



CAREERS NEWSLETTER

Disclaimer – all information is printed in good faith
It is the responsibility of the student to confirm all details with the appropriate institution.

To contact Mr Madani please email jmadani@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au or call 9414 4388.

JobJump - Parents and students please watch YouTube video below and sign up

Sign up to JobJump for information about tertiary study options, ATAR's and apprenticeship and TAFE information.

Create a resume, sign up for news alerts.

To register go to <https://www.jobjump.com.au/>

Search school – St Pius X Chatswood

Register with an email address (use a private address, not spx)

Password – pius (lower case)

Parent information: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fZoyckJwvVg&feature=youtu.be>

Sydney School Leavers, Parents and Teachers Information Session

Organisation: Australian Defence Force

Location: Sydney ADF Careers Centre

Date: February 18, 2025

Considering student career goals now that school is coming to an end?

Explore job opportunities in the Navy, Army and Air Force by heading to an upcoming info session.

Speak with current serving members about job roles, opportunities for further study, or flexible part-time commitments. The Australian Defence Force (ADF) offers countless career paths for school leavers.

Whether you are a teacher or parent looking to learn more about the ADF - we can help!

[Find out more and register](#)

Year 12 & Beyond – With ADHD

Organisation: Claire Pech Careers

Location: Online

Date: February 18, 2025

Hosted by Claire Pech, CICA-Accredited Careers Practitioner, and Amanda Krulis, endorsed Organisational Psychologist.

Targeted to parents of students with ADHD in Year 12, this webinar will share insights and practical solutions for managing this critical year and beyond and making meaningful career decisions.

Topics covered:

- Understanding the characteristics of ADHD, debunking unhelpful myths
- Exploring the similarities & differences between ADHD at School vs. Tertiary
- Considerations for choosing further studies after Year 12
- Evaluating potential action plans & pathway options
- Understanding what adjustments/supports are available after 12 Year
- Creating insight & self-awareness around current ADHD status
- Essentials of Executive Functions, impact & creating a tailored toolkit for success
- Identifying & harnessing ADHD strengths
- Managing technology with ADHD
- Career planning with ADHD



- Strategies for parents to support their kids
- Q&A

[Find out more and register](#)

Bond Business School Year 12 Extension Program Webinar

Organisation: Bond University

Location: Online

Date: February 18, 2025

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.

Faced with real-world situations, participants will hone their skills, problem solve, and work collaboratively with their peers. The Year 12 Extension Program is free of charge to students.

Tune in to our live webinar to learn more about the Bond Business School Year 12 Extension Program.

[Find out more and register](#)

Sydney Pilot Career Seminar

Organisation: Basair Aviation College

Location: Bankstown Airport

Date: February 18, 2025

Do you dream of taking to the skies and achieving your wildest aviation dreams?

Attend Basair's Pilot Career Seminar and learn everything you need to know about becoming a Commercial Pilot with Australia's leading flight training organisation.

[Find out more and register](#)

Pathways into Medicine and Dentistry Live Webinar

Organisation: National Institute of Education

Location: Online

Date: February 18, 2025

This forum is an excellent opportunity for teachers, students and their parents to find out about the UCAT, pathways into medicine, and have all questions answered by an expert teacher who has been working in the field since 1999.

The session is packed with invaluable information during which we will be covering the following topics, and more:

- What is UCAT? UCAT scores? UCAT Sub-tests?
- Year 10, 11 and 12 - things to consider now.
- The Undergraduate Selection Criteria
- Application process into universities for medicine and dentistry
- When and who can sit the UCAT
- GAMSAT
- Can you prepare for the UCAT?
- Undergraduate interview process
- What, how and why about Gap Year?
- Alternative degrees and career choices
- Work experience advice
- Q & A

[Find out more and register](#)

Hansen Scholarship Program online information evening

Organisation: University of Melbourne

Location: Online

Date: February 19, 2025



Talented Year 12 students, parents, careers practitioners, and other support people are invited to join us for an online information session to learn more about the University's most generous undergraduate scholarship: the Hansen Scholarship.

As a Hansen Scholar, you'll join a program that nurtures potential and provides a place where your ambition can grow, offering you access to a high-quality university education that might otherwise feel out of reach. Valued at up to \$108,000, this scholarship offers a fully-funded place to call home at Little Hall for three years. Alongside the close-knit residential community, tailored mentoring, extracurricular activities and focused financial support will set you up for success.

In this one-hour session, we'll cover:

- Eligibility and selection criteria
- Timelines and the application process
- Tips and advice on submitting a competitive application
- Benefits of the program including the fully-funded offerings of Little Hall.

You'll hear from a current Hansen Scholar who will share their experiences about the program and be available to answer your questions. A recording of the session will be made available for registrants who can not tune in on the night.

[Find out more and register](#)

Why study business at Sydney?

Organisation: University of Sydney

Location: Online

Date: February 19, 2025

Discover how our degrees in commerce can prepare you for the future of work and a wide range of career opportunities. You will learn about the range of study areas available, including marketing, finance and entrepreneurship, as well as the many ways in which you can combine your interests from over 100 study areas in our shared pools of majors and minors.

We will also cover internships, industry-focused experiences, and global mobility opportunities open to our Bachelor of Commerce students.

[Find out more and register](#)

Virtual Open Day

Organisation: Endeavour College of Natural Health

Location: Online

Date: February 20, 2025

Join Endeavour's Head of Admissions, Katrina Arch, on February 20th 2025, for a series of live webinars to get all of your study and enrolment questions answered!

Choose from a range of topics to learn more about such as:

- Studying Naturopathy
- Studying Clinical Nutrition
- Studying Chinese Medicine
- Enrolling at Endeavour
- Our Online Learning and Student Systems

[Find out more and register](#)

Sydney Defence Engineering Careers Information Session

Organisation: Australian Defence Force

Location: Sydney ADF Careers Centre & Online

Date: February 20, 2025

Work with the most advanced technology the Australian Defence Force (ADF) has to offer with a career in Engineering.



You'll work with ADF weapons, vehicles, aircraft, ships and infrastructure to ensure they operate safely and effectively.

Join us at the upcoming info session to learn more about how you can pursue an Engineering career in the ADF.

[Find out more and register](#)

ANSTO Science Discovery Tour

Organisation: ANSTO

Location: ANSTO Discovery Centre

Date: February 22, 2025

This tour provides an in-depth look into the world of nuclear science and the work ANSTO does in the areas of health, the environment and delivering solutions for industry.

Subject to availability, we will visit Australia's only nuclear reactor OPAL, the Australian Centre for Neutron Scattering, the ANSTO Nuclear Medicine facility and the Centre for Accelerator Science.

[Find out more and register](#)

SCCE Information Session Webinar

Organisation: Southern Cross Cultural Exchange

Location: Online

Date: February 25, 2025

Preparing for your exchange program is an important part of the process and is vital to continued program success. At these online meetings, an experienced member of our team will share an overview of the high school exchange programs with Southern Cross Cultural Exchange.

You'll learn more about living with a host family and how studying overseas can help you develop confidence and independence... and gain a lifetime of memories.

Explore your destinations, program options and ask questions about how you can immerse yourself into a new life, culture, family, and high school overseas.

[Find out more and register](#)

AI in Action – Transforming Your Career Development Practice

Organisation: Career Development Association Australia

Location: Online

Date: February 26, 2025

Generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) can enhance efficiency and support the various tasks carried out by career practitioners. The technology has considerable implications, risks, and opportunities.

Join us for this interactive webinar masterclass exploring CDAA's new Guidelines for the Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) for Career Practitioners. This webinar will be presented by Gillian Kelly and Leanne Watts, who were integral in developing the guidelines.

We are also excited to be joined by Marianne Wilson and Michael Larbalestier who developed the Career Development Institute's (UK) AI for Career Development Practitioners course.

CPD Points: 1.5 Hours

CPD Competency: Technology, Information and Resources

[Find out more and register](#)

Study Advanced Computing at Sydney

Organisation: University of Sydney

Location: Online

Date: February 26, 2025

Want to work for a major tech company like Microsoft, Oracle and Google? Or launch your own start-up? Then our Bachelor of Advanced Computing could be for you. Specialise in Computer Science, Cybersecurity, Software Development, Information Technology or Data Science and combine with our shared pool of 100+ majors.



From intelligent drones to virtual reality apps, cybersecurity to the Internet of Things, you will learn the design principles and programming skills to build the systems behind emerging information technologies.

[Find out more and register](#)

STEM + X: Science

Organisation: Careers with STEM

Location: Online

Date: February 26, 2025

Join Careers with STEM for a free STEM + X career webinar, supported by QUT, to hear from STEM superstars who took a passion for science into their studies and are now saving the environment, advocating for women in STEM, investigating super massive black holes, and even presenting on TV.

[Find out more and register](#)

Year 12 & Beyond – With ADHD

Organisation: Claire Pech Careers

Location: Online

Date: February 27, 2025

Hosted by Claire Pech, CICA-Accredited Careers Practitioner, and Amanda Krulis, endorsed Organisational Psychologist.

Targeted to parents of students with ADHD in Year 12, this webinar will share insights and practical solutions for managing this critical year and beyond and making meaningful career decisions.

Topics covered:

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- Managing technology with ADHD
- Career planning with ADHD
- Strategies for parents to support their kids
- Q&A

[Find out more and register](#)

Sydney Defence Careers Information Session

Organisation: Australian Defence Force

Location: Club Liverpool

Date: February 27, 2025

Are you interested to learn about the wide range of roles available in the Navy, Army and Air Force?

Join us at an upcoming info session and speak with current serving members about their own experiences.

You'll have the chance to ask any questions you have about Australian Defence Force careers and opportunities.

[Find out more and register](#)

Year 12 Future Talk – Demystifying University & The Future World of Work

Organisation: University of Wollongong

Location: Online

Date: March 3, 2025



Future Talk is a series of online information sessions designed specifically for a student's support crew. If you're a parent or carer who is navigating the HSC too, we've got your back.

This session breaks down the language of higher education, offering practical strategies to support young people in making positive post-school decisions with confidence. We'll explore key trends in education and the workforce—locally, nationally, and globally—along with the impact of AI and emerging technologies on future career opportunities.

[Find out more and register](#)

Year 12 Medicine Information Evening

Organisation: University of New South Wales

Location: Online

Date: March 12, 2025

Are you interested in a career in medicine?

Start your medical career at one of the top medical schools in the world. Studying the Bachelor of Medical Studies/Doctor of Medicine at UNSW will provide you with the theoretical understanding and practical experiences you need to launch your career as a medical professional.

UNSW's Medicine Information Evening, for current year 12 students, will provide insight into the dynamic blend of hands-on clinical experiences and research-focused learning that you will be immersed in as a UNSW Medicine student. You'll also find out detailed information on the application and admissions process for 2026 entry, including special entry schemes such as Rural, Gateway and Indigenous Entry Schemes.

Join us online where you will hear from our expert panel of academic staff, current students and advisors, and get all of your UNSW Medicine questions answered.

[Find out more and register](#)

Sydney West Careers & Employment Expo 2025

Organisation: Kym Jones Exhibitions

Location: Sydney Showground

Date: March 14 to March 15, 2025

Sydney West's New Careers & Employment Event will open on March 14 & 15, 2025, at the Sydney Showground. The Expo will showcase over 120 organisations and employers with career opportunities for all ages. Entry is free.

The event is for school students, parents, teachers, graduates, job seekers, people looking for courses and workers seeking new opportunities.

[Find out more and register](#)

BiG Day In, UTS Day 1

Organisation: ACS Foundation

Location: The Great Hall @ UTS

Date: March 18, 2025

Join us in The Great Hall @ UTS on Tuesday 18 March for the 2025 BiG Day In IT Careers Conference. Hear from speakers from Microsoft, Google, Adobe, Westpac, Woolworths, Wisetech Global, Defence Jobs Australia, Animal Logic and more to come to learn where a STEM career can take you.

[Find out more and register](#)

BiG Day In, UTS Day 2

Organisation: ACS Foundation

Location: The Great Hall @ UTS

Date: March 19, 2025

Join us in The Great Hall @ UTS on Wednesday 19 March for the 2025 BiG Day In IT Careers Conference. Hear from speakers from Microsoft, Google, Adobe, Westpac, Woolworths, Wisetech Global, Defence Jobs Australia, Animal Logic and more to come to learn where a STEM career can take you.

[Find out more and register](#)



Fairfield Info Night 2025

Organisation: University of Sydney

Location: Fairfield RSL Club

Date: March 19, 2025

Discover why the University of Sydney is the right place for you at our information night for year 10 to 12 students.

You'll have the chance to speak with current students and alumni from Greater Western Sydney who have pursued a variety of degrees across the University as well as expert staff and a UAC representative.

Year 11 and 12 students will learn about admission requirements, entry schemes, pathways, fees, scholarships and financial assistance and support services available at the University.

Year 10 students will get a snapshot of the University of Sydney and take part in a separate workshop where they will link personal interests and skills with university courses and careers. This workshop will prepare students to make informed decisions for their senior subject selection in preparation for meeting the admission requirements for University of Sydney courses.

[Find out more and register](#)

Parramatta Info Night 2025

Organisation: University of Sydney

Location: PARKROYAL Parramatta

Date: March 26, 2025

Discover why the University of Sydney is the right place for you at our information night for year 10 to 12 students.

You'll have the chance to speak with current students and alumni from Parramatta who have pursued a variety of degrees across the University as well as expert staff and a UAC representative.

Year 11 and 12 students will learn about admission requirements, entry schemes, pathways, fees, scholarships and financial assistance and support services available at the University.

Year 10 students will get a snapshot of the University of Sydney and take part in a separate workshop where they will link personal interests and skills with university courses and careers. This workshop will prepare students to make informed decisions for their senior subject selection in preparation for meeting the admission requirements for University of Sydney courses.

[Find out more and register](#)

Open Day, April

Organisation: Sydney Design School

Location: Sydney Design School

Date: April 5, 2025

If you're considering studying with us, our Open Day is a great way to get to know us better. Explore our studios, browse through our Graduate Exhibition, meet students and Educators, watch a live Info Session and get creative making a mood board or digital model.

[Find out more and register](#)

Central Coast Future Pathways Expo 2025

Organisation: Central Coast Group Training

Location: The Entertainment Grounds

Date: April 8, 2025

Are you ready to take the next step toward your dream career? The Central Coast Future Pathways Expo is the ultimate event for job seekers, career changers, and students exploring their future opportunities!

Open to the public for the first time - this is your chance to connect with leading employers, industry professionals, training providers and engage in some hands-on experiences, all under one roof.



Whether you're just starting out or looking for a fresh start, the Future Pathways Expo will inspire and guide you toward the career of your dreams.

[Find out more and register](#)

Best Field Trip in the World 2025

Organisation: University of the Sunshine Coast

Location: Various

Date: April 10 to April 13, 2025

University of the Sunshine Coast's award-winning Best Field Trip competition is back!

This is your chance to win a four-day rollicking adventure for year 11 and 12 students, exploring world-heritage wonders and hanging out with UniSC staff and students as well as some of our sporting superstars. The prize includes:

- Return travel from your residing destination
- All transfers, accommodation and meals
- Tickets to an NRL game at Suncorp Stadium
- Kayaking tour and overnight at Noosa
- Sightseeing and overnight stay at K'gari

We know the best memory is a shared memory, so each winner will be able to bring along a friend!

Entrants to the competition must submit a 100-word entry which responds to the question: What do you think life after high school will be like?

Entries close **Sunday 9 March 2025**.

[Find out more and register](#)

Holiday Workshop – Performance, Sydney

Organisation: Australian Institute of Music

Location: AIM Sydney Campus

Date: April 14, 2025

AIM's new school holiday workshop is designed for high school students interested in music performance. Created for students in Years 9-12, the workshops provide incredible opportunities to experience playing and performing music, mentored by AIM's own accomplished musicians and educators.

Learn, practice and perform contemporary and classic pop, rock and soul tunes, under the expertise of Australia's leading music mentors.

[Find out more and register](#)

Holiday Workshop – Songwriting, Sydney

Organisation: Australian Institute of Music

Location: AIM Sydney Campus

Date: April 14, 2025

Created for students in Years 9-12, AIM's new high school music workshops provide incredible opportunities to explore songwriting, mentored by AIM's own accomplished musicians and educators.

This songwriting workshop is essential for any high school students curious about writing songs and performing and is a golden opportunity to work with incredibly accomplished songwriters. Join us these school holidays and discover the songwriter and performer you were born to become.

[Find out more and register](#)

Future Creators' Day

Organisation: University of New South Wales

Location: UNSW Paddington Campus

Date: April 14 to April 24, 2025

Join UNSW for Future Creators' Day, an immersive event crafted to inspire and educate Year 10 and Year 11 students about the thrilling worlds of Game Art, Animation, Fashion, Design, and Visual Arts.



This unique experience offers hands-on opportunities for students to unleash their creative potential and learn directly from industry professionals. Don't miss out on this chance to explore your future in the creative arts!

Note: event date in the April school holidays TBC.

[Find out more and register](#)

Discover Law, Criminology and Human Rights at ACU Blacktown

Organisation: Australian Catholic University

Location: ACU Blacktown Campus

Date: April 14, 2025

All rise! Aspiring lawyers, criminologists, and human rights advocates, it's time to sharpen your analytical skills and discover the excitement of the courtroom. Join us for interactive workshops designed to give you a taste of what it's like to study law, criminology, and human rights at ACU.

Dive into hands-on sessions where you'll test your courtroom strategies, unravel criminal cases, and explore the critical thinking skills needed to succeed in these fast-paced fields. Plus, engage in a dynamic and interactive human rights session, preparing you with valuable insights into the complexities of human rights law and the importance of advocacy.

Whether you're interested in the legal system, criminology, or human rights, this event will give you an exciting taste of your future career path.

[Find out more and register](#)

Designing My Career – School Holiday Bootcamp for Teenagers

Organisation: Impactify

Location: Oakhill College, Castle Hill

Date: April 24 to April 25, 2025

This workshop focuses on helping young people design a career that they'll love (from the inside-out) whilst also teaching valuable employability skills in order to bring their career aspirations to life!

What can you expect to gain from this workshop?

- A new perspective on how to design your career & life
- Awareness of strengths
- Awareness of interests
- Awareness of motivators/values
- Awareness of 3+ jobs/career pathways that align with you
- A vision for your future career & life
- Creation of a powerful resume
- Opportunity to develop your communication & confidence
- Authentic feedback from peers & industry to propel success
- Clear next best steps for designing your career & life

[Find out more and register](#)

Discover Health Sciences at ACU North Sydney

Organisation: Australian Catholic University

Location: ACU North Sydney Campus

Date: April 24, 2025

Are you ready to explore a career that makes a real difference? Discover what it's like to study nursing, occupational therapy, physiotherapy or speech pathology at ACU North Sydney.

Take part in hands-on workshops where you'll get a feel for the practical skills you'll develop as a future healthcare professional.

Tour our campus and experience our state-of-the-art, fully functional simulation wards, where you'll get a behind-the-scenes look at the innovative training that makes ACU health sciences graduates highly sought after by employers.

[Find out more and register](#)



HSC Shakespeare Seminars with USYD

Organisation: Bell Shakespeare

Location: The Neilson Nutshell, Pier 2/3

Date: April 30 to May 2, 2025

Join us at the Neilson Nutshell at Pier 2/3, or access digital recordings, for our series of live HSC Shakespeare Seminars in partnership with the University of Sydney.

Presented onsite at Pier 2/3 in The Neilson Nutshell, each seminar will feature Bell Shakespeare artists in conversation with a leading academic from the University of Sydney presenting illuminating and engaging content on each play. Actors from Bell Shakespeare will perform key scenes and soliloquies to demonstrate ideas presented and key content from each play.

Part performance, part interactive seminar, these sessions are designed to directly link to NSW HSC modules and give students the edge in upcoming exams. Combining live performance, academic analysis and illuminating dramatic insights in conversation, seminars will be presented in a dynamic format showing the interplay between text and drama.

Sessions for 2025 include:

- Wednesday 30 April 2025, 10am – 12pm
The Tempest / Hag-Seed
- Thursday 1 May 2025, 10am – 12pm
Henry IV Part 1
- Friday 2 May 2025, 10am – 12pm
Richard III / Looking For Richard

[Find out more and register](#)

HMChO – Chemistry Olympiad for High Schoolers

Organisation: HMChO

Location: Any

Value: See details

Open Date: March 8, 2025

Close Date: March 8, 2025

[Find out more](#)

What Matters? Competition

Organisation: The Whitlam Institute

Location: Australia

Value: \$1,500 AUD

Open Date: February 11, 2025

Close Date: May 16, 2025

[Find out more](#)

Australian Computational and Linguistics Olympiad

Organisation: Australian Computational and Linguistics Olympiad

Location: Australia

Value: See details

Open Date: January 22, 2025

Close Date: February 28, 2025

[Find out more](#)

5 reasons to apply for scholarships

If you're planning on tertiary education next year, we've put together 5 reasons why you should apply for scholarships - there are lots of benefits you could enjoy.



Ease the financial burden

Of course, the financial benefits of scholarships are one of the top reasons students apply. They're a great way to help you pay for your education and leave you with less debt once you graduate. Look at applying for scholarships as an investment in yourself and your future.

Scholarships could cover the costs of one or many things, such as:

- Tuition fees
- Accommodation or other living expenses
- Books, technology, and other essential supplies
- Travel

Plus, you won't have to pay the money back (unlike other financial support options like student loans). Remember to always check the terms and conditions before signing up. You may have to fulfil certain obligations, such as maintaining a certain grade point average (GPA), writing a letter of thanks, or participating in certain programs. But otherwise, the money you receive is all yours.

Boost your study experience

There are academic benefits associated with many of the scholarships you could earn, especially the really prestigious ones. These are open things like mentoring or access to educational programs, which could help you achieve and maintain a higher GPA.

Some scholarships also include access to internships or other work experience programs, or even the chance to travel and study overseas. Any opportunities to expand your knowledge and experience beyond the classroom could help you to get the most out of your university experience (and boost your resume too).

The financial benefits of receiving a scholarship may mean you wouldn't have to get a part time job to support you while you study, or that you'd need to work fewer hours. This means you can dedicate more time to studying, writing assignments, signing up for additional programs, or looking for extracurricular opportunities.

Get an edge in the job market

The fact that you've applied for scholarships could show that you're forward thinking and proactive - two skills that are highly sought after by employers. Listing that you were the beneficiary of a scholarship on your resume could help to make you a more appealing candidate for potential employers too.

Scholarships that provide you with specific skills through some form of work experience, such as an internship, could make you a particularly desirable employee. If you're lucky and put in 100% during your internship, you could even be rewarded with a job offer from the company.

Scholarships can also be a really great way to meet professionals and network with people already working in the field you're interested in. Spending time with industry leaders could even lead to a job offer or other opportunities.

Learn to believe in yourself and your abilities

Completing scholarship applications is a great exercise in developing an appreciation of your strengths and qualities, as well as teaching you how to sell yourself. It's a good opportunity to look back on all the great things you've done and achieved over the years and remind yourself of your capabilities.

By the time you've completed and submitted a few scholarship applications, you'll probably know yourself a lot better, and hopefully value yourself a whole lot more too.

Not all scholarships are based academic merit

There are literally *thousands* of scholarships on offer. While some of them are offered to students with outstanding academic achievements, there are plenty of other scholarships for different criteria such as:

- Elite athletes or performers
- Community service
- Leadership potential
- Disability
- Family/domestic violence
- Financial disadvantage



- First nations students
- LGBTQIA+
- Refugees
- Rural students
- Women

Don't let the misconception that scholarships are only for the academically gifted put you off finding and applying for scholarships - there are opportunities out there for everyone.

You have nothing to lose

Yes, applying for scholarships requires some of your valuable time and a bit of effort. But the rewards could make it all worthwhile; and if you don't apply, you'll never know if you could have been successful.

Plus, remember all the benefits associated with just applying:

- Learn (and appreciate) more about yourself
- Improve your researching skills
- Hone the art of creating great applications
- Practise skills that will be useful when applying for jobs

When you look at it that way, surely it's worth spending some time looking into your options or putting together some applications, right?

Need some more help?

If you need even more reasons to apply for scholarships or just want some money and budgeting tips, [you can read more on our website here](#). Or you might like to [browse our scholarships database](#) to kick off your search.

[How to include participation in a competition on your resume](#)

If you're still in school and haven't had a job before, it can be tricky to know what to put on your resume to look appealing to potential employers. But one thing you might have done is enter a competition. And while it might not seem like much, it can be very valuable to include participation in a competition on your resume. So let's go through why and how you should do it in this blog.

Why should you include competitions on your resume?

Taking part in competitions is a great way to build up your skills and experience. Even if you didn't win anything, it's still good to include participation in a competition on your resume to show what you learned, and how you honed your skills.

Employers don't just want to know about your work experience either - they want to get to know a bit about who you are and your interests to see if you'll be a good fit for their company. Competitions are a great way to show this.

And if the competition topic happens to be related to the job field you want to work in, even better.

Including competitions on your resume

If you want to add that you participated in a competition to your resume, here's how we suggest you go about it:

- Add the details of the competition. What it was, when you entered, and if you placed or won anything.
- Optionally, write a brief summary of what the competition involved and what you learned from it.

Here are a couple of examples to help:

Example 1

The Best Young Photographer Competition - July 2024 - 3rd Place

I have always been passionate about photography and entered this competition to have a professional critique my work. I was able to improve my composition skills and learned more about the use of DSLR cameras. I placed third out of more than 5,000 entries from around the world.

Example 2



Google Code an App Contest - September 2024 - Participated

- Improved my coding skills
- Worked as part of a team
- Kept to strict deadlines

Including competitions on other applications

Competitions don't just come in handy for job applications - the skills and experience they give you are really valuable for other applications too. This includes applications for things like:

- Universities and courses
- Scholarships
- Leadership programs/positions
- Volunteer positions
- Gap year programs

In fact, if you ever need to demonstrate your commitment to a particular subject or topic, participation in a competition is a great way to show it.

Certain competitions can even include prizes and opportunities that can help you secure work or get into your dream course, like scholarships and networking opportunities.

Find out more

You can [find competitions to enter on our database here](#), or learn more about nailing your job applications by [browsing some more blogs and articles here](#).

[Experience university with Oxford Royale Summer School](#)

Oxford Royale is the most experienced and professional summer school in the UK and US, giving high school students from around the world to the chance to experience student life at some of the world's top universities, including Oxford, Cambridge, and Imperial London in the UK, and Yale and Berkeley in the US.

What are the benefits of Oxford Royale Summer School?

Their 2 week courses will allow you to:

- Get a taste of a of a career area
- Immerse yourself via debates, seminars, guest speakers, and site visits
- Learn about a top UK institution and get a taste of living on campus
- Have fun with students from all over the world – social activities are included
- Learn about how to craft an application to get into the best universities in the world
- Attend inspirational venues and exclusive events
- Network with students from all over the world

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VoHkBehCrV0>

What courses are on offer?

Oxford Royale offer a courses in a variety of different areas, catered for students 13-15 years old and 16-18 years old, which include:

- [Law and Politics](#)
- [Medicine](#)
- [Engineering and Technology](#)
- [Mathematics](#)
- And many more - [you can see their full list of courses here](#).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7lMUOMWYAGM>

When do courses run?



Courses are typically run 2-3 times a year in July and August and are 2 weeks in length. This makes it possible for international students to travel and attend during the school holidays.

Where can I find out more?

[Learn more about the Oxford Royal Summer School and browse upcoming courses on their website here.](#)

Teachers and school staff in Australia, NZ, and Asia can also contact Andrew Kozyra with any questions about the program at akozyra@oxford-royale.co.uk.

Planning for a future in medicine

Some of the most popular and visible careers throughout our childhood tend to be in health related fields. We've all visited the doctor and dentist at some point - some of us may have even spent time in hospital, either as a patient or a visitor. And lots of people have relatives and friends who work as health professionals. So it's understandable why for many students, one of the most appealing and impactful fields to explore is medicine. The prospect of improving people's lives through healthcare is both inspiring and rewarding. However, the path to a career in medicine can be competitive and complex, requiring some careful planning and foresight.

Embracing the competitive nature of medicine

Universities and medical schools around the world have rigorous selection processes, with limited spots available each year. Admission requirements typically include excellent academic performance, especially in science subjects, a passion for helping others, and extracurricular activities that demonstrate your dedication, leadership, and ability to work in a team.

In many countries, such as the US, Canada, the UK, and Australia, prospective medical students are often required to take entrance exams like the [MCAT](#) (Medical College Admission Test) or [UCAT](#) (University Clinical Aptitude Test), in addition to maintaining a high GPA. Furthermore, medical schools often look for students with clinical experience, volunteer work, or research projects that show your commitment to the field. Sounds tough, right? And it can be. But with some hard work and commitment to your dream, it's definitely achievable.

How to start preparing in high school

University might still seem like it's ages away, but having a solid foundation of skills and experiences early can be incredibly helpful. Here are some things you can do right now to start planning for a future in medicine:

Focus on your grades

The foundation of your application will be your academic performance. High school subjects such as biology, chemistry, physics, and mathematics are crucial for pursuing a career in medicine. Aim to push yourself in these areas and seek extra help if you need it, as they will not only help you meet prerequisites, but also prepare you for the rigorous coursework in medical school.

Get involved in extracurricular activities

Medical schools look for well-rounded students, not just those with book smarts. So in addition to your academics, it's essential to get involved in extracurricular activities that can set you apart from other applicants. Consider volunteering at hospitals, clinics, or local health organisations. These experiences will give you valuable insight into the medical field and help you develop the communication and interpersonal skills that are vital for a career in medicine.

Prepare for the additional testing and interviews

Many universities require standardised entrance exams or testing for medical school applicants, so start familiarising yourself with these exams early. Take practice tests, review study materials, and consider enrolling in prep courses to help you build the skills necessary to succeed. You could also start practicing for the interviews that are often part of the application process. By planning ahead, you can reduce stress and give yourself ample time to improve in areas where you may be weaker.

Build strong relationships with mentors



Throughout your high school years, it's important to build relationships with your careers advisors, counsellors, teachers, and (if possible) professionals in the medical field who can guide you in your journey. Their advice and insight could be invaluable in helping you through the admissions process, and may also be useful when it comes time to request letters of recommendation.

Stay informed

The medical field is always evolving, so it's important to stay informed about new developments, breakthroughs, and trends. Read books, journals, and news articles related to medicine, and try to attend events like health fairs or medical conferences to deepen your knowledge and network with professionals.

Have a back-up plan

Because of the competitive nature of the field, there's always a possibility that you may not immediately gain acceptance into medical school. That's why it's important to have a back-up plan in place if you miss out on your first application, to ensure you stay motivated and have alternative pathways to a fulfilling career. Here are some options to consider:

Alternative entry routes to medicine

Some medical schools offer alternative entry programs for students who may not meet all of the standard requirements but show potential in other ways. These can include pathways like foundation years or preparatory courses. Research these options to see if they might give you a second chance to fulfil your dream of becoming a doctor or dentist.

Other careers in healthcare

Medicine isn't the only career in the healthcare field to consider. There are a multitude of other professions within the healthcare system that require similar skills and passion for helping others. Consider becoming a pharmacist, nurse, aged care worker, public health specialist, or medical researcher. All of these roles are crucial in healthcare, and some may even have different or more flexible entry routes. Then after a few years of experience, you could always apply for medicine with more experience and qualifications under your belt.

Graduate programs

If you don't gain admission into medical school right away, consider pursuing a related undergraduate degree (such as biomedical science or health science) and applying to medical school as a graduate. Many universities have graduate-entry programs that are only open to students who already have a bachelor's degree. The good news is there's no age limit on these degrees, so there's always going to be an opportunity if you change your mind later in life.

Explore other career paths

After careful consideration and research, you might realise that healthcare may not be the right fit for you, so it's a good idea to have a secondary career path in mind. You could explore areas like psychology, social work, sport and fitness, or medical technology. These careers also offer opportunities to contribute meaningfully to your community.

Balancing your ambition

Pursuing a career in medicine is a long, demanding journey that requires resilience, dedication, and a genuine passion for the field. While applications for medicine are competitive, it's also a field that rewards those who are willing to put in the planning and determination needed to succeed. Yes, the hard work begins now, but remember not to let it consume you and [keep some balance in your life](#) to enjoy your other interests and hobbies, and nurture your relationships and mental health.

Good luck on your journey to becoming a healthcare professional, and keep an eye out for the updated Entry to Medicine Guide for 2025 with more information and details to help you prepare.

[You can also explore more about your future study and work options on our website here.](#)



Understanding rites of passage: A guide for students and parents

Have you ever wondered why certain life experiences feel more significant than others? Throughout history, societies have marked the transition from childhood to adulthood through meaningful ceremonies or experiences called 'rites of passage'. Today, while formal ceremonies might be less common, these transformative experiences remain valuable for young people navigating their journey into adulthood.

What makes a rite of passage?

A true rite of passage involves three distinct stages:

- First comes **separation**, where young people step away from their familiar environment. This could mean physically leaving home or symbolically marking a change, such as moving into their own space.
- Next is the **liminal** or **'threshold'** stage, where they face challenges and new experiences that push them beyond their comfort zone.
- Finally, there's **incorporation**, when they return to their community with new skills, confidence, and responsibilities.

Why they matter today

In our modern world, the transition to adulthood often feels unclear and undefined. A well-structured rite of passage can provide numerous benefits for young people. It creates a clear 'before and after' moment, helping them understand they've moved into a new phase of life with different expectations. These experiences also build essential life skills that aren't typically developed in traditional educational settings, such as independence, problem-solving, and self-reliance.

Most importantly, rites of passage boost self-efficacy – the belief in one's ability to handle challenges and achieve goals. When young people successfully navigate challenging experiences, they gain lasting confidence in their capabilities.

Creating your own rite of passage

While formal programmes do exist, many families choose to create their own meaningful transitions. The key is ensuring the experience includes genuine challenges and results in permanent positive changes. Here are some thoughtful ways to structure a meaningful rite of passage:

International solo travel

Planning and executing an overseas trip, managing budgets, navigating foreign transport systems, and communicating across language barriers provides numerous growth opportunities.

Major physical challenge

This include things like training for and completing a significant physical feat, such as a marathon, long-distance cycle, or multi-day hike. The months of preparation combined with the final achievement can create a powerful transformative experience.

Community impact project

Looking for an option that lets you give something back? Designing and leading a substantial volunteer initiative requires planning, leadership, and sustained commitment over several months.

Creative or performance achievement

The more creatively-minded might try taking a major role in producing a theatre show, musical performance, or art exhibition, including both the preparation and public presentation.

Professional experience

Undertaking a structured internship or work experience programme that involves real responsibilities and meaningful contributions to an organisation is a great way to boost confidence and explore future options.

Formal program options



For those seeking more structured experiences, many established organisations offer excellent rite of passage programmes. There are options out there to suit all kinds of interests.

Adventure-based and personal development programs

Duke of Edinburgh's Award

A structured program that challenges young people through volunteering, skills development, physical activity, and adventurous journeys. Recognised internationally as a leadership and resilience-building program.

Where: Operates in over 130 countries, including the UK, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and the US.

Learn more: <https://www.dofe.org>

Outward Bound

An outdoor adventure program focused on leadership, resilience, and personal growth through wilderness expeditions, survival skills, and teamwork. Operates in multiple countries.

Where: Available in over 30 countries, including the UK, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and the US.

Learn more: <https://www.outwardbound.net>

National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS)

A premier wilderness education school offering immersive leadership and survival skills training through extended expeditions in remote environments.

Where: Primarily operates in the US, with courses also available in Canada, Mexico, Chile, and New Zealand.

Learn more: <https://www.nols.edu>

Young Endeavour Youth Scheme

A leadership development program aboard a tall ship where participants learn sailing, teamwork, and resilience while navigating the open ocean.

Where: Australia.

Learn more: <https://youngendeavour.gov.au>

Cultural and traditional rites of passage programs

Rites of Passage Institute

A structured program guiding young people through modern initiation ceremonies rooted in indigenous wisdom and contemporary psychology. Programs are designed to mark transitions into adulthood.

Where: Based in Australia, with programs and training offered internationally.

Learn more: <https://ritesofpassageinstitute.org>

School of Lost Borders

A transformative wilderness-based rite of passage program inspired by indigenous traditions, offering a structured journey of self-discovery, reflection, and personal growth.

Where: Based in the USA, with international participants.

Learn more: <https://schooloflostborders.org>

Service and leadership-based programs

National Citizen Service (NCS)

A UK-based personal and social development program combining adventure activities, teamwork, volunteering, and leadership training (ending soon, to be replaced by the National Youth Strategy).

Where: United Kingdom.

Learn more: <https://wearencs.com>



Habitat for Humanity Youth Programs

A global service-learning initiative where young people participate in home-building projects for families in need, gaining hands-on experience in teamwork and leadership.

Where: Operates in over 70 countries, including the UK, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and the US.

Learn more: <https://www.habitat.org/volunteer>

Outreach360

A volunteer-based program where youth engage in service-learning projects in Latin America, focused on education and community development.

Where: Primarily operates in the Dominican Republic and Nicaragua, with volunteers from countries including the US, Canada, and the UK.

Learn more: <https://www.outreach360.org/teaching-fellowship>

Making the experience meaningful

When planning a rite of passage experience, consider these essential factors:

- **Timing is crucial** – the young person should feel ready and willing to take this step. Forcing the experience too early or too late can diminish its impact.
- The challenge must be **authentic and meaningful to the individual**. What's challenging for one person might be comfortable for another, so consider personal comfort zones when planning.
- There should be **clear changes in rights and responsibilities afterwards**. This helps cement the transition and makes the experience more meaningful.
- The young person should have **agency in choosing and planning their experience**. This investment in the process makes it more meaningful and increases the likelihood of genuine personal growth.

Taking the next step

Whether you choose a formal programme or create your own experience, the key is ensuring it provides genuine challenges and opportunities for growth. Remember, the goal isn't just to complete a task but to facilitate a meaningful transition that builds confidence, independence, and life skills.

[You can find more resources on personal growth and exploration on our website here.](#)

Discover career pathways in Immigration

Immigration is about how people move between different countries to live, work, or study. It covers everything from helping people get visas and citizenship, to making sure countries have fair rules about who can enter and stay.

This pathway might be right for you if you're interested in understanding how immigration policies impact individuals and communities, or if you enjoy advocating for the rights and wellbeing of others.

What do careers in this pathway involve?

People in this field need to understand different countries' laws and requirements, while also considering how immigration affects communities, jobs, and culture. They might work for government departments, law firms, or organisations that support people settling into new countries.

With more people than ever moving around the world for opportunities, immigration professionals play an important role in helping make this process fair and organised.

What are some important human skills for this pathway?

- Social awareness
- Communication
- Decision-making
- Adaptability
- Collaboration

What are some of the tasks involved?

- Prepare and file documents



- Provide advice to clients
- Review and evaluate paperwork
- Conduct interviews
- Coordinate with service providers
- Advocate for clients
- Monitor compliance with regulations
- Research and analyse policy data
- Prepare policy proposals

What kind of work environment and conditions can I expect?

Many careers in this pathway involve working indoors, usually in an office environment. This means there is plenty of opportunity for flexible or working from home arrangements. There are a few roles that may involve some work out in the field for those who prefer to get hands-on.

Most workers in this field work either full-time or part-time, with some casual roles available too. Self-employment is relatively uncommon outside of advisory roles.

The Clusters in immigration

Find out more about the kind of work people in each [Career Cluster](#) might do in this pathway.

Guardians

Guardians are vital in this pathway to ensure the ethical and legal processing of immigration applications.

Linkers

As a Linker in this pathway, you might be connecting immigrants with legal services, community resources, and support.

Coordinators

Coordinators are very common in this pathway, responsible for managing all kinds of immigration procedures, from application to settlement.

Informers

Another common Cluster, Informers in this pathway educate immigrants on legal requirements, cultural norms, and opportunities.

Makers

Makers in this pathway handle the administrative tasks that support immigration processes.

Innovators

Innovators are uncommon in this pathway, but can help to develop new immigration policies and support services for improved integration.

Where can an immigration pathway take me?

Interested in a career in immigration? There are many roles you might like to consider – here are just a few.

Entry level roles

These jobs can be started with little or no training or experience, and are great as a stepping stone towards more senior roles in the pathway.

Social Security Assessor

Evaluate applications for government benefits and support payments, determining eligibility by reviewing financial information, medical documentation, and personal circumstances.



Border Enforcement Officer

Monitor and control the movement of people and goods at international borders, airports and seaports to prevent illegal immigration, smuggling, and other border security threats.

Document Assessor

Examine and verify the authenticity of passports, visas, identity documents, and supporting paperwork submitted with immigration applications.

Mid-level roles

Once you have some further study or experience under your belt, you might like to consider moving into one of these roles.

Customs Broker

Help businesses navigate international trade by managing the paperwork, duties, and regulations involved in moving goods and employees across borders.

Visa and Citizenship Processing Officer

Review and assess applications for visas and citizenship, ensuring all documentation meets legal requirements and deciding on whether to grant or deny applications based on immigration laws and policies.

Migration Agent

Provide advice and assistance to people seeking to migrate or obtain visas, helping them understand their options, prepare applications, and navigate complex immigration laws and procedures.

Senior level roles

These jobs will require extensive further education or many years of experience, but are also highly rewarding.

Policy Analyst

Research, analyse, and develop government policies and programs by gathering data, consulting with stakeholders, evaluating outcomes, and making recommendations for improvements or new initiatives.

Regional Biosecurity Manager

Oversee biosecurity operations across a designated geographical area, managing teams of inspectors and officers and ensuring compliance with biosecurity regulations.

Chief Migration Officer

Lead strategic planning and policy development for government immigration departments or large organisations.

Similar pathways

If these careers aren't quite right for you, you might like to explore some other similar pathways instead.

Government

Manage policies, enforce regulations, provide public services, and promote citizen welfare.

Social Work

Support individuals and communities to improve their well-being and overcome challenges.

Tourism and Travel

Explore new destinations, plan itineraries, provide exceptional customer service, and promote cultural exchange.

How can I build experience in this pathway?



If you're still in high school and want to find out if a career in immigration is right for you, here are some activities you can do:

- Study immigration laws to understand visa processes
- Research case studies to understand immigration issues
- Take a virtual tour of an immigration office

We recommend studying these subjects in high school:

- English
- Legal Studies
- Geography
- Civics

Here are some suggestions of places you might like to try and find work experience:

- Non-profit organisations that provide legal aid to immigrants
- International human rights organisations
- Government agencies responsible for immigration and customs enforcement
- Language schools or community centres that offer classes for immigrants
- Research institutes or think tanks specialising in immigration policies and studies