at [TAFE Brisbane](#) on weekends, commencing on 30 April 2017.

Qld School of Film and Television (QSFT) Photography workshop

[QSFT](#) will offer the Shoot It!: Introduction to Photography workshop from 9 am – 1 pm on Saturday 13 May 2017 at its Annerley campus. [Submit an expression of interest](#) to attend this workshop.

Registrations are open for the June/July Engineering Link Projects

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](#) to download an event flyer and to register. The dates and venues for the June/July 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.

To register on the website, scroll down to the table and click 'Register' for the relevant event.

Snippets from the University of Queensland (UQ)

Concurrent Diplomas at UQ – UQ students can study diplomas in Music Performance and Languages at the same time they are undertaking their undergraduate degree. See the [website](#) for details.

WE Explore Engineering Day – Students in Years 10 – 12 are invited to this event to be held from 8.45 am – 2.30 pm on Thursday 4 May 2017. Workshops on the day include Take Flight with Boeing, 3D Manufacturing and Materials of the Future, and AYAA Rocket program. For more information and to register to attend, visit the [website](#).

Experience Science workshops – These interactive workshops, to be held at the St Lucia campus on 7, 12, 13 and 14 July 2017, are for students in Years 10 – 12. They provide an opportunity to discover what studying science at UQ is like and how it is applied in industry today. Students can [register](#) as a school group or as individuals.

Undergraduate Guide for 2018 – This publication can be downloaded from the [UQ website](#). It contains information about the courses that will be offered in 2018, a table of all courses with prerequisites and previous OP/rank cut-offs, and everything else you need to know about life at UQ.

UQ Link Program – This is a special admissions [scheme](#) to assist prospective students who have experienced educational disadvantage due to financial hardship to gain entry to UQ. All eligible students receive five bonus rank points, a \$3,000 per year scholarship for up to three years and access to support services. To apply for this program, you complete the Financial Hardship section of [QTAC's Educational Access Scheme \(EAS\)](#) when you apply for courses through QTAC.

UQ OP Guarantee – Under this [scheme](#), if you achieve an OP 1 – 5, you are guaranteed entry into your highest eligible course preference in the January major offer round for most of UQ's undergraduate courses, regardless of the course cut-offs.

UQ Bonus Rank Scheme – This [scheme](#) provides up to five bonus rank points towards your entry if you have passed an approved language other than English (LOTE) or Queensland Senior Mathematics C (or equivalent), or if you have successfully completed a university-level subject.

TAFE Queensland Roundup

TAFE QLD Brisbane

- **Doing Years 11 and 12 differently** – The Alexandra Hills campus offers a Year 11 and 12 program. Students can take an OP or a Vocational pathway as well as meeting the eligibility criteria for the Queensland Certificate of Education. Visit the [Senior College website](#) for information about the subjects available. There will be a mid-year intake for Year 11 students at the Alexandra Hills campus on 12 June 2017. You can download the 'Do Year 11 & 12 Differently' course guide from the website.

- **TAFE at School Parent Information Evening** – This event is for the parents of prospective TAFE at School students to provide them with information about the program and its benefits. It will be held from 6 – 7.30 pm on Wednesday 24 May 2017 at the South Bank campus. Visit the [website](#) for more information. Registrations will open shortly.

TAFE Qld Gold Coast

- Gold Coast TAFE campuses will be represented at the Supanova Pop and Culture Expo on 21 – 23 April 2017 and the Gold Coast Careers Festival on 10 and 11 May 2017. These events are opportunities to explore your study options at TAFE.

TAFE Qld South West

TAFE at School Open Days – These open days will be held on 16 May 2017 at Bundamba campus and 23 May 2017 at Toowoomba campus. They are for potential TAFE at School students to explore their study options. Schools can now register on the [website](#) to participate in these open days.

The Big Day In – IT Conference

If you are interested in future jobs and opportunities in the computer/IT field, consider attending the ‘The Big Day In’ conference. This conference is designed by students for students in high school (Years 9 – 12) and university students interested in a career in technology. In 2017, The Big Day In will be held on:

- Thursday 27 April at the [University of the Sunshine Coast](#)
- Wednesday 31 May at [Griffith University, Gold Coast campus](#)
- Thursday 8 June at the [University of Queensland](#)

More information and to buy tickets (\$10 per student), visit the relevant website.

The Good Universities Guide

This guide provides information on Australian university courses, university ratings, careers and other tertiary study topics. It comes in three formats – a [website](#), an [e-book](#) and a hardcopy book which can be purchased from the [Good Education Bookshop](#). Information about scholarships is available on the website site. The Edu Blogs page on the website contains articles on a range of topics including tertiary study, student life and student stories. The latest posts include:

- [Taking a gap year: the pros and cons](#)
- [Part-time study: the pros and cons](#)
- [How to survive your first year of uni](#)
- [How to add an international spin to your degree.](#)

The USQ McGregor Winter School at USQ – for Arts enthusiasts

The McGregor Schools are held in January, July and September each year at the University of Southern Queensland (USQ), Toowoomba Campus. These schools are residential art retreats where participants learn and create alongside Australia’s finest musicians, artists and artisans. This year’s winter school will be held

from 3 – 7 July 2017. See the [website](#) for information about the workshops offered. Be quick as some of the workshops are already booked out.

Updates from Griffith University

New Griffith Apply website – This [site](#) provides information on the following topics in short video format:

- What you need to study at Griffith
- Applying to study at Griffith
- Pathways to study
- The cost of tertiary study.

After viewing the videos, scroll down and click on ‘High school students’. This section of the website has useful fact sheets related to admissions and entry pathways.

2018 Undergraduate Degrees Guide – In addition to information about the courses to be offered in 2018, the Guide provides a glimpse of the study opportunities available at Griffith. Included are briefs on scholarships, alternative entry options, bonus entry options, Griffith Honours College, Griffith Sports College, the Griffith campuses and how to apply. Download the Guide from the [website](#) (scroll down to ‘Undergraduate Brochure’).

Queensland Conservatorium auditions – Most of the courses offered by the Conservatorium require an audition as one of the entry prerequisites. Audition applications usually open in June. In 2017, they will close on 14 August 2017. The auditions will be held from 25 – 29 September 2017. The [Auditions website](#) will be updated for 2018 applications shortly. Note that if you don’t apply for an audition by the due date, you will not be considered for any courses requiring an audition at the Conservatorium.

Go Health, Go Griffith Experience Days – These one-day events are designed for Year 10 students to experience aspects of a health degree through practical and theoretical sessions delivered by health professionals and scientists. They will be held on Thursday 18, Friday 19 and Friday 26 May 2017 at the Logan campus. Talk to your science teacher or school guidance counsellor/officer if you are interested in attending as registrations are through your school. Visit the [website](#) for further information.

Science on the Go! – Think you know a lot of science facts? Test yourself on the Griffith [Science on the Go! website](#) quiz. The site has the latest science news, competitions and upcoming science and engineering events.

Updates from the Queensland University of Technology (QUT)

Lacking assumed knowledge for a QUT course? - [QUT bridging courses](#) in Maths B, Chemistry and Physics for Semester two are now open to help students gain the required assumed knowledge.

Parent Information Seminars – These seminars are for parents and students in Years 10 – 12. They will be held from 6 – 7.30 pm on:

- Tuesday 16 May 2017 at the Gardens Point campus
- Wednesday 17 May 2017 at North Lakes
- Thursday 18 May 2017 at the Caboolture campus.

Register to attend a seminar on the [website](#).

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students - QUT's Oodgeroo Unit offers the [Centralised Assessment Selection Program](#) entry pathway from mid-October for QTAC applicants who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander and place QUT within their top three preferences. Applicants need to have their [Confirmation of Australian Indigenous Heritage](#) from a [registered Indigenous corporation](#). As this process can take time, it is recommended that students and/or their parents start this process early.

What QUT courses fit my interests? – Take the [Match My Skills quiz](#) to find out.

Need help developing a fashion portfolio? 'Fashion Illustration for Beginners' is a short course that is held in April, May, June and November over two consecutive Saturdays at QUT's Creative Industries Precinct in Kelvin Grove. Applications for the May course close on 29 April 2017. Visit the [website](#) for details.

Employment

Five ways to market yourself to an employer

As part of the Generation Success initiative, a group of young people offered advice to young job seekers about finding their first job. One of their tips was 'Communication is king'. This involves highlighting your strengths to potential employers by marketing yourself well. The following are strategies you can use to market yourself during your job search.

Highlight your selling points - A selling point is a statement about a skill or quality you have that directly meets an employer's needs.

Phone an employer - 'Cold-calling' is when you contact someone who is not expecting your call. You can cold-call employers to ask about an advertised position or to ask about upcoming jobs. For each of these types of calls, you need to clearly explain the reason for your call.

Meet with employers - You may be meeting with an employer about future job opportunities, or interviewing someone who works in a similar job to the one that you are thinking about. Information interviews like this are great ways to explore the requirements of jobs before you make decisions about your career. They also show the employer that you have confidence and initiative.

Your career portfolio - A career portfolio is a personal collection of materials that document the events and achievements of your life. It helps you organise information so that you can apply for jobs, scholarships and courses.

Manage your reputation - The things you share online, and what others write about you, contribute to your online reputation. Many employers research candidates through Google search, LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and other social networking services.

Visit the [Generation Success website](#) for other strategies for young job seekers.

The most stressful and least stressful jobs of 2017

The CareerCast team ranked jobs according to 11 stress factors – amount of travel, growth potential, physical demands, environmental conditions, hazards encountered, meeting the public, competitiveness, death, life of another at risk, deadlines and working in the public-eye. The following are the top most stressful and least stressful jobs they came up with.

Most stressful jobs

- Enlisted Military Personnel
- Firefighter

- Airline Pilot
- Police Officer
- Event Coordinator
- Newspaper Reporter
- Senior Corporate Executive
- Public Relations Executive
- Taxi Driver
- Broadcaster

Least stressful jobs

- Diagnostic Medical Sonographer
- Compliance Officer
- Audiologist
- University Professor
- Medical Records Technician
- Jeweller
- Pharmacy Technician
- Medical Laboratory Technician

How you cope with stress is probably something you need to think about when exploring jobs. Read more about the CareerCast research on their [website](#).

Financial Assistance & Scholarships



Bursaries for female students

The National Council of Women of Queensland has launched its 2017 bursary program for female students. A few of the bursaries are for secondary students. These include:

- **Councillor Vicki Howard Bursary** for a female student, aged between 16 - 24 years, living in the Brisbane City Council area, enrolled in high school or tertiary studies, and identifying with the LGBTIQ community.
- **Elsie Byth Bursary** for Year 12 students planning to study teaching at the completion of Year 12.
- **Mayor Paul Pisasale Bursary** (two bursaries available) for a female resident of Ipswich City Council area enrolled in full-time Year 11/12 studies (possibly including a school-based vocational program), at a school within the Ipswich City Council area.
- **NCWQ Refugee Background Bursary** for a female high school student from a refugee background, having lived in Australia for at least 1 year.

Visit the [website](#) for more information and to download a flyer and application form. Applications close on 5 June 2017.

John Eales Rugby Excellence Scholarship at Bond University

This scholarship provides an opportunity for an outstanding young rugby union star to be mentored on and off the field. Applications for this scholarship are now open and will close on 31 July 2017. Visit the [website](#) for more information.



Gap Year Program News

Australians Abroad

This organisation provides international exchange opportunities. Program options include language courses and volunteer programs in countries in Africa, Asia/Pacific, Europe, North America and Latin America. For more information, visit the [website](#).

Gap Year program updates

Southern Cross Cultural Exchange will hold the following [Information Sessions](#) in Queensland.

- Wednesday 26 April 2017, from 7 – 9 pm, at Ruth Fairfax House, Spring Hill, Brisbane
- Thursday 4 May 2017, from 7 – 9 pm, in Cairns – contact SCCE on 1800 500 501 for information about the venue

World Education Program Student Exchange (WEP) will hold an Information Session at the Fulton Trotter Lounge, Spring Hill, Brisbane from 7 – 8.30 pm on Wednesday 3 May 2017. Register your attendance on the [website](#).

Rustic Pathways

Rustic Pathways has a range of programs of interest to students looking for something different at the end of Year 12. The programs offered include rustic tours, gap programs and school leaver experiences (e.g. alternative schoolies experiences). Visit the [website](#) for more information.

Indigenous

InspireU residential camps

These camps at the University of Queensland are for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. The camps are an opportunity for students to experience university life, participate in workshops and lectures on campus and explore different disciplines and career opportunities. Applications for the following camps open on 18 April 2017:

- InspireU Health Sciences for students in Years 11 and 12 will be held from 25 – 30 June 2017. Applications close on Friday 26 May 2017.
- InspireU Senior Engineering will be held from 3 – 7 July 2017. Applications close on 2 June 2017.
- InspireU Junior STEM for students in Years 9 and 10 will be held from 3 – 7 July 2017. Applications close on Friday 2 June 2017.

Visit the [InspireU website](#) for details and to apply when applications open.

University of Melbourne camp for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students

Murrup Barak Experience Camp, held at the University of Melbourne, is an opportunity for Year 11 and 12 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from outside Victoria to find out what it's like to study at the University of Melbourne. The camp will be held from 11 – 16 July 2017. For details and to apply, visit the [website](#). Applications close on 21 May 2017.



National Volunteer Week (NVW): 8 – 14 May 2017

Research shows that volunteers live happier and healthier lives. The NVW theme of Give Happy, Live Happy reflects these findings. This year, Volunteering Australia is encouraging all of us to volunteer in whatever capacity we can. According to NSW Volunteering, through volunteering, you will:

- gain new skills and knowledge
- boost your own job and career prospects
- enjoy a sense of achievement and fulfilment
- develop personally and boost self esteem
- enjoy better physical and mental health
- connect to and better understand your community
- meet new people and make new friends.

Keep track of NVW events on the Volunteering Australia [website](#).

Occupational Information



Careers in insurance

Visit the [Council of Queensland Insurance Brokers website](#) to find out about some of the specialist fields in this industry.

Careers in the Printing Industry

Jobs in this industry include graphic design, printing, multi-media and screen-printing. For more information about these jobs and the pathways for gaining entry to them, see the [Future Print website](#).

Want to work with animals? Six ways to get a job on the wild side

Most animal jobs are competitive. To gain entry to these occupations, you need to have a plan. An [article](#) in the Australian edition of 'The Guardian' offers six strategies to help you gain a job in this field. The following is a summary of the strategies.

Volunteer – Begin by volunteering at a local kennel, animal charity (e.g. RSPCA, Animal Rescue Qld.) or zoo/animal attraction (e.g. Australia Zoo, Sea World, Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary). This will give you an understanding of the day-to-day tasks of the work. Volunteering is also a good way of showing that you are committed and willing to go the extra mile.

Make the most of your volunteering – Document it. Make opportunities to learn new skills that could help you in the future. Talk to people working in the field to find out how they got their jobs and about the options out there.

Get qualified - Find out the qualifications, work experience and other things that employers, education and training providers require.

Don't limit yourself - Keep an open mind. You may find something en route to your original goal that you had never thought of and love.

Don't forget your people skills - Any employment within the animal-based industry will require clear communication skills and the ability to work in a team.

Persevere - You need perseverance if you really want to work in a specific job. It may take longer than you want, but the job satisfaction and rewards are worth it.

What is ICT?

How do you communicate with your friends – SMS, Twitter, Google Plus, Tumblr, Instagram, Snapchat, Pandora, Facebook, Instagram? When you use any of these channels of communication, you are using Information and Communications Technology (ICT).

As tomorrow's ICT professional you are likely to be working with technologies that do not exist yet. You will have your choice of industry – banking and finance, health, insurance, defence, manufacturing, telecommunications, agriculture, environment, hospitality – you name it. Here are a few examples of the careers in the many ICT pathways available.

- The Dreamer – Designer, Developer, Programmer, Systems Analyst
- The Team Player - Account Manager, Support Technician, Computer Engineer
- The Inventor – Network Administrator, ICT Architect, ICT Consultant, Programmer
- The Constructor – Database Coordinator, Network Administrator, Security Analyst
- The Big Thinker – Business Systems Planner, ICT Trainer, Project Manager

You can find this information and much more on the [I Choose Technology website](#). The site provides information about the ICT industry in Australia, ICT jobs and salaries, courses, and the profiles of people with ICT jobs.

Open Days, Expos & Career Markets



Aviation Australia (AA) Information Sessions

AA offers accredited Aeroskills, Cabin Crew and Pilot training. It will hold the following information sessions from 6.30 – 8.30 pm on Wednesday 26 April 2017.

- [Aeroskills Information Session](#)
- [Cabin Crew Career Session](#)

Visit the [AA website](#) for more information about their courses. Please register to attend an information session.

Gold Coast Careers and Employment Festival

The [2017 Festival](#) will be held on Wednesday 10 and Thursday 11 May at the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre at Broadbeach. Over 80 education and employment exhibitors will staff booths. In addition, there will be an international student zone, practical skills workshops and presentations. The content of the workshops and presentations will be up on the website shortly.

JMC Academy - Creative Industries Information Session

JMC, located in South Brisbane, offers diploma and degree courses in Animation, Audio Engineering and Sound Production, Contemporary Music and Performance, Film and Television Production, Entertainment Business Management, Digital Design, Game Development and Song Writing. JMC will hold its next information session from 5.30 – 6.30 pm on Thursday 27 April 2017. Book to attend the session on the [website](#).

New York Film Academy (NYFA), Gold Coast Open Day

NYFA offers accredited Advanced Diploma and Diploma courses in Film Making, Acting for Film and Screenwriting. It will hold its next open day from 10 am – 12 noon on Saturday 22 April 2017. Note that students under 18 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. RSVP on the [NYFA website](#).

SAE Qantm - Creative Media Institute Info Night

The SAE Brisbane campus is in West End. It offers diploma and degree courses in Animation, Audio, Design, Film and Games. The Institute will hold an Info Night from 6 – 8 pm on Thursday 20 April 2017. Visit the [website](#) for more information about the courses offered and to register to attend the Info Night.

Think Education Colleges Open Day

The following Think Education colleges will hold an open day on Saturday 29 April 2017 at their Brisbane campuses. You need to register to attend these events.

- **APM College of Business and Communication** offers degrees and diplomas in business, management, marketing, public relations and event management. Visit the [website](#) for more information and to register your attendance.
- **William Blue College of Hospitality Management** offers courses in Business, Hospitality Management, Commercial Cookery, Tourism and Event Management. Visit the [website](#) to register your attendance.
- **Australian College of Natural Therapies** offers courses in Nutrition, Naturopathy, Massage, Health Science, Sports Development, and Western Herbal Medicine. See the [website](#) for more information and to register your attendance.
- **CATC Design School** offers accredited diploma level courses in Graphic Design, Interior Design and Decoration, and Photo Imaging. Visit the [website](#) to register to attend.
- **Billy Blue College of Design** offers degree courses in Branded Fashion Design, Communication Design, Digital Media and Interior Design. Register to attend on the [website](#).

University of New England (UNE) Open Day

This event will be held at the UNE Armidale campus from 9 am – 2.30 pm on Friday 5 May 2017. It gives you the chance to explore the campus and its academic, cultural, sporting and residential life. Activities on the day include future student information sessions, competitions and prizes, tours and academic course advice. Visit the [Open Day website](#) for more information and to download an Open Day program.

Overseas Studies

Crimson Education

Crimson Education provides [admissions support](#) for students wishing to apply for universities in the USA, UK, New Zealand and Australia. [Sports scholarship support](#) is also available. Visit the [Crimson website](#) for information about their programs. You can schedule a free consultation on the site.

Study medicine in Samoa

The Oceania University of Medicine, located in Apia, Samoa offers a four-year (graduate entry) B Medicine/B Surgery, graduates of which are eligible to sit for licensing exams in Australia. Applicants are required to have successfully completed an undergraduate degree (any field of study). They may also be required to sit for GAMSAT. For information about the course, visit the [Oceania university of Medicine website](#).



QTAC & Tertiary Entry

New additional entry requirement for teaching courses

Applicants for teaching degrees must submit a written statement addressing suitability criteria for the course when they apply as part of their QTAC application. Information on the selection guidelines including the process for assessment of non-academic capabilities is available from the [QTAC website](#).

Start university while still at school

The following universities in Queensland offer programs that enable high achieving students in Years 11 and/or 12 to have a university experience through studying a university subject. The subjects may be free and may provide credit towards a university degree at the end of Year 12 and/or guarantee entry to a degree at the end of Year 12. Successful completion of a university subject will contribute credit towards your Queensland Certificate of Education and may give you bonus points towards your university application when you apply through QTAC. Entry to these programs must have the support of your school and your parents.

Bond University has a Student for a Semester program for academically capable students in Years 11 and 12 who live on the Gold Coast, Brisbane and Northern New South Wales. Applications for the September Semester open on 30 June 2017. Visit the [website](#) for details of the program.

CQUniversity has a Start Uni Now (SUN) program for students in Years 11 and 12. Applications for Term two (10 July – 6 October 2017) will close on 23 June 2017. See the [SUN website](#) for more information.

Christian Heritage College has a LAUNCH program for students in Year 11 (Semester two only) and Year 12 (Semester one only). Applications for Semester two are now open. Visit the [LAUNCH website](#) for more information.

The **Griffith University** Early Start to Tertiary Study (GUESTS) program is offered to students in Year 12. Applications for Trimester two (3 July – 22 September 2017) close on 30 May 2017. See the [GUEST website](#) for more information.

The **Queensland University of Technology's** (QUT) Start QUT Program is offered to students in Year 12. Applications for Semester two 2017 (the semester commences in July) close on Sunday 14 May 2017. See the [Start QUT website](#) for more information.

The **University of Queensland** offers an Enhanced Studies Program (ESP) for Year 12 students. Applications close in the year before commencing the program (usually in October). See the [website](#) for more information.

The **University of Southern Queensland** (USQ) has a Head Start Program for students in Years 10 - 12. This program is offered on-campus at USQ's Toowoomba, Springfield and Ipswich Campuses, or via distance education. Applications for Semester two (10 July – 3 November 2017) close on 5 June 2017. See the [Head Start website](#) for more information.

The **University of the Sunshine Coast** has a Headstart Program for students in Years 11 and 12. Applications for Semester two (24 July – 17 November 2017) close on 26 May 2017. See the [Headstart website](#) for more information.

Universities often hold information sessions to inform students and their parents about these programs. Find out about these sessions on the websites listed above.

Time is passing Year 12s

Did you know there are only four months left until the QTAC online application is activated (3 August 2017). You need to begin serious planning for 2018 if you have not already started. If you haven't a clue where to start or aren't aware of your options, make an appointment with your school Guidance Officer/Counsellor ASAP. Starting this term, you will have many opportunities to explore your options. For example:

- 2 – 3 June 2017 - [Brisbane Careers and Employment Expo](#) at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre. Also, [careers expos](#) will be held in regional centres throughout Queensland.
- From May to September most of the institutions have [open days](#) at which you can obtain information about courses and check out the campuses.
- You will receive the *QTAC Guide* in May/June. This booklet contains information about courses you can apply for through QTAC and application processes.
- 15 – 16 July 2017 - [Tertiary Studies Expo](#) (TSXPO) at the RNA showgrounds. Interstate universities will be represented at this expo.
- From 3 August 2017, you can access a range of up-to-date information about the 2017/18 QTAC application and offer processes and the courses offered from the [QTAC website](#).

Take advantage of all these opportunities to plan your immediate future. If you intend to apply to QTAC for entry to tertiary courses in 2018, the on-time application due date is 29 September 2017.

UMAT practice exam

The My Health Career website has an [article on UMAT](#) presented by MedEntry. The article includes a link to a UMAT practice exam which includes the exam questions, answers and fully worked solutions.

UMAT reminders

Students applying for medicine and other health science courses may be required to sit for the Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admission Test (UMAT) as part of the application process. You register to sit for the test on the [UMAT website](#). On time registrations close at 5 pm on 2 June 2017. Late registrations are accepted up to 5 pm on 16 June 2017 (a late fee of \$65 applies). The test date is 26 July 2017. Results will be available in late September 2017. Some important points are:

- It is essential that you read the entire UMAT 2017 Information Booklet and complete the UMAT Registration Tutorial before you register for UMAT 2017. Both resources are available on the UMAT website.
- UMAT scores can be used for admission only in the year following the test. Do not register for UMAT 2017 unless you are planning to apply for a course commencing in 2018.
- You can only register to sit for UMAT 2017 if you have already completed or plan to complete Year 12 in 2017 (Year 11 students or students in the first year of a two-year Year 12 cannot sit for UMAT 2017).



Regaining your life balance – the Wheel of Life

When study demands take over your life, it's all too easy to find yourself off balance, not paying enough attention to other important areas of your life. This is where the Wheel of Life activity on the [MindTools website](#) can be useful. It helps you take a 'helicopter view' of your life, so you can bring things back into balance and manage your life more effectively. The MindTools website has other topics (e.g. Time Management and Decision Making) you might find useful.

Studywell – QUT's study skills site

[Studywell](#) has been developed for QUT students to help them with all aspects of study. While its intended audience is university students, you might find the following topics useful for your senior studies:

- Study management – watch the video; download weekly and exam planners; use the assignment calculator; view the Effective Learning Strategies slides.
- Exam preparation – read the Exam Plan and Prep – A brief 'how-to' guide; view the slides on Exam Types; read about Emergency Test Preparation.

Youth Enrichment Activities

Young Leaders July Program at Trinity College, University of Melbourne

Interested in a residential experience at the University of Melbourne with other young people eager to experience university and develop their academic and personal skills? Check out the [Young Leaders July Program at Trinity College](#). Applications are now open and will close on 2 June 2017. Scholarships are available.