



Options Career Information Bulletin

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Australian Apprenticeship Pathway Website

The [Australian Apprenticeships Pathways website](#) provides a central hub for information to help you start your apprenticeship or traineeship journey. The website specifically allows you to:

- Identify your career interests with the [Work Type Explorer](#) and the [Career Interest Explorer](#).
- Explore available job and training descriptions [here](#).
- Access Job Pathway Charts that show job and career pathways that can start with an apprenticeship [here](#).
- Read about the steps to becoming an apprentice or trainee [here](#).

Writing a resume for the Construction Industry

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

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

AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE

Defence Information Sessions

Information about ADF events' sessions can be accessed on the ADF [Facebook](#) site.

Upcoming Events:

07/11/2018	Careers for Indigenous Australians in Defence <i>Maroochydore</i>
13/11/2018	Army Reserve Information Session <i>Maroochydore</i>
13/11/2018	Health Careers Information session <i>Cairns</i>
13/11/2018	Defence Careers Information Session <i>Gold Coast</i>
14/11/2018	School to Service Information Session <i>Cairns</i>
14/11/2018	Health Careers Information session <i>Townsville</i>
16/11/2018	Women in Defence Information session <i>Sunshine Coast</i>
21/11/2018	Influencers Networking Lunch <i>Gold Coast</i>
21/11/2018	Defence Careers Information Session <i>Toowoomba</i>
26/11/2018	Women in Defence Information session <i>Toowoomba</i>
26/11/2018	Defence Careers Information Session <i>Brisbane</i>
27/11/2018	Defence Careers Information Session <i>Caloundra</i>
28/11/2018	School to Service Information Session <i>Townsville</i>
19/11/2018	Women in Defence Information session <i>Brisbane</i>



Beyond School Study Guide

This guide is a digital resource for students in Years 10 – 12 to help them in planning for their future education. It provides information in infographic format with links to useful webpages. Topics covered include:

- Higher education or VET – this page has a link to a Career Quiz
- Pathways to university
- Choose your own higher education adventure
- Higher education government financial assistance
- Fact sheets on: Commonwealth Supported Places and HECS-HELP; FEE-HELP; VET Student Loans; SA-HELP; and OS-HELP.

Click [here](#) to view the guide.

How to choose a course if you're not sure what it is you want to do

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

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

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

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

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

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

Some of the above information is adapted from the [Good Universities Guide website](#). The [Where do I start](#) section on this website may also give you some ideas.

Match your career to your values

Self-awareness is the first step in exploring your career options. Self-awareness is having knowledge of things such as your interests (especially your career interests), strengths, aspirations and values. What are your values? Not sure? The WA Career Centre website has a free Values Card Sort Tool that can help you rate a series of values. At the end of the activity, you are given a report that outlines the values that are most and least important to you. Access the tool [here](#). When reading about or talking to people about the jobs you are considering, think about whether your most important values will be met in these jobs.

Disabilities

Disability services at QUT

Studying at uni can be challenging at times, and even more so if you have a disability, injury or health condition (which can be permanent, temporary, episodic or fluctuating). If you are planning to study at QUT, get in touch with our [Disability Advisers](#) early. Your appointments with Disability Services are free and confidential. Information will not appear on your student record.

Employment

6 Essential Jobs that didn't exist 10 years ago

SEEK have looked at six jobs that did not exist in 2008 but have now become integral roles within organisations. Details of these 6 jobs along with their pay and required skills are set out below:

1. **SEO Specialist** – Someone who optimises websites using strategic text that increases its exposure in search engines, for an average salary of \$82,120. The key required skills include being adaptable, a good problem solver and excellent at communication.
2. **Cloud architect** – Business process role that is responsible for overseeing a company's strategy for internet-based computing, for an average salary of \$145,527. The key skills required include excellent technical skills, strong problem solving capacity and good planning and organisational skills.
3. **Data scientist** – Analyses the growing availability of data to draw meaningful conclusions to assist in how to grow sales and identify problematic areas, for an average salary of \$123,030. The key required skills include computer science skills, communication skills and problem-solving capacity.
4. **Digital Marketing specialist** – Responsible for driving brand awareness into the digital space for businesses, for an average salary of \$78,761. Key required skills include a methodical workflow, data analysis capability and creativity.
5. **User Experience Designer** – Ensures that the overall experience of a website, product or application is easy and pleasing for customer interactions, for an average salary of \$103,237. Key required skills involve being an effective researcher, excellent visual communication and information architecture skills.
6. **Content creator** – Creates information that audiences want to consume, most often to help businesses attract new customers, for an average salary of \$64,977. Key skills include excellent communication skills, social media knowledge and strong analytical skills.

Read the full [SEEK article](#) for more information.

ABS Labour market information

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) August 2018 Labour Force Survey data includes a range of employment characteristics for each of the 19 broad industries, including employment trends, median weekly earnings, projected employment growth and top employing occupations. You can access the information [here](#).

Four ways to stay positive during your job search

During your job search there can be times where it is hard to stay positive while dealing with knock-backs. The Australian Government has set out four key points to remember along the journey to smooth things out:

1. **Include practical activities as part of your job search strategy** – This could include work experience or volunteer work with a local community group. This has the dual benefit of distracting your mind and building your resume.
2. **Have realistic goals** – This is more achievable by dividing them up into short, medium and long-term goals. Sometimes it takes some lateral movement to get to where you want to be. You could consider an entry-level job and working your way up is a valid option.
3. **Ask for, and use, employer feedback** – Constant improvement is the best way to improving your chances. While it's normal to feel disappointed in making a mistake during an interview, its only truly a mistake if you repeat it in the next interview.
4. **Take care of yourself** – Take regular breaks during the search to keep you mind fresh. Catch up with friends, go outside and understand that a sustained, balanced effort trumps shot sporadic bursts.

Click [here](#) to read the Australian Government article and to access more resources.

How to lead in a disrupted world

This [TEDxYouth talk](#) is presented by Director of ilab, Bernie Woodcroft. Ilab is a Start-up Accelerator owned by the University of Queensland. He talks about the current and likely future changes in the world of work and the skills needed to be successful.

Job Jumpstart: Casual job opportunities for the Christmas break

Job Jumpstart is an Australian Government initiative that provides tools and articles for jobseekers at all stages of their career but is centred around the 3 stages of work: 'Looking for a Job', 'Building a Career' and 'At Work'. With the Christmas period fast approaching, Job Jumpstart sets out four tips for maximizing your chances of landing a Christmas casual opportunity:

1. **Start early** – Don't wait until December as some employers may have already started the search
2. **Be honest about your availability** – be upfront about days you will not be available. Don't rule yourself out of a position because you think they are expecting staff on call 24/7
3. **Make an effort on your personal presentation** – The short employment period does not mean they are looking for sub-standard staff. Tailor your resume to the job and make a good impression by presenting well.
4. **Use this as a stepping stone** – Use your time in the job to show you are a great asset to the business. This will either give you more opportunities in the future, or at least a good reference.

Read the full article on the [Job Jumpstart website](#).

Jobs Availability Snapshot 2018

This report, recently released by Anglicare Australia, shows what the job market is like for job seekers facing the greatest barriers to work e.g. those without qualifications or experience; those trying to re-enter the workforce; and those living in regional or remote areas. The results show a grave situation for these people. Up to five of these jobseekers are competing for each entry-level role across Australia. Read the report [here](#). This report highlights the importance of gaining qualifications and work experience. An article related to this report is [Young Australians left behind by jobs market](#).

Looking for work? Here are some tips

Two articles on the Year 13 site may be of interest to students looking for work, full-time, part-time or casual work. Read the articles:

- [7 ways to find your first job](#)
- [5 excuses that you need to ditch before you'll get a job](#).

Also visit the [Year13](#) website for information on apprenticeships, gap year programs, job vacancies, studying, money advice, internships and the fun of life after school.

Most jobs will be soft skills intensive by 2030

An [article](#) on the HRM site refers to several reports that support the prediction that soft skills will be in demand in the future job market. The article lists the following soft skills that will be in demand:

- Communication
- Friendly/Approachable
- Self-motivated/Ambitious
- Driven by outcomes
- Positive and enthusiastic.

Videos highlighting 21st Century skills

The Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) has produced several videos on the skills needed in the job market of the future. The content of the videos is directed at teachers, but is equally useful to young people. See the [QCAA website](#) to access the videos.

Financial Assistance & Scholarships



ACU: Scholarships

ACU offers a range of scholarships for commencing students that reward qualities ranging from academic achievement to supporting equality. There are nearly 400 scholarships on offer. Some scholarships contribute a one-off payment, while others provide support for each year of your degree. You can apply for as many scholarships as you want. View the scholarships available [here](#). Make sure you submit applications by the due date.

AgriFutures Horizon Scholarship

This scholarship is offered to students entering their first year of university in a degree related to agriculture. It offers \$5,000 for the final two years of your degree, in addition to professional development workshops and annual industry work placements. Applications for the 2019 scholarship program will open Monday 7 January 2019. Visit the [AgriFutures website](#) for more information.

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank 2019 Scholarship

This scholarship, valued at \$5,000 per year, is available to disadvantaged students from a rural or regional area, who have been offered a full-time place at an Australian university or college for the first time in 2019. Applications open on 3 December 2018. More information is available on the [website](#).

CQUniversity Vice-Chancellor's Pathway Scholarships

CQU's Vice-Chancellor's Pathway Scholarships are designed to support students transitioning from the SUN pathway program, CQUni Connect or BROLGA programs to a bachelor's degree at CQU. This scholarship provides a one-off payment of \$2,000 to assist with general expenses such as tuition and textbooks. There are two scholarships available:

- one for a transitioning [CQUni Connect or BROLGA student](#); and
- one for a transitioning [SUN student](#).

Applications opened 15 October 2018. The closing date for applications is 11 January 2019.

Griffith University Adam Scott Foundation Sports Business Scholarship

The Adam Scott Foundation is offering this scholarship in partnership with Griffith University. The Foundation would like to support a student who has overcome adversities in life and is passionate about business and sport. The scholarship will cover the student contribution charges. Applicants must apply and gain entry to one of the following Griffith courses:

- B Business
- B International Business
- B International Tourism and Hotel Management
- B Sport Development
- B Business/B Commerce
- B Business/B International Business
- B Business/B Asian Studies
- B Business/B Government and International Relations
- B International Tourism and Hotel Management/B Business.

Visit the [website](#) for more information. Applications close on Sunday 27 January 2019.

JCU Access Fund

There are three different awards under this fund. Two of which are for full-time students in their first year of study experiencing financial hardship. First round applications open on 10 January 2019 and close 28 February 2019. See the [website](#) for more information.

QUT Academic and sporting scholarships:

Apply by 16 November for [QUT's Vice-Chancellor's Scholarships](#) for academic merit and elite athletes. Scholarships range in value from \$10,000–\$30,000. Recipients are also eligible for membership of the College of Excellence, an experiential and immersive program offering opportunities to connect with other high-achievers, develop your personal and professional skills such as leadership and entrepreneurial thinking and enhance your global outlook.

QUT Scholarships and other opportunities in business and technology

Scholarships often provide advantages in addition to financial support, such as work experience and access to professional networks. Find out more about the broad opportunities with [QUT business scholarships](#) and the [Westpac Young Technologists Scholarships](#).

UQ Kathy Hirschfeld Scholarship for Women in Engineering

The purpose of the scholarship is to encourage and support a female student undertaking their first year of the B Engineering (Honours) program at the University of Queensland. The award is valued at \$5,000 for one year. Applications opened 28 September 2018 and close on 11 March 2019. See the [website](#) for details.

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UQ The Leanne Bond Scholarship for Women in Engineering

This scholarship is for a female student undertaking her first year of the B Engineering (Honours) program at the University of Queensland (UQ). Applications opened 28 September 2018 and will close on 11 March 2019. See the [UQ website](#) for details.

WSP Scholarship for Women in Engineering

The purpose of this scholarship is to encourage and support female students who have been educationally disadvantaged because of their financial circumstances and/or geographic isolation to undertake their first year of the B Engineering (Honours) program at the University of Queensland. It is valued at \$8,000 for one year. Applications opened 16 October 2018 and close 11 March 2019. Find out more on the [UQ website](#).



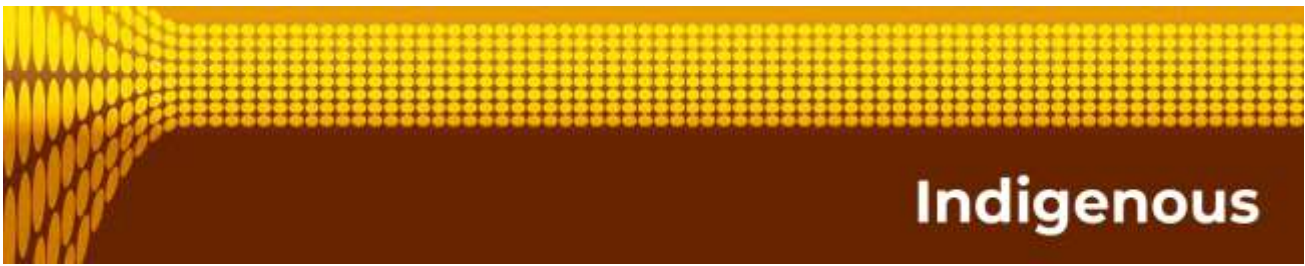
Gap Year Program News

The benefits of taking a gap year

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

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

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



Pearl Duncan Teaching Scholarships for Indigenous students

The purpose of these scholarships is to assist aspiring teachers of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage to receive support in their pursuit of becoming a state school teacher. The scholarships are valued at up to \$20,000 over four years and include the opportunity to secure permanent employment as a teacher in a Queensland state school after graduation. Applications close on 30 November 2018. See the [website](#) for details and to apply.



Compare US colleges and universities

When researching US colleges and universities, you can open an account on the [CollegeBoard website](#) to save all your college planning activities. The website has a [Compare Colleges page](#) where you can compare up to three colleges. It can help you organise your research.

World University Rankings 2019

Looking for the top university in the world to study at? The World University Rankings for 2019 were released in September. University of Melbourne was the highest Australian university at position 32. The highest Queensland university was The University of Queensland at position 69. You can access this information [here](#).



7 amazing engineering careers

A Careers with STEM article shines a light on the potential scope of [engineering careers](#). The article includes case studies of people who work in each engineering career.

Geotechnical engineers – Geotechnical engineers deal with many types of infrastructure (tunnels, bridges, dams, buildings, roads, railways, ports and landfills) that are built on or in the ground. They study soil types and rock structures to design the best solution. To become a geotechnical engineer, you usually complete a degree in engineering (e.g. Civil engineering), or a degree in science with a major in geology or engineering science. The median salary is \$77,209.

Civil engineers – Civil engineers design, plan, organise and oversee the construction of civil engineering projects such as dams, bridges, pipelines, gas and water supply schemes, sewerage systems, roads, airports and other structures. To become a civil engineer, you complete an engineering degree with a major in civil engineering. The median salary is \$72,097.

Petroleum engineers - The world's energy needs rely heavily on extracting fossil fuels from deep within the Earth. Petroleum engineers work closely with geologists to find oil and gas and design machinery to extract and process them. These engineers require a bachelor's degree in petroleum engineering, mechanical engineering, or chemical engineering. The median salary is \$87,840.

Aerospace engineers - These engineers make flying possible by designing and building everything from helicopters to spacecraft. These engineers require a bachelor's degree in engineering with a major in aerospace engineering. The median salary is \$74,842.

Computer systems engineers - They don't just design and build laptops and desktops. These engineers can also be found developing the latest supercomputers, navigation devices for cars, and gaming systems. They usually have a degree in engineering with a major in computer systems and software. The median salary is \$67,759.

Environmental engineers - When it comes to a cleaner world, these engineers make it happen by focusing on the impact engineering activities have on the natural world. They usually have a degree in engineering or science with a major area of study in environmental engineering. The median salary is \$70,384.

Biomedical engineers - Whether it's designing wheelchairs or artificial hearts, biomedical engineers combine medicine with engineering to help people lead healthier lives. They usually have a degree in engineering with a major in medical or biomedical engineering. The median salary is \$62,335.

AFL: Jobs in the Australian Football League

Working in the AFL doesn't just mean being a player or a coach. There are hundreds of roles behind the scenes that impact the game days. These include Advertising Account Executive, Administrative Assistant, Dietitian, Medical Practitioner, Chef, IT Manager/Computer Engineer, Marketing Officer, Statistician, Physiotherapist, Podiatrist, Events Manager/Coordinator and Journalist. Read the article [Behind the scenes at the AFL](#) on the Good Universities Guide website to learn more about these jobs and how they relate to the AFL.

Interested in working in the community care and disability sector?

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

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

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

Latest Careers with STEM magazine out now

[Quiz](#) yourself on the Careers with Stem website to find out how you can combine computer science with your passion to generate new ideas. For a deeper insight, read the latest edition of the [Careers with STEM magazine](#) which explores computer science degrees in Australia and New Zealand in addition to fashion, gaming, artificial intelligence, entrepreneurship, sustainability and more. Click the link above to read the latest edition.



Miscellaneous

National Psychology Week 2018

This week will be held from 11 – 17 November 2018. It is an initiative of the Australian Psychological Society (APS) to increase public awareness of how psychology can help Australians lead healthier, happier and more meaningful lives. This year the focus will be ‘the Power of Human Connection’. During the week, the APS will be hosting public events to shine a light on tackling loneliness, while raising awareness through a media and social campaign. Visit the [website](#) for news, activities and tips for a healthy digital life.

Upcoming Events:

11/11/2018 to 17/11/2018 [National Psychology Week 2018](#)



ACAP: Australian College of Applied Psychology Info Session

[ACAP](#) offers courses (vocational and degree) in Psychology, Counselling, Case Management, Coaching, Social Science, Youth Work and Social Work. It will hold two Information Sessions on 5 December 2018 at 12:30pm and 6pm at its Brisbane campus located at 410 Ann Street, Brisbane. Please [register](#) to attend this session.

AICD: Australian Institute of Creative Design Open Day

AICD offers diploma, certificate and short courses in creative fields such as Art and Design, Beauty Therapy, Fashion Business, Fashion Design, Fashion Styling, Interior Design, Make-up and Photography. It will hold its open days for the Brisbane and Gold Coast campuses over 28 and 29 November 2018:

- **Gold Coast campus** at 14/475 Scottsdale Drive, Varsity Lakes from 4:30pm – 8:30pm on 28 November 2018
- **Brisbane campus** at 29 Amelia Street, Fortitude Valley from 4:30pm – 8:30pm on 29 November 2018

Visit the [website](#) to explore the courses offered and to register for the open day either at the Brisbane or Gold Coast campus.

Shillington College: Info Session

Shillington College offers accredited courses in graphic design. It will hold an [Info Session](#) starting at 6 pm on Friday 23 November 2018 at its Brisbane campus on Level 7, 157 Ann Street. You will meet teachers, chat to graduates and view student work. You will also be walked through a classroom brief and hear graduate success stories. Visit the [Shillington website](#) for more information generally about the College.

Private Provider Updates

AMC Training and Consulting: Cert III in Individual Support

This qualification will prepare students with the skills to follow an individualised plan in person-centered support for people who are ageing or have a disability. The course is fee-free for year 12 graduates and runs for 11 weeks full time between 26 November 2018 – February 2019. Classes will be held at Capalaba Health Academy. Click [here](#) for more information as there are only 13 places remaining.

Australis College

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

- Business and Management
- Counselling and Community
- Information and Technology
- Enterprise Solutions

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

Aviation Australia: Flight Attendant Training enrolments for 2019 now open

Aviation Australia is offering the Flight Attendant Training course at its Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne campuses. There are no specific entry requirements for the course. The course can be undertaken full-time or part-time. There are various start dates. Visit the [website](#) for details.

Basair Aviation College

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

JMC: 2018 JMC Academy Creative Industries Short Courses

[JMC Academy](#) will offer the following short courses in 2019:

- Audio (two-day course)
- Character Design (two-day course)
- Introduction to Visual Design (three-day course)
- Insta-Pro Marketing Boot Camp (two-day course)
- Pop Songwriting and Production (four-day course)
- Script to Screen (four-day course)

Find out more and register for more information [here](#).

JMI: Brisbane Summer Jazz Clinic

This is a four-day jazz performance clinic designed for musicians of all ages and abilities. The clinics are delivered in a fun and friendly environment and are ideal for beginner, intermediate and advanced jazz players. It will be held from 14 – 17 January 2019. Find out more [here](#).

JMI: Reminders from the Jazz Music Institute

JMI: 2019 courses – Free information sessions are available for prospective domestic students interested in the any of the courses at the Jazz Music Institute, including:

- [B Music in Jazz Performance](#)
- [Diploma of Music in Jazz Performance](#)
- [Certificate III and IV in Music Industry \(Performance\)](#) – also available for Year 11 and 12 secondary students.

During the session, you can meet the CEO or Head of School, ask questions relating to the interview and explore the facilities on offer. The sessions can be accommodated to suit your current commitments. Fill out the contact form ('Arrange an information session here') found on their [website](#). Alternatively, give them a call on (07) 3216 1110 or play@jaz.qld.edu.au

Qld School of Film and Television 2019 High School Program

Applications are now open for QSFT's [Certificate III in Screen and Media](#) in 2019. This is a twelve-month program for high school students, with students attending one class per week. It will give you the opportunity to complete a nationally recognised qualification that provides the fundamental skills necessary to work in the film and television industry. Scholarships may be available. For more information visit the website linked above.



Avoid relying on online ATAR calculators

Some Year 10 students are using NSW HSC and Victorian VCE ATAR calculators found online to help them choose their Senior subjects.

Students should avoid using these or similar ATAR calculators because they cannot accurately predict a Queensland student's ATAR or how certain Queensland Senior subjects will scale. No one (including QTAC and university experts) is able to produce a calculator that can accurately predict Queensland ATARs to be awarded from 2020.

As always it is recommended that students should choose subjects:

- they enjoy
- think they will achieve well in, and
- that are subject prerequisites for tertiary courses that they will be seeking entry to.

Subject scaling outcomes for students completing Year 12 in 2020 become available in December 2020.

Do you have a Tax File Number (TFN)? You

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

Monitor your emails and SMS

From 16 November 2018 (your last day at school) until you accept an offer of a course place, you must monitor your emails and SMS as [QTAC will use these to inform you of an offer](#). You then must respond to QTAC by the due date (which may be only four days from your offer date). If you don't respond by the due date, your offer will lapse, and you will not be considered for any other offer rounds. If, for some reason, your offer does lapse, contact QTAC ASAP. QTAC may be able to reinstate your offer.

Tertiary application reminders

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

- Scholarship application due dates (see the scholarship page on institution websites)
- QTAC offer-round dates (check the [Course Offer Dates](#) on the QTAC website)
- When Year 12 results are mailed and when you can access them on the [Student Connect website](#) (click on 'Years 11 and 12' for 'Key dates for Year 12 students')
- The last date you can change preferences for the offer rounds on 20 December 2018 and 16 January 2019 (see [Key Dates and Fees](#) on the QTAC website).
- Date that you have to have submitted any required documentation for each offer round.

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

- Your *2019 Year 12 Guide*
- A copy of your QTAC preferences
- Your QTAC password
- Your QTAC reference number
- Your LUI and Learning Account password.

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

University information sessions after you receive your Year 12 results

Most universities hold information sessions in December for students who have received their Year 12 results and are reviewing their QTAC preferences and/or deciding on their future direction. The following are a selection of these sessions in 2018:

- **Australian Catholic University** – [Know Your Options Information Session](#) from 2 – 4 pm on Saturday 15 December 2018 at the Brisbane campus at 1100 Nudgee Road, Banyo. Please register to attend.
- **CQUniversity** – [Change of Preference Information Sessions](#) from 9 am – 1 pm on Monday 17 December 2018 various CQU locations. Please register to keep up to date with new information about these events and to confirm your attendance.
- **Queensland University of Technology** – [Real Decisions](#) at the Gardens Point campus from 9 am – 1 pm on Tuesday 18 December 2018.
- **University of Queensland** – [OP Results Advice Night](#) from 3 – 6 pm on Monday 17 December 2018 at the St Lucia campus.



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

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

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

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

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

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



Adult Tertiary Preparation Course

If you don't think you will gain entry to your preferred tertiary course or you need to meet subject prerequisites, consider completing the Certificate IV in Adult Tertiary Preparation. You can learn about this course by visiting their [website](#).

CRE8 Festival 2018

Come and join in this [free showcase](#) of the best student works from the year, across all areas of the creative arts including fashion, floristry, photography, digital design and much more. It will be held from 6 pm – 8.30 pm on Thursday 29 November 2018 at the TAFE Queensland South Bank campus, 66 Ernest Street, South Brisbane.

Upcoming Events:

29/11/2018

[CRE8 Festival 2018](#)
South Bank Campus

Interlace Fashion Show

This annual fashion event showcases the work of TAFE fashion students, in addition to providing practical experience for other TAFE students: event students plan it, cookery and hospitality students cater it, hair and beauty students manage the make-up of all models while media students record the event. The event runs from 5:30pm (with the main event starting from 7:30pm) Friday 16 November 2018 at the TAFE Mooloolaba campus. Tickets are \$30 each. Click [here](#) for more information and to buy your tickets.

Protégé Graduate Fashion Show

This event offers an evening of excellence in design education where design graduates will be showcasing the culmination of their years of hard work and dedication through an exciting parade on the runway. The fashion show will run from 5:30pm – 8:30pm on Tuesday 13 November 2018 at the TAFE South Bank campus. Access to this showcase is \$20 per person. Students get a 50% discount. Click [here](#) for more details and to purchase tickets.

Upcoming Events:

13/11/2018

[TAFE: Protégé Graduate Fashion Show](#)

Take the Next Step – Information Session

If you're not sure about which industry you would like to pursue, attend one of the 'Take the Next Step' information sessions where you can talk with industry experienced teachers, learn about the study areas available and take a tour of the campus. The event information session runs from 3 - 6pm on Tuesday 20 November 2018 at both the [Toowoomba](#) and [Ipswich](#) campuses. Click on a campus to learn more about the session.

Upcoming Events:

20/11/2018

Take the Next Step – Information Session
Twoomba and Ipswich campuses



ACU: Don't have the prerequisites for primary teaching? B Education Studies

This degree has been designed from the ground up for students looking to become teachers but do not have the entry requirements for a B Education. Students who complete their first year of study will be guaranteed entry into the B Education (Primary), or B Education (Early Childhood and Primary). Click [here](#) for more information about available pathways to becoming a teacher at ACU.

ACU: Entry schemes

These schemes can help you improve your chances of gaining entry to ACU courses through the allocation of adjustment factors (were called bonus points). You don't have to submit an application for the following [entry schemes](#) when you apply for ACU through QTAC (although a maximum of 5 points can be available through these schemes):

- Year 12 subject scheme
- Access ACU
- School's relationship
- Campus
- Regional school

You are still required to apply for the following entry schemes:

- [QTAC's Educational Access Scheme](#)
- [ACU's Elite Athlete and Performers Program](#)

ACU: Know your options Information Session

ACU is running a dedicated session for students and parents seeking guidance on course preferences between the period of OPs being released and the QTAC deadline for the December 20 offer round. The session will run at ACU's Brisbane campus at 1100 Nudgee Road, Banyo, on Saturday 15 December 2018 between 2 – 4 pm. Click [here](#) to register your attendance.

ACU: New courses for 2019

The Faculty of Education and Arts has introduced a Diploma of Liberal Studies from 2019 Semester 1. Upon completion, the diploma will allow the holder to enter a B Arts at USQ. Click [here](#) for more information.

CHC: Applications for the Christian Heritage College LAUNCH program now open

CHC is a Christian college of higher education. It offers degree courses in Business, Education and Humanities, Liberal Arts, Social Sciences and Ministries. It is located at Carindale, Brisbane. The LAUNCH program provides secondary students with an opportunity to get a head start by studying up to two CHC subjects in Semester Two of Year 11 and/or Semester One of Year 12 (one unit per semester). Successful completion of a CHC subject may provide automatic admission to a degree course at CHC on completion of Year 12. Applications for 2019 Semester One open soon and you can contact the College for more information.

CQU: CQUniversity online chat session

CQU will hold an [online chat session](#) from 3 – 6 pm on Tuesday 27 November 2018. This is your opportunity to ask questions about courses, campuses, pathways, etc. Please register to attend this session. It will be hosted over Facebook Messenger.

Medview: UMAT vs UCAT event

Medview will be running the event 'Uncovering the UCAT' which will introduce you to the sections of the UCAT exam and compare it with the UMAT exam. The session will be run by UCAT expert and medical graduate Dr Anuj Krishna. This free event will run in Brisbane from 6 – 8 pm on Wednesday 28 November 2018. Click [here](#) for registration and to stay updated on the event location.

QUT: Get advice once you know your OP

Join us for the [Real Decisions](#) event on 18 December to talk face-to-face with staff and current students about courses and careers, ordering QTAC preferences, upgrading pathways to your chosen course, fees and financial support and getting started at QUT.

QUT: What happens next?

If you've put your QTAC application in and are wondering what to do if you want to change your preferences, when offers will be made, and how to accept an offer, check out QUT's [What happens next](#) page.

QUT: Combine study and travel

Dreaming of an [overseas experience](#)? Did you know that QUT has partnerships with more than 200 institutions across 43 countries? And that you can go on exchange for one or two semesters, or travel overseas short-term for a study tour, internship, international project or competition? QUT provide financial

support to help you make your travel plans come true. And if you are interested in business or design, you can also study one of QUT's degrees that includes 12 months of international experience in the course – you could consider the [Bachelor of Business—International](#), or the [Bachelor of Design—International](#).

QUT: CreateX—performance, exhibitions, screenings and panel discussions

If you love all things creative or are seeking creative career path, check out [CreateX](#) on 13 to 17 November at QUT Creative Industries Precinct. An experimental collaboration between QUT's emerging and professional creatives, researchers and industry partners, CreateX explores innovation and disruption in the creative industries.

QUT: Programs for high achievers

Gain research and analytical skills that employers value by finishing your Bachelor of Business with Honours plus a \$20,000 scholarship through the [Dean's Honours Program in Business](#). The [Dean's Scholars program in the Science and Engineering Faculty](#) provides high-achieving students with outstanding academic ability and leadership potential with opportunities for valuable industry exposure, exchange programs, mentoring, exclusive events, cross-university competitions, ambassadorial work and engagement in collaborative research projects.

QUT: Scholarship plus internship in business:

Would you like a \$36,000 scholarship plus two 15-week internships with corporate partners? The [Corporate Partners in Excellence](#) program is a unique industry-linked program for students who aspire to be future business leaders. As part of your three-year degree, you will complete two semesters of internship placements in your chosen discipline with QUT corporate partners. Apply by 9 November.

UQ: Community Access Program

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

UQ: Moreton Bay Research Station Open Day

UQ's Moreton Bay Research Station will be hosting its Open Day from 10 am – 3 pm on Saturday 24 November 2018. The day is free for all. There will be free Moreton Bay discovery cruises, a live animal show, art workshops and research talks. Visit the [website](#) for more information and to download the brochure.

UQ: The UQ Toolkit

This is a collection of helpful web pages for UQ students - especially for new students. The toolkit includes:

- Dictionary of UQ terminology - This can help you understand the language of university studies
- FAQs – Answers questions on admissions (e.g. UQ Bonus Scheme, choosing courses and much more)
- my.UQ - Provides information on the processes you are likely to encounter when studying at UQ
- UQ Answers - Has a section for future students to ask questions about studying at UQ.
- UQ Credit Precedent Database – Provides information on which courses have been credited towards UC courses

Visit the [UQ Toolkit webpage](#) to access these useful tools before and during your studies.

UQ: UQ Mates

Meet new people, do fun things and have good times with [UQ Mates](#). Join one of the several Mates' groups. This is a fun way of transitioning to this very large campus and meeting people with similar interests to you.

USC: Medical Science offered at the University of the Sunshine Coast

USC has been offering [B Medical Science](#) since Semester 1, 2018. It is a three-year program that will provide provisional direct entry into Griffith University's planned Doctor of Medicine program at the new Sunshine Coast University Hospital at Birtinya. An overview of the program can be read [here](#).

Use QILT to compare institutions and their courses

Are you finding it difficult to make final decisions about the institution you want to attend? The Government-funded [QILT](#) (Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching) website can help you compare study experience and employment outcomes data from all Australian higher education institutions. The filter allows you to compare options across institutions and study areas.

USQ 51st McGregor Summer Arts Retreat and the McGregor Music Summer 2018

The Summer [McGregor Summer Arts Retreat](#) will be held from 13 – 19 January 2019 at the University of Southern Queensland, Toowoomba campus. Immerse yourself in a week-long artist sanctuary with a plethora of arts classes spanning acrylics, bootmaking, calligraphy and much more. Enrolments are now open. Over the same period of 13 – 19 January 2019, USQ will also be running the [McGregor Music Retreat 2019](#). This music camp will give budding musicians exposure to the many career pathways and performance options available within the contemporary music world. Registrations are now open.

USQ: Entry options into a bachelor's degree

USQ offer a range of associate degrees that allow direct entry into bachelor degrees upon completion. USQ offer associate degrees in:

- [Business and commerce](#),
- [Construction](#),
- [Engineering](#),
- [Biomedical science](#),
- [Medical laboratory science](#), and
- [Spatial science](#).

Diplomas are also available in [human services and development](#), [science](#) and [university studies](#).

USQ: Grow for good this National Agricultural Day

USQ will be celebrating the 2018 National Agriculture Day on 21 November 2018. The day will be hosted at USQ's Toowoomba campus and will be full of initiatives supporting the theme of #GrowforGood. It aims to highlight the global, social and environmental contributions made by farmers. For further information either call the USQ Faculty Marketing team on (07) 4631 1736 or email them at usq.facultymarketing@usq.edu.au.

Upcoming Events:

21/11/2018

USQ: Grow for good this National Agricultural Day
Toowoomba campus



Year 12 Questions

QTAC FAQs

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

See more information about responding on the [Offers](#) page on the QTAC website.

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

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

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

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

Q I have applied for courses that start in Semester One and Semester Two 2019 on my QTAC application. Is this OK?

A Yes, if the Semester One courses are listed before the Semester Two courses. However, a better strategy is to put only Semester One courses on your application in the first instance. After the major offer-round for Semester One courses on 16 January 2019, you can put Semester Two courses on your application if you have not received your preferred offer.

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

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

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

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