



Brisbane School of Distance Education

CAREER INFORMATION BULLETIN

Guidance Officer Team

■ Edition 13

12/08/2025 to 25/08/2025



Innovation | Inspiration | Inclusion

BrisbaneSDE

The header banner features a dark teal background on the left with the word 'Announcements' in white. On the right, there is a photograph of a silver microphone in the foreground, with a blurred crowd of people in the background.

Announcements

Joke of the fortnight

I considered telemarketing, but it wasn't my calling.

Thought for the fortnight

Focus on your strengths NOT your weaknesses

Focus on your character NOT your reputation

Focus on your blessings NOT your misfortunes

Apprenticeships & Traineeships



Electrical apprenticeship and Uni degree combined

This 6-year dual qualification pathway provides you with 2 qualifications: the Certificate III Electrotechnology Electrician (UEE30820) and the Bachelor Degree of Engineering Science. You will commence both qualifications at the same time. After gaining the trade licence at the end of Year 4, you will focus on completing the degree program. Click [here](#) for more information.

First Year Apprenticeship videos

Watch this short [video](#) showcasing some of the work of First Year boat building apprentices at INCAT, an Australian manufacturer of high-speed craft catamaran ferries. Hear about the people they work with and the training they have received in their apprenticeships.

How to find and prepare for an apprenticeship

Wanting an apprenticeship or traineeship is one thing, finding one and keeping it is another. Australian Apprenticeships have put together some steps with links, which you can follow that will assist you in preparing for and finding an apprenticeship or traineeship which will suit you and your career dreams. Click [here](#) to find out more about:

1. Do your research
 1. Career opportunities
 2. In-demand skills and occupations
2. Make sure you're prepared
 1. Know what financial support is available to you
 2. Know your rights and responsibilities as an apprentice
 3. Check your literacy and numeracy skills
3. Find and apply for jobs
 1. Contact an Apprentice Connect Australia Provider
 2. Search for a Group Training Organisation
 3. Search for apprenticeship jobs
4. Sign up to start
 1. Sign your contract and enroll

Support for apprentices and trainees

The Queensland Government provides support for apprentices and trainees to assist in the transition from school to the workplace. The [support includes](#):

- Free tools for first year apprentices - check your eligibility
- Support services
- Apprenticeship Info app
- Financial help
- Travel and accommodation allowance
- Disability support
- Learning support
- Help for cancelled apprentices and trainees
- Job match service for cancelled apprentices

Want an apprenticeship in 2026 - Begin your search now!

Year 12s don't wait until you finish school to start looking for an apprenticeship. Start now as many employers are recruiting now for 2025. But which apprenticeship? The Queensland Department of Employment, Small Business and Training [website](#) has a list of Queensland apprenticeships. Click on the apprenticeships you are interested in for more information about the job. Also, talk to people already in the job and/or do work experience to help you with your decision.



Australian Defence Force (ADF) Work Experience

Thinking of applying for the ADF when you finish school? You need to explore this career and lifestyle option thoroughly. Visit the Defence Work Experience Program [website](#), click *Placements, Queensland*, work experience opportunities. Placements fill quickly and you will have to talk with your school Guidance Counsellor/Officer before applying.

Australian Defence Force Updates

To find out more about your possible opportunities in the Australian Defence Force, attend one of their information sessions. Upcoming information sessions are:

- 12/08/2025 [Cairns Defence Careers Information Session](#)
[Wondai A Night in the Army Reserves](#)
[Maroochydore Army Reserve Information Session](#)
[Brisbane Health Careers Information Session](#)
- 14/08/2025 [Brisbane Navy Careers Information Session](#)
- 18/08/2025 [Brisbane ADFA Careers Information Session](#)
- 19/08/2025 [Dalby A Night in the Army Reserves](#)
- 20/08/2025 [Gold Coast Aviation Careers Information Session](#)
- 21/08/2025 [Cairns Army Reserve Information Session](#)
- 25/08/2025 [Toowoomba Trade Careers Information Session](#)
[Townsville Army Reserve Information Session](#)
- 26/08/2025 [Warwick A Night in the Army Reserves](#)
[Greenbank A Night in the Army Reserves](#)
- 28/08/2025 [Bundaberg Indigenous Pathways Information Session](#)
[Gold Coast Trade Careers Information Session](#)

Study and Trades

Through the Australian Defence Force (ADF), you can get your degree fully or partially paid for or learn a trade in a dynamic environment, all while earning a great salary from day one. Through the ADF you can:

- Get a degree - ADFA is located in Canberra
- Use your degree - join the ADF using your skills
- Learn a trade - complete your trade through the ADF
- Use a trade - join the ADF using your trade skills
- Other ways to join:
 - Gap year
 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander entry pathways

Click [here](#) for more information.

Thinking about the Air Force?

If you join the Air Force you will be part of a diverse and supportive team that alongside the Navy and Army, defends our nation, our people, our values and our way of life. This is achieved by controlling the air, acquiring intelligence through reconnaissance and surveillance, providing air mobility for all operational needs, and supporting combat missions through strike capability. Click [here](#) and find out more about:

- Defending Australia and its interests
- Peak strategic capability
- A force for protection, rescue and disaster relief
- Work with world-leading technology
- Up there? You'll go further
- What we do
- Aircraft

Career Exploration



Alternative pathways to higher education

If you're considering university studies but think that you won't qualify for entry, there are a range of programs and different pathways available. Although some people think that the ATAR pathway is the only way to Uni, other pathways include:

- Enabling courses
- Enabling outreach courses
- Bridging courses
- Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT through QTAC)
- Vocational education and training (VET) and TAFE pathways
- Credit for recognised learning (CRL)
- Portfolio entry
- VET in schools

Read about the alternative entry points [here](#) that may assist you to access university. Most Australian universities offer a range of 'alternative entry pathways' so check them out.

Career Quiz

The Skillsroad Career Quiz is a self-assessment tool that will help identify key personal skillsets and help you understand your work values in order to help you find careers best for you. The quiz takes about 7 minutes to complete so click [here](#) to find out more.

Casual and short-term work can build your employability skills

Think your casual job isn't a 'real' job? Think it doesn't really count towards your career? Think again! Having a casual job or other short-term work while you study can actually give you a massive edge when you apply for jobs in the future. Why? Because having previous work experience shows employers you have the [employability skills](#) to succeed in their workplace. Employability skills are the essential skills, personal qualities and values you need at work. They include things like teamwork, problem solving skills and communication skills. Click [here](#) and read about how to make the most of a part-time job including:

- Combine study and any kind of work
- Combine study and work in your chosen field
- Make a short-term compromise

Explore Your Career

If you're looking for career ideas the [Your Career](#) website, developed by the *National Careers Institute*, can assist. It includes:

- Career quizzes to explore possible future careers
- Fee-Free TAFE
- Future initiatives
- Top hiring occupations
- VET study options
- What's next

Explore careers through Seek

Learn about thousands of careers, from Accountant to Zookeeper. Click [here](#) to search for careers to learn about what they're like, job trends, requirements and more including:

- Job opportunities
- Salary
- Job growth
- Job satisfaction
- What's it like to be a ...
- How to become a ...
- Skills and experience for a ...
- Is it a 'right fit' for you

Find out about Sales Assistants (General)

Sales Assistants (General) sell goods and services, such as food, clothing, hardware, household appliances, office supplies and cosmetics, in retail and wholesale establishments. Their median weekly full-time earnings are \$1,112 and tasks include:

- Determining customer requirements and advising on product range, price, delivery, warranties and product use and care
- Demonstrating and explaining to customers the establishment's goods and services
- Selling food, beverages, clothing, footwear and other personal and household goods and services
- Accepting payment for goods and services by a variety of payment methods and preparing sales invoices
- Assisting with the ongoing management of stock such as product inventories and participating in stocktakes
- Stacking and displaying goods for sale, and wrapping and packing goods sold

Spotlight on Aged Care

It's well-known that Australia's population is aging. According to the Australian Government, the percentage of Australians over 65 is projected to increase to 18.7 per cent by 2031 — that's a big jump from the recorded 13.8 per cent in 2011. As a result, the aged care sector is one of the fastest-growing industries in

Australia. [A career in aged care](#) can be demanding and challenging but many report that it's an overall enjoyable and rewarding experience. Click [here](#) to read about:

- Helping to improve lives
- Have plenty of variety
- Aged care workers are in high demand
- Improve communication skills
- You'll never stop learning
- Useful links

The High Five of career development revisited

The High Five principles of career development are five concepts that are very important for managing your career in today's rapidly changing world of work. You can access videos that explain the High Five concepts by using the following links. It's a good place to start your exploration.

- [Change is constant](#)
- [Learning is ongoing](#)
- [Focus on the journey](#)
- [Know yourself and follow your heart](#)
- [Access your allies](#)

myfuture - a great career exploration tool

The myfuture [website](#) provides resources to assist you to explore career pathways and develop self-knowledge that will help with your career decision-making. You can use their tools to discover your interests, values, skills and see how they relate to career and study options. To make navigating their site easier, they have put together some user guides with videos including:

- Sign up to myfuture - It's free - Learn how to sign up via myfuture
- My career profile - Discover more about yourself and learn how your interests, values and skills relate to career paths.
- Occupations - You can search and explore hundreds of occupations. Watch an Occupations video [here](#).
- Industries - Access information including employment prospects, for each industry
- Career bullseyes - Learn how occupations relate to school learning areas.
- Courses - You can research and explore current higher education and vocational education and training courses.
- Career articles - Practical information to support your career exploration.
- Job seeker resources -resume and cover letter templates and other resources



Griffith Uni's Legal Essay Competition now open

Griffith Uni is looking for Year 12 students who have a strong case to make about a current legal issue. With cash prizes, this is the perfect opportunity for students to showcase their passion for law and social change in a fun, competitive environment. Click [here](#) for more information and entry details. Competition closes on 18 August.

myQCE student competition

Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority are giving senior students the chance to win a MacBook Air or one of three Sony wireless noise cancelling headphone sets. The Give Away competition is open to students in Years 10 to 12 with access to the Student Portal. The competition closes on Friday 19 September. Click [here](#) for more information and entry details.

Disabilities



Employment support

Support is available to help you with finding and keeping the right job. The Australian Government helps people with disability, mental illness, chronic illness and injury to find and keep meaningful work by delivering services through Centrelink that meet a person's individual needs.

- [Disability Employment Services](#) help job seekers with disability and mental illness find work. You can search for a Disability Employment Services provider online.
- [BuyAbility](#) are commercial businesses that employ people with disability. You can find a Disability Enterprise in your local area.
- Other employment assistance is available, including [Jobs in Jeopardy](#), which helps people at risk of losing their job because of disability, support with workplace modifications and other services and programs. Information about these services is provided on the Centrelink [website](#).

Student disability and Accessibility at Griffith Uni

Student Disability and Accessibility at Griffith Uni support students with disabilities, injuries or health conditions who are studying through Griffith University, [Griffith College](#) and Open Universities Australia. They also aim to improve participation, retention and success of students with disabilities, including access to learning environments. Click [here](#) to find out more about their services and support for students including:

- Who they support
- Who they are and how they help
- Accessibility, Inclusion and Universal Design
- Services and resources
- Future students
- How to make an appointment
- Future student specific information

Vision Australia Further Education Bursaries

Each year, Vision Australia awards Further Education Bursaries to a select number of students who are blind or have low vision. The bursaries provide adaptive technology to help students fully participate and succeed in their chosen studies. Assistive technology can eliminate barriers to education and enhance access to information. It enables students to read course material, conduct research and improve their student life. Applications close on 15 September 2025. Click [here](#) for more information and details on how to apply.

Employment, Job and Labour Market Info



Attitude V Experience - which is more valuable?

When it comes to applying for a new job, many of us will read the job description and realise that we don't necessarily have all the skills or experience that the company requires. This can often make many of us reconsider applying, even though we're highly interested in the position. Many employers actually consider passion towards their industry and the position as desirable candidate qualities. So if lack of experience stops you from applying, you could be missing out on some life-changing career opportunities. Click [here](#) to read more about:

- Benefits of having a good attitude
- Benefits of work experience
- Which is more important to employers?
- Employability skills

Australian Government School Leaver Program - One year job opportunity

The Australian Government School Leaver Program is a 12-month career development program. It's a full-time job with a competitive salary, paid holidays and superannuation. You'll build your skills on the job at one of the many Australian Government departments and agencies participating in the 2025 program. If you find you love the job, you can stay on and continue your career in the Australian Public Service (APS). Applications are open for the 2026 program which begins in February 2026 and close on 31 August 2025. [Register](#) your interest to receive updates on the Program and future opportunities. Click [here](#) for more information including:

- Information webinars in August
- Participating agencies
- Who's eligible?
- One application, multiple opportunities

Building your resume

You will get lots of advice on how to create the 'perfect' resume, but what does that even mean? A 'perfect' resume successfully communicates to an employer that you are the right person for the job. Click [here](#) to read Job Jumpstart's article that provides tips on creating resumes. It also offers some example templates to help you to create your own including:

- Start Simple
- Tailor your resume to meet an employer's needs
- Formatting your resume

- Tools that can help you
 - Resume quality check
 - How to write a tailored resume
 - Identify the skills you need for the job you want
 - Writing a tailored resume

Industry profile - Mining

Mining is a small employing industry. Around 2.2% of workers have their main job in this industry. It covers the exploration and extraction of minerals, oil and gas. Activities in the Mining industry include:

- mining preparation work
- underground or open cut mining
- dredging
- quarrying
- well operations or evaporation pans.

Most jobs are in Western Australia and Queensland. Employment is mainly in regional or remote locations like Pilbara and Gladstone. Median earnings are \$2,649 per week, higher than all industries median earnings of \$1,700. Click [here](#) for more information(click on Details) and downloads.

Job Search and skills

Australian Jobs 2025 has a Jobs and skills section where you will be able to find information on:

- Finding a job
- What employers look for
- Winning the job
- Education and Training options
- Vocational Education and Training
- Australian Apprenticeships
- Higher education
- Skills for the future

Click [here](#) to find out more.

Net Zero needs smart grids - 5 jobs to consider

As we forge towards Net Zero, the electricity networks will be transformed into smart grids. So what are they? Australia's electricity grids supply power to millions of homes and hundreds of thousands of businesses. Net Zero is calling for upgrades to smart grids, advanced electricity networks that mix tech and communication to make sure power is where we need it, when we need it. Click [here](#) to read about 5 jobs that will be part of the smart grid process. The jobs are:

1. Clean energy scientist or engineer
2. IoT (Internet of Things) specialist

3. Blockchain energy trader
4. Data analyst
5. Cybersecurity expert

Occupational Shortage List

The Occupation Shortage List (OSL) provides a point-in-time assessment of the shortage status of occupations in the Australian Labour market. Click [here](#) to find out which occupations are in shortage or where the shortage is confined to metropolitan areas or regional areas. For more information including FAQs, visit the [Occupation Shortage Analysis](#) page.

School Leavers Information Kit

Year 12, as you make your next move, the School Leavers Information Kit (SLIK) can help you find out about the education, training and employment options available to you. Click [here](#) to find information about:

- Life after school – what will you do next?
- Choose a pathway that's right for you
 - Further study and training
 - Take a gap year
 - Build your career
- Explore different journeys for school leavers
 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
 - People with disabilities
 - Regional, rural and remote school leavers
- Resources

Transferable skills checklist

Transferable skills are a core set of skills and abilities that go beyond a particular job or organization – you can use them in almost any role. Great people skills, for example, will be valuable to your work whether you're a [customer service representative](#) or a [carpenter](#), a [senior executive](#) or an [intern](#). Transferable skills can help you stand out to employers in your job search or even make a career change – so knowing just what your skills are, can help you take that next step. Click [here](#) to read Seek's article in full including information on:

- Organisational and execution skills
- Communication skills
- People skills
- Leadership skills

Unsure what to study next year?

The Guardian reports that as Year 12 students begin Term 3, they will be thinking increasingly about what to do next year. Throughout August, [many universities](#) have open days as students investigate different courses

and options for study. This is a significant time for young people as they navigate study pressures with decisions about what to do beyond school. If you are still making up your mind (and there is still plenty of time!), you might like to [read](#) about the following 6 things:

1. There are lots of options
2. High school subjects are not quite the same as uni
3. Think about your uni as well as your course
4. Don't forget there are options with how you study
5. The ATAR is not everything
6. It's OK to change your mind

Why attitude matters

Having passion for the job, a good attitude and a willingness to learn can make you more attractive to employers than someone who has plenty of experience but comes across as bored, jaded or disinterested. Read the Seek article [here](#) to find out about:

- Most employers choose passion over experience
- Your positive attitude can transform a workplace
- Employers are looking for people who add to the culture
- How to build a positive attitude
- How to demonstrate a great attitude to employers

Financial Assistance & Scholarships



Australian Film Television and Radio School (AFTRS) 2026 scholarships

AFTRS have a variety of financial support options including AFTRS Scholarships, AFTRS Special Finance Assistance and Government support, FEE-HELP, Youth Allowance, Austudy and Abstudy. Click [here](#) to find out more including available scholarships and application process.

Commonwealth Supported Places and HELP Loans

Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP) is a place at a university or higher education provider where the government pays part of your fees. This part is a subsidy, not a loan, and you don't have to pay it back. This subsidy does not cover the entire cost of your study. Students must pay the balance of the tuition fee, called the 'student contribution amount'. For more information about Commonwealth Supported Places (CSP) and your eligibility visit the [Study Assist website](#).

Those students who have a CSP can get a HECS-HELP loan to pay for their portion of studies. A HECS-HELP loan only pays tuition fees and does not cover costs like accommodation, laptops or textbooks. To find out more information about HECS-HELP loans visit the [Study Assist website](#).

Compare courses

The Study Assist website has a page that compares courses with helpful information if you are wanting to compare the courses that you are researching. Click [here](#) for more information on:

- Course levels
- Course costs
- Course modes
- types of institutions
- Student experience and graduate outcomes

Griffith Uni scholarship applications open

Be sure you're considered for all the scholarships you might be eligible for by checking out Griffith Uni's scholarship information page. Applications are now open for 2026 applicants. Click [here](#) for more information including:

- One application for all scholarships

- Apply as a future student
- Available scholarships

Griffith Uni's Scott Reid Memorial Scholarship

Griffith University's Scott Reid Memorial Scholarship rewards an eligible Papua New Guinean student applying to study law at Griffith in 2024. The scholarship includes a one-month paid law clerkship annually (up to a maximum of four years), providing practical experience, progressive skills growth and mentorship. Selection criteria include:

- Demonstrated capacity for leadership, initiative and service to your community
- Epitomise Scott's approach to life – 'Laugh a lot, stand strong and keep it all in perspective'
- Seeks to use your law degree to make a difference.

Find out more information [here](#) including the eligibility, award's value, duration, level of study and application details. Scholarship applications close on 11 October 2025.

Putting together a scholarship application

UQ has put together some scholarship tips that will be of assistance no matter what scholarship you are applying for. Their tips are for coursework scholarships which are for all undergraduate students and any postgraduate students who aren't undertaking a postgraduate research program. Generally, coursework scholarships are judged on 3 things:

1. How well you satisfy the criteria
2. How your personal circumstances demonstrate your need for the scholarship
3. Your passion for the subject area the scholarship aims to advance.

Click [here](#) to read more about how to submit a great application.

QUT Excellence Scholarships (Academic)

QUT Excellence scholarships are scholarships for students with outstanding academic achievement. The scholarships available include:

- scholarships valued at up to \$30,000 each for study in any discipline
- scholarships valued at \$10,000 each for study in any discipline.

Other benefits may include:

- early access to research opportunities
- membership of the QUT [College of Excellence](#)

Check out the [link](#) to find out more about eligibility and other excellence scholarships. You do not need to complete a scholarship application for the QUT Excellence Scholarship (Academic). All eligible students who complete a QTAC application within QTAC key dates and with a QUT course as their first preference, will be considered. Other scholarships at QUT may require you to complete a separate application form. For further

information, refer to the scholarships listed above or [view our scholarships](#). Application preparation is an important key to a successful outcome.

Tips for applying for university scholarships

The following are tips to help you maximise your chance of gaining a scholarship:

- Apply for all the scholarships you are eligible for
- Read the information on the university or institution's scholarship web page
- Follow the directions exactly and answer all parts of each question
- Include all documents requested
- If written make sure applications are readable and provide examples to back up attributes and achievements
- Start preparing your application early
- Collect ideas for your application over time – start with dot points
- Keep a list of personal achievements, extra-curricular activities you are involved in, both at school and in the wider community and any awards you have received
- Do drafts of your application – get feedback (see your school Guidance Officer/Counsellor)
- Ask referees for supporting statements early, not at the last minute.
- Have someone else carefully proofread your application before submitting it
- When required, include examples of personal attributes and achievements such as:
 - Awards gained
 - Leadership (including coaching)
 - Volunteering and other community participation
 - Teamwork (sport, work, etc).
 - Initiative
 - How you may give back to the university.
 - Include your career aspirations and how the university course can help you achieve them

Submit your application by the due date.

UQ Scholarships

At UQ, there is a wide range of scholarships that you can apply for which will provide financial support as you study. Click [here](#) to find out about the wide range of scholarships available at UQ.

UQ Sporting scholarships

UQ's Sporting Scholarships currently support International, National and State representatives in more than 17 different sports with these athletes benefiting from the outstanding sporting facilities and services the University and the UQ Sport Elite Athlete Program has to offer. Click [here](#) to check out the benefits that all sporting scholarship holders receive. Scholarships close on 31 October 2025.

University of Southern Queensland scholarships

Thinking of going to UniSQ? Explore what scholarships are available and those coming soon. You can apply for more than one, so be sure to apply for all that you're eligible for. Find out more about:

- [Indigenous Student Success Program \(ISSP\)](#) - To assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students experiencing financial hardship who are commencing or continuing an undergraduate or postgraduate program at UniSQ
- [UniSQ Residential College Scholarship](#) - To support students residing at UniSQ Residential Colleges in Toowoomba either commencing or continuing their studies in an undergraduate program
- [More scholarships available for future students](#)

First Nations Peoples



Aurora Education Foundation: Indigenous Scholarships

In addition to helpful guides for Going to Uni and How to Get a Scholarship, the Aurora Education Foundation provides a dedicated [Indigenous Scholarships Portal](#) that lists scholarship opportunities for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students across universities, TAFEs and private institutions. Click on Scholarship Search tab and then the drop down arrows.

Griffith University Gumurrii Student Support Unit for First Nations Peoples students

GUMURRII is a dedicated support unit for First Nations Peoples students by assisting them from recruitment, orientation to graduation providing undergraduate and postgraduate support, including tutorial assistance. The Unit is located on each of Griffith's campuses, with officers who also assist online students studying through the digital campus. GUMURRII Student Success Unit offers a safe and culturally appropriate environment to enhance the student experience. Click [here](#) to find out about:

- Core values
- Admission pathways
- Tutoring for success program
- Scholarships

Indigenous employment with ANZ

ANZ offers several employment opportunities to Indigenous students. These include part-time school-based traineeships, full-time traineeships and graduate programs for students who complete a university degree. Visit the [ANZ website](#) for details.

Interstate and International



QS World University Rankings 2026

[QS Top Universities feature 1,500 universities](#) from around the world and each institution has been assessed according to six key areas. You can learn more about this process by reading their [methodology](#). You can use their rankings to easily compare universities and start your university search. Once you're ready to start learning more about each institution, check out their profile page which is full of details about that Institution, from available degree programs to facilities and tuition fees.

Open Days, Expos & Career Markets



Open days and career expos in August and September

Open days in second half of August and first half of September:

- 14/08/2025 [CQUniversity Open Day Townsville](#)
- 16/08/2025 [SAE University College](#)
[Australian Defence Force Academy Open Day](#)
[Christian Heritage College](#)
- 17/08/2025 [University of Southern Queensland](#) Toowoomba
[The University of Queensland Gatton Campus](#) Open Day
[Southern Cross University Open Day](#) Northern Rivers
[CQ University \(Rockhampton\) – Open Day](#)
- 21/08/2025 [Mater Education Open Day](#)
[CQ University \(Gladstone\) Open Day](#)
- 24/08/2025 [Southern Cross University Open Day](#) Gold Coast campus
- 28/08/2025 [CQ University \(Cairns\) – On Campus](#)

UQ Gatton Campus Open Day

UQ is hosting its Gatton campus Open Day on 17 August from 9am - 2pm. Click [here](#) to find out:

- What to expect on the day
- Open Day program
- Getting to Gatton
- Register to attend

Private Provider Updates

Griffith College

Griffith College is a pathway to a Griffith Uni course if you don't meet the required ATAR for the course you are wanting to enter, you are ATAR ineligible, your VET tertiary rank is insufficient and/or you need a prerequisite subject. You learn alongside first year uni students but with ongoing support, smaller class sizes and assistance come assignment and exam time. A completed diploma will usually see you enter second year of your relevant degree course, or you can move into employment. You can study a:

- [Foundation course](#)
- [Diploma courses](#)
 - Business
 - Criminology and Criminal Justice
 - Design
 - Educational Studies
 - Engineering
 - Health Care
 - Health Sciences
 - Information Technology
 - International Tourism and Hotel Management
 - Science
 - Social and Psychological Science
- [Associate Degree in Business](#)

QUT College for Domestic students

QUT College pathway programs will give you the skills and confidence you need to pursue your chosen degree at QUT. Courses are suitable for both Australian and International students who are looking for a pathway to university. They offer diplomas and undergraduate certificates in a range of study areas, as well as bridging programs in Maths, Physics and Chemistry. Click [here](#) to find out more about:

- Diplomas and Certificates
- Bridging programs
- University preparation program
- Financial support
- Applying

SAE University College Create for a day

If you're curious about a creative career, this is your chance to give it a go. Create for a Day is a one-day, on-campus workshop designed to help you explore your creativity and see what it's like to study at SAE University College. The Brisbane Create for a Day will be held on Saturday 20 September. You can choose from workshops in Animation, Audio, Design, Film, Games, Music or VFX all led by SAE mentors. You'll get hands-on, build something real and take home your final piece plus a certificate of participation. There is a cost of \$25 which includes lunch. Places are limited so click [here](#) for more information and to register.



2025 Fixed Closing Dates

Some courses have fixed closing dates. These are usually courses that require separate application forms (as well as a QTAC application), interviews, folios and/or auditions. It is essential that you do not miss these closing dates. Each of the following universities have some fixed course closing dates. You can find them in the individual University section at the back of the current QTAC Guide or [online](#):

- Central Queensland University (P85)
- Griffith University (P90)
- James Cook University (P93)
- Queensland University of Technology (P 97)
- TAFE Queensland (P103)
- The University of Queensland (P 105)
- University of Southern Queensland (P 111)
- University of the Sunshine Coast (P113)

ATAR Portal sign-up V QTAC Application sign-up

[ATAR Portal sign-up](#) and the QTAC Application sign-up are COMPLETELY DIFFERENT sign-ups!

ATAR Eligible:

- You MUST sign-up through the QTAC ATAR Portal.
- By signing up, you are giving QTAC permission/asking them to calculate your ATAR.
- **If you don't sign-up, you will not get an ATAR!**
- ATAR Portal sign-up is free

QTAC Applications:

- You must create an account with QTAC in order to apply for courses starting in 2026
- Early Bird sign-up will cost \$70 which closes on 30 September 2025
- Paying with a Debit card? - pay before 25 September to be sure that QTAC received your payment before 30 September
- Application fee from 1 October 2025 is \$150
- You have 3 free change sessions included in your application fee. Every change session after that will cost \$70

ATAR and how it works

QTAC are the organisation that calculates Year 12 ATARs at the end of the year. Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority will send your final results to QTAC in order to calculate your ATAR. Click [here](#) to find out more information on:

- ATAR and Year 12
- What is the ATAR
- Breaking down the ATAR
- Adjustment and Selection Rank
- ATAR Appeals
- ATAR Verification
- Ready to receive your ATAR?

Applying for Educational Access Scheme (EAS)

[The Educational Access Scheme](#) (EAS) can help you if you have experienced circumstances that have negatively affected your most recent studies. If you are assessed as eligible for an adjustment to your ATAR or QTAC selection rank under EAS, it will be combined with other adjustments you may be eligible for. Check with the institution/s you are interested in for the maximum adjustments allowed. If you are eligible for the [Financial Hardship category](#), you may also get financial assistance from institutions, such as scholarships or bursaries. This category applies to your current and recent personal and/or family financial circumstances.

You apply for EAS when you are applying for tertiary study through QTAC. You must complete a cover sheet for each category that you feel you are eligible for and provide written evidence to support your application. EAS will not be able to compensate you for things such as not completing secondary school, changing school subjects by choice or missed time from school for activities that are a personal choice (for example, sport, musical, holidays or cultural activities) etc. The EAS eligibility categories are:

- Financial Hardship
- Home Environment and Responsibilities
- English Language Difficulty
- Personal Illness or Disability
- School Environment

If you nominate to apply to EAS **and DO NOT** go ahead with your application, you **MUST** enter your application and untick the EAS option otherwise QTAC will think your application is incomplete. It is suggested that you only tick to apply for EAS, once you have gathered all the necessary documentation.

Be organised before applying to QTAC

QTAC's online application for tertiary courses commencing in Semester One in 2026 is now open. This doesn't mean you must apply immediately! You need to do some preparation before you are ready to apply.

- Know your LUI number so QTAC can access your results from Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) in December

- Check your QCAA student learning account to see if all your qualifications/study program/s are there, especially if you have completed courses outside of school that are recognised by the QCAA
- The application will ask if you want to authorise someone to represent you if you are unavailable to respond to a course offer or you want more information. Most students nominate a parent or guardians. You will need their full name, date of birth (including year of birth) and contact details.
- Are you going to apply for QTAC's Educational Access Scheme (EAS)? If so, speak to your Guidance Officer or School Counsellor for assistance.
- How are you going to pay the \$70 application fee? By Credit card or Direct card. Your application will only be activated once QTAC receives the funds in their bank account. If you have trouble paying the \$70 or only have cash, see your Guidance Officer or School Counsellor.
- Select and order your course preferences. Research courses and make some decisions about what you want to apply for.
- Check closing dates for specific courses at the back of your QTAC Guide.
- Be aware of the closing dates for 2026 applications, preference changes and document submission.

How to get your ATAR!

All ATAR eligible Queensland Year 12 students can now register for the ATAR Portal to receive their ATAR in December which will be released on 18 December. If you are applying for study interstate, you will also be required to register for the QLD ATAR Portal and provide QTAC with the necessary consent to share your ATAR with interstate tertiary admissions centres. Before registering for the ATAR Portal, you will need the following information:

- Full Name (as shown on their QCAA Learning Account)
- Date of Birth (DD MM YYYY)
- LUI number
- Personal email address

Click [here](#) to register.

Make use of your 2026 Guide Year 12!

Year 12 students have a 2026 QTAC Guide or you can get the Guide [online](#). It has important information to assist you in choosing your tertiary pathway for 2026. You will find key information on Applying to QTAC on pages 1 -21. **IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT YOU CHECK ALL YOUR PREFERENCES ON THE QTAC WEBSITE** as the guide was only accurate as of the date of publishing.

Ordering your preferences

You can apply for up to six courses through your QTAC application. The order in which you place the courses is very important. QTAC advises the following plan to help you make sound decisions.

- **Preferences 1 and 2:** Desired courses - the courses you most want to study even if you are not sure you will get an offer.

- **Preferences 3 and 4:** Back-up courses – less competitive courses or courses at other institutions that you are prepared to study if you don't get your higher preferences. They could be used to upgrade to your higher preference courses in the future.
- **Preferences 5 and 6:** Admission Pathway courses - courses that are not competitive and will help you upgrade to your higher preference courses in the future. These are safety net courses.

When processing your application, the QTAC computer starts with your preference 1 course. If you are eligible for this course (i.e. you meet all the entry requirements and are at or above the year's entry threshold/tertiary rank/ATAR), you will be offered this course and your other preferences are not considered.

If you are not eligible for your preference 1 course, QTAC will, in turn, look at your competitiveness for your second preference and so on, until it finds a course you are eligible for or it exhausts your list of preferences. If that happens, you won't receive an offer. **If you follow the plan above, you will receive an offer. It may not be for your preference 1 but it will be a foot-in-the-door to upgrading, hopefully in one year, to the course you want.** You will find more information [here](#) (scroll down to see the video) or in your QTAC Guide on Page 11 and on their website.

You can change preferences after you submit your application. Only press 'Save' after you make all the changes you want. This is then considered one change session. The first three (3) change of preference sessions are free. Subsequent change sessions cost \$70. Don't change your preferences impulsively. Think carefully about them. See your school Guidance Officer/Counsellor if you need assistance.

QTAC Key dates

QTAC Key dates for 2025 include:

Tuesday 5 August 2025 - Opening of Admissions applications for 2026

Tuesday 5 August 2025 - Opening of ATAR Portal registration for 2025 Year 12 students

Friday 23 August 2025 - First Year 12 Offer Round

Tuesday 30 September 2025 - Early Bird application offer closes - after this date the application fee is \$150

Monday 8 December 2025 - Due date to apply and submit documents for 23 December round offer

Due date to apply and submit documents for 15 January round offer

Friday 19 December 2025 - Due date to change preferences for 23 December round offer

Friday 18 December 2025 - QTAC Release of the 2025 ATARs and QCAA release final subject results

Tuesday 6 January 2026 - Due date to change preferences for 15 January offer round

QTAC Student Information Night

QTAC is hosting a free online information session on Wednesday 17 September 6pm - 7pm, for those wanting to study in 2026. This session provides hot tips on a Successful QTAC Application. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

QTAC applications are now open

Applications are now open for 2026 Admissions. This is a completely separate registration from registering to have your ATAR calculated ... you MUST do both registrations! To apply to [QTAC](#) you first have to set up your 'account'. You will need your:

- Full Name (as shown on their QCAA Learning Account)
- Date of Birth (DD MM YYYY)
- LUI number
- Personal email address

Understanding Minimum selection thresholds when ordering course preferences

Entry to many courses is competitive – the number of places available in the course may be fewer than the number of people applying for entry into the course.

Places for eligible applicants to a course are allocated by eligibility (meeting prerequisites) and then in order of merit (the applicant's entry score ATAR or Tertiary Rank). Places are filled and the ATAR or Tertiary Rank of the last applicant offered a place becomes the 'lowest selection threshold'. When researching your course options, it's best to base your preferencing decisions on the adjusted lowest 2025 Minimum Threshold or Tertiary Rank. These take into account adjustment factors that have been allocated to applicants' scores. The QTAC guide shows both the Adjusted and Unadjusted lowest ATAR/Selection Rank so be sure you focus on the Adjusted threshold.

Double check Adjusted minimum ATAR/tertiary ranks on university websites as there are some inaccuracies in the QTAC book.

Career pathways

Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority has information to help you with your career planning. Click [here](#) to find information on:

- Career planning
- Career expos
- Job hunting
- Useful study and career websites
- Career support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students

External assessment equipment list and Directions for students

The 2025 external assessment equipment list and Directions for students are now available on the QCAA [website](#). They include details of approved equipment for all assessments, including calculators, student devices and subject-specific equipment and the directions students must follow during the exams. Check them out and be prepared!

Study Skills and Wellbeing



Calm and Conquer

Calm and Conquer is a toolkit for navigating the challenges of Year 12 exams with confidence and composure. Created and delivered exclusively by ACAP University College, this free online workshop series features two dedicated sessions – one for Year 12 students and another for parents and loved ones. Click [here](#) for more information and to register. Student sessions will be held on 15 and 30 September starting at 7pm. Parents and teachers event will be held on 2 September from 7 - 8pm.

Headspace work and study support

Looking for support to reach your work or study goals? headspace helps thousands of young people in Australia each year through free tailored 1-on-1 support, helpful articles and group chats. Click [here](#) to find out about:

- What is headspace Work and Study Online Support?
- They help young people to ...
- What to expect with headspace Work & Study Online Support

How to use social media more mindfully and productively

It's easy to spend hours scrolling and liking posts to no advantage to you. It's possible however, to use social media productively and to educate yourself. [Read](#) more about:

- Develop your critical thinking skills and worldview
- Follow the news
- Use your platform
- Follow people that inspire and educate

Staying healthy and happy

Being healthy and having a positive outlook can contribute to your success at school. It isn't always easy, but there are lots of things you can do to keep your mind and body healthy. Click [here](#) to access Dr Judith Locke's video series *Health and Wellbeing Tips* which focus on:

- study balance
- procrastination
- limiting distractions

- transforming information
- perfectionism
- exam stress
- sleep

Why is emotional intelligence important for students?

Some skills aren't taught in school, but that doesn't stop them from being important. Emotional intelligence (EI) can give you an edge in your academics now and set you up for success in your future career. But why is emotional intelligence important for students specifically? What *is* emotional intelligence anyway? UQ have put together some information which will help you to explore all this and more (including some tips for improving your EI). Click [here](#) to read more including:

- What is emotional intelligence?
- Why is emotional intelligence important for you?
 - Why is emotional intelligence important for students in high school?
 - Why is emotional intelligence important for students in university?
 - Why is emotional intelligence important in the workplace?
- How to develop emotional intelligence
 - How to know if you have emotional intelligence
 - How to raise your emotional intelligence

Commonwealth Prac Payment (CPP) for nursing

The CPP (VET) will help eligible students to manage the costs associated with undertaking a mandatory placement as part of a Diploma of Nursing. Click [here](#) for information for students undertaking a Diploma of Nursing. As of 1 July 2025, eligible students will be able to access \$331.65 per week (benchmarked to the single Austudy rate on 1 January each year). For information on the CPP for higher education students, visit the [Department of Education website](#).

Fee-Free TAFE

Worried about paying for your tertiary training? Fee-Free TAFE courses have been specifically chosen based on local skills demand and advice from industry. Completing training in these high-priority areas will guarantee you graduate with in-demand skills and strong job prospects. Click [here](#) to find out more about Fee Free TAFE courses. Although Fee-Free courses for 2026 have not been identified yet, check out TAFE Queensland for general information and 2026 information as it comes out.

How to be eligible for the TAFE Concession fee courses

To be eligible for the concession fee cost of your TAFE course you will need to get a low income Health Care Card from Services Australia. It IS NOT based on your parents/guardian's income ... just your income which currently needs to be less than \$786/week averaged over 8 weeks. You MUST have your Low Income Health Care card number before you pay any money to TAFE. To apply for your Low Income Health Care card:

1. Open a Centrelink account through your MyGov account
2. Click on Payments and Claims (you are actually going to 'Claim' a Low Income Health Care Card (we usually say apply instead of 'claim'))
3. Click on make a claim
4. Click on Concession cards
5. Click on Test Eligibility ... and then follow the steps. Good luck!

TAFE Queensland Pathways to University Course Guide

TAFE Queensland Pathways to University Course Guide outlines all the diploma to degree pathway arrangements that they currently have in place with universities across Queensland. The Guide includes all the degree programs that they offer in Brisbane and on the Gold Coast. It sets out the Diplomas that they

offer and the direct access they give to different universities and university courses, including the total time you will need to be studying. Click [here](#) to access the pathways' guide.

TAFE courses through CQUni

CQUniversity, the TAFE powered by a Uni, has been an option for students for 10 years. TAFE Powered by a Uni, delivers online and on-campus training in Certificates and Diplomas. Click [here](#) to find out more about:

- TAFE Certificates and Diplomas
- Study areas
- Fee-Free TAFE
- Start TAFE Now (STN)
- Apprenticeships and Traineeships
- School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships (SAT)
- Short courses and Micro-credentials
- TAFE Subsidised Training
- Paying for TAFE



Adjustment factors applied automatically

Some students receive an offer to a course even though they have an ATAR below the published adjusted selection rank. Often this is because other factors have been taken into consideration in combination with their ATAR and their selection rank has been adjusted (and is higher than their ATAR) and they gain entry into their course.

These adjustments are due to factors such as performance in Year 12 subjects, living or attending school in a certain area and applying for consideration through the Educational Access Scheme. Selection rank adjustments are applied differently from institution to institution and from course to course within the same institution. Check out the Adjustment Schemes for the universities that you are interested in applying to and/or visit QTAC [here](#) to find out more.

Important changes to prerequisites for Education from 2026

Neither the Teacher Entry (NARTE) often referred to as a Suitability Statement or the Science prerequisite for Primary Teaching are no longer prerequisites for entry into a Bachelor of Education at any university.

From 2025 the admission requirements are as follows:

- Prerequisites:
 - General English, English as an Additional Language, Literature of English & Literature Extension (Units 3&4, C)
 - General Mathematics, Mathematical Methods or Specialist Mathematics (Units 3&4, C)
- Recommended:
 - Secondary Education: Senior studies in chosen teaching areas
 - Chemistry, Physics or Biology require the chosen area to be successfully completed at the senior level

Note that some universities have pathways into Education if you don't have either a General English or General Maths prerequisite. You will need to contact the university directly for more details and assistance.

Why do a double degree?

ACU have explained what a double degree is by describing it this way:

- Equivalent of two qualifications with only one extra year of study - 4 years full time study (as single degrees it would take 6 years to complete both)

- A competitive edge to:
 - Acquire a depth of understanding that cannot be obtained in a single degree
 - Be better equipped to work in multidisciplinary teams
 - Make job applications stand out in the crowd
- Double degrees are also suited for students who are not clear on the pathway they wish to pursue.

All universities offer double degrees so check them out to see if they suit your current study thinking.

Australian Catholic University

ACU Guarantee Early Offer Program

The ACU Guarantee program offers Year 12 students (Australian citizens or permanent residents) a place at ACU based on Year 11 results. It is specially designed to reflect achievements in your whole life, not only your academic results. Offers may be made as early as September. You must complete your Year 12 exams and meet any course pre-requisites and you can enhance your application by including short personal statements that give ACU an insight into your personal circumstances and motivation for university study. Applications close on 15 September so click [here](#) for more information and application details.

ACU Year 12 General subject revision webinars

ACU are hosting free revision webinars for some General subjects in preparation for those final exams. Click [here](#) for more information and to register for the following revision webinars:

18 August - Biology revision webinar

19 August - English revision webinar

Western Civilisation webinar

20 August - General Mathematics revision webinar

21 August - Study of Religion revision webinar

Adjustment factors

ACU has a number of adjustment factor schemes that can improve your chances of gaining a place into an ACU course.

Adjustment factors applied automatically for you include:

- Year 12 subjects 5 points max
- Access ACU
 - School relationship 5 points max
 - Campus Program 5 points max

- Regional school 5 points max

A maximum of five adjustment factors applies across the school relationship, campus and regional school programs. Adjustment factors you need to apply for include:

- Educational access scheme (EAS) - Number of points applied varies for individual circumstances
- ACU Elite Athlete and Performer Program 5 points

You can receive up to a maximum of 12 adjustment factors from ACU. Click [here](#) for more information.

Pathway diplomas

Pathway diplomas

If you don't have the ATAR or rank to gain admission into your chosen course at ACU, you could consider studying a diploma first or a foundation studies course. When you successfully complete a pathway Diploma you will receive one year of credit towards the related ACU Bachelor course. Check ACU [website](#) for intake and campus availability and information on:

- Is a pathway certificate or diploma for me?
- How their pathway courses work
 - Choose your pathway course - including pathways to Bachelor degrees
 - Move on to an advanced degree
 - Get extra credit
 - Choose a course provider
 - Apply

Want to teach English and History?

ACU offers a Bachelor of Education (Secondary) where you will learn the craft of teaching from mentors across a wide range of educational contexts. You will graduate with a qualification to teach English and History. Click [here](#) to find out more.

Bond University

Pathway programs into Bond

Bond has several pathways for students who do not meet the entry requirements for Bond degree programs. These are:

- [Bond Diploma Preparation Program](#) – This program is designed to give students the academic and digital literacy skills required to enter a Bond University Higher Education Diploma Program.
- [Bond University Diplomas](#) - Program finder – Deciding on a degree or program is a personal choice and it's about choosing the right program for you, your interests and your future.

Griffith University

Don't have the Maths pre req for Teaching?

If you don't have the Maths prerequisite for entry into the Bachelor of Education, you can:

- Talk to someone at Griffith Uni to be sure that the Bridging Maths for Aspiring Educators is a good option for you
- Apply for either the [Bachelor of Education](#) or [Diploma of Education](#)
- Register for the Bridging Maths for Aspiring Educators via [this link](#)

The January 2026 course registration opens soon and runs from Tuesday 6 January to Friday 13 February 2026. For commencement in a Griffith Education program in Trimester 1, 2026. For more information or support in applying email futurestudents@griffith.edu.au.

EmpowerED University Preparation Program

This is a new pathway program if you do not meet your desired course entry program. The program is:

- Free - 4 core courses, 2 electives
- Builds academic skills
- Guaranteed admission into Griffith degree on completion
- Can be studied full time/part time/online

Click [here](#) for more information.

First Peoples Health Pathway

The First Peoples Health Pathway offers an admission pathway for:

- Bachelor of Clinical Exercise Physiology (Standard pathway)
- Bachelor of Dental Health Science (UCAT is not required under this pathway)
- Bachelor of Dental Hygiene
- Bachelor of Dental Technology
- Bachelor of Dental Technology/Bachelor of Dental Prosthetics
- Bachelor of Medical Science
- Bachelor of Midwifery
- Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Honours)
- Bachelor of Paramedicine
- Bachelor of Physiotherapy (Honours)

There is a separate First Peoples Pathway to Medicine for applicants applying to the Doctor of Medicine. Apply through QTAC and you will then be invited to be considered under this pathway based on:

- Academic achievement - Minimum ATAR or equivalent and meeting subject prerequisites
- Personal statement - responding to questions regarding motivation to study etc

- Interview - to be held early November

Click [here](#) for more information.

How to preference Undergraduate Diplomas

If you are wanting to apply to one of Griffith Uni's Undergraduate Diplomas, it is best to follow the following steps:

1. Apply online through QTAC (UAC if in NSW)
2. Where an undergraduate diploma is an option:
 1. Select desired Griffith Bachelor degree as highest preference
 2. Select the Griffith Undergraduate Diploma that is matched to desired Bachelor degree as next highest preference
3. When nearing completion of Diploma, GU Admissions will contact you and manage your transition to the second year of the Bachelor degree via direct admissions process

Click [here](#) for more information including a list of undergraduate diplomas offered at Griffith.

Key dates for the Qld Conservatorium, Film school and College of Art and Design

- 29 August [Queensland Conservatorium](#) QTAC applications close
 - Bachelor of Acting
 - Bachelor of Music
 - Diploma of Music/Bachelor of Music
 - Bachelor of Musical Theatre
- 3 October [Queensland Film School](#) portfolio admissions applications due
- 5 September [Queensland College of Art and Design](#) portfolio due

Check the links for more details.

VET Guaranteed Admission Scheme

A completed Australian Qualification Framework (AQF) Certificate III, IV or Diploma will meet the minimum selection rank for a range of Griffith degrees. When researching degrees online, look for the Guaranteed Admissions badge for the degree/program you are interested in. Applicants must still meet the Subject Prerequisites for admission as well as any other admission requirements. Please note, a Diploma qualification will meet the English subject prerequisite whereas a Cert III or Cert IV **does not** meet the English subject prerequisite. A comprehensive list of program inclusions can be found on the website. Click [here](#) to find out more about this scheme and check for updates.

Year 12 Early Offer Guarantee

Griffith offers Year 12 students the opportunity for Early Offer Guarantee admission. You can be made an early offer based on one of the 3 following streams:

- ATAR/IB results - will need to provide documents for IA1, IA2 and IA3 (internal school assessments)
- VET qualifications - may need to provide documentation post offer (Unlikely)
- Head Start (GUESTS) course - not expected to provide documentation

To be eligible you must be:

- A current Year 12 student in Queensland or New South Wales
- Include a Griffith Uni preference on your QTAC application
- Meet eligibility requirements for Early Offer Stream

When given an early offer, you must put the Griffith Uni degree that you are wanting as your 1st preference on your QTAC application. Click [here](#) for more information and application details.

James Cook University

Important information for Dental Surgery, Medicine and Vet Science applicants for 2026 entry

Before applying for a JCU course, it is important that you are familiar with the application dates, course requirements and prerequisites. Courses may have specific admission requirements that students must comply with. You can find your course requirements in the James Cook Uni [2026 Undergraduate Study Guide](#).

The following courses have a two-step application process:

- Bachelor of Dental Surgery
- Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery
- Bachelor of Veterinary Science (Honours) (close on 30 September)

You must:

1. Apply online via the QTAC [website](#); AND
2. Apply online directly to JCU. Applications are now open and close on 30 September. Click [here](#) to access the JCU Applications form for the above courses and key dates.

Pathways Webinar

JCU is hosting a Pathways webinar on Thursday 28 August from 7 - 8pm where you will learn more about JCU's pathway programs and how they can help you receive the key knowledge and qualifications you need to gain entry into many of their Bachelor degrees. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Queensland University of Technology

Advice to prepare for practical placement

Many university courses include mandatory placements so students can gain work experience before they graduate. For some health courses you need to complete a set number of hours to be eligible for registration or accreditation in your field. With the high cost of living, managing placement can be tricky. Siobhan Pollard, a QUT nursing and public health student, shares her tips for making ends meet and making the most of practical placement. [Read Siobhan's advice.](#)

Bachelor of Creative Arts (Acting): key application deadlines

The following are key dates for applying to the [Bachelor of Creative Arts \(Acting\)](#):

- On or after 5 August 2025 - apply through QTAC.
- 5 August 2025 - audition submissions open.
- 7 October 2025 at 5pm - deadline for applications and audition submissions. *Requests for applications or submissions after this date will not be considered.*

Find out more about the audition and application requirements [here](#).

START QUT applications open now

In Year 11 and interested in studying a university subject in Summer (STEM Intensive) or Semester 1 2026, receiving a selection rank adjustment and gaining potential credit towards a future degree at QUT? Applications for [START QUT](#) are open now and close on 31 October 2025.

Thinking of going to uni in 2026

Choosing what to study at university is a big decision. Students applying through QTAC can book a 30-minute phone appointment to explore entry pathways, discuss course options and get information on QUT scholarships, services and support before deciding. Click on the following links for more information.

- [Book an appointment](#)
- [Undergraduate applying: a step-by-step guide](#)
- [Assumed knowledge](#) and prerequisites
- [Helping you get into your course](#)
- [Scholarships](#)
- [Year 12 Early Offer scheme](#)
- [Adjustment schemes](#)
- [Support for students](#)
- [Uni social life](#)

University Preparation Program

QUT are offering a free University Preparation Program (UPP) for 2026 entry. Successful completion of the program with a passing grade point average will give a selection rank of 75.00. Higher selection ranks can be achieved with higher grades, up to a maximum of 86.95. The course also covers the prerequisite subjects for [QUT's Bachelor of Education](#). Applicants must have completed Year 12 (QCE or equivalent) or be 18 years old at the first QUT census date. Check their 2026 Study Guide for guaranteed entry to specific courses. The program has changed to provide a selection rank that can be used for entry across QUT's undergraduate courses. Check their [website](#) to find out more.

The University of Queensland

Jobs you can get with Communication, media and experience design careers at UQ

UQ have put together information to answer all those questions about the outcomes after completing particular degrees. Click [here](#) to find out about their Communication, Media and Experience Design careers including:

- What jobs can I get with a communications degree?
- Is a journalism degree worth it?

Senior Mathematics Study Days

Build your confidence, gain additional tips and skills and get that extra edge for your assessments and exams with UQ's Senior Maths Study Days. Their September session is designed for Year 12 students and delivered face to face and online. You will explore concepts in Mathematical Methods through exercises, lectures and workshops which include exam-style questions. The session provides an opportunity to enrich your mathematical understanding of senior mathematics curricula and prepare you for tertiary mathematics studies. Click [here](#) to find out more about the Year 12 Mathematical Methods day being held on 1 October at the St Lucia campus or online including registration details.

Thinking of UQ

Want to know more about UQ? Click [here](#) to find out:

- Study at UQ
- Find a program
- Scholarships
- Short courses
- How to apply
- Why choose UQ
- Life at UQ
- Accessibility support

UQ Ready session

You can join UQ online for a free informative webinar that will provide you with everything you need for a smooth transition from high school to university. The next event will be held on 3 September from 6pm to 7pm and you can click [here](#) to register and to find out more information.

University of Southern Queensland

Early Offer opportunity for Year 12 students

[UniSQ's Early Offer](#) allows graduating Year 12 students, who place UniSQ #1 on their QTAC application, an opportunity to receive an early offer based solely upon a recommendation of your Principal, through one simple application form or by successful completion of UniSQ Head Start course. You are still required to meet all the relevant entry requirements plus you'll still be eligible for Become Rewarded scholarships once ATARs are released. The application form is available now and must be submitted by 16 October 2025.

Study at your own pace

Did you know that you can study full time or part-time by choosing how many subjects you study each semester? If you are thinking you want to work for a while and save some money or there are things going on in your life that you need to sort, you don't need to put off study all together. You can choose to study fewer subjects/courses each semester and can also fast-track your degree by studying during the summer semester (October to February). Read about USQ courses [here](#).

University of the Sunshine Coast

Parent lounge

In the parent lounge on the UniSC website, you will find some updates on their online program offerings, as well as information around their Headstart transition program for Year 11 and 12 students. Click [here](#) to find out more information for parents that will assist you when having those career and pathway conversations with your child. It is never too early to start the conversation and research.

Sem 2 Headstart Information evening

If you're in Year 10, 11 or 12, UniSC's Headstart program lets you study uni subjects while you're still in high school and get credit that counts toward your future degree. For more information you can attend a [Headstart Information Evening](#) in September and get all the details. You'll hear how the program works, what you can study and how it can set you up for success after school. The first Headstart course is free and any you decide to do after are just \$400. Click [here](#) for more information and to register for the following events:

- UniSC Moreton Bay - Wednesday 3 September 4.30pm–6pm
- UniSC Fraser Coast - Thursday 4 September 4.30pm–6pm
- UniSC Sunshine Coast - Thursday 4 September 4.30pm–6pm
- Online via Zoom - Wednesday 10 September 5.30pm–6.30pm

Study your way

At UniSC, study options include more than 150 programs over five campuses spread across South East Queensland. With [online and blended study options](#) available, their regional students have study, research and employment opportunities right on their doorstep. If you're not sure where to start, click [here](#) for help.

Upcoming Events

Date	Event
12/08/2025	ADF: Brisbane Health Careers Information Session
12/08/2025	ADF: Cairns Defence Careers Information Session
12/08/2025	ADF: Maroochydore Army Reserve Information Session
12/08/2025	ADF: Wondai A Night in the Army Reserves
14/08/2025	ADF: Brisbane Navy Careers Information Session
14/08/2025	Australian Performing Arts Conservatory Open evening
14/08/2025	CQUni Townsville Open Day
16/08/2025	Christian Heritage College Open Day
16/08/2025	JMC Academy Open Day
16/08/2025	QUT Max Planck Queensland Centre Open Day
16/08/2025	SAE University College Open Day
17/08/2025	CQUni open day Rockhampton campus
17/08/2025	Southern Cross University Lismore Open Day
17/08/2025	University of Southern Queensland Toowoomba
17/08/2025	UQ Gatton Open Day
17/08/2025	UQ Open Day Gatton Campus
18/08/2025	ACU Biology Revision Webinar
18/08/2025	ADF: Brisbane ADFA Careers Information Session
18/08/2025	Griffith Law School Legal Essay Competition closes
18/08/2025	Griffith Uni's Legal Essay Competition now open
19/08/2025	ACU English revision webinar
19/08/2025	ADF: Dalby A Night in the Army Reserves
19/08/2025	Western civilisation application process and interview preparation webinar
20/08/2025	ACU General Mathematics revision webinar

20/08/2025	ADF: Gold Coast Aviation Careers Information Session
21/08/2025	ACU Study of Religion revision webinar
21/08/2025	ADF: Logan Defence Careers Information Session
21/08/2025	Cairns Careers Expo
21/08/2025	CQUni Open Day Gladstone
21/08/2025	Marter Education Open Day
24/08/2025	Southern Cross Uni Open Day Gold Coast
25/08/2025	ADF: Toowoomba Trade Careers Information Session
25/08/2025	ADF: Townsville Army Reserve Information Session
25/08/2025	CQUni's Diagnostic Imaging Open Day webinar
25/08/2025	Gold Coast Schools Science Competition
25/08/2025	UQ B of Music audition applications close
26/08/2025	ADF: Greenbank A Night in the Army Reserves
26/08/2025	ADF: Warwick A Night in the Army Reserves
26/08/2025	CQUni's Psychology Open Day Webinar
28/08/2025	Bond Uni Indigenous Scholarship application closes
28/08/2025	Bond University Indigenous Scholarship application closes
28/08/2025	CQUni Cairns Campus
28/08/2025	JCU Pathways webinar
28/08/2025	JCU Pathways webinar
28/08/2025	JCU Pathways webinar
29/08/2025	Auditions for Queensland Conservatorium applications close
29/08/2025	Bachelors in Music, Musical Theatre and Acting offered at the Queensland Conservatorium Audition applications close
29/08/2025	Bond Student for a semester Sept applications close
29/08/2025	GU B of Acting QTAC applications close
29/08/2025	GU B of Music QTAC applications close
29/08/2025	GU B of Musical Theatre QTAC applications close
29/08/2025	GU Diploma of Music/Bachelor of Music QTAC applications close
01/09/2025	CQUni's Paramedic Science Open Day Webinar
01/09/2025	Heywire Competition closes

01/09/2025	UniSQ Trimester 3 Head Start Applications close
02/09/2025	ACAP Uni College Parent Calm and Conquer session
02/09/2025	Nursing Open Day Webinar
02/09/2025	START QUT webinar
03/09/2025	CQUni's Engineering Open Day Webinar
03/09/2025	CQUni's Aviation Open Day Webinar
03/09/2025	UniSC Moreton Bay Headstart info session
03/09/2025	UQ Ready online webinar
03/09/2025	UQ Ready virtual event
04/09/2025	UniCQ's Navigating Your Next Move with CQU
04/09/2025	UniSC Fraser Coast Headstart info session
04/09/2025	UniSC Sunshine Coast Headstart info session
08/09/2025	UQ Late B of Music audition applications due
10/09/2025	UniSC online Headstart info session
12/09/2025	The Premier's Coding Challenge submissions close
15/09/2025	ACAP student Calm and CONquer first webinar
15/09/2025	ACU Guarantee Early Offer program closes
15/09/2025	Bond Film and Television Awards (BUFTA) Short Film Competition closes
17/09/2025	QTAC Student Information Night
19/09/2025	myQCE student competition
20/09/2025	SAE Create for a Day event
21/09/2025	UQ Young ChangeMakers program applications close
26/09/2025	JCU Indigenous Summer School applications close
30/09/2025	ACAP second student Calm and Conquer webinar
30/09/2025	JCU application closing date for Dental Surgery, Medicine and Veterinary Science
30/09/2025	JCU Dental Surgery, Medicine and Vet Science applicants for 2026 entry close
30/09/2025	JCU Rural Access Scheme applications close
30/09/2025	QTAC Early Bird fees close
30/09/2025	University of New South Wales Co-op Program closes