



Brisbane School of Distance Education

CAREER INFORMATION BULLETIN

Guidance Officer Team

■ Edition 2

11/02/2025 to 25/02/2025



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

Don't miss important dates

Download the Options Career Information App and sign in using your School's access code (ask your Guidance Officer/School counsellor/VET Coordinator for the code) and check out the Career Events' calendar. It has upcoming key career key dates and relevant information. The calendar makes it easy for you to meet deadlines, get involved and stay informed.

Kick start your year because its 'Time to be Great'!

This video will give you some great thoughts to kick start your year! Spoken by Carla Cuglietta. TIME TO BE GREAT is based on what she has learned by training 11,000 young people around the world. This is how you make your dreams happen. Click [here](#) to watch her short video.

Apprenticeships & Traineeships



Advice and Support

Check out the Australian Apprenticeship website for advice and support and everything you need to know to become an apprentice. Click [here](#) to find out more about how to contact an Australian Apprenticeship Support Network provider and how to find a Group Training Organisation (GTO).

Match your skills to jobs

Most people don't stay in the same job until they retire. You are likely to have several different jobs over your working life. Working out which jobs suit your skills and interests is a good way to find a career that is right for you.

When choosing a job or career, besides thinking about what skills you have, you should also consider:

- your areas of interest—what do you do in your spare time?
- your goals for the future—where do you want to be in 10 years?
- what's important to you—more time with family or a higher salary?
- if you are prepared to move or travel for work, what tasks you're good at?
- what qualifications you might need?

There are many online tools that allow you to check which jobs are a good match for various skills and qualifications. Check out the Queensland Government's [website](#) where they have links to:

- myfuture website
- Your Career
- Recognition of prior learning (RPL).
- Find a course
- Industry job trends and statistics
- Other online tools for matching jobs and skills

New Energy Apprenticeships Program

Looking for a career that helps build a cleaner and greener future? When you undertake a New Energy apprenticeship, you'll have access to tools, technology, methods and worksites with demonstrations by skilled tradespeople. You'll be involved in activities such as:

- designing, developing, constructing and operating infrastructure for generating, storing, transmitting and distributing energy from renewable, zero or low emissions energy sources
- reducing or managing energy use in residential, commercial or industrial properties

- installing and maintaining technology that uses clean energy power.

Click [here](#) to find out more about the opportunities, support and job prospects.

Pre-apprenticeship courses

Pre-apprenticeship training is an entry-level certificate. You will do theory and practical training at TAFE and hands-on work experience in your chosen industry. Pre-apprenticeship training will enable you to find out about a trade for up to 6 months before you commit to a full apprenticeship. Some pre-apprenticeship courses are offered within the [TAFE at School](#) Program. Click [here](#) to find out about:

- What are the benefits?
- What job can I get?
- What if I don't know what I want to do?
- Available courses (including courses throughout Queensland)

Queensland Government's Apprenticeship and Traineeship information

Queensland Government has up to date information on:

- [About apprenticeships and traineeships](#) - Learn the basics and key details on getting started, roles, responsibilities, wages, entitlements and costs
- [School-based apprenticeships and traineeships](#) - Everything you need to know - how they work, getting started, requirements, roles, wages, financial help and completion
- [For apprentices and trainees](#) - Find support services and advice, financial help, how to make changes to your training contract, forms and replacement records
- [Support services](#) - Support and advice during all stages of training, including financial, disability, learning and cancelled apprenticeships and traineeships
- [Information sheets, forms, policies and procedures](#) - Links to forms, policies, procedures and content previously held in information sheets for the Queensland apprenticeship/traineeship system

What does that 'term' mean?

National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) has put together a glossary of [VET terms](#) some of which are:

- Accelerated training - A period of intensive vocational training or retraining which enables individuals to obtain the necessary qualifications in a much shorter period than usual in order to enter an occupation at the required level.
- Acceleration - Progression through an education or training program at a faster rate than usual.
- Access and equity - Also called: Equity: A policy or set of strategies that ensures that vocational education and training (VET) is responsive to the needs of all members of the community.
- Access course - A preparatory, pre-vocational or bridging course which prepares a student for further study or training. Access courses are offered particularly for immigrants, overseas students and adults who are seeking to re-enter the workforce.

- Accredited course - A nationally recognised course accredited by vocational education and training (VET) regulators and developed to meet training needs not addressed by existing training packages. The course results in a statement of attainment outcome. The title of an accredited course commences with the words 'Course in'. (Sourced from: NCVER's Terms and definitions)

White Card for work experience on a construction site

The Workplace Health and Safety Act requires all employees and work experience students on a building site to hold a [White Card or General Construction Induction card](#). You must successfully complete a Building and Construction General Safety Induction course to gain this card. Most courses are delivered online. Some training organisations have a discount price for school students. Some of the organisations that offer the course are [Blue Dog Training](#) (online course) and [Tafe Queensland](#) (various locations and study options).

You can do an Internet search to find other registered training organisations that offer the General Construction Induction training, (Unit of competency - CPCCWHS1001 Prepare to work safely in the construction industry). For more information visit the Queensland Work Safe [website](#). Queensland White Cards are accepted throughout Australia.



Australian Defence Force Information Sessions

Stay informed about important upcoming Queensland and National ADF events and information sessions by visiting the Defence Jobs [website](#). View the specific event's information link for more details including location, times and to book your ticket/s. Further information about these events can be accessed on the ADF Facebook [site](#). Upcoming events:

- 11/02/2025 [Toowoomba Army Careers Information Session](#)
[Gladstone Defence Careers Information Session](#)
- 12/02/2025 [Gold Coast ADFA Careers Information Session](#)
- 13/02/2025 [Brisbane School Leavers, Parents and Teachers Information Session](#)
[Maroochydore ADFA Careers Information Session](#)
[Yeppoon Defence Careers Information Session](#)
- 17/02/2025 [Health Careers Information Session](#) Online and in person
- 18/02/2025 [Cairns Army Reserve Information Session](#)
[Southport A Night in the Army Reserve](#)
[Toowoomba ADFA Careers Information Session](#)
- 19/02/2025 [Maroochydore Defence Careers Information Session](#)
[Brisbane ADFA Careers Information Session](#)
- 20/02/2025 [Townsville ADFA Careers Information Session](#)
- 24/02/2025 [Ipswich Defence Careers Information Session](#)
- 25/02/2025 [Bundaberg School Leavers, Parents and Teachers Information Session](#)
[Townsville Army Reserve Information Session](#)
- 26/02/2025 [Cairns ADFA Careers Information Session](#)
[Hervey Bay School Leavers, Parents and Teachers Information Session](#)
[Mt Isa Defence Careers Information Session](#)

What it's like to join the ADF

There are several resources on the website that can increase your understanding of life in the Defence Forces. For example:

- Discover what [Life in the ADF](#) is like by exploring their website which provides information on jobs, lifestyle and benefits, joining the ADF and information for students
- Join the [Australian Defence Force Cadets](#), where you will develop leadership, team building and survival skills
- Explore the [Education and Training](#) opportunities available in the ADF, including [Sailor Training and Officer Training in the Navy](#), [Soldier training in the Army](#), [Army officer training](#), [Air Force Officer Entry](#) and [Reserves](#)
- Consider [Defence Force Work Experience](#) which gives you a unique experience into the wide variety of careers available in the ADF
- Visit [Submariners](#) to experience working and living under water
- [Discover ADFA](#) by taking an interactive journey inside the Australian Defence Force Academy
- Check out the [Air Force](#) experiences
- Connect with the ADF on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), [X](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#) for current activities

Career Exploration



Back yourself - it's not all about your final school results!

It is very easy to fall into the trap of thinking that your school results/marks will determine what job/s you get throughout life. Well, the good news is - no they don't ... unless you let them, by the way you think about yourself!!!! It's easy to stereotype yourself into careers, jobs and pathways 'for life' all based around your school results. Understand and always remember, your school results are the tool to get you on your first pathway out of school only. Once you are on your way, many opportunities will appear that will allow you to move forward in any number of directions. You only need to look out for them and act on them. Click [here](#) to read some new research on the stereotypes formed at a young age and their long-term impacts.

Career decision making is challenging

Career decision making is always challenging. Always remember that at the end of Year 12 you are only making a decision to get you started on your career journey. But where to start? Consider:

- Start doing your research about what's out there. For starters:
 - o myfuture
 - o Jobs and Skills Australia
 - o Australian Apprenticeships and Traineeship Pathways
- Talk to people and find out what they do and where they work
 - o Your parents
 - o Your friends' parents
 - o Your parents' friends
 - o Your coach
 - o Neighbour etc
- Take up opportunities while at school:
 - o Work experience
 - o Work shadowing
 - o Lunchtime career meetings and presentations
 - o Listen and engage during career lessons
 - o See your Guidance Officer/Career Counsellor/VET coordinator for information on opportunities

It's your life so get into the driver's seat!

Help to guide your career choices

The Australian Government's Department of Employment and Workplace Relations has a guide to help you explore and work through your career choices. Click [here](#) to find information and resources to help you make an informed decision about your current or future career including:

- Help to make a decision on your current and future career
- Your education identifier
- Understanding the Australian Labour Market
- The National Careers Institute
- Explore your future

So what do Ambulance Officers and Paramedics actually do?

Ambulance Officers and Paramedics provide emergency health care for people who are injured, sick or infirm. They provide patient transport to hospital and between hospitals. It suits those with an interest in the wellbeing of others and who want to help with minor medical issues through to serious injuries and traffic accidents.

Click [here](#) to find out more about:

- An overview
- How to become an Ambulance Officer and Paramedic
- Short courses available
- Skills employers are looking for

Some career resources for parents

[myfuture](#) has put together information, tools and articles to help you support your child to learn about the world of work and explore careers. Click here and you will find useful information and resources on:

- [Introducing myfuture](#)
- [Career articles](#)
- [Key features for your child](#)
- [Other resources of interest](#)
- [Assist your child](#)
- [Post-school information](#)

Specific occupational information - Accounting

If you're unsure where an accounting career could take you, Certified Public Accountant (CPA) Australia has a few future-focused specialties to inspire you including:

1. [Forensic accountant](#)
2. [Crypto accountant](#)
3. [ESG accountant](#)
4. [International accounting specialist](#)
5. [Counter-terrorism financial investigator](#)

6. [Start-up accountant](#)
7. [Digital accountant](#)

VET ... it's not all about trades!

A Vocation Education and Training (VET) qualification provides a fast, cost-effective pathway to employment, giving you first-hand experience and confidence to move from school to work. You won't have to study subjects or relearn skills that you have already mastered. VET is not just about the traditional trades, it includes hundreds of different occupations and industries, including:

- Information Technology (IT), Cyber Security and Computing
- Travel, Tourism, and Hospitality
- Business, Accounting, Management, and Entrepreneurship
- Engineering, Automation, and Technology
- Architecture, Planning, Building and Construction
- Agriculture, Horticulture and Agritech
- Legal Studies
- Automotive
- Health, Medicine, Psychology, and Laboratory Sciences
- Creative Industries, Fashion, and Design.

Click [here](#) to find out about career options available.

Why consider doing a VET subject at school

VET (Vocational Education and Training) refers to education and training that provides practical skills and knowledge: With a VET subject you can:

- Join the workforce for the first time
- Gain an Apprenticeship or Traineeship
- Enter tertiary study

A VET course is a great way to fast track your career or education in fields like:

- Business studies
- Health services
- Mining
- Manufacturing
- Agriculture
- Tourism
- Hospitality

Click [here](#) to read more about:

- VET qualifications are generally at one of the following levels
- Is VET for me?
- Job seekers

- Find a VET course
- Related links

myfuture website

[myfuture](#) is free and you sign-up at your first visit to the site. You will enter a username and password for access for future visits. The site contains information on courses, occupations, industries and institutions. On the site you can find:

- My career profile - Complete activities to identify interests, values and skills and view suggested occupations to explore career pathways (you have to register first but it's free).
- Career bullseyes - Find out what career pathways are related to school learning areas.
- Occupations - Explore over 350 occupations describing tasks, skill levels and current labour market information (you have to register first but it's free).
- Industries - Access important information (including employment prospects) for each industry.
- Career articles - Discover practical information to support your career exploration.
- Courses - Discover a course for you by viewing current higher education and vocational education and training (VET) courses (you have to register first but it's free).
- Job seeker resources - Discover resume and cover letter templates and other resources to help you find and gain a job.
- Career stories - Learn tips and tricks by reading real-life career stories about personal experiences.
- User guide videos - View short videos [here](#) that demonstrate key sections of the website to learn how to get the most out of myfuture

Please note: When you visit the myfuture website, you may have to register for free to be able to access some of the above links.



2026 Year 12 QTAC Guide cover competition

QTAC are running a competition for Queensland Year 12 students to design the front cover of the 2026 QTAC Guide with their interpretation of the concept, 'Choose the Future', or '50 Years of QTAC'. The winner will have their artwork published on the front cover of the 2026 QTAC Guide. Entries close Sunday, 9 March 2025 so click [here](#) for competition details and entry information.

Best Field Trip in the World competition

University of Sunshine Coast's Best Field Trip in the World competition is now open for 2025. The trip is held between 10 - 13 April. Year 11 and 12 students have the chance to win an unforgettable four-day adventure exploring world-heritage wonders, scoring VIP behind-the-scenes access and hanging out with UniSC staff, students and sporting superstars. You can even take a friend with you! Activities that you will do include:

- Watch Dolphins v Panthers game with behind-the-scenes VIP game day experience
- Kayaking Noosa Everglades and lunch with sports academics, Australian Diamonds captain and Lightning teammates
- Explore K'gari and participate in a cultural experience at Eli Creek. Meet Arctic Adventurer and Geotechnical Engineering academic, Adrian McCallum

Click [here](#) for the full itinerary and entry details. Entries close on Sunday 9 March 2025.

Bond University's National High School Mooting Competition

The Faculty of Law at Bond University conducts one of Australia's oldest high school mooting competitions. The Faculty is excited to announce that the National High School Mooting Competition will be held in 2025. If you are interested, talk to your Guidance Officer/School Counsellor who can contact Bond for more details. Click [here](#) to find out more information and you must put in your **expression of interest to compete now**.

Future Leaders Awards

The [Future Leaders Awards](#) recognise and reward young Australians who have shown strong leadership and potential. The Awards also aim to inspire others to engage in environmental and community issues and make a difference.

[Future Leaders Writing Prize](#) - designed to recognise and reward talented young writers. It aims to encourage expressive and creative writing. Australian Year 11 and 12 students are invited to submit a piece of writing (800 to 1,000 words). The essays can be fiction or non-fiction and on any topic.

[Helen Handbury Leadership Award](#) - recognises Year 12 students in rural and regional Australia who have shown outstanding community leadership. The award winners will receive funding towards an international trip to experience community development in another culture.

[Future Leaders Future Justice Award](#) - recognises Year 12 students who have shown leadership and initiative on intergenerational equity, future justice. Future justice is concerned with what those living today leave behind for future generations.

[Future Leaders Photography Prize](#) - is designed to recognize talented young photographers.

All applications close on 1 May 2025.

QUT 2025 Accounting Challenge

The QUT Accounting Challenge is a case study competition designed for Year 9 and 10 business and accounting students and is open to all Queensland high schools. The competition aims to raise awareness and enthusiasm for accounting as a subject choice and career path by creating a real-world and engaging case study, in collaboration with industry partners. 2025 Key dates:

- Registrations open (and case study released) January 2025
- Case study submissions close Tuesday 6th May 2025
- Finalists notified Monday 19th May 2025
- Presentations and judging held at QUT Gardens Point Campus on Friday 6th June 2025

[Register your interest](#) now to receive updates including a notification when the case study is released. For competition resources, prizes and more information, visit the [website](#) or email acsc@qut.edu.au.

Qld Assoc of Mathematics Teachers Problem Solving Competition

The 2025 Problem Solving Competition is open to all secondary school students in Queensland. Registration must be completed by a teacher. Click [here](#) for more information about the competition. The competition will run on Friday, 26 April and you will need to register by 24th April to allow for exam preparation. If interested, talk to your Maths teacher or Guidance Officer/Career Counsellor.

The Australian Computational and Linguistics Olympiad (OZCLO)

This contest is for high school students from Years 7 – 12. Participants work in teams of four on a range of language-analysis problems. The competition is held at the school with teams submitting their answers through an online quiz. Some regions offer offline alternatives. Visit the [website](#) to learn more about the 2025 competition. Teams [must register](#) by 28 February, 2025. If you are interested, talk to your Maths teacher or your school Guidance Officer/Counsellor about entering the Olympiad.

Very Short Film Festival

This festival has a dedicated junior category for high school and primary students to delve into the art of filmmaking. Entries must be a 2 - 5 minute film using a camera or phone. You can enter as an individual or group. The VSFF 2025 signature theme, “Seed” can be interpreted in any way. Prizes include mentorship from industry experts, cash awards and all-expenses-covered flights and accommodation to attend the festival premiere screening and gala event. Entries close on 1 April and click [here](#) for more information and entry details.

Disabilities



Resources for students with disabilities

The [Australian Human Rights Commission](#) website may be of assistance to students with disabilities. It provides information on the rights of people with a disability. Information you can also find includes:

- [Australian Network on Disability website](#) provides information for employers, however it does contain resources like case studies, information for job seekers with disability
- [Disability support for Apprentices and Trainees](#) - Queensland Government - types of adjustments, disability support, training organisations, Australian Apprenticeship Support Network (AASN) provider help
- [Job Access](#) provides free information and advice about the employment of people with a disability
- [Centacare](#) supports students with a disability to plan and prepare for life after school
- [Steps Employment Solutions](#) support the recruitment of people with injury, illness and disability
- [Queensland Government Department of Trade, Employment and Training](#)

Employment, Job and Labour Market Info



A cool job - Flavour Chemist and Sensory Scientist

Professor Heather Smyth is a flavour chemist and sensory scientist who has been working with premium food and beverage products for more than twenty years. Heather works towards understanding consumer enjoyment of foods and beverages in terms of both sensory properties and composition. Current projects involve specialty coffee, beer, wine, native plant foods, cocoa, premium beef and seafood, tropical fruits, cereals, dairy products and some processed products and snack foods. Heather also specialises in researching how human physiology and psychology can impact sensory perception and therefore food choice. Click [here](#) to watch her video where she explains her job in more detail.

ABS Labour Force Data - December 2024

The Australian Bureau of Statistics have released the [Labour Force Data for December 2024](#):

- Unemployment rate remained at 4.0%
- Employment increased to 14,573,800
- Underemployment rate decreased to 6.0%
- Participation rate remained at 67.1%
- Employment to population ratio remained at 64.4%
- Monthly hours worked increased to 1,975 million

Australian Government Job and Skills Atlas

Jobs and Skills Atlas provides a comprehensive overview of labour market data at National, State and Regional levels. Click [here](#) to explore a range of the labour market datasets including information on:

- Regions
- Industries
- Occupations
- Training

Casual jobs - advantages and disadvantages

Think a casual or short-term job isn't a 'real' job or that it doesn't count towards your career? Think again! Having a casual job or other short-term work can:

- give you an edge when you apply for jobs in the future

- help you develop job/workplace skills
- help you develop sound management skills
- build your confidence and communication
- provide some life balance and give you some pocket money!

Click [here](#) to read Job Jumpstart's article that looks at the benefits of having a casual job and tips on how to get one.

Message to my teenage self

Click [here](#) to watch Liv from LinkedIn' as she explains how the skills she developed as a teenager have actually led her to a job that she really likes and finds rewarding. Never underestimate your natural skills and talents.

Minimum working age

How old do you need to be to start work? If you answered 14 and 9 months you'd be like many Australians and you'd be wrong! According to the SDA union, the 14 and 9 month myth appears to have come from a time when that was the minimum age a young person could leave school and join the workforce full-time. In Queensland, the minimum working age is 13 except for jobs like delivery work (for which they must be at least 11 years old). Click [here](#) to read more of the ABC News article.

Skills employers want

There are two ways to approach the topic of job skills. The first is the type of job skills all employers want you to have — teamwork, reliability, initiative, maturity and a willingness to learn. The second is skills in demand. Skills in demand are when there are not enough people to do a particular job. Having the right skills in demand can often come with benefits like better pay. Click [here](#) to read about:

- General job skills
- Transferable skills
- Qualities
- A list of skills and qualities employers are looking for

What are your rights as a casual employee?

There are several different types of employment arrangements under Australia's workplace laws. One of the most common types that students work under is casual employment. Casual jobs are defined as jobs that usually:

- are short-term or temporary
- involve irregular hours
- aren't guaranteed to be ongoing
- provide extra hourly rate as they don't provide paid holiday leave or sick leave.

Generally speaking, casual employees are employed on an hourly, daily or weekly basis without any commitment – from the employee or the employer – that the job is permanent or guaranteed. Click [here](#) to find out more about:

- Casual loading
- Minimum conditions for casual workers
- Flexibility vs. security in casual work
- Superannuation guarantee

Financial Assistance & Scholarships



HECS-HELP: What you should know now for later

If you are studying at a public funded University or an approved private University or College, you will be offered either a [Commonwealth Supported Place \(CSP\)](#) or a fee-paying place. A CSP is an Australian Government subsidised place. Students with a CSP (called Commonwealth supported students) only pay a 'student contribution' instead of the full cost of their course.

The Australian Government has several financial assistance programs to help you meet the cost of your tertiary education. The [HECS-HELP](#) scheme is one of these programs. They are loan schemes for eligible Commonwealth supported students. Through this scheme, students can defer payment of their student contribution until they are earning a specified amount (called the compulsory repayment threshold). They then repay their loan through the taxation system.

For more information about HECS-HELP, visit the Australian Taxation Office [website](#) or Study Assist [website](#).

Scholarships offered by higher education providers

It's never too early to check out scholarships. It takes time to gather all your supporting evidence for your application and you may want to get involved in school and community activities during the year that will make your application more appealing to the Universities. Higher education providers or Universities usually have their own scholarship website. For more information, check your provider's website or ask their scholarship office. You can't have too much information when applying for a scholarship.

VET Student Loans

The [VET Student Loans](#) program offers income contingent loan support to eligible students studying certain Diploma level and above Vocational Education and Training qualifications. Click [here](#) to find information on:

- What's New
- Historical VET loan transfer
- How to access a VET Student Loan
- Approved courses and approved providers
- Debt complaints
- Tuition protection and provider default
- Compliance
- Government Assistance
- Student Enquiries

Students are required to repay the loan through the taxation system when their income reaches the repayment threshold. See the Study Assist [website](#) for threshold information. Eligible courses and approved providers are also available on the Your Career [website](#). They update information on their websites regularly so keep checking.

First Nations Peoples



Interested in a career in Indigenous Health?

There are many types of job opportunities available for First Nations Peoples in the health sector, from dental assistants to dieticians, from physiotherapists to paramedics, from nurses to neurosurgeons. Some health jobs involve working in hospitals and clinics, while others involve working in private practices or out in the community. Some jobs suit people who like working behind the scenes, while others suit people who love face to face contact with the public. You will find more information on the Indigenous Health Heroes [website](#).

For more information on the Australian Governments Department of Health links below:

- [About the workforce](#) - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff provide culturally safe services for their communities
- [Our Support](#) - Increase the numbers of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people working in health
- [Jobs and scholarships](#) - The Australian Government helps First Nations students complete their studies and join the health workforce.
- [Initiatives and programs](#) - A list of programs we fund that are relevant to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workforce.

Queensland Government - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Careers and Training

The Queensland Government Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Jobs, training and career support [website](#) has information on:

- Employment programs
- Training programs
- Your rights at work
- Find a job
- Youth Employment program
- Deadly stories

Gap Year Program News



Thinking of taking a Gap year?

Thinking of taking a break from study after Year 12? This is known as a 'Gap Year' as you might be considering:

- Having a rest from study
- Working to earn money for further study, buy a car, travel, etc.
- Taking time to explore your career options
- Concentrating on an activity (e.g. sport, music, art).

There are many things you can do during a gap year:

- Travel
- Work overseas or in Australia
- Do a traineeship or a short course
- Go on an overseas exchange
- Volunteer overseas or in Australia
- Do work experience to check out a possible future job.

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

- [African Conservation Experience](#)
- [Australian Defence Force Gap Year](#)
- [Green Army](#)
- [Interexchange](#)
- [Letz Live](#)
- [Projects Abroad](#)
- [Rotary Youth Exchange](#)
- [EA Ski and Snowboard Training](#)
- [Student Exchange Australia and New Zealand](#)
- [Southern Cross-Cultural Exchange](#)
- [Volunteering Queensland](#)
- [World Education Program Student Exchange](#)
- [Lions Australia Youth Exchange Program](#)

Thoroughly investigate any gap year organisation when researching your options and get your parents in on the research and discussions.

Holiday Programs & Short Courses



Brisbane Arts Theatre short courses

The independent [Brisbane Arts Theatre](#) is offering a range of 2025 weekend student workshops. Training is available for students from 8 to 18 years and with various skill levels. Visit their website to register and for up-to-date event details, including:

- [Performing Arts Workshops](#) from 11.30am to 1.30pm on Saturdays during school term time
- [Teen Creative](#) from 9am to 11am on Saturdays during school term time
- [Teen Musical Theatre](#) workshop from 2 - 4pm during term time

Interstate and International



Preparing for SAT for 2025 entry into USA College?

If you are wanting to study in the USA you will need to sit SAT (Scholastic Assessment Test). SAT is different from school exams so it's best to spend time preparing for and practicing by using past test papers. [Crimson Education](#) and [Khan Academy](#) provide free SAT practice resources. You register and sit the SAT through [The College Board](#). Click [here](#) for more registration details.

University of Melbourne study opportunities

Are you thinking of studying interstate? Now is a good time to start your research as you will probably need to put in several Tertiary Admissions applications. Find out more about the opportunities at Melbourne University.

- [Find a course](#)
- [How to Apply](#)
- [Entry Requirements](#)
- [Support services](#)
- [Connect and Engage](#)

You can also [register](#) for Melbourne Uni's updates

Want to study overseas?

Crimson Education is one of Australia's international University admissions companies and has supported 10,000+ students in getting accepted into the Ivy League, Stanford, MIT, Oxford, Cambridge and other top-ranked universities. Start your journey today! Start your research early and get your parents/caregivers involved. Click [here](#) to start your research.

Open Days, Expos & Career Markets



Brisbane Careers and Employment expo

Brisbane's annual Careers & Employment Event will be held on 12, 13 and 14 June from 9am - 4pm each day. The Expo will host over 160 organisations and employers with career opportunities for all ages including school students, parents, teachers, graduates, job seekers, people looking for courses and workers seeking new training options. The Expo is packed with free advice and you can:

- Talk with over 160 Training Organisations & Employers
- Get Free Career Advice
- Discover Jobs of the Future
- Experience the Free Career Seminars
- Enjoy the WorldSkills National Championships and Try'a Skill Zones
- Find your Ideal Role at the ADF Careers Expo

Click [here](#) for more information.



Private Provider Updates

Australia Film TV and Radio School (AFTRS) short courses

Learn new skills, develop your craft and get job ready with AFTRS' range of Short Courses in screen and broadcasting, both on campus and online. Click [here](#) to see a full list of their short courses and see if any fit your study and social timetable!

Endeavour College of Natural Health

Endeavour College delivers education in the natural health sector and has six campuses and teaching clinics, a robust digital learning environment and highly trained lecturers, tutors and clinical supervisors. If you have a passion for natural health, you can begin your studies with a single subject. Click [here](#) to read about the organisation including:

- Course Guide
- Scholarships
- Student benefits

Griffith College

Griffith College offers undergraduate diploma programs that, on successful completion, provide guaranteed pathways to degree programs at Griffith University. The College is located at the Mt Gravatt and Gold Coast campuses. Click [here](#) to find out about the following Diploma courses:

- Business (DBUS)
- Criminology and Criminal Justice (DJ)
- Design (DDS)
- Educational Studies (DES)
- Engineering (DE)
- Health Care (DHC)
- Health Sciences (DHS)
- Information Technology (DI)
- International Tourism and Hotel Management (DITHM)
- Science (DS)
- Social and Psychological Science (DSP)

Other study options include:

- Foundation Program (FP)

International College of Hotel Management (ICHM)

[ICHM](#), has a new state of the art, purpose built in the heart of Adelaide's CBD. It was the first Swiss Hotel Association institution outside of Europe. As a student, you can choose to finish your studies after completing the Bachelor of Business (Hospitality Management) or, go on to complete the more advanced Bachelor of International Hotel Management (Swiss Hotel Association). The second degree provides you with additional international management studies aimed at giving you a competitive industry advantage. Check their [website](#) for more information on the following courses:

- Bachelor of Business (Hospitality Management)
- Undergraduate Certificate of Hotel, Tourism and Hospitality Operations
- Study abroad courses

New York Film Academy (NYFA) Online Open House

[NYFA](#) will be holding a Live Online Open House session where you will have the opportunity to learn about their programs, admissions requirements, financial aid and scholarships for their graduate, undergraduate, conservatory and adult short term workshops. During the presentation, NYFA's admissions team will be available to answer any questions that you may have. Click [here](#) to register for the Online Open House webinar on 17 February from 1 – 1:30pm.

Project, Leadership and Entrepreneur Opportunities



Join the YMCA Queensland Youth Parliament

Anyone aged 15-25 with a passion for change can nominate for Queensland Youth Parliament. They will teach you all you need to know about parliamentary debate, Bill writing, working with the media and more! Like the real Queensland Parliament, however, they can only select so many Youth Members; so applying on time is essential. Click [here](#) for more information, key 2025 timeframes and application link.

Micro skill courses to add to your resume

[Grandshake](#) have developed bite-sized micro courses (around 40 minutes each) in workplace skilling that will build your understanding and look great on your resume. So before the year gets too hectic, click [here](#) to check them out.

Study Skills and Wellbeing



Be in a 'good space'

Start your new year well! When you do, you can continue with the positive approach and end up in the space you want to be in. Create a good space for yourself by:

- Eating well, sleeping well and enjoying life
- Managing your time well
- Making a study plan and sticking to it
- Making time for family, friends and especially YOURSELF
- Making sure you have some fun
- Keeping things in perspective as there are many ways to get to where you want to go
- Being resilient and staying positive even when things don't quite 'go right'

Good study balance and management

When you're studying, you need to give yourself every chance of success. QCAA's series of videos featuring clinical psychologist, Dr Judith Locke gives you practical tips to take control of your study, while also looking after yourself. Click [here](#) to hear her 1 - 2 minute videos on:

- Study balance - Did you know you can study too much
- Procrastination - Do you procrastinate often?
- Limiting distractions - Study smarter and limiting distractions
- Transforming information - Do you forget what you study?
- Perfectionism - Perfectionism isn't a personality trait
- Exam stress - Struggling with exam stress?
- Sleep - Sleep is the best thing you can do!

Managing your stress levels is doable!

Some things to think about when managing your stress levels as the school year ramps up are:

1. Try not to be perfect - it's impossible
2. Focus on what you are good at - there are plenty of things
3. Look for humour when things are going haywire
4. When you feel tired, have a nap - your mind will be much clearer
5. When you feel down, have a warm bath with bubbles and essential oils, such as orange and lavender. A shower also works when you have the essential oils in the bathroom
6. Try relaxation techniques such as meditation, deep breathing and listening to music
7. Exercise is a great way to relieve stress - even going for a walk or a quick jog helps

8. Have some time out for a little while, like watching something mindless on TV
9. Try not to feel too guilty
10. Don't be too hard on yourself - not everything is your fault
11. Work on sleeping 7 to 8 hours a night
12. Work on eating healthy foods but allow yourself some treats from time to time

Starting new habits or disciplines

Tim Elmore from Growing Leaders has put together his thoughts on starting a new year with a positive attitude and good habits. Click [here](#) and read more about:

- When it comes to living by our values, the issue is not prioritizing your schedule but rather scheduling your priorities
- Each year begin a few new positive habits
- Check your motives at least once a week
- Accountability - it's essential

TAFE at School Program and Courses

If you're a year 10, 11 or 12 student you may be able to complete a TAFE Queensland qualification while you're still at school. Choose from a variety of Certificate I to Certificate III courses from a range of study areas from Hospitality to Horticulture, Early Childhood Education to Engineering and everything in between. Successfully completing a TAFE at School course gives you a Nationally-recognised qualification, QCE credit points and direct entry into any TAFE Queensland Diploma course. Speak with your VET Coordinator or teacher to get started. Click [here](#) for more information including:

- TAFE at School
- How it works
- Pathway to a trade qualification
- Pathways to TAFE and University
- About TAFE at school courses
- Trade Taster Programs
- Information for parents
- What it costs
- How to apply
- TAFE at School guides for
 - o North and Far North Queensland
 - o Darling Downs and South West
 - o Gold Coast
 - o Greater Brisbane
 - o Sunshine Coast and Wide Bay

Trades and TAFE

Looking to developing lifelong skills and earn qualifications to open the door on a rewarding career across a wide range of industries. TAFE Queensland offers a wide range of Trades training. Click [here](#) to learn more about the trade jobs in the following areas:

- Electrotechnology and Refrigeration (2 trade opportunities)
- Building and Construction (8 trade opportunities)
- Engineering and Design (3 trade opportunities)
- Automotive (4 trade opportunities)
- Safety (1 trade opportunity) Sustainability and renewable energy courses (1 trade opportunity)



Open Universities

[Open Universities Australia](#) offers single subjects and full degrees with full government funding. Open Universities partners with Universities across Australia such as: University of New South Wales (UNSW), La Trobe University, Curtin University, University of New England, Australian Catholic University (ACU) and Griffith University. They deliver over 270 degrees and 1600 subjects in the one place. When you enrol through Open Universities, you become a student of your chosen university and study online with them. It's the same course that's delivered on campus. Some of the subject areas available include:

- Architecture & construction
- Art & creative design
- Business & management
- Community services & care
- Education & teaching
- Engineering
- Health & medical science
- Humanities & social science
- IT & computer science
- Law & justice
- Media & communication
- Psychology & mental health
- Science
- [Explore study online](#)
- [Search all courses](#)

Australian Catholic University

Choose your pathway or entry program

There are many ways to get to Uni if that is the best pathway to achieve your career dreams. If you want to study at University, want to either increase your chances of getting in or accelerating your studies, pathways and entry programs may help. Pathways are extra qualifications or tests that will help you meet the entry requirements of your chosen course. Click [here](#) to check out ACU pathways including:

- What are pathways and entry programs?
- Pathways
- Find your pathway
- How does it work?

- Entry programs

Reputation and ranking

You see how ACU measures up in university rankings, research quality, graduate outcomes, subject strengths and more by clicking [here](#) including:

- A globally ranked university including:
 - o 1st in Australia and 24th worldwide for research quality
 - o in the top 40 for young universities
- Subject rankings
- Research excellence
- Graduate outcomes
- Subject rankings
- Job ready graduates
- Courses

Bond University

Bond Business School Year 12 Extension Program

Get a head start on your studies with the Bond Business School Year 12 Extension Program, which comprises fast-paced and fun two-day workshops designed to prepare you for university life. The Extension Program offers an enriching opportunity that supports the existing Year 12 curriculum across areas such as Business and Maths. The 2025 dates are:

- Maths Stream - 11 & 12 April
- Business Stream - 14 - 15 April and 1 - 2 May

Click [here](#) for more details and to register.

Life at Bond

Bond is not like other universities. It isn't just about what you learn, it is how you learn it, who you learn it with and the mentors you learn it from. You will become part of a network of friends and colleagues. Click [here](#) to find out more about:

- All the support you need
- Discover life on campus
- Take a walk through campus
- Experience Bond yourself
- Explore Australia's favourite classroom
- Your home away from home
- Discover more about life at Bond

Griffith University

Griffith Sports College

[Griffith Sports College](#) plays a vital role in fostering students who are also elite athletes, helping them devote time to training and competition while they complete their tertiary studies. As part of the Elite Athlete Friendly University Network, the Sports College integrates sporting and academic aspirations. Through dedicated assistance from Griffith Sports College, over 550 student athletes successfully balance the high demands of elite sport and university life each year through:

- Direct admission
- Consideration for program admission flexibility
- Personalised degree advice and course planning
- Timetabling assistance and class flexibility
- Assessment and exam flexibility
- Opportunity to study with other institutions
- Access to on-campus sporting facilities and gym
- Funding for specific sporting events
- Access and special rates for physiotherapy and sports science services
- Tutoring assistance may be available

Queensland University of Technology

A Guide to QUT Data Science Courses and Career Opportunities

Data Science is a multidisciplinary field that combines Statistics, Computer Science and Domain Expertise to extract meaningful insights from data. With the rise of big data, businesses across all sectors are seeking professionals who can analyse and interpret complex datasets to drive decision-making and innovation. Click [here](#) to read through the guide.

Engineer Your Future

Considering a career in Engineering? QUT, in partnership with The Engineering Link Group, Engineers Australia and Queensland Government (Transport and Main Roads) are showcasing Engineering as it really is – exciting, challenging and world-changing. Students in Year 9–12 are invited to register for this Engineering experience day, where you will participate in hands-on workshops from a range of Engineering disciplines while connecting with professional Engineers and QUT undergraduate Engineering students. The Experience day is being held on 22 March from 8am - 4pm and click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Esports events at QUT in 2025

QUT Sport's 2025 Esports events offer a unique opportunity to explore university life and engage in friendly competition. Held at the QUT Gardens Point campus, these events are linked to STEM Education and provide

students with hands-on experiences with emerging sport technologies such as esports, virtual and augmented reality, sport simulation and livestreaming.

You will receive coaching and mentoring from QUT students, ensuring a supportive learning environment. With a strong focus on eSafety and governance, QUT Sport provides a safe and informed setting for all participants. Click [here](#) to find out more information and registration details.

Free Careers in Science webinar

QUT is hosting a free webinar on 26 February at 11 AM, exploring how to turn scientific curiosity into an exciting career! Hear from QUT academics and recent graduates and discover why a Bachelor of Science is the perfect fit for you. It is brought to you in partnership with Careers with STEM. As it's being held during the school day, a recording will be made available after the session. [Register online.](#)

New in 2026: Bachelor of Architectural Design/Master of Architecture Package

From 2026, QUT will offer a combined undergraduate and postgraduate architecture package, providing students with a streamlined study plan. You will complete a three-year Bachelor of Architectural Design followed by the two-year Master of Architecture (upon meeting the entry requirements). Upon graduating, students will meet the academic requirements for membership of the Australian Institute of Architects and with at least two years industry experience be prepared to complete the Architectural Practice Exam to become a registered architect. Learn more [here](#).

QUT Future You Summit 2025

The Future You Summit will once again be held in June/July holidays from 30 June to 4 July. You will be treated like real undergraduate students with access to world class facilities and academics. A great opportunity to get a real-world experience of what it is like to be a first-year student before you finish school. Applications will open 3 March for Year 11 and 12 students. Find out more [here](#).

QUT Health Insights blog

The insights blog is a fantastic resource to support the important process of selecting your future career in health. You'll find first-hand student perspectives on their course experiences. Read about placements, career outcomes and advice to those considering Nursing, Social Work, Pharmacy and more. Click [here](#) to find out more.

QUT's BlueShift 2025 is now open

[BlueShift](#) will give you real world experience in a supportive environment. Win big prizes by creating real world solutions for real businesses in this high school business case competition! Teams of 3 – 4 students from Years 10 – 12 compete against other schools from across Queensland and northern New South Wales

and discover what it's like to work in the exciting world of business. Click [here](#) for more information including registration details. Applications close on 25 February.

Southern Cross University

All about Southern Cross University

Southern Cross University offers a vibrant teaching, learning, research and cultural environment to help you realise your goals. Their degree and research courses are relevant for today, but they have their sights firmly on meeting the needs of future employment. Click [here](#) to find out more about Southern Cross University's:

- Courses
- Ratings
- Campuses
- Scholarships

The University of Queensland

Medicine Information Evening

Attend UQ's information session to learn about studying medicine at The University of Queensland (UQ). They will cover:

- Explore the current climate and magnitude of medicine.
- Learn how to apply for our Doctor of Medicine (MD) program.
- Discover our multiple entry routes and partnerships with CQUniversity and UniSQ.
- Get advice from recent graduates and current students.
- Engage in an interactive Q&A panel with alumni and current students.
- Network with current medical students.

Click [here](#) to register for the in person event on 18 March from 6 - 7:30pm or online on 19 March from 6 - 7:30pm.

Young ChangeMakers

Young ChangeMakers is a four-day experience that allows Year 11 students to immerse themselves in university life, connect with academics and industry and develop leadership and critical thinking skills. Although applications don't open until May, you can register your interest and receive program updates [here](#).

Torrens University Australia

Advantages of studying at Torrens

[Torrens University](#) has campuses across four States. Some of the advantages of studying at Torrens Uni are:

- An ATAR is no longer an entry requirement
- Small class sizes
- Your own personal Success Coach to help you navigate university life
- A focus on practical, hands-on learning so you graduate job ready
- Industry experts as lecturers
- No exams (assessment and project-based learning)
- Flexible learning modes to suit your style: on campus, online classes or a blend of both
- Work-integrated learning program providing internships for students
- Scholarships

University of Southern Queensland

My Brilliant Career Profiler

My Brilliant Career Profiler is a fun questionnaire that identifies your personality and matches it with USC courses you might enjoy. You can find it on the USC [website](#).

Study at UniSQ

It's never too early to start researching your options after school. If you are thinking about Uni you might want to visit the UniSQ [website](#) and read about the benefits of studying at UniSQ. There is information about:

- Study areas and degrees
- ATAR explained
- USQ early offer
- Head Start
- Scholarships

University of the Sunshine Coast

Career Directory

The [Career Directory](#) can be of help when you know the career you want but don't know what UniSC course you can do to get there. Check it out as you don't know what you will find out!

Parent Lounge

The Parent Lounge [webpage](#) has heaps of resources that parents can use to support their children as they transition to university study including:

- Information for parents
- Pathways to study
- Courses and programs
- Fees
- Scholarships
- Parent resources
- Accommodation and transport
- Getting a Headstart

Upcoming Events

Date	Event
11/02/2025	ADF: Gladstone Defence Careers Information Session
11/02/2025	ADF: Toowoomba Army Careers Information Session
11/02/2025	Safer Internet Day
12/02/2025	ADF: Gold Coast ADFA Careers Information Session
13/02/2025	ADF: Brisbane School Leavers, Parents and Teachers Information Session
13/02/2025	ADF: Maroochydore ADFA Careers Information Session
13/02/2025	ADF: Yeppoon Defence Careers Information Session
17/02/2025	ADF: Health Careers Information Session online and in person
18/02/2025	ADF: Cairns Army Reserve Information Session
18/02/2025	ADF: Southport A Night in the Army Reserve
18/02/2025	ADF: Toowoomba ADFA Careers Information Session
19/02/2025	ADF: Brisbane ADFA Careers Information Session
19/02/2025	ADF: Maroochydore Defence Careers Information Session
20/02/2025	ADF: Townsville ADFA Careers Information Session
24/02/2025	ADF: Ipswich Defence Careers Information Session
25/02/2025	ADF: Bundaberg School Leavers, Parents and Teachers Information Session
25/02/2025	ADF: Townsville Army Reserve Information Session
25/02/2025	QUT BlueShift competition closes
26/02/2025	ADF: Cairns ADFA Careers Information Session
26/02/2025	ADF: Hervey Bay School Leavers, Parents and Teachers Information Session
26/02/2025	ADF: Mt Isa Defence Careers Information Session
26/02/2025	Careers in Science Webinar
27/02/2025	ADF: Cloncurry Defence Careers Information Session
27/02/2025	ADF: Gold Coast School Leavers, Parents and Teachers Information Session

28/02/2025	The Australian Computational and Linguistics Olympiad registrations close
03/03/2025	QUT Future You Summit 2025 applications open
04/03/2025	ADF: Engineering Careers Information Session
04/03/2025	ADF: Mackay Defence Careers Information Session
04/03/2025	ADF: Maroochydore Army Reserve Information Session
05/03/2025	ADF: Cairns Air Force Careers Information Session
05/03/2025	ADF: Comms, IT & Intelligence Roles Information Session
06/03/2025	ADF: Toowoomba Defence Careers Information Session
07/03/2025	2025 Engineering, Design and Computing Ambassador Program
09/03/2025	2026 Year 12 QTAC Guide cover competition closes
09/03/2025	UniSC Best Field Trip in the World entries close
10/03/2025	ADF: Defence Careers Information Session
10/03/2025	ADF: Townsville Defence Careers Information Session
11/03/2025	QUT Advice Night webinar
18/03/2025	UniSC Sunshine Coast Headstart program information evening
18/03/2025	UQ Medicine Information Evenint
19/03/2025	UQ Medicine Information webinar
20/03/2025	UniSC Moreton Bay Headstart information evening
22/03/2025	Engineer Your Future experience day
24/03/2025	IM2C International Mathematical Modeling challenge entries close
25/03/2025	GU Pathways to Medicine Information session
26/03/2025	UniSC Headstart online information webinar
27/03/2025	GU Pathways to Medicine information session Brisbane South Campus (Nathan)
29/03/2025	ANU Open Day

