

BMGS CAREERS NEWSLETTER

Tuesday, 21 March 2023

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What's On This Week

[AMPA | Open Dance Classes](#)

March 20 to March 23, 2023

The Academy of Music and Performing Arts is inviting dancers 16 and above to join their Bachelor of Dance students for a week of dance over the month of March.

This opportunity is suitable for individuals interested in learning more about studying dance in a tertiary environment & the program that AMPA offers.

[Find out more](#)

[Endeavour College | Course Focus: Studying Naturopathy](#)

March 21, 2023

Our Bachelor of Health Science (Naturopathy) students experience a holistic learning environment, broadening their studies across biological sciences in order to understand the human body and its functions. This webinar, hosted by Katrina Arch (National Sales and Admissions Director), will answer all your questions about the course, subjects, student life and career outcomes after you graduate.

[Find out more](#)

[Endeavour College | Course Focus: Studying Nutritional and Dietetic Medicine](#)

March 21, 2023

Our Bachelor of Health Science (Nutrition and Dietetic Medicine) is a clinical degree based on scientific evidence and underpinned with a holistic approach to patient care. This webinar will answer all your questions about the course, subjects, student life, clinical experience, and career outcomes after you graduate.

[Find out more](#)

[ADF | Army Careers Information Session, Wollongong](#)

March 21, 2023

Optimise your potential and consider a career that will transform you into a fit, capable, confident and resourceful member of the Australian Army.

Discover whether an Army career is your kind of challenge at the upcoming info session.

[Find out more](#)

[ADF | Women in Defence Virtual Information Session](#)

March 21, 2023

Consider a career in the Navy, Army or Air Force and work alongside like-minded, supportive, proud serving men and women.

Tune in for a virtual info session to speak with current serving women in Defence to learn more.

[Find out more](#)

[ADFA Information Session, Newcastle](#)

March 21, 2023

Would you like the opportunity to undertake military training while earning a degree? All without debt – in fact, we'll pay you!

Head to the upcoming info session to speak with current serving military personnel and learn more about the Australian Defence Force Academy.

[Find out more](#)

[University of Sydney | Life of a Health Scientist](#)

March 22, 2023

Have you wondered what a day in the life of a health scientist might be like? And what jobs might be available? Health is one of Australia's fastest growing employment sectors. Join Dr Leigh Wilson to find out what an average day of work might be like in the field of health science and about our specialist Health program. Learn about how health scientists address broad issues in healthcare and work to improve health and wellbeing for individuals, families and communities worldwide.

[Find out more](#)

[University of Sydney | The Digital History of Human Rights: How a History degree prepares you to work with Big Data](#)

March 22, 2023

Find out how a team of historians, librarians, and data scientists worked together to reimagine the history of human rights. New digital tools are revolutionising the way in which historians interpret the past. A 'Big Data' approach has made it possible for historians to map how human rights movements have evolved over time on an unprecedented scale.

[Find out more](#)

[endota Wellness College | Open Evening](#)

March 22, 2023

Looking for a career in the exciting world of beauty and wellness?

Look no further than endota Wellness College! Join us at our upcoming Open Evening event and discover how you could be training with Australia's largest spa network and become job ready within 12 months.

Explore our state-of-the-art campus and facilities and learn about your many opportunities in this booming industry. Whether you're just starting out or looking to take your skills to the next level, our Open Evening is the perfect opportunity to see how we can help achieve your dream career.

[Find out more](#)

[ADFA Information Session, Wollongong](#)

March 22, 2023

Would you like the opportunity to undertake military training while earning a degree? All without debt – in fact, we'll pay you!

Head to the upcoming info session to speak with current serving military personnel and learn more about the Australian Defence Force Academy.

[Find out more](#)

[eSafety | Responding and reporting: critical online incidents in school settings](#)

March 22 to November 28, 2023

This webinar has been designed for teachers, wellbeing and school leaders who play a role in supporting or leading the immediate responding and/or reporting actions associated with critical online incidents that occur within school communities.

During the webinar, case studies will be explored, incident assessment tools will be shared in addition to ways of supporting both primary and secondary school students.

The workshop will cover:

- tools and strategies for responding to online incidents, with guidance for key issues such as cyberbullying, image-based abuse, fight videos, self-harm and suicide content
- eSafety reporting options
- key steps for school leaders to collect evidence when making a report to eSafety

[Find out more](#)

[ADF | Trade Careers Information Session, Sydney](#)

March 22, 2023

A trade role in the Australian Defence Force will see you working on some of the world's most advanced military technology and equipment.

Learn about trade careers in the ADF and the comprehensive training they provide. Join us for an info session and speak with current serving members about their own experience and advice.

[Find out more](#)

[Aviation Job Skills Workshop – Penrith](#)

March 23, 2023

Join us at our workshop to explore the huge variety of Airports and Aviation job career pathways available to the women of Western Sydney.

Each workshop is designed to share career pathways, training options and skill requirements, job application tips for women to apply for aviation jobs. It's a great insight into the amazing career opportunities that exists at Airports, including careers that do not require any formal qualifications to enter.

[Find out more](#)

[iscd | Virtual Info Session](#)

March 23, 2023

Attend iscd's free virtual info session!

- Learn all about our Diploma of Interior Design and Cert IV in Interior Decoration
- Discover how you can become a qualified Interior Designer in just 2 years
- Meet our educators and find out what projects you'll work on
- Find out what it's like to study from anywhere in our 100% Virtual Classroom

[Find out more](#)

[Endeavour College | Our New Chinese Medicine Courses](#)

March 23, 2023

We have recently added three new Chinese Medicine qualifications to our course offering:

- Bachelor of Health Science (Acupuncture Therapies) – BHSc(AcuTh)
- Bachelor of Health Science (Chinese Medicine) – BHSc(CM)
- Diploma of Health Science (Chinese Remedial Massage) – DipHSc(CRM)

This webinar will give you the opportunity to explore the three courses, find out which one is right for you, and understand the wealth of career outcomes available after you graduate.

[Find out more](#)

[University of Sydney | 2023 Career Advisers and Teachers' Conference](#)

March 24, 2023

The Sydney Future Students team is excited to welcome you on campus for the 2023 Career Advisers and Teachers' Conference. Offering a unique experience, you will receive course and faculty updates to develop your understanding of the University's curriculum, which can be passed on to students when providing guidance on course selection and admission.

Following the conference, you are invited to join us for lunch in the Great Hall where you will have the opportunity to meet and network with your colleagues and key University staff and academics.

We are working hard to finalise the conference program and will make this available once confirmed.

For the optimal experience we recommend attending the conference in person, however, there will be an online option available for those unable to travel to campus. Please ensure you select the correct ticket for the mode in which you will join us.

Career advisers and teachers who attend the 2023 conference in-person will be eligible to apply for elective professional development (PD) through NESA. Online attendees will not be eligible for PD.

Registrations are open and places are limited, so book your ticket now!

[Find out more](#)

[iCanMed | How to finish your UCAT prep in terms 1 and 2](#)

March 27, 2023

To help students succeed, iCanMed has broken down 100,000 UCAT exam questions to identify the key question types that are asked every year. By analysing trends and gaining a full understanding of how the exam works, we've developed rock-solid preparation strategies and plans that enabled our iCanMed students to average a 90th percentile, and a quarter of our students to score in the 95th+ percentile range (top 5%).

In this 1.5-hour webinar, we will be:

1. Identifying the most common mistakes that cause students to waste valuable UCAT time
2. Outlining optimal methods for preparing for the UCAT (minimum time, maximum return)
3. Sitting a short mock test, followed by live step-by-step teaching of the most commonly-asked questions
4. Explaining why most students who wait until Term 2 to start UCAT preparation have an extremely high chance of failure

[Find out more](#)

[ADF | Defence Careers Information Session, Lismore](#)

March 27, 2023

Consider a career like no other and represent Australia with pride in the Navy, Army or Air Force.

Speak with current serving personnel at our upcoming info session and ask your questions – is a career in the Australian Defence Force for you?

[Find out more](#)

[Endeavour College | Enrolling at Endeavour: All Your Questions Answered](#)

March 28, 2023

Thinking about turning your passion into your purpose with a career in natural health?

Our interactive webinars are a perfect way to find out more about our courses, the enrolment process as well as what it's actually like to study at Endeavour College of Natural Health.

In this webinar, our Director of Sales and Admissions, Katrina Arch, will share with you all you need to know about enrolling and studying at Endeavour College.

[Find out more](#)

[ADF | Defence Careers Information Session, Yamba](#)

March 28, 2023

Consider a career like no other and represent Australia with pride in the Navy, Army or Air Force.

Speak with current serving personnel at our upcoming info session and ask your questions – is a career in the Australian Defence Force for you?

[Find out more](#)

[ADF | Army Reserve Information Session, Wollongong](#)

March 28, 2023

Consider serving locally in the Australian Army Reserve and receive tax-free pay while giving back to your community.

To find out more about the rewarding challenges and experiences on offer, join us for a local info session.

Speak with current serving members about their own experiences and advice, and learn about the wide range of part-time jobs available.

[Find out more](#)

[ADF Careers Expo, Orange](#)

March 28, 2023

Join us at the upcoming Orange ADF Careers Expo and speak with current serving members to see which Australian Defence Force career is best suited to you.

This is your opportunity to discover the range of jobs available in the Navy, Army and Air Force ranging from (but not limited to) trades, transport, logistics, engineering and combat, you'll be sure to find a role that's right for you.

You will have the chance to check out:

- VR Simulators
- Static displays
- Interactive displays
- Vehicle displays
- Augmented Reality

[Find out more](#)

[SCCE | Exchange Webinar](#)

March 28, 2023

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 high school exchange advisor will share an overview of 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.

[Find out more](#)

Important Future Events

[HSC Shakespeare Seminars with USYD](#)

May 3 to May 5, 2023

Join us at Pier 2/3 for a series of live HSC Shakespeare Seminars in partnership with the University of Sydney.

Part performance, part interactive seminar, these sessions are designed to directly link to HSC modules and give students the edge in upcoming exams.

Presented onsite at Pier 2/3 in The Neilson Nutshell, each seminar will feature Bell Shakespeare's Resident Artist In Education, Huw McKinnon, and a leading academic from the University of Sydney presenting illuminating and engaging content on each play. The Players from Bell Shakespeare will perform key scenes and soliloquies to demonstrate ideas presented and key content from each play. Combining live performance academic analysis and illuminating dramatic insights into the plays, sessions will be presented in a dynamic format showing the interplay between text and drama.

[Find out more](#)

[UNE | Open Day 2023](#)

May 5, 2023

UNE Open Day gives you the chance to explore UNE and get a taste of studying at university.

Tour our regional campus, meet your future lecturers, chat with current students, and learn how we can help Future Fit Your Life.

[Find out more](#)

Scholarships

[7 Tips for Maximising Your Scholarship Application](#)

Thinking of applying for a scholarship? There are heaps of reasons why you should – but how can you make sure your application is the one that stands out from the crowd? We've got some tips for maximising your scholarship application.

Start early

Some scholarship applications can be quite involved and need a lot of information, so it's best to ensure you give yourself enough time to get all your documents together and can craft a quality application.

Plus, the earlier you start the less likely it is you'll miss the closing date!

Use examples

There are lots of scholarships that will probably ask you to demonstrate your skills or experience – so think of situations you've been in and how they might specifically apply to the scholarship you're applying for. A great way of doing this is by using the [STAR method](#):

- **Situation:** Describe the situation and when it took place.
- **Task:** Explain the task, the goal and your role.
- **Action:** Provide details about the action you took.
- **Result:** Talk about the results of your actions, try and use concrete numbers or evidence if possible.

Read the criteria carefully

While it might seem like a good idea to cast a wide net, you should still make sure you're eligible for any scholarships you apply for. At the end of the day, you'll not only be wasting the assessor's time but your own as well.

Do some research

If the scholarship is offered or sponsored by a donor, do some research on them. Think of ways you can tie your skills and experience together with the donor's mission or goals, and use this to your advantage. It shows you've gone that one step further and can make your application stand out.

Make it personal

A lot of the time, institutions will want to know a bit more about you and your motivations. It's important to answer any questions honestly and not just say what you think they'll want to hear. And if your personality and interests tie in with the scholarship criteria, even better – use that as a way to show why you're most deserving of the scholarship.

Keep it relevant

Building on the point above, it's also important to make sure you don't spend lots of time waffling on about things that aren't relevant to the scholarship. Addressing any eligibility criteria in a way that's both concise and relevant is a great way to maximise your application (plus a lot of applications will have word limits you need to stick to as well).

Don't limit yourself

There are literally thousands of scholarships out there – so give yourself the best chance of winning one and apply for as many as you can. Lots of scholarships go unawarded every year simply because people don't apply! Don't forget to keep point three in mind though, and make sure you're eligible before applying.

Interested in applying for a scholarship? You can search through hundreds on our database and get more tips for maximising your scholarship application [here](#).

Some scholarships you may be interested in:

[Rheem Apprentice Plumber Grants](#)

Open: February 13, 2023

Closes: April 21, 2023

Value: \$3,000 AUD

Apprenticeships and Traineeships

[Landscaping Apprenticeship Spotlight](#)

Do you love the outdoors, and want a career that will see you building and maintaining beautiful green spaces? You might like to consider a career as a landscaper – and one of the best ways to get your foot in the door is by completing an apprenticeship.

What is a career in landscaping?

As a landscaper, you'll be responsible for designing, building, and maintaining all kinds of green and natural areas. This includes things like yards and lawns, gardens, parks, and sports turf, on both a small and large scale. You might find yourself designing garden layouts and irrigation systems, building paths and garden beds, planting seeds and established plants, mowing and trimming grass, hedges, and other plants, or advising clients on growing and maintenance techniques.

There is growing interest in areas such as sustainable and native gardening and landscaping, so these might be something you could look into as well.

What skills do I need for a career in landscaping?

You'll need to have a keen eye for space and design, as well as the willingness to get your hands dirty and do lots of work outdoors. If you have a passion for and knowledge of nature and sustainability, this could be an ideal career choice. Good communication skills are also very important to ensure you deliver just what your client has asked for.

Why should I consider a landscaping apprenticeship?

Apprenticeships are a great way to get your foot in the door with an employer and start building valuable skills. There are often lots of opportunities to continue working with your employer after your apprenticeship is complete, and even advance your career down the track.

As part of a landscaping apprenticeship, you will be doing real work for an employer while completing study with a TAFE or RTO. A landscaping apprenticeship can take anywhere between 3-4 years to complete, depending on whether you work and study full- or part-time.

Here are some common qualifications you might want to look into:

- [Certificate II in Sports Turf Management](#)
- [Certificate III in Landscape Construction](#)
- [Certificate III in Parks and Gardens](#)
- [Diploma of Landscape Design](#)

There are tons of benefits to an apprenticeship, rather than just work or study alone, including:

- Getting paid while you learn – unlike uni, you can work and study without having to take on an insane work load.
- The opportunity to get hands-on experience, not just endless reading.
- The potential to connect with an employer and continue working with them after your apprenticeship is finished.
- Your qualification will be nationally recognised, meaning you can go anywhere with it.

Where can I find apprenticeship opportunities?

Just like searching for a job, there are lots of places you can go to find an apprenticeship. You can start your search on sites like [SEEK](#) and [Indeed](#). Take a look on social media like Facebook or LinkedIn to see if any local businesses are hiring. Sign up with an [Apprenticeship Network Provider or Group Training Organisation](#), or even go old fashioned and take a look in the local paper or give local businesses a call.

Here are some examples of the kinds of opportunities available:

- [Structural Landscaping Apprenticeship](#), Brisbane QLD
- [Horticulture Apprenticeship](#), Corowa NSW
- [Landscaping Construction Apprenticeship](#), Shepparton VIC
- [Horticulture or Parks and Gardens Apprenticeship](#), Canberra ACT
- [Landscape Apprenticeships](#), Perth WA

Getting Ready for Work

Example Interview Questions

Employers are not trying to trick you, but they do want to assess how they think you'll perform in the role and see how you might fit into their team. If you have a job interview coming up, you might want to prepare by knowing what kinds of questions you could be asked.

Here are a few example interview questions to think about:

Goals

- Can you describe the most enjoyable role that you have ever had and why you feel that way about it?
- If you could describe an ideal role for yourself, what would it be?
- What are your short- and long-term career plans?

Conflict Resolution

- Tell me about a challenging situation you have had to deal with at work or in your life.
- How do you think you handled the situation and, given the opportunity, would you do anything differently?

Decision Making

- Tell me about a difficult decision you have had to make in the last year.
- Can you tell me a bit about how you made your decision?
- On reflection, do you think you made the right decision?

Leadership

- Can you think of a time when you've noticed how something could've been done better, and worked to implement the change?
- How did you get management, team members, peers, or parents on board with the change?

Results

- Can you give me an example of when you were given a number of tasks to do and had to prioritise what needed to be done first?
- Can you think of a way you have contributed at school or work that's led to a successful outcome in the last 12 months?
- What is your biggest accomplishment so far and how did you achieve it?

Teamwork

- Can you give me an example of when you've worked as part of a team to complete a job, and describe your role?
- How did you overcome any differences of opinion during the task?

Role Awareness

- Why did you apply for this job?
- What is it about [this career] you particularly think you will enjoy?

Personal Qualities

- Can you describe your strengths to me (character and professional)?
- What would your manager / colleagues / peers / teachers tell me about you?
- What are your top three values and what do they mean to you?
- Can you tell me a bit about yourself and why you'd be great in this role?

Technical Skills

- What [insert software/tool here] have you worked with in the past?
- Give me an example of a task you have completed using this [software/tool]?

Not sure how to answer?

- Don't lie, be honest. If you can't think of a relevant example or situation, ask the interviewer to give you a scenario.
- Don't waffle. It's OK to ask for clarification if you don't understand the question or ask them to repeat it to make sure you heard it correctly.
- Advocate for yourself. Even if you don't know something, don't just say "I don't know" – you could redirect your answer and share how skills you've gained in another capacity are relevant, and let them know you're eager and excited to learn.

Get more ideas about how to prepare for your interview (as well as all things careers) on our website [here](#).

Work Experience

[5 Work Experience Ideas for Creative Students](#)

Want a career in the creative arts? Structured work experience placements can be hard to come by in this industry, but there are heaps of other opportunities out there to help build your skills and knowledge. Whether your passion lies in visual arts, design, photography and videography, writing, or theatre, there are plenty of work experience ideas out there for creative students. We've found some you might like to consider.

Volunteer at an art gallery

If there's a local gallery in your area, get in contact with them and ask if they offer work experience or need volunteers. Particularly when a new exhibit or show is about to open, they'll often need a helping hand to get everything ready. You could find yourself helping with setting up exhibitions, promoting events, and interacting with visitors. This can provide exposure to a wide range of art forms and artists, as well as insights into the inner workings of the art world.

Write for a student newspaper

Does your school publish its own newsletter or magazine? Ask your teachers if there's an opportunity for you to help write any articles, or if there's a section for student contributions, put some of your own work forward. Lots of university or community magazines and papers also accept submissions from high school students, such as QUT's [ScratchThat](#) magazine. Whether you're interested in creative writing or journalism, this can be a great way to put your name out there and get some experience.

Volunteer at the theatre

It takes more than just actors to run a play. There are always heaps of people working behind the scenes to make it happen, and many community theatres run off the hard work of volunteers. You can always offer to volunteer and get some experience with lighting, sound, set design, or costume design. If you're lucky enough to live in or around Sydney, the [Sydney Opera House](#) has a work experience program you might like to check out.

Offer your camera skills

If you're handy with a camera, there are opportunities all around for you to build up your portfolio. Ask if you can take photos or video for your school at events like sports days or graduations. Find magazines, websites, and [competitions](#) where you can submit your work to show off (and maybe even win some cool prizes). If you know a professional photographer, you could even ask to spend a day with them in the studio or out in the field and see what a day at work is like for them.

Get design practice

Know someone about to start up their own business, or have a friend with a side-gig? You could offer your design skills to them and create a logo and branding, help them build a website, or create mock-ups of print material and merchandise. If you don't know anyone, make up a brief or find examples online and see how far you can stretch your skills – or even start by creating your own brand! Either way, it's great for helping you find your niche and get experience with industry software and tools.

With all of the above examples, don't forget to add any work you've done (paid or unpaid) to your portfolio or résumé that you can show off to future clients or employers. And if you want more work experience ideas and opportunities, you can check out our website [here](#).

Competitions

[Harmony Day Song Writing Competition 2023](#)

The Harmony Day Song Writing Competition is open to school students in all schools in Australia. Entries are based on the student's school year for 2023.

The theme for 2023 is "Living in Harmony". Students must write an original 2 minute song about the theme. Students may write their own tune or use one of the two tunes provided.

Prizes will be awarded in the following categories:

- Competition Winner: Secondary & Primary \$500 each
- Competition Runner-up: Secondary & Primary \$250 each

Entries close 16 April.

Find out more and enter here: <https://movingforwardtogether.org.au/songwriting-competition/>

[Harmony Day Poster Competition 2023](#)

The Harmony Day Poster Competition is open to school students in all schools in Australia. Entries are based on the student's school year for 2023. Each year the Harmony Day Poster Competition attracts thousands of entries and brings out the creativity and passion of school students motivated by a desire for a peaceful, harmonious and inclusive society.

The theme for 2023 is "Living in Harmony".

Entries can be made from any traditional media, including pastel, oil pastels, pen, pencil, charcoal, acrylics, watercolor, oils, mixed media, collage, or other materials.

Prizes will be awarded in the following categories:

- Competition Winner: Primary & Secondary \$500 each
- Regional Winners: Primary & Secondary \$150 in each region
- Competition Winner's School: Primary & Secondary \$500 each

Entries close 16 April.

Find out more and enter here: <https://movingforwardtogether.org.au/poster-competition/>

[Sleek Geeks Science Eureka Prize](#)

Sponsored by the University of Sydney, the Sleek Geeks Science Eureka Prize encourages students to communicate a scientific concept in a way that is accessible and entertaining to the public while painlessly increasing their science knowledge or, as Dr Karl and Adam like to say, “Learn something without even noticing”. It is intended to support budding young scientists across the nation, who will be our future leaders in research, discovery and communication.

The 2022 theme is ‘Green’.

There is a prize pool of \$10,000 to be shared between the winners and their schools. Representatives from the finalist teams will also win a trip to Sydney for the Australian Museum Eureka Prizes Award Ceremony, and each finalist will receive an Abbey’s book voucher.

Entries are open now and close on Friday 14 April.

Find out more: <https://australian.museum/get-involved/eureka-prizes/sleek-geeks-science/>

Resources

[7 Mental Wellbeing Apps Teens Need to Know About](#)

Between study, work, friends and family, life can get pretty stressful. If there’s a lot going on, it’s important to make sure you’re doing ok mentally.

The good thing is there are heaps of tools out there to help. There are lots of apps made especially to help with mental health, whether it be connecting with a community of people to help you feel less alone, to relaxation and meditation guidance.

Here are some of the top apps we’ve found.

Kooth

Kooth is an online community for young people, designed to provide free, safe and anonymous support. You can find helpful articles, join discussions with the community, live chat with the Kooth team, and keep track of your emotions with a daily journal.

Find out more: <https://www.kooth.com/>

Smiling Mind

Smiling Mind is a mindfulness and meditation app, packed with a ton of exercises, including some designed especially for young people. The best part is it’s totally free.

Find out more: <https://www.smilingmind.com.au/smiling-mind-app>

Catch It

Catch It is a diary app that lets you record your feelings, and encourages you to reflect on your mood and how you can change it.

Find out more: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=uk.ac.liv.catchit>

Woebot

Woebot is an AI therapist you can chat with, who will offer you insights and guidance when you’re struggling. Check-in with Woebot whenever you need, any time of the day or night.

Find out more: <https://woebothealth.com/>

Finch

Who said self-care couldn’t be fun (and cute!)? Finch gives you a cute virtual pet to take care of while caring for yourself. Finch can help you track your moods and habits, and suggest exercises to help build your mindfulness.

Find out more: <https://finchcare.com/>

Calm

Calm is a meditation app, packed with tons of guides and videos to help you meditate, focus, relax, and sleep better. You need to pay for most of the content, but there's some available for free too.

Find out more: <https://www.calm.com/>

Happify

Happify is an app that uses science-based activities and games to help you take control of your emotional wellbeing. Use Happify to help you overcome negative thoughts, stress and life challenges.

Find out more: <https://www.happify.com/>

Want more?

You can also take a look at all of the wellbeing resources on Study Work Grow [here](#).

If you need urgent help and support, you can always call Lifeline on 13 19 40, or Kids Helpline on 1800 55 1800.

5 Things to Think About When Looking for a Course

Planning on going to university or TAFE in the future? You might be feeling a bit overwhelmed by the thousands of course choices out there. If you're looking for some guidance, we've got some things you might like to think about when looking for a course – it could help you make your decision.

Study location

This is one of the most important things you'll need to consider first. Would you be willing to move to another city (or even state) to study your chosen course? Or perhaps you're unable (or unwilling) to move and you'd like to study online instead.

As well as location, look at different universities or TAFEs and compare your options. Take a tour of the campus (in person or virtually), browse accommodation options, and read about on-campus clubs, facilities, and activities. See if you can read student reviews about their experience at the uni or TAFE, or talk to someone you know has studied there in the past.

Flexibility & access

As well as where you'll be studying, take a look at other important details about the course. This includes things like whether part-time study is available, if the uni or TAFE will let you defer your studies, and even what their study calendar is like (when will you be on holidays, for example?).

You should also do a bit of research on the institution's other options and services, such as how easy it is to switch between courses if you've changed your mind, whether you'll receive any credit for past studies, and what kind of support they offer (e.g. for students with disabilities, career advice, etc.).

Entry requirements

One of the key things you'll need to know about a course is whether or not you're eligible to apply. So make sure you read and meet any ATAR requirements and have the needed subject prerequisites before you apply. If you're not eligible through the standard pathway, take a look at the university or TAFE's alternative pathway options and see if there is another way you might be able to receive an offer instead.

Course fees

Unfortunately, not a lot of things in life are free – and this includes most tertiary courses. Take a look at not only how much the course will cost, but what your options for payment are. If you're a domestic uni student, you'll probably be able to access a [HELP loan](#) to cover course fees. Lots of TAFEs and RTOs will provide payment plans for their courses too, and in some cases you can apply for a [VET Student Loan](#). But in some circumstances you might be expected to pay your course fees upfront, so make sure you know exactly what you'll owe and how you'll pay for it before signing up.

Career pathways

If you're looking into further study, it's probably because it will eventually lead you to your chosen job or career. So make sure the course you're looking at will actually qualify you for future jobs. Take a look at job sites and see what qualifications employers are looking for in roles you'd like to have one day. In some cases, you might be required to have a specific degree to start in your chosen career (if you want to be a doctor, for example, you'll need to follow a set study pathway).

Also consider other jobs and pathways the course could take you, in case you find your career goals change over time or don't pan out how you expected.

Have more questions about study options, courses, or pathways? Check out the rest of our resources on our website [here](#).

Workplace Spotlight

[The Career Clusters in a childcare centre](#)

Childcare centres are places where parents can leave their young children to be cared for, entertained, and educated while they are at work or otherwise busy. They mostly cater to children under school age, including infants. Quality childcare is vital to building a child's wellbeing, and so childcare centres offer a very valuable service.

Here are some things you can expect when working at a childcare centre:

1. Working with kids – no matter your role, you'll be working closely with children every day.
2. A dynamic and high energy environment – kids require lots of attention and stimulation, so expect to be working on your feet and constantly on the move.
3. High quality care is important – preventing accidents, providing appropriate nutrition, and maintaining good hygiene is vital to ensure children stay healthy and happy.

Key Outcome – care for and entertain young children

The main focus of childcare centres is to look after children while their parents are busy. They do this by providing care, supervision, entertainment, and in some cases basic education.

Key Tasks –

- Supervise and care for young children and infants
- Develop new activities and programs for children
- Keep parents updated on their child's progress and wellbeing
- Manage enrolments and waiting lists

Industry

You can find childcare centres in the healthcare and social assistance, and education industries

Childcare centres are generally found in the healthcare and social assistance, and education industries. There are different kinds of childcare centres; some are privately owned and run, some are part of schools, and some have religious affiliations.

Work Environment

You can expect regular hours and on-site work

Flexible work hours | Work on-site | Jobs in all locations, including metro, regional, and rural | Strong job growth

Childcare centres are usually open from early in the mornings into the evenings, the usual times when parents are at work. Some may also open on weekends and holidays. Part-time roles are very common in this industry, giving some flexibility with your working hours.

Most of the work in a childcare centre needs to be done on-site. However, some administrative roles may be able to be done remotely.

There are childcare centres all across the country, from big cities to rural towns. There tends to be more demand in areas with higher population, but with many families choosing to stay in or move to regional and rural areas, demand for childcare in those areas is growing too.

The Career Clusters you'll find in a childcare centre

You'll find people from all the Clusters in a childcare centre, but the most common Clusters you'll find are Guardians and Coordinators.

In any role, you'll probably find yourself doing some tasks from other Clusters. For example, as a Child Carer you'll be looking after kids, as well as organising toys and talking to parents.

What do Makers do in a childcare centre?

The Makers are responsible for keeping childcare centres clean, and making nutritious meals and snacks for children to enjoy throughout the day. They might also need people who can install and repair electronics, maintain gardens and outdoor areas, and ensure play equipment is safe.

- Cleaners
- Cooks
- Maintenance Workers

The role of a Linker in a childcare centre

The Linkers in childcare centres include social workers, who can help connect parents and kids in need with a childcare centre's services. Other Linkers keep in close touch with parents to provide updates on their child's development and report any incidents, as well as answer any questions parents might have.

- Social Workers
- Receptionists

Where you'll find Coordinators in a childcare centre

Coordinators are the people who do a lot of the 'behind the scenes' work. They will be managing enrolments, organising shifts and pay, monitoring budgets and expenses, recruiting staff, and supervising other workers.

- Centre Directors/Managers
- Office Administrators

How do Informers work in a childcare centre?

The main Informers in childcare centres are there to teach older children basic knowledge and skills, such as writing and basic maths, to prepare them for school. They might also train new staff, or provide advice to ensure the centre is running according to regulations and standards.

- Early Childhood Educators
- Compliance Officers

What types of Innovators work in a childcare centre?

The Innovators in childcare centres are tasked with developing new activities and education programs to keep children entertained and help build their skills. Other Innovators might design new toys, plan the layout of the centre, and even create centre's the logo and branding.

- Program Developers
- Interior Designers
- Graphic Designers

Where you'll find Guardians in a childcare centre

Guardians make up most of the workers you'll find in a childcare centre. This includes the carers who are responsible for looking after kids and providing entertainment, as well as helping to foster positive emotional and social development in children. Some Guardians might provide basic care if a child is hurt or sick, while others ensure children are getting proper nutrition and physical activity.

- Child Carers
- Nurses/Medics
- Nutritionists

How do we expect working in a childcare centre to change in the future?

COVID caused huge disruptions for childcare, with many centres closing their doors temporarily. This only highlighted how vital this service is for many parents, and as the population keeps growing, so will the demand for childcare.

Though technology can help to make some jobs easier, childcare will likely remain a very human-centric industry into the future. Providing children with personal care, as well as letting them play and learn with other children, is always a high priority for parents, and is great for the kids too.

Job Spotlight

[How to become an Air Traffic Controller \(ATC\)](#)

Responsible for keeping aircraft, flight crews, and airline passengers safe, Air Traffic Controllers work from control towers, approach control facilities, or route centres.

They instruct aircraft when to safely take off or land and coordinate air traffic patterns to maintain safe distances from other aircraft. They also monitor all aircraft to ensure they are in the right place at the right time, problem free. They are authorised to change flight paths if necessary.

Incredibly focused and able to concentrate for long periods? A quick thinker and great team player? Looking for a career that could take you anywhere in the world? Then consider a career in Air Traffic Control.

About you:

- Excellent decision maker
- Good spatial awareness and strong mathematical skills
- Work well under pressure
- Exceptional computer skills
- Confident, highly responsible and motivated
- Fluent English speaker
- Excellent communication skills
- Good forward planning but adaptable to changing situations
- Willing to do shift work 24/7, 365 days of the year

The job:

- Issue landing and take-off instructions to pilots
- Monitor and direct the movement of aircraft on the ground and in the air, using radar, computers, or visual references
- Organise flight plans and traffic management plans
- Control all ground traffic at airports, including baggage vehicles and airport workers
- Communicate with pilots, airport staff, and other agencies as required
- Provide information to pilots, such as weather updates, runway closures, and flight path changes or directions to emergency landing fields for pilots travelling in bad weather or in emergency situations
- Alert airport response staff in the event of an emergency
- Maintain accurate records and reports

Lifestyle Impact: High

- Part Time opportunities: Low – only around 12% of Air Traffic Controllers work part-time (source: labourmarketinsights.gov.au).
- Average hours for full-time workers: 40 hours a week, which is around average (source: labourmarketinsights.gov.au).
- Air Traffic Controllers' salary (median) \$123,000* per year (source: ato.gov.au). *Salaries greatly vary depending on your skills and experience. If you train through the ADF, you will earn \$80,857 as soon as you finish your training (source: defencejobs.gov.au).
- Future career growth: Very strong (source: labourmarketinsights.gov.au).
- You will be doing most of your work indoors, from an air traffic control tower.
- You will need to do a lot of shift work, and be prepared to work any time of the day or night.

Air Traffic Controllers are most in demand in these locations:

Demand for Air Traffic Controllers is highest in Queensland and the Northern Territory, and many Air Traffic Controllers live and work in capital cities (around 70%). Most Air Traffic Controllers work in the Transport, Postal and Warehousing industry.

How to become an Air Traffic Controller in Australia

There are two pathways to becoming an Air Traffic Controller in Australia: either complete a traineeship through Airservices Australia, or complete training through the Australian Defence Force.

Step 1 – Complete Year 12 with a focus on English and Maths.

Step 2 – Complete a Diploma of Aviation (Air Traffic Control) with Airservices Australia. The course will take 12 months if you go down the Tower path, or 14 months if you go down the Enroute path.

Step 3 – Alternatively, you can complete your training with the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF), which can take around 12 to 18 months.

Step 4 – Pass an aviation medical and meet security clearance requirements.

Step 5 – Start working as a fully qualified Air Traffic Controller.

Find out more here –

<https://www.casa.gov.au/>

<https://www.airservicesaustralia.com/>

<https://www.defencejobs.gov.au/>

Similar Careers to Air Traffic Controller

Pilot

Aircraft Engineer

Astronaut

Engineer

Cyber Security Specialist

Defence Force

Find out more about alternative [careers](#).

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What options are there for career progression?

Generally your salary will increase as you gain more experience as an Air Traffic Controller. There may also be further specialist qualifications you might like to undertake.

Do I need to go to university to become an Air Traffic Controller?

You don't need to go to university, but you will still need to follow a formal pathway (either through Airservices Australia or the ADF) to work as an Air Traffic Controller.

Where do Air Traffic Controllers work?

Air Traffic Controllers spend a majority of their time working in control towers, which are located at all airports – even little ones.

What are 3 things I can do right now to help me become an Air Traffic Controller?

If you're in high school and you'd like to find out if a career as an Air Traffic Controller is right for you, here's a few things you could do right now:

1. Start researching the pathways and decide which one is better for you. Consider things like whether you will need to move far, starting salaries, and your future flexibility.
2. See if you can find work experience in aviation or transport. This will help you see if you might enjoy the work, and can help you start building important contacts for the future.
3. Talk to an Air Traffic Controller to see what a day in their life is like. If you don't know anyone, see if you can watch videos or documentaries about a career in aviation.

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