



## CAREERS NEWSLETTER 25<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2026



### INVITATION TO JOIN JOB JUMP

We warmly encourage all **parents and students** to register for **Job Jump**, an excellent careers platform that supports young people as they explore future pathways.

#### **Job Jump provides:**

**Up-to-date information on tertiary study options, ATARs, apprenticeships, and TAFE pathways.**

**Tools to create a resume**, helping students present their strengths professionally.

**Customised news alerts** so families stay informed about important deadlines and opportunities.

Both parents and students can benefit from clear guidance and timely updates as they plan— whether that's choosing senior subjects, exploring university courses, or considering vocational training.

To register, simply visit:

<https://www.jobjump.com.au/register> and visit Careers 2026 on Canvas to access sign up details.

We hope you find Job Jump a valuable resource in supporting informed and confident career decision-making.

**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 Ms. Hall please email [chall@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au](mailto:chall@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au) or call 9414 4733.

## Events

### THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

#### CSU Careers in Agriculture and Environment Online Information Night

**Organisation:** Charles Sturt University

**Location:** Online

**Date:** May 26, 2026

Love the planet? Want to solve real-world challenges? So do we. Explore limitless agriculture careers that shape the future of food and fibre production, farming systems and environmental management.

From food security and climate resilience to data and robotics. Protect and manage natural environments. And power a more sustainable future with the #1 uni for agriculture and environmental science grads who get jobs.

We have been cultivating the next crop of ag innovators for over 120 years. When you study with us, you'll gain hands-on skills and industry knowledge for the future of diverse and rewarding careers in agriculture and the environment.

- Unpack ag and enviro careers and courses, plus dive into our early offer program.
- Hear from industry experts, students and graduates.
- See what hands-on learning is all about and check out our virtual facilities tour.
- Have your questions answered live!

[Find out more](#)

#### CSU Careers in Animal, Equine and Veterinary Sciences Online Information Night

**Organisation:** Charles Sturt University

**Location:** Online

**Date:** May 27, 2026

Passionate about animals? Curious about a career in the animal health sector? Our info night is the perfect place to start. Uncover caring careers that help creatures big and small. From livestock industries, clinical settings, government and biosecurity, animal welfare or the wildlife sector.

Discover careers that help change the way we look after animals.

Companion animal health, veterinary hospitals and clinics, livestock production, equine nutrition, herd health, zoos and cutting-edge research. Think big when it comes to where your animal career can take you. Discover how you'll build real-world skills and learn to support animal health, welfare and care through hands-on experience.

- Discover where animal, equine and vet careers can take you.
- Hear from industry experts, students and graduates.
- Explore our hands-on courses and facilities.
- Have your questions answered live!

[Find out more](#)

#### Macquarie Arts After Dark VIP Event for High School Students – Geography and Planning

**Organisation:** Macquarie University

**Location:** Macquarie University, Wallumattagal Campus

**Date:** May 27, 2026

Students interested in Geography, Community and Family Studies, or Society and Culture are invited



to a special Arts After Dark Series event at Macquarie University.

One Place, Many Stories is an immersive walking experience at the Wallumattagal Campus, exploring how diverse stories shape a shared place. Along the walk, participants will examine the landscape through a placemaking lens, drawing connections between high school geography and urban and regional planning, while reflecting on how multiple perspectives contribute to a sense of place.

[Find out more](#)

UNSW Science Information Evening

**Organisation:** University of New South Wales

**Location:** Online

**Date:** May 27, 2026

Are you passionate about understanding the world, solving real-world problems, or exploring cutting-edge scientific discoveries? Join us for the UNSW Science Information Evening, designed specifically for high school students, parents, and teachers who want to explore the exciting opportunities that a science degree can offer.

This interactive event will take you inside the world of UNSW Science, from what you can study, to where it can take you, and how we support you every step of the way.

What to expect:

- Hear from leading academics about the diverse study areas available across UNSW Science, including psychology, medical science, aviation, data science, environmental science and more.
- Gain real insights from current students, who'll share their university experiences, tips for success, and what life at UNSW is really like.
- Learn about scholarships, Co-op programs and admission pathways that can help you gain entry into UNSW, even if your ATAR isn't the full story.
- Explore career possibilities across industries such as health, tech, aviation, research, consulting, sustainability, and government.
- Find out how UNSW prepares you for the future, with hands-on learning, Work Integrated Learning (WIL), internships, research opportunities, and the STEM Career Launchpad.
- Join a live panel Q&A, where our students, academics, and professional staff will answer your questions.

[Find out more](#)

Your Pathway to Teaching at the University of Sydney – Webinar for Future Students

**Organisation:** University of Sydney

**Location:** Online

**Date:** May 27, 2026

Join us for an information session on studying early childhood, primary, and secondary education at the University of Sydney. Learn about course structures, admission pathways, professional placements, and the career opportunities available to graduates. This is a great chance to understand your options and see how a teaching degree from Sydney can shape your future.

[Find out more](#)

UCAT, GAMSAT and Pathways into Medicine – Webinar for Students, Teachers & Parents

**Organisation:** National Institute of Education

**Location:** Online

**Date:** May 27, 2026

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](#)

Year 12 & Early Entry with ADHD – Webinar for Students & Parents

**Organisation:** Claire Pech Careers

**Location:** Online

**Date:** May 28, 2026

Early Entry can feel like the answer to a lot of anxiety. Lock something in early, take the pressure off the ATAR, give your teen something to aim for. But for families with an ADHD teen, the decision is rarely that straightforward — and the process itself can create as many problems as it solves.

This webinar is for Year 12 parents who want an honest, practical guide to Early Entry — not just how it works, but whether it's actually the right move for your family, and how to navigate it well if it is.

What we'll cover:

- What Early Entry is, how it works, and why universities offer it
- Is it actually worth it for your family — an honest framework for deciding
- How can you plan a Plan A, Plan B and even Plan C
- Can I get any supports for my ADHD at this early phase
- Best approaches to effective parental support
- Q&A

Hosted by [Claire Pech](#), CICA-Accredited Careers Practitioner, and [Amanda Krulis](#), endorsed Organisational Psychologist.

View the [full series of webinars](#) for the ADHD community on all things careers, schooling and the workforce.

[Find out more](#)

HSC and Careers Expo 2026

**Organisation:** Resources for Courses

**Location:** Winx Stand, Randwick Racecourse

**Date:** May 28 to May 30, 2026

The HSC and Careers Expo 2026 is Sydney's longest running education and career event, designed to help high school students, parents, teachers, and jobseekers explore study and employment pathways. It brings together universities, TAFEs, training providers, employers, and career advisers in one location to provide practical information about courses, apprenticeships, and career options.



The event aims to support informed decision-making about future study and work choices through exhibits and HSC seminar presentations.

[Find out more](#)

## NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

### UNSW Canberra Cyber Security Information Evening

**Organisation:** University of New South Wales

**Location:** Online

**Date:** June 3, 2026

The Bachelor of Cyber Security at UNSW Canberra is a future-focused degree informed by critical government and industry skills gaps. You'll graduate ready to make an impact in a constantly evolving cyber security landscape, with the skills and competencies that are in demand across industry, government and Defence.

Being based at UNSW Canberra City places you in the heart of Australia's cyber security sector, providing unique opportunities to connect with industry and build valuable career pathways. Join us online to hear from current UNSW Canberra students about their experiences studying Cyber Security and how they've navigated their degree, sharing tips to help make your own journey a rewarding one.

You'll also hear from our academic staff and advisers as they discuss the Bachelor of Cyber Security program, including the hands-on learning opportunities, industry mentorships and placements that help prepare students for real-world cyber security challenges. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions during an interactive Q&A panel.

[Find out more](#)

### Study Advanced Computing at the University of Sydney – Webinar for Future Students

**Organisation:** University of Sydney

**Location:** Online

**Date:** June 3, 2026

From intelligent drones to virtual reality apps, cybersecurity to the Internet of Things, the Bachelor of Advanced Computing will teach you the design principles and programming skills to build the systems behind emerging information technologies with our flexible and innovative degree. Hear from us to learn more. You'll have the opportunity to submit questions live.

[Find out more](#)

### Macquarie Year 12 Early Entry Webinar

**Organisation:** Macquarie University

**Location:** Online

**Date:** June 3, 2026

Year 12 comes with a lot to navigate – ATARs, selection ranks, preferences, early entry, pathways and more!

Before you make decisions, it helps to understand the broader admissions landscape.

Our Year 12 Webinar Series demystifies the mechanics, milestones and misconceptions surrounding uni entry – and outlines practical next steps, whatever stage you're at.

Here's what will be covered in this webinar:

- Macquarie's early entry schemes
- How early entry applications are evaluated
- Characteristics of a strong application
- What happens after an early offer is made



- Live Q&A

[Find out more](#)

AIE Online Campus Day

**Organisation:** Academy of Interactive Entertainment

**Location:** Online

**Date:** June 6, 2026

Discover the courses designed to get you started in game development, 3D animation, film and visual effects at the AIE Online Campus Day. AIE will be running this event for students interested in studying online. You will be able to meet our teachers, explore how classes will run, course options, career pathways and see our amazing student work.

We will be covering everything you need to know about the:

- careers in games and VFX that we train students for;
- studios and industries that we work with;
- courses we offer - from beginners to professional mastery, and;
- the software, skills and knowledge we teach.

[Find out more](#)

## FUTURE EVENTS

Discover Western Webinar – For Year 10-12 Students: Pathways, Alternative Entry and Early Offers

**Organisation:** Western Sydney University

**Location:** Online

**Date:** June 9, 2026

This webinar is aimed at students in Years 10-12. We will explore and explain our HSC True Reward Early Offer Program, Alternative Entry Pathways and more.

[Find out more](#)

Study Interaction Design at the University of Sydney – Webinar for Future Students

**Organisation:** University of Sydney

**Location:** Online

**Date:** June 10, 2026

There is so much more to design beyond websites and apps. But how much do you know about interaction design and the role of designers in today's rapidly evolving digital landscape?

Join this session to explore how the Bachelor of Design (Interaction Design) at Sydney can prepare you to shape the way we experience the world through technology.

[Find out more](#)

Notre Dame Auburn Information Evening

**Organisation:** University of Notre Dame Australia

**Location:** University of Notre Dame, Auburn Study Centre

**Date:** June 11, 2026

Join us at the Auburn Study Centre Information Session to explore how the University of Notre Dame Australia can support your journey into higher education.

You'll hear about the bachelor's degrees taught from our Auburn Study Centre and Broadway Campus in Chippendale, Notre Dame's Early Offer program, scholarships and fees, alternate entry pathways and student support services.

[Find out more](#)



### UQ Ramsay Undergraduate Scholarship Information Webinar

**Organisation:** University of Queensland

**Location:** Online

**Date:** June 12, 2026

The UQ Ramsay Undergraduate Scholarship provides up to 30 full-time enrolled students approximately \$20,000 per year for the first 3 years of the Western Civilisation program. Students from an Australian state or territory other than Queensland, or from a non-metropolitan region of Queensland may be eligible to receive an additional \$12,000 per year for 3 years. Learn about the UQ Ramsay Undergraduate Scholarship's benefits and eligibility requirements. Join UQ for a webinar to:

- learn more about the scholarship requirements and application dates
- explore UQ's programs in Western Civilisation.

[Find out more](#)

### CDW Open Day 2026, Sydney

**Organisation:** CDW Studios

**Location:** CDW Studios, Sydney Campus

**Date:** June 13, 2026

This is your chance to come down and explore our creative space, meet staff and students, and learn more about our programs!

Whether you're an aspiring entertainment design artist or just curious about the world of games, movies and animation, this is the perfect opportunity to kickstart your career at CDW Studios.

[Find out more](#)

### UOW Year 10 Subject Selection Webinar

**Organisation:** University of Wollongong

**Location:** Online

**Date:** June 15, 2026

Choosing the right subjects in Year 10 is an important step towards achieving your future study and career goals.

Join the University of Wollongong (UOW) for a free online event designed to help Year 10 students and their parents make informed subject choices for senior years.

In this session, experts from UOW and the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC) will cover:

- How subject choices can influence university entry and career pathways
- The importance of prerequisite subjects and assumed knowledge
- Understanding the ATAR and the role of Year 11 results
- Tips for keeping your options open

You'll also have the chance to ask questions during a live Q&A and chat with our team.

[Find out more](#)

### Becoming a Protective Service Officer with the AFP – Online Information Session

**Organisation:** Australian Federal Police

**Location:** Online

**Date:** June 16, 2026

Gain insights into the role of a protective service officer (PSO), hear first-hand experiences, and discover what it means to do legendary work in the Australian Federal Police (AFP).

[Find out more](#)



Music Careers Expo 2026, Adelaide

**Organisation:** The Push

**Location:** Oxford Art Factory

**Date:** June 16, 2026

A free, one-day event with keynotes, workshops, and one-on-one conversations with people who actually work in the industry.

You'll hear from people working across the industry (artists, managers, producers, engineers) and have the chance to sit down one-on-one with professionals and educators for advice on your next steps.

This event is ideal for students, so teachers, bring your classes along for an unforgettable day. And if you're a young person outside of school, you're absolutely welcome too!

Attendance is free but registration is essential.

[Find out more](#)

Why Study Business at the University of Sydney? Webinar for Future Students

**Organisation:** University of Sydney

**Location:** Online

**Date:** June 17, 2026

Discover how our commerce degree prepares you for the future of work and a wide range of career opportunities. You will learn about the range of study areas (or majors) available – such as marketing, finance, or innovation and entrepreneurship - and the many ways in which you can combine your interests, with over 100 study areas to select from our shared pools of majors and minors.

Find out more about internships, industry-focused experiences, and global mobility opportunities on offer to our Bachelor of Commerce students.

[Find out more](#)

Parents Information Webinar

**Organisation:** Bond University

**Location:** Online

**Date:** June 18, 2026

Are you a parent supporting your child on their journey to university? Bond University invites you to join our upcoming online webinar designed specifically for parents like you.

This session will explain the Bond difference, including our personalised learning experience and close-knit, supportive community. You'll gain a clear overview of the direct application and admissions process, 2027 key dates, FEE-HELP and scholarship opportunities.

This webinar includes insights from current Bond parents and have the opportunity to ask questions to help you support your child's decision with confidence.

[Find out more](#)

You Can Get In: How to Job Hunt for Entry Level Roles in the Screen Industry

**Organisation:** Screen Careers

**Location:** Online

**Date:** June 20, 2026

The screen industry recruits through friends and recommendations. The good news about this is that everyone, initially, doesn't know anyone. We'll cover how to create a screen ready CV, the role of crew agencies, credits and how to find work.

[Find out more](#)



### UTS Tech Fest

**Organisation:** University of Technology Sydney

**Location:** University of Technology Sydney, City Campus

**Date:** June 22 to June 26, 2026

Experience the future of engineering and IT at UTS Tech Festival 2026 - Sydney's annual student-driven tech showcase held on the UTS campus each June.

Now in its fifth year running, Tech Fest is returning with an action-packed calendar filled with showcases, interactive workshops, panel talks, hackathons and real-world tech challenges led by industry leaders.

Whether you're a current Engineering or IT student, industry partner, tech enthusiast, or university student of the future, this year's program has an event for everyone.

[Find out more](#)

### SCU Live Talks: Parent Information Evening

**Organisation:** Southern Cross University

**Location:** Online

**Date:** June 23, 2026

Here at Southern Cross University, we are organising an exclusive session designed specifically for parents and students in Years 11 & 12 and encourage you to join us for an upcoming Parents Information Webinar.

The session will cover a wide range of topics, including:

- How to apply
- Taking advantage of our early entry application
- Why SCU
- Scholarship opportunities
- Understanding costs
- Support services
- Uni life and global opportunities

[Find out more](#)

### Study and Career Options in Occupational Therapy at the University of Sydney – Webinar for Future Students

**Organisation:** University of Sydney

**Location:** Online

**Date:** June 24, 2026

Interested in supporting people live a fuller life? Join us for this informative webinar to learn what occupational therapists do, explore the Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy) at the University of Sydney, hear about work-based placements and student life, and get guidance on entry pathways. Join us live with the Program Director and get answers in the Q&A.

[Find out more](#)

### Western Sydney Careers Expo 2026

**Organisation:** Resources for Courses

**Location:** The Dome - Sydney Showground

**Date:** June 25 to June 27, 2026

The Western Sydney Careers Expo 2026 is Sydney's biggest education and career event, designed to help high school students, parents, teachers, and jobseekers explore study and employment pathways. It brings together universities, TAFEs, training providers, employers, and career advisers in one location to provide practical information about courses, apprenticeships, and career options.

The event aims to support informed decision-making about future study and work choices through



exhibits and seminar presentations.

[Find out more](#)

How Computational Mathematics Powers the Modern World – Discover Lecture Series with Macquarie

**Organisation:** Macquarie University

**Location:** Macquarie University, Wallumattagal Campus

**Date:** June 25, 2026

Since the earliest days of computing in the 1950s, computational mathematics has been quietly reshaping the world around us. From the algorithms that simulate climate and weather to those that enable medical imaging, advances in computational mathematics sit at the heart of modern technologies that define our world today. This talk will illustrate some of the big ideas in computational mathematics, including some of Associate Professor Stuart Hawkins' favourite innovations.

We'll then look at the techniques behind Professor Hawkins' own research on simulating sound and light waves in complex materials and in the atmosphere. Together, these examples reveal how computational mathematics makes it possible to model the invisible forces that shape our world.

*This event is part of Macquarie's [Discover Lecture Series](#), monthly talks suitable for ages 10 and up that offer inspiring insights and a glimpse into the technological advancements shaping our future.*

[Find out more](#)

UOW Open Day 2026, Wollongong

**Organisation:** University of Wollongong

**Location:** University of Wollongong, Wollongong Campus

**Date:** June 27, 2026

The University of Wollongong (UOW) Open Day is the perfect opportunity to visit our amazing Wollongong campus, speak with our staff and students, and see why UOW is ranked as one of the best universities for student experience.

Whether you are looking at your next steps after Year 12, or you finished school some time ago and are looking for a pathway into university, Open Day is for you.

UOW Open Day also caters to graduates who are considering further study, offering one-on-one consultations with postgraduate course experts. Whatever your education or career goals, our staff are able to answer your questions.

[Find out more](#)

UOW Future Talk for Parents – Early Entry

**Organisation:** University of Wollongong

**Location:** Online

**Date:** June 29, 2026

Year 12 can be a stressful time for students and for the parents and carers supporting them. With big post-school decisions ahead, these sessions are designed to provide clarity, reassurance and practical advice to help you navigate the year with confidence.

Across the program, you'll gain insights into:

- Supporting students through the HSC and common challenges
- Understanding UOW degrees, pathways and study options
- How AI and emerging technologies are shaping degrees, careers and the future workforce
- Navigating university applications, Early Admission and UAC
- Financial planning for university, including scholarships, budgeting and accommodation
- Accessing UOW support services for a smooth transition to university
- Connecting with other parents and carers in a supportive environment



You'll also receive regular emails with practical tips, resources and expert advice to help you and your young person feel informed, prepared and supported throughout Year 12 and beyond.

[Find out more](#)

#### ACPE Careers in Sport Day

**Organisation:** Australian College of Physical Education

**Location:** Australian College of Physical Education

**Date:** July 3, 2026

For the lovers of sport; ACPE presents you with a day that is packed with information presented by special guest speakers from the sport industry. From education and sport degrees to taking your first steps into the sport industry as your career path, you can immerse yourself in interactive panel discussions and workshops. You'll also have the chance to mingle and network with likeminded individuals, and rub shoulders with professionals working in the sport industry.

Come along and have a great day in the sport hub of Sydney Olympic Park, and take your first steps into a career in sport.

Unlock your access to successful careers in sport:

- Gain invaluable insights from industry professionals
- Discover the range of job opportunities in the sport industry
- Identify the attributes and experiences it takes to be successful in sport
- And much more!

Careers in Sport Day is perfect for:

- Anyone looking to turn their passion for sport into a career
- Year 11 and 12 students
- Career advisors and school teachers

[Find out more](#)

#### WSU Open Day 2026

**Organisation:** Western Sydney University

**Location:** Western Sydney University, Parramatta South Campus

**Date:** July 5, 2026

Open Day is coming to Western on Sunday 5 July 2026, from 10am–4pm at our Parramatta South Campus.

Explore your study options, attend course information sessions, and meet our academics and students. Experience uni life and see all that Western has to offer!

Ask questions, see things up close, and get a clear sense of where your next step could take you.

[Find out more](#)

#### Sydney Design School Introduction to SketchUp Workshop

**Organisation:** Sydney Design School

**Location:** Sydney Design School

**Date:** July 6 to July 8, 2026

Looking to extend your presentation skills? Create detailed 3D models using this intuitive and easy-to-learn program.

Over 3 days you will be introduced to the fundamentals of SketchUp enabling you to create realistic floor plans and 3D models. You'll use the 3D Warehouse, the world's largest online library, to import furniture and lighting.

[Find out more](#)

#### University of New South Wales Future Creators' Day for Year 10 & 11 Students

**Organisation:** University of New South Wales



**Location:** UNSW Art & Design, Block E (EG02) Paddington Campus

**Date:** July 7, 2026

Future Creators' Day is a hands-on experience for Year 10 and 11 students passionate about creativity, design, and visual storytelling. Hosted by UNSW Arts, Design & Architecture, this event is the perfect opportunity to explore future study and career paths in the creative industries.

Join us on campus for a day of immersive workshops led by expert academics and industry professionals. Get a taste of our newly offered Game Art specialisation, along with workshops in Animation, Painting, Textiles & Fashion Design, Object Design, and Graphic Design. Whether you're interested in digital art, interactive storytelling, or traditional design disciplines, this event is designed to help you develop your skills and discover your creative potential.

Connect with like-minded students, experience university life, and gain insights into studying at UNSW. Future Creators' Day is your chance to turn your creative passion into a future career.

[Find out more](#)

Discover ACU Strathfield: Early Childhood, Primary and TAS Secondary Education

**Organisation:** Australian Catholic University

**Location:** Australian Catholic University, Strathfield Campus

**Date:** July 7, 2026

Are you passionate about making an impact in the lives of young people? Do you want to inspire the next generation through teaching? At ACU, you'll learn how to turn your passion for education into purpose: shaping minds, inspiring curiosity and helping students to thrive.

Join us for Discover Early Childhood, Primary and TAS Secondary Education, an engaging event designed for students in Years 10 – 12 who want to explore a rewarding teaching career. Take part in hands-on workshop, meet our education experts, and find out what it's really like to study teaching at ACU.

[Find out more](#)

Discover ACU Strathfield: Exercise and Sports Science and Biomedical Science

**Organisation:** Australian Catholic University

**Location:** Australian Catholic University, Strathfield Campus

**Date:** July 7, 2026

Are you fascinated by how the human body works, moves and performs? Or curious about the science that helps diagnose disease and improve health?

Come and experience what it's like to study exercise and sports science or biomedical science at ACU. Step inside our specialist biomechanics and human performance laboratory, where you'll see how cutting-edge technology is used to analyse movement, measure force, track motion and understand the science behind athletic performance. You'll also explore how biomedical science students investigate the building blocks of life through biology, chemistry and anatomy, preparing for careers in medical science, research, pathology and health innovation.

Plus, you'll meet our expert academics and hear from current students about where a degree in these fields can take you – from elite sport to research, rehabilitation, medical science and beyond. Open to Year 10 – 12 students, this free event is your chance to explore two exciting science-based study areas at ACU.

[Find out more](#)

Sydney Design School Designer for a Day Workshop for Year 10-12 Students

**Organisation:** Sydney Design School

**Location:** Sydney Design School

**Date:** July 9, 2026

Curious about what it might be like to work as an Interior Designer? We have developed the perfect



one day workshop for students in Years 10, 11 and 12 to find out more.

You'll get hands on in our studios experimenting with colour and materials. Find out what it takes to become a professional Interior Designer and understand what an average day looks like on the job! We've included a 3D modelling activity to give you an opportunity to create an interior space.

[Find out more](#)

#### AMPA Dance Experience Day

**Organisation:** Academy of Music and Performing Arts

**Location:** AMPA Performing Arts Centre, Alexandria

**Date:** July 13, 2026

The Academy of Music and Performing Arts (AMPA) invites dancers to experience a dynamic day on campus. Register, bring your friends, and get ready to move.

Throughout the day, you'll take part in a variety of classes led by AMPA's inspiring faculty, offering a glimpse into what it's like to study dance full-time in a professional training environment.

You'll also have the opportunity to attend a Q&A session with the Head of Dance, designed to give aspiring dancers, choreographers, and future educators valuable insight into tertiary study and the pathways it can open. This is a fantastic opportunity to connect with our welcoming student community and expert faculty, while experiencing first-hand what it means to be part of AMPA's Bachelor and Associate of Dance programs.

[Find out more](#)

#### AMPA Classical Performance & Composition Experience Day

**Organisation:** Academy of Music and Performing Arts

**Location:** AMPA Music Campus, Surry Hills

**Date:** July 13, 2026

The Academy of Music and Performing Arts is ready to welcome budding performers and composers to our music campus for our Classical Music and Composition Experience Day.

Spend a day on campus at AMPA to learn what studying Classical Music or Composition is like at a tertiary level and to find out how you can benefit from AMPA's elite training as part of our Bachelor or Associate Degree in Music (Performance).

At Experience Day, once you have been given a guided tour of our practice studios and performance spaces, you will have your choice of Classical Music or Composition workshops to attend, the chance to observe Classical Performance Classes, and enjoy relaxed Q&A sessions with our faculty and admissions department, while also connecting with our student body to gain real perspectives on student life at AMPA.

[Find out more](#)

#### AMPA Music Theatre Experience Day

**Organisation:** Academy of Music and Performing Arts

**Location:** AMPA Music Campus, Surry Hills

**Date:** July 15, 2026

Calling all triple threats! While you're waiting for your big break, AMPA is excited to invite passionate performers and theatre makers to our Music Theatre Experience Day.

This is your chance to find out what studying Music Theatre at a pre-professional level looks like, learn what the Music Theatre industry is looking for and to experience the training it takes to become a true triple threat performer within our Bachelor or Associate Degree of Music (Performance).

At Experience Day, you will receive a tour of our music campus and our dedicated performance space, the Tom Mann Theatre, followed by the chance to watch our Music Theatre Performance Class and attend a Music Theatre Workshop as our students prepare their end of trimester



showcase. You are also invited to partake in Q&As with our faculty of Music Theatre professionals, our admissions team for information about auditions, and our student body for their perspective on life at AMPA.

[Find out more](#)

#### AMPA Contemporary Music & Music Production Experience Day

**Organisation:** Academy of Music and Performing Arts

**Location:** AMPA Music Campus, Surry Hills

**Date:** July 16, 2026

Get ready to rock out at AMPA with our Contemporary Music and Music Production Experience Day – whether you’re a jazz cat, metalhead or DJ in the making, Experience Day will give you the info you need if you’re considering the path of a musician.

Our Bachelor or Associate Degree of Music (Performance) could be the next step in your journey and our Experience Day will be your chance to learn what studying music at a tertiary level looks like and how it can benefit your career.

After a tour of our music studios, recording/editing suites and performance space, you’ll get the chance to watch our students in action during Contemporary Performance Class, followed by your choice of either a Performance or Production workshop, with time to have casual Q&As with our industry staff, admissions team and student body about anything from networking and training, auditions or campus life.

[Find out more](#)

#### Experience Design@Western – Portfolio Day for Year 12 Students, Parents & Teachers

**Organisation:** Western Sydney University

**Location:** Western Sydney University, Parramatta South Campus

**Date:** July 17, 2026

Mark your calendars! Join us for early entry interviews for the Bachelor of Design 2027, plus studio tours, talks and hands-on workshops for students interested in Graphic design, branding, digital storytelling, UX/UI, photography and motion design

This is a fantastic opportunity for Year 12 students, parents, and teachers to:

- Participate in course entry interviews for early entry offers (September) into the Design program
- Hear from recent graduates
- Meet Design tutors and lecturers
- Check out our facilities
- Take part in hands-on workshops

[Find out more](#)

#### ACU Guarantee Early Offer and Pathways Webinar (NSW/ACT/QLD)

**Organisation:** Australian Catholic University

**Location:** Online

**Date:** July 22, 2026

Learn about ACU’s entry and pathway options, including the ACU Guarantee early offer program, key dates and how to apply. Plus, hear from current students about their journeys.

This webinar is for NSW, ACT and Queensland Year 12 students and their parents.

[Find out more](#)

#### Clean Energy: Why It Matters and What Comes Next – Discover Lecture Series with Macquarie

**Organisation:** Macquarie University

**Location:** Macquarie University, Wallumattagal Campus



**Date:** July 23, 2026

Clean energy systems such as solar, wind, and biomass are often presented as the answer to climate change. While they aim to reduce pollution, they must also deliver reliable and affordable energy for everyday life, powering homes, transport, and industry without disruption. If clean energy is so promising, why haven't we fully switched to it yet? The answer lies in the practical challenges of performance, safety, and scale that must be solved before new energy technologies can replace the systems we rely on today.

In this talk, Associate Professor Fatemeh Salehi explores how engineering helps address these challenges, turning clean energy ideas into real-world solutions. This talk explains how understanding what affects performance, and identifying safety issues early, can make clean energy systems work at large scale. Through this lens, she provides insight into how research supports the transition from promising concepts to energy solutions that can meet future needs.

*This event is part of Macquarie's [Discover Lecture Series](#), monthly talks suitable for ages 10 and up that offer inspiring insights and a glimpse into the technological advancements shaping our future.*

[Find out more](#)

UOW Open Day 2026, Liverpool

**Organisation:** University of Wollongong

**Location:** University of Wollongong, Liverpool Campus

**Date:** July 25, 2026

Chat with course experts, find your dream degree, and get a taste of uni right in the heart of Liverpool. There will be plenty of opportunities to get all your questions answered and ensure you're making a confident decision about your studies in 2027.

Whether you are looking at your next steps after Year 12, or you finished school some time ago and are looking for a pathway into university, Open Day is for you.

[Find out more](#)

ACU Open Day 2026, Blacktown

**Organisation:** Australian Catholic University

**Location:** Australian Catholic University, Blacktown Campus

**Date:** July 25, 2026

Open Day gives you the opportunity to ask our teaching staff any questions you might have about your dream course, the application process, pathway options, entry schemes and more.

Chat to current students and discover the facilities your new campus has to offer. And sit in on information sessions from each of the faculties to find out more about the courses you're interested in.

[Find out more](#)

UTAS Open Day 2026, Sydney

**Organisation:** University of Tasmania

**Location:** University of Tasmania, Rozelle Campus

**Date:** July 26, 2026

Going to university is an exciting time. Understanding what to expect and how to navigate this new environment can help you make the most of your experience.

You will have the opportunity to explore our campus, discuss your study options, and discover how studying at the University of Tasmania could be the perfect fit for you.

[Find out more](#)

Parramatta & Hills District Apprenticeship/Traineeship & Jobs Expo 2026

**Organisation:** Brett Carter Events



**Location:** Wenty Leagues

**Date:** July 28, 2026

Our Apprenticeship/Traineeship & Jobs Expos are held annually and have grown to a status where they are widely accepted as the premier events of their kind in NSW. The timing of the expos is a hit with families as they allow parents to attend with their children and have those all-important career chats with industry experts.

The Expos provide our career/job seekers, business and industry, education providers and employers with the opportunities to all come together under the one roof where exhibitors also get the chance to collect resumes and promote their organisation for upcoming recruitment drives.

[Find out more](#)

Discover Western Webinar – Uni Life and Making the Most of Your Time at Uni

**Organisation:** Western Sydney University

**Location:** Online

**Date:** July 28, 2026

University is not all about study! Western has over 130 different clubs and societies you can join to make friends and meet like-minded people. Join our webinar to learn about university life at Western, including clubs and societies, overseas study opportunities, Jobs on Campus, and more.

[Find out more](#)

Becoming a Protective Service Officer with the AFP – Online Information Session

**Organisation:** Australian Federal Police

**Location:** Online

**Date:** July 28, 2026

Gain insights into the role of a protective service officer (PSO), hear first-hand experiences, and discover what it means to do legendary work in the Australian Federal Police (AFP).

[Find out more](#)

ATAR, Bonus Points, & Uni Entry Explained with ADHD – Webinar for Year 12 Students & Parents

**Organisation:** Claire Pech Careers

**Location:** Online

**Date:** July 30, 2026

Join our webinar designed for Yr 12 students and parents, navigating university admissions with ADHD, which can impact these processes.

We'll cover:

- The ATAR – explained
- What the Educational Access Scheme (EAS) is and who qualifies
- How to apply for EAS and what you will need
- Other bonus points (adjustment factors) on offer
- Important dates and deadlines
- University preference strategies that work
- Early entry options and their benefits

Hosted by [Claire Pech](#), CICA-Accredited Careers Practitioner, and [Amanda Krulis](#), endorsed Organisational Psychologist.

View the [full series of webinars](#) for the ADHD community on all things careers, schooling and the workforce.

[Find out more](#)



### AFTRS Open Day 2026

**Organisation:** Australian Film Television and Radio School

**Location:** Australian Film Television and Radio School

**Date:** August 8, 2026

Discover your place in screen and audio storytelling at AFTRS, Australia's national screen and audio school. Join us at our purpose-built campus to explore everything you need to know about studying at AFTRS.

Open Day is designed to give you clear, practical answers as you plan your next steps. Find out more about the application process, scholarships, and career outcomes, and gain insight into where an AFTRS qualification can take you.

On the day, you will be able to explore our campus and experience our facilities firsthand, from industry-standard studios and the tech store to the prop room and Australia's premier audio and screen library. You can also connect with current students and alumni, and speak with our staff for guidance on preparing a strong application.

[Find out more](#)

### UOW Future Talk for Parents – Financial Considerations, Scholarships, Accommodation, Wellbeing & Support Services

**Organisation:** University of Wollongong

**Location:** Online

**Date:** August 10, 2026

Year 12 can be a stressful time for students and for the parents and carers supporting them. With big post-school decisions ahead, these sessions are designed to provide clarity, reassurance and practical advice to help you navigate the year with confidence.

Across the program, you'll gain insights into:

- Supporting students through the HSC and common challenges
- Understanding UOW degrees, pathways and study options
- How AI and emerging technologies are shaping degrees, careers and the future workforce
- Navigating university applications, Early Admission and UAC
- Financial planning for university, including scholarships, budgeting and accommodation
- Accessing UOW support services for a smooth transition to university
- Connecting with other parents and carers in a supportive environment

You'll also receive regular emails with practical tips, resources and expert advice to help you and your young person feel informed, prepared and supported throughout Year 12 and beyond.

[Find out more](#)

### Macquarie University Open Day 2026

**Organisation:** Macquarie University

**Location:** Macquarie University, Wallumattagal Campus

**Date:** August 15, 2026

Open Day is your opportunity to discover everything a Macquarie University education can offer you.

We get to share with you why we're the #1 university in Sydney for teaching quality, as well as showcase our future-focused degrees, cutting-edge facilities, collaborative spaces for learning and leisure, and our stunning green campus.

Come along and find out firsthand how we can help you achieve your career – and your life – aspirations.

What you can do on Open Day:

- Attend info sessions



- Speak 1:1 with our academics
- Learn about our scholarships, adjustment factors, pathways, and RPL (recognition of prior learning) if you've studied before
- Chat to current students
- Join campus and faculty tours
- Engage in faculty-led workshops
- Alumni are welcome back to be a part of Alumni Reunion Day
- Participate in hands-on activities
- Enjoy entertainment and giveaways

[Find out more](#)

#### University of Newcastle Open Day 2026, Newcastle

**Organisation:** University of Newcastle

**Location:** University of Newcastle, Callaghan & City Campuses

**Date:** August 15, 2026

Open Day is packed with everything you need to know about going to the University of Newcastle. Participate in degree presentations, info sessions and tours of the campus.

Enjoy a hands-on experience with our program activations, and ask our student ambassadors questions about uni life.

[Find out more](#)

#### ACAP Open Day 2026, Sydney

**Organisation:** ACAP University College

**Location:** ACAP University College, Sydney Campus

**Date:** August 15, 2026

Ready to turn your passion into a purpose-driven career? ACAP Open Day is your opportunity to discover how our practical, people-focused courses can help you make a real difference – in your community and your life.

Join us on campus this August and experience what makes ACAP different. Whether you're considering counselling, psychology, social work, criminology, law or business, you'll get a firsthand look at the learning, support, and outcomes that set our students up for success.

From expert-led masterclasses and career panels to course advice and campus tours, Open Day is designed to give you the insight and inspiration to take the next step.

[Find out more](#)

#### SAE Open Day 2026, Sydney

**Organisation:** SAE University College

**Location:** SAE University College, Sydney Campus

**Date:** August 15, 2026

Whether you're still exploring your study options or you're ready to apply, SAE Open Day is the perfect place to get inspired, get informed, and get hands-on with your creative future.

Join us on campus this August to tour our studios, meet your future mentors, and experience what it's like to study at SAE – the University College built for creators and tech innovators.

Explore your study and career pathways across animation, audio, design, film, games, music, VFX and more. Connect with current students, industry-experienced lecturers, and alumni who've turned their ideas into careers.

[Find out more](#)

#### ADFA Open Day 2026

**Organisation:** Australian Government



**Location:** ADFA Canberra Campus & online

**Date:** August 15, 2026

ADFA Open Day is run each year in August. Join us online or in person to:

- Explore world-class UNSW degrees, with information sessions about Business, Arts, Science, Engineering, Computing and Cyber Security.
- Learn about military training, studying and life on campus from current ADFA Trainee Officers.
- Watch a variety of exciting displays, take a virtual tour, and much more

[Find out more](#)

ACU Open Day 2026, Strathfield

**Organisation:** Australian Catholic University

**Location:** Australian Catholic University, Strathfield Campus

**Date:** August 16, 2026

Open Day gives you the opportunity to ask our teaching staff any questions you might have about your dream course, the application process, pathway options, entry schemes and more.

Chat to current students and discover the facilities your new campus has to offer. And sit in on information sessions from each of the faculties to find out more about the courses you're interested in.

[Find out more](#)

Discover Western Webinar – Scholarships

**Organisation:** Western Sydney University

**Location:** Online

**Date:** August 18, 2026

If you're applying to study at university in 2027, you will also want to apply for Scholarships! This webinar will go through the different types of Scholarships available, as well as the application process, and give you tips for writing your Personal Statement.

[Find out more](#)

Why the Honey Bee is Smarter than ChatGPT – Discover Lecture Series with Macquarie

**Organisation:** Macquarie University

**Location:** Macquarie University, Wallumattagal Campus

**Date:** August 18, 2026

How smart is the honey bee really? This lecture considers the biological marvel that is the honey bee brain, and the bee mind it supports.

Bees' brains incorporate rapid feedback on their actions, and can quickly learn different types of art, recognise abstract concepts and learn to navigate for kilometres around their hives. Professor Andrew Barron argues the honey bee is significantly smarter than ChatGPT and surpasses the best that contemporary AI has to offer. He will discuss what lessons AI and robotics developers could learn from consideration of the humble bee.

*This event is part of Macquarie's [Discover Lecture Series](#), monthly talks suitable for ages 10 and up that offer inspiring insights and a glimpse into the technological advancements shaping our future.*

[Find out more](#)

Collarts Open Day 2026, Sydney

**Organisation:** Australian College of the Arts

**Location:** Collarts, Sydney Campus

**Date:** August 22, 2026

At Collarts, our Open Day is all about making this process simple and hands-on. Information sessions,



workshops and the chance to chat with students, teachers and leaders are an important part of learning more about what sets us apart from the rest.

We invite you to come and experience life at Collarts: from our passion for creativity, close community, industry-level facilities, expert faculty, and more.

From guided tours to live demonstrations, here are some of the activities you can catch at the next Collarts Open Day:

- **Guided tours:** Experience our campuses firsthand with guided tours led by our enthusiastic Student Ambassadors.
- **Info hubs:** Our info hubs provide convenient drop-in spaces where you can have direct conversations with Program Leaders, Academics, and students about your desired course.
- **Demonstrations:** Demonstrations are your chance to see our course content come to life. They allow you to be actively involved in projects and see our cutting-edge equipment in action, so you can get a firsthand preview of what studying at Collarts is really like.
- **Displays:** Our campus displays are positioned throughout different areas of our campuses, offering a showcase of our community's achievements and journeys.

If you have specific accessibility needs or require additional assistance, please contact Collarts in advance, and they will do their best to assist you.

[Find out more](#)

#### CSU Open Day 2026, Bathurst

**Organisation:** Charles Sturt University

**Location:** Charles Sturt University, Bathurst Campus

**Date:** August 23, 2026

Discover what uni life is like! Whether you're in high school, looking to upskill, want to change careers, or are a parent, teacher or carer – there's something for everyone.

- Jump on a campus tour – explore our facilities and accommodation.
- Get detailed info about courses.
- Chat to current students about Charles Sturt life.
- Be inspired by our expert teaching staff.
- Discover the social side of life at Charles Sturt.
- Enjoy live entertainment, giveaways, competitions and free food!

Plus, you can explore our expo, info, and career and skills hubs. Chat to our friendly teams about our support services, early offer programs and how to boost your hiring potential.

[Find out more](#)

#### Say Yes to the Trades Expo

**Organisation:** Superior Training Centre

**Location:** Entertainment Park, Bankstown Aerodrome

**Date:** August 27, 2026

Say Yes to the Trades Expo is a trade-focused event designed for high school students who are curious about hands-on careers and the opportunities available in Australia's growing trade industries. The event brings together training providers, employers, and industry professionals to give students a practical introduction to careers in trades such as electrical, air conditioning and refrigeration, and metal fabrication.

Students attending the event can explore different career pathways, speak directly with employers and industry representatives, and gain a better understanding of what it's like to work in a skilled trade. Exhibitors will showcase tools, equipment, and technologies used in the industry, helping students see how these careers operate in the real world.

In addition to learning about training and employment opportunities, attendees will also be able to enjoy the entertainment facilities at the venue, making the day both informative and fun. The event



is designed to inspire students, answer questions about entering the trades, and help them take their first steps toward a practical and rewarding career.

If you're considering a future in the trades or simply want to explore your options, Say Yes to the Trades is the perfect place to start.

[Find out more](#)

#### Sydney West Careers & Employment Expo 2026

**Organisation:** Kym Jones Exhibitions

**Location:** Sydney Showground

**Date:** August 28 to August 29, 2025

The Sydney West Careers & Employment Expo will be at the Sydney Showground - Hall 4. The Expo will showcase over 80 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.

The Expo is packed with free advice, where you can:

- Talk with over 80 training organisations and employers
- Gain free career advice
- Discover jobs of the future
- Talk with leading organisations about training and apprenticeships
- Experience the free career seminars
- Learn how to write a winning resume

If you're looking for a job, career change, or course, or you're a school student looking for a career path, you can't afford to miss the Expo.

[Find out more](#)

#### Notre Dame Open Day 2026, Sydney

**Organisation:** University of Notre Dame Australia

**Location:** University of Notre Dame, Sydney Campus

**Date:** August 29, 2026

Notre Dame's Open Day is your chance to explore what university life is all about! You'll discover study options, career pathways and our student support services. Plus, you'll experience an exciting program filled with activities for future students.

Whether you're in Year 10, 11 or 12, or a graduate thinking about postgrad study, our Open Day is open to everyone – including pathways and international students, who can chat with our dedicated team. Learn about scholarships and financial assistance to make your journey affordable.

[Find out more](#)

#### CSU Open Day 2026, Orange

**Organisation:** Charles Sturt University

**Location:** Charles Sturt University, Orange Campus

**Date:** August 30, 2026

Discover what uni life is like! Whether you're in high school, looking to upskill, want to change careers, or are a parent, teacher or carer – there's something for everyone.

- Jump on a campus tour – explore our facilities and accommodation.
- Get detailed info about courses.
- Chat to current students about Charles Sturt life.
- Be inspired by our expert teaching staff.
- Discover the social side of life at Charles Sturt.
- Enjoy live entertainment, giveaways, competitions and free food!



Plus, you can explore our expo, info, and career and skills hubs. Chat to our friendly teams about our support services, early offer programs and how to boost your hiring potential.

[Find out more](#)

#### Sutherland Shire Apprenticeship/Traineeship & Jobs Expo 2026

**Organisation:** Brett Carter Events

**Location:** Tradies Gynea

**Date:** September 1, 2026

Our Apprenticeship/Traineeship & Jobs Expos are held annually and have grown to a status where they are widely accepted as the premier events of their kind in NSW. The timing of the expos is a hit with families as they allow parents to attend with their children and have those all-important career chats with industry experts.

The Expos provide our career/job seekers, business and industry, education providers and employers with the opportunities to all come together under the one roof where exhibitors also get the chance to collect resumes and promote their organisation for upcoming recruitment drives.

[Find out more](#)

#### Rural Health Pathways Showcase for High School Students, Teachers & Parents

**Organisation:** Rural Doctors Network

**Location:** ICC Darling Harbour

**Date:** September 3, 2026

High school students, careers advisers, teachers and parents are invited to RDN's Rural Health Pathways Showcase. Learn about study pathways and careers in medicine, nursing, midwifery, allied health, Aboriginal health and administration.

Attendees will have a chance to:

- Speak with representatives from universities, vocational education and training providers, peak bodies and health employers about study pathways and career opportunities
- Connect one-on-one with and be inspired by health students, recent graduates and health professionals about their education and career journeys
- Participate in hands-on activities offering an immersive "day-in-the-life" perspective of various health careers

[Find out more](#)

#### ACU Open Day 2026, North Sydney

**Organisation:** Australian Catholic University

**Location:** Australian Catholic University, North Sydney Campus

**Date:** September 5, 2026

Open Day gives you the opportunity to ask our teaching staff any questions you might have about your dream course, the application process, pathway options, entry schemes and more.

Chat to current students and discover the facilities your new campus has to offer. And sit in on information sessions from each of the faculties to find out more about the courses you're interested in.

[Find out more](#)

#### Western Sydney Apprenticeship/Traineeship & Jobs Expo 2026

**Organisation:** Brett Carter Events

**Location:** Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre

**Date:** September 8, 2026

Our Apprenticeship/Traineeship & Jobs Expos are held annually and have grown to a status where



they are widely accepted as the premier events of their kind in NSW. The timing of the expos is a hit with families as they allow parents to attend with their children and have those all-important career chats with industry experts.

The Expos provide our career/job seekers, business and industry, education providers and employers with the opportunities to all come together under the one roof where exhibitors also get the chance to collect resumes and promote their organisation for upcoming recruitment drives.

[Find out more](#)

## Scholarships

MDT DESIGN Jewellery Design Scholarship

**Organisation:** MDT Design

**Location:** Australia

**Value:** Up to AU\$3,000

**Open Date:** January 1, 2026

**Close Date:** November 30, 2026

[Find out more](#)

TAFE NSW Rural and Regional Mental Health Scholarship

**Organisation:** TAFE NSW

**Location:** New South Wales

**Value:** Up to AU\$3,000

**Close Date:** June 12, 2026

[Find out more](#)

## Competitions

Travel Photographer of the Year 2026

**Organisation:** Travel Photographer of the Year

**Location:** All

**Value:** Up to £1,000

**Close Date:** No closing date

[Find out more](#)

New Zealand & Australia's Schools Alpine Competition

**Organisation:** Schools Alpine Competition

**Location:** Australia, New Zealand

**Value:** See details

**Close Date:** August 10, 2026

[Find out more](#)

The New Zealand Poetry Society International Competition 2026

**Organisation:** New Zealand Poetry Society

**Location:** All

**Value:** Up to NZ\$600

**Close Date:** May 31, 2026

[Find out more](#)



## Experiences

Sydney Hills Youth Ambassador Program for Youth Aged 15-24

**Organisation:** The Hills Shire Council

**Location:** Sydney

**Registrations close:** June 18, 2026

[Find out more](#)

Volunteer with the Australian Youth Climate Coalition

**Organisation:** Australian Youth Climate Coalition

**Location:** Australia

[Find out more](#)

## Weekly Posts

### FEES & SCHOLARSHIPS

What is a HECS debt and what does it mean for you?

If you're thinking about going to university, you've probably heard the term "HECS debt" thrown around and maybe felt a little unsure about what it actually means. It sounds serious, but it works very differently from the kind of debt most people are familiar with. Understanding how it works before you get there makes a real difference, so here's a proper explanation.

#### What is HECS-HELP?

[HECS-HELP](#) is a government loan scheme that covers the cost of your university tuition. Instead of paying your fees upfront, the government pays your university on your behalf, and you repay that amount later through the tax system once you're earning above a certain income threshold.

"HECS debt" is the informal name people use for the balance you owe under this scheme.

Technically, HECS (Higher Education Contribution Scheme) is an older name that's stuck around in everyday conversation, even though the current system is called HECS-HELP.

To be eligible, you need to be an eligible domestic student enrolled in a [Commonwealth supported place \(CSP\)](#) at an approved university. Most domestic students studying at public universities in Australia are enrolled this way, though it's worth confirming your enrolment type when you apply.

#### What is a Commonwealth supported place?

A Commonwealth supported place (CSP) means the government subsidises a significant portion of your tuition cost. What's left after that subsidy is called your student contribution, and that's the amount you're actually responsible for paying. The subsidy amount varies depending on your field of study, with some disciplines receiving more government funding than others.

Your student contribution is what gets covered by HECS-HELP if you choose to defer payment. You don't have to use HECS-HELP, you can pay your fees upfront if you prefer, but most students choose to defer.

#### What is FEE-HELP?

[FEE-HELP](#) is a separate but related loan scheme. It's designed for students who aren't in a CSP, including:



- Domestic students enrolled in full-fee paying places at Australian universities
- Students studying at certain private higher education providers
- Eligible students studying postgraduate courses that aren't subsidised by the government

The key difference is that FEE-HELP covers full tuition fees rather than just a student contribution, which means the loan amounts involved can be significantly higher. There's also a lifetime limit on how much FEE-HELP you can access, so it's worth being aware of that if you're considering multiple qualifications over time. The limit is set by the government and updated periodically, so check the current figure on the StudyAssist website when you're planning.

Both HECS-HELP and FEE-HELP operate under the same repayment system, which we'll get to shortly.

### **What is SA-HELP?**

[SA-HELP](#) is a smaller, often overlooked part of the system. It covers your Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF), which is a separate charge universities apply to fund things like student unions, sporting facilities, and campus services. It's not part of your tuition, but it is a real cost. SA-HELP lets you defer this fee in the same way as your tuition, and it gets added to the same debt that you repay through the tax system.

### **How does repayment work?**

This is the part that makes HELP loans different from a bank loan. You don't make regular monthly repayments and there's no interest charged in the traditional sense. Instead, repayment works like this:

Once your income reaches a minimum threshold set by the government each year, a percentage of your income is automatically withheld through the tax system and put toward your debt. The percentage increases gradually as your income rises, meaning higher earners repay more each year. If your income drops below the threshold, repayments stop until you're earning enough again. The threshold and repayment rates are reviewed and updated regularly so it's worth checking the [current rates](#) through the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) or StudyAssist before making any decisions based on specific numbers.

Because repayments are tied to income, you're never in a position where you owe a repayment you physically can't make.

### **What is indexation and why does it matter?**

Indexation is the part of HECS-HELP that tends to catch people off guard, and it's worth understanding properly.

Each year on the 1st of June, your HELP debt is indexed, meaning the balance is adjusted to reflect changes in the cost of living. The rate used is based on either the Consumer Price Index (CPI) or the

Wage Price Index (WPI), whichever is lower, a change that was legislated in recent years to make the system fairer for borrowers.

In practical terms, this means your debt doesn't stay at the same dollar figure from the day you finish studying. If inflation is high, your debt increases in line with it, even if you haven't added any new study to your balance. This is not interest in the traditional sense because it's not a profit mechanism for the lender, but it does mean your balance can grow if repayments aren't keeping pace with indexation.

For example, if you finish your degree with a debt of \$30,000 and indexation that year is applied at 4%, your balance becomes \$31,200 before you've made a single repayment. If your income is below the repayment threshold at that point, you haven't repaid anything yet and the indexed amount adds to the total you'll eventually need to clear.



## Does HECS debt affect your credit rating?

This is a common misconception worth clearing up. HECS-HELP debt doesn't appear on your credit file the way a personal loan or credit card does. It won't affect your credit score directly. However, when you apply for a home loan or other significant credit, lenders will typically ask about your HECS debt because your repayment obligations reduce your take-home pay. That reduction in disposable income can affect how much a lender is willing to offer you. So while it doesn't damage your credit score, it does factor into borrowing assessments in an indirect way.

## Can you pay it off early?

Yes. You can make voluntary repayments toward your HECS-HELP debt at any time through the ATO. There's no penalty for paying it off early, and doing so reduces the balance subject to indexation each June.

Whether or not early repayment makes sense depends on your individual circumstances, including your income, other financial priorities, and the current indexation rate. It's a decision worth thinking through carefully, and potentially discussing with a financial adviser, rather than assuming one approach is automatically better.

## What about vocational education?

HECS-HELP and FEE-HELP apply specifically to higher education, which means university-level study. Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses, including TAFE qualifications, operate under a different government loan scheme. If you're considering a VET pathway, it's worth looking into what loan support is available separately, as the structure and eligibility rules differ.

## Knowing what you're signing up for

Taking on a HECS-HELP debt is a significant financial decision, and the mechanics of how it works, particularly indexation, mean it's not as simple as "borrow now, repay later at the same amount." Understanding the system properly puts you in a much better position to make an informed choice about your study pathway, the type of course you enrol in, and how you manage repayments once you're working.

If you want to explore more about planning your future, [check out our other articles on how you can navigate university](#).

## SUBJECT SELECTION

### Where physical education can take you

Physical education builds more than fitness. It develops a genuine understanding of how the body

works, how movement affects health, and how people perform and improve over time. Those ideas connect to a wider range of study and career pathways than most people expect.

### The skills you build studying physical education

One of the strengths of PE as a subject is that the skills it develops are grounded in both practice and understanding.

### Health and body literacy

PE gives you a working knowledge of how the human body functions during physical activity. You learn how exercise affects different systems, how to assess fitness, and how lifestyle choices influence long-term health outcomes. This kind of applied health knowledge is directly relevant in a range of careers and further study areas.



### **Performance analysis and planning**

PE involves designing, implementing, and evaluating training programs and movement strategies.

You develop the ability to observe performance, identify areas for improvement, and plan responses based on evidence. These analytical skills carry well beyond sport into any role that involves assessment and planning.

### **Communication and leadership**

Working with others in physical contexts builds practical communication and leadership skills. Whether it's organising a team, giving feedback on technique, or motivating others through challenges, PE develops the kind of interpersonal confidence that's valued across many workplaces.

### **Wellbeing awareness**

PE connects physical activity to mental and emotional health in a concrete way. Understanding that relationship, and being able to apply it in practice, is increasingly relevant across health, community, and education-related careers.

### **Physical education in a changing world**

The relationship between physical activity and health is becoming better understood, and that's shifting how communities, governments, and organisations approach wellbeing. There's growing recognition that physical activity plays a meaningful role in mental health, chronic disease prevention, and healthy ageing, which is expanding the range of settings where PE-related knowledge and skills are put to use.

At a community level, there's increasing investment in programs that use sport and physical activity as tools for social connection, youth development, and public health. People who understand both the physical and human dimensions of movement are well placed to contribute to these kinds of initiatives.

### **Careers directly related to physical education**

#### **Sport, performance, coaching, and teaching**

The most direct pathways from PE lead into sport and physical activity in a professional capacity. Strength and Conditioning Coaches work with athletes and teams to develop physical performance, designing and overseeing training programs tailored to specific sports and individuals. Sports Scientists support performance through data collection, movement analysis, and research into how the body responds to training.

Physical Education Teachers bring the subject back into schools, helping young people develop fitness, movement skills, and an understanding of health. This pathway requires a teaching qualification at university level, typically combining education with a health and physical education specialisation. Coaches work across community clubs, elite sporting organisations, and national programs, guiding athletes at every level of participation.

#### **Health and fitness**

Exercise Physiologists assess and design exercise programs for people managing chronic conditions, recovering from injury, or working toward specific health goals. This role requires further university study but builds directly on the foundations PE establishes. Personal Trainers and Fitness Instructors work with individuals and groups in gyms, community centres, and private settings, with vocational qualifications providing a more direct entry pathway into the field.



Community fitness and recreation roles also sit within this space, including positions in aquatic centres, sporting facilities, and local government recreation programs.

## Careers where physical education gives you an edge

### Sport business, media, and management

Sport is a significant industry, and it relies on people who understand it from the inside. Sport Administrators and Event Managers coordinate competitions, manage facilities, and oversee the operational side of sporting organisations. These roles draw on organisational and communication skills that PE helps develop, combined with further study in business, sport management, or event management.

Sports journalists and broadcasters benefit from genuine knowledge of sport and physical performance. Understanding how athletes train, how competition works, and what makes performance meaningful gives you a credibility in those roles that's difficult to develop from the outside.

### Community health and wellbeing

Health Promotion Officers work within government agencies, non-profits, and community organisations to design and deliver programs that improve population health. Physical activity is a central focus of many of these programs, making PE knowledge a real asset. Youth workers and community development roles similarly benefit from an understanding of how physical activity supports social and emotional wellbeing, particularly when working with young people.

Public health is a growing field, and people who can connect an understanding of movement and fitness to broader health outcomes are increasingly sought after in planning and program delivery roles.

### Where could it take you?

Physical education develops a combination of health knowledge, analytical thinking, and interpersonal skills that translate into a surprisingly broad range of careers. Whether you're drawn to working with athletes, supporting community health, managing sport organisations, or teaching the next generation, the foundations built in PE are genuinely useful across all of them.

If you're motivated by physical activity, interested in how the body works, and enjoy working with people, PE could be a strong and flexible starting point for your future.

Trying to figure out which subjects are right for you? [Explore our subject selection resources here.](#)

## HUMAN SKILLS, VOLUNTEERING

### National Volunteer Week 2026: Your year to volunteer and why it matters

It's National Volunteer Week 18-24 May, and this year's theme is Your Year to Volunteer. Could this be the nudge you need to consider what giving your time could actually do for you and the people around you. Volunteering isn't just something you do to fill a gap on a form. Done right, it's one of the most practical ways to build experience, meet people who matter, and contribute something real to the world. And you can do it all while you're still at school.

### Volunteering for every year group

One of the most common misconceptions about volunteering is that you need to be in Year 11 or 12 before anyone will take you seriously. That's not true. Students in any year can help out at school events, participate in school projects like welcoming new students or mentoring others, join local clean-up and tree planting days, or help out in community gardens. You might have to wait until you're in Year 8 or 9 to be eligible to volunteer for roles like reading programs, animal shelters, and



food banks. But if there's something you are really passionate about, it's worth checking in with the organisations to see what's possible. Older students could take on more responsibility like coaching or refereeing for other students, helping at disability support organisations, assisting with aged care activities, or supporting local charities with administration and events.

There's also a growing range of virtual volunteering options, which means location is rarely a barrier. For example, you could be transcribing historical documents, tutoring another student online, providing on-line tech support or companionships, or helping a non-profit manage their social media. If you're unsure where to start, [our volunteering page](#) has plenty of ideas to get you thinking.

### **Why it's good for you — and for others**

The benefits of volunteering go both ways. For the people or organisations you're helping, the impact can be direct and meaningful, an extra pair of hands at a food drive, time spent with someone who's lonely, or support that helps a community program keep running.

For you, the personal benefits could be equally impactful. Volunteering gives you a sense of purpose and connection, which is particularly valuable during the sometimes unsettling years of secondary school. It can improve your confidence, reduce feelings of isolation, and give you a sense of perspective on your own circumstances. Many volunteers say that stepping outside their usual environment and seeing how other people live and work, changes how they think about their future.

### **The real life skills advantage**

Employers and universities pay attention to volunteering experience because it demonstrates something a classroom often can't; that you can show up consistently, work with people from a wide range of backgrounds and circumstances, and take responsibility for something that matters.

Think about what a single volunteering role could build:

- Communication skills as you'll be speaking with supervisors, clients, or the public.
- Time management because you're fitting it around school and other commitments.
- Problem-solving, when things don't go to plan and you need to think of a solution there and then.
- Teamwork, most volunteering involves working alongside other people toward a shared goal.
- Job specific skills, depending on what volunteering position you end up with, there are unique skills you'll develop specific to that type of role.

These aren't soft extras. They're the skills that come up again and again in job interviews, university applications, and performance reviews. If you choose a role connected to a field you're considering like healthcare, environmental work, education, or events management — you'll also gain industry

exposure that's tricky to get any other way at your age.

### **The people you meet can open doors**

Volunteering puts you in contact with working adults outside your immediate circle. Coordinators, managers, specialists, and other volunteers who may have careers you've never even heard of. These connections could turn into references, mentors, or even pathways into work experience and employment down the track.

The manager of a community program you volunteered with who knows your work ethic, reliability, and attitude is a powerful foundation for a professional reference other than someone who only knows you from a classroom.

When you finish a volunteering role, don't leave without asking if there's someone who could act as a referee for future applications. A brief, polite conversation at the end of your placement, or even a



follow-up email, is all it takes. Keep their contact details somewhere safe.

### **Practical steps to start**

Ready to give volunteering a go? Here's some tips on how to approach it:

Work out how much time you have realistically available each week or month, and what kind of

environment you'd prefer — in-person or online, active or desk-based, working with people or behind the scenes. Then start searching for opportunities that match. Remember, if you can't find

exactly what you want locally, you can look for virtual opportunities further afield as well.

Our [work experience and volunteering database](#) lets you look for opportunities near you, which could be a good starting point. You could also approach local organisations directly, many charities, schools, hospitals, libraries, and community groups welcome volunteers and may not advertise roles publicly.

Note that some organisations have minimum age requirements or ask for a parent or guardian's permission, so check the details before you apply.

### **Don't forget to record it**

Once you've completed some volunteering, add it to your résumé and, if you have one, your portfolio. List the organisation, your role, the dates, and a brief summary of what you did and what you learned. This turns your experience into something concrete that future employers or universities can read and understand. It's also worth writing down anything notable like a great idea that was all yours, a time you went above and beyond, a problem you solved, or any other great example of you putting your skills to use. That's gold heading into interviews and when you're writing applications, and it's the kind of thing you might not remember under pressure or down the track without a prompt.

Ask for a written reference while the experience is still fresh — most supervisors are happy to provide one. If they're willing to be a named referee, even better. Keep a record of their name, title, organisation, and contact details so you're ready when an application asks for them.

### **Find your volunteering opportunity**

National Volunteer Week is a great prompt, but there's never a wrong time to get started. Whether you've got a few hours a month or a whole weekend to spare, there will be a role out there that fits.

If you still need some convincing, [you can read more about the benefits of volunteering and ways to start on our website here](#).

## **FIRST JOBS**

### **What's the difference between a boss and a mentor?**

Both bosses and mentors can have a significant influence on your working life, but they play very different roles. Understanding the difference between them makes it easier to get the most out of both relationships, and to recognise what kind of support you're actually looking for at any given time.

### **What a boss is**

A boss is someone who holds authority over your work. They're responsible for your performance, your tasks, and how your role fits into the broader goals of the organisation. Their job is to make sure things get done, and that includes managing you as part of that process.



That doesn't mean a boss is cold or purely transactional. Many bosses are supportive, encouraging, and genuinely invested in the people they manage. But the nature of the relationship is shaped by accountability. A boss has to make decisions about your work, including difficult ones like performance reviews, shift allocation, or whether you're right for a role. That responsibility sits with them regardless of how well you get along.

### **What a mentor is**

A mentor is someone who supports your growth, usually by sharing their own experience and offering guidance based on where you're trying to go. The relationship isn't about authority. A mentor doesn't evaluate your performance or make decisions about your employment. They're there to help you think things through, develop your skills, and navigate situations you haven't encountered before.

Mentors can come from all kinds of places. In a work context, they're often someone more senior in your industry who takes an interest in your development. But they can also be a teacher who sees potential in you, a coach who pushes you beyond what you thought you were capable of, or someone you meet through volunteering or extracurricular activities. What matters is the nature of the relationship, not the setting it comes from.

### **The key differences**

The most important distinction comes down to purpose. A boss's primary focus is on your output and how it contributes to the team or business. A mentor's primary focus is on you, your growth, your goals, and your development as a person and a professional.

This shapes how each relationship functions in practice. With a boss, feedback is usually tied to specific tasks or performance expectations. With a mentor, conversation tends to be broader, covering things like career direction, how to handle challenges, or what you want your working life to look like long term.

There's also a difference in how the relationship is structured. A boss is assigned. A mentor is usually sought out, or develops naturally through a genuine connection with someone whose experience you respect.

### **When a boss is also a mentor**

It's worth noting that these two roles aren't always separate. Some of the most valuable professional relationships happen when a boss also takes on a mentoring role, showing a genuine interest in your development beyond just your day-to-day performance.

When this happens, it can be an incredibly supportive experience. But it's still useful to recognise that the two roles carry different responsibilities. Even the most supportive boss has obligations to the organisation that a mentor doesn't. Keeping that distinction in mind helps you understand where their guidance is coming from and how to interpret it.

### **Why this matters for you right now**

You might not have a boss yet, or you might be just starting out in your first part-time role. Either way, understanding these two dynamics early gives you a clearer picture of the kinds of relationships that can shape a career.

Knowing what a mentor actually is, as distinct from a manager or authority figure, helps you recognise those relationships when they appear. A teacher who takes extra time with you, a coach who challenges you to think about your future, or a more experienced colleague who offers honest advice without any agenda. These are mentoring relationships, and they're worth paying attention to.

Being able to work well with a boss and learn from a mentor are two different skills. The sooner you



understand what each relationship is for, the better placed you are to get something real out of both.

### **They serve different needs**

Neither relationship is more important than the other. A good boss helps you perform well and understand what's expected of you in a professional environment. A good mentor helps you grow

beyond the immediate role and think about where you're heading.

Most people who look back on their careers can point to both. A manager who held them to a high standard and helped them develop professionally, and a mentor whose perspective shaped how they thought about their work and their future. Recognising the value in each, and understanding

what to expect from both, is a genuinely useful place to start.

For more on navigating the working world, check out our articles on [skills for work](#), [first jobs](#), and [human skills](#).

## **PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY**

### **Finding work when you live with a disability**

Job hunting is not straightforward for anyone. If you're a young person living with a disability, it could feel like there are extra hurdles in the way before you've even started. Some of those hurdles are real, and it's okay to acknowledge that. But there's a lot you can control, and that's exactly where your energy is best spent.

### **Know what you bring to the table**

Before you start looking for work, it helps to get clear on your strengths. Not just the skills you've picked up in class, but the ones that come from living with a disability. Problem-solving. Adaptability. Patience. Empathy. Knowing how to communicate your needs clearly. These are things many employers specifically look for, and they're things you may have built without even realising it. Take some time to write down what you're good at. Think about moments when you've found a way around a difficulty, or when you've had to explain something complex to someone else. Those moments are evidence of real skills.

### **Research roles and industries that suit you**

Not every job will suit every person, disabled or not. One smart move is to research industries where your strengths align well with what's needed. If you work well independently and have strong focus

you might thrive in IT, data, writing, or research. If you're great with people you might look at support work, education, or communications.

Consider too whether remote work could open up more options for you. Many roles now offer flexible, hybrid, or fully remote arrangements, which could remove some physical and logistical barriers entirely.

### **Build experience before the job search**

Employers want evidence. Volunteering, participation in school or community events and projects, short courses, microcredentials, work experience, or even personal projects, all of these things count. If a formal role feels like a big leap, start smaller. Could you volunteer with a local organisation? Build something yourself, like a website, a portfolio, or a community project? Every bit of experience adds to your story.



Don't underestimate the value of informal experience either. Helping manage a family business, caring for a relative, running a social media account, if you can describe what you did and what it achieved, it counts.

### **Be strategic about disclosure**

Whether or not to disclose your disability to an employer is a personal decision, and there's no single right answer. In most instances, [you are not legally required to disclose before being hired](#). What matters most is that you understand your rights.

If your disability requires workplace adjustments, like accessible equipment, flexible hours, or a quieter workspace, it may be helpful to discuss this once you've been offered a role. Many employers are required by law to make reasonable adjustments, and most are willing to do so once they know what's needed.

Research the laws in your country. In the UK, for example, the [Equality Act 2010](#) protects people

with disabilities from discrimination in the workplace and requires employers to make reasonable adjustments.

### **Look for employers who get it**

Some employers actively encourage workers with disability to apply and have built inclusive workplaces. [Disability-confident employers](#), [supported employment programs](#), and organisations with accessibility commitments are all worth researching. Looking for companies who publicly champion inclusion isn't just nice, it's practical. It means less explaining, fewer barriers, and a better chance of finding a workplace where you can do your best work and be appreciated.

Disability employment services in many countries can also help match you with employers, assist with job applications, and support you once you're in a role. These services exist specifically to help people in your situation, so use them.

### **People who show what's possible**

It helps to know that others have been where you are and built successful careers.

[Haben Girma](#) became the first deafblind graduate of Harvard Law School and now works as a disability rights lawyer.

Internationally recognised physicist [Stephen Hawking](#), who lived with motor neurone disease for most of his adult life, reshaped our understanding of the universe.

Closer to the everyday world of work, [Paralympic gold medallist Dylan Alcott](#) has built a media career, founded a disability employment organisation, and served as Australian of the Year.

These aren't examples meant to suggest that success is simple, it isn't. But they show that disability doesn't have to set a ceiling on where you can go.

### **Start exploring your options**

The job search is just one part of a much bigger picture. Understanding your career options, building your skills, and finding the right support all matter too.

Head over to our [Jobs & Careers](#) pages to explore ideas, or visit our [Resources for People with Disability](#) section for more tailored guidance. You don't have to figure it all out at once, just take the next step.

## **UNIVERSITY**

### **Applying to university in Canada as an international student**

Canada is one of the most popular study destinations in the world, and it's easy to see why. It has a



strong university system, a reputation for being welcoming to international students, and clear pathways to work after you graduate. That said, the application process has a few layers to it, and it's worth understanding how it all works before you dive in.

One of the most important things to know upfront is that Canada doesn't have a single national application system. How you apply depends largely on which province you want to study in, and in some cases, which university you choose.

### **Your best starting point**

Before anything else, head to [EduCanada](#), the official Canadian government portal for international students. It covers everything from finding courses and comparing costs to understanding visa requirements and life in Canada. It's the most reliable place to begin your research and get a full picture of what studying in Canada involves.

Canada has universities spread across ten provinces and three territories, each with its own character, climate, and cost of living. It's worth spending time thinking about not just what you want to study, but where you'd like to be.

### **Step 1 – Research your options**

Canada has a lot of universities to choose from, so it pays to do your research early and narrow down your options before you start applying.

Think about the course you want to study, the location you'd prefer, the size of the university, and what support services are available for international students. Costs can also vary significantly between provinces, both in terms of tuition and day-to-day living expenses, so factor these into your planning from the start.

It's recommended that you start this process at least 10 to 12 months before your intended start date, as there are several steps to work through beyond just the university application itself.

### **A note on Québec**

If you're considering studying in Québec, there are a couple of things worth knowing.

First, many programmes at Québec universities are taught in French, and even at bilingual institutions, daily life in cities like Montreal has a strong French presence. If you want to study there, making an effort to learn at least some French before you arrive will go a long way, both for your studies and for settling into life in the province.

Second, students applying to study in Québec need to obtain a [Certificat d'acceptation du Québec](#) (CAQ) in addition to a study permit. Your university will be able to guide you through this process once you've been accepted.

### **Step 2 – Understand how applications work in each province and territory**

Because there's no single national application system, where you apply depends on which province your chosen university is in.

#### **Ontario**

Ontario is home to some of Canada's most well-known universities, and it uses a centralised application system called the [Ontario Universities' Application Centre](#) (OUAC). Through OUAC, you can apply to multiple Ontario universities using one application. As an international student, you'll use what's called the OUAC 105 application form. There's an application fee involved, with additional charges for each programme choice beyond the first three.

#### **All other provinces**

Outside of Ontario, universities generally manage their own applications directly through their own online portals. This means you'll need to apply to each university separately, following the individual



instructions on each institution's website. Requirements, deadlines, and fees all vary, so check carefully for each one you apply to.

### Step 3 – Apply

Once you've chosen where you want to apply, it's time to put your application together. Most universities recommend applying as early as possible, and some competitive programmes fill up quickly.

### Intake dates

Canada's main university intake is in September (the fall semester). Some universities also offer a January intake for certain programmes, though this is less common and not all courses are available at that time. Always check which intakes are available for your specific programme before planning your timeline.

### What you'll need to apply

While requirements vary between institutions and programmes, most universities will ask for:

- Certified copies of your academic transcripts and secondary school results
- Proof of English or French language proficiency (see below)
- A copy of your passport
- A personal statement or statement of purpose for many programmes
- Reference letters from teachers or other trusted adults for some programmes
- A portfolio or other supplementary materials for creative or competitive programmes

### Language requirements

All universities in Canada teach in English, French, or both, depending on the institution. Most international students will need to demonstrate language proficiency as part of their application. The most widely accepted tests for English are IELTS and TOEFL, while French proficiency is typically assessed through the TEF (Test d'évaluation de français). Minimum scores vary by university and programme, so always check the specific requirements for your chosen course. Some universities may also offer a pathway or bridging programme if your proficiency is close but not yet at the required level.

### Types of offers

Once your application has been assessed, you'll receive one of the following:

- **An unconditional offer**, meaning you've met all requirements and have a confirmed place if you accept
- **A conditional offer**, meaning you've been offered a place subject to meeting certain conditions, such as achieving a minimum final grade or submitting outstanding documents
- **An unsuccessful application**, meaning you haven't been offered a place in this round

If you receive a conditional offer, make sure you understand exactly what's required and by when, so you don't risk losing your place.

### Step 4 – Apply for your study permit

Once you have your offer, the next step is applying for a study permit. This is the document that allows you to study in Canada, and it's issued by the Canadian federal government rather than the university.

Most international students need a study permit to study in Canada. You can find full information on the process and eligibility at the [official study permit page](#).



### **The Provincial or Territorial Attestation Letter (PAL/TAL)**

Before most undergraduate international students can apply for a study permit, they need a Provincial or Territorial Attestation Letter (PAL or TAL). This is a letter issued by your university's province confirming that there's a place for you within that province's allocated international student numbers for the year. Your university will guide you through obtaining one after you accept your offer.

Graduate students (those applying for a master's or doctoral degree) are exempt from the PAL requirement. Doctoral students also benefit from faster processing on their study permit applications, typically around two weeks.

### **What you'll need for your study permit application**

- Your letter of acceptance from a designated learning institution (DLI)
- Your PAL/TAL (for most undergraduate applicants)
- Proof of sufficient funds to cover tuition and living costs
- A valid passport
- Biometrics (fingerprints and photo), which you'll be directed to provide as part of the process

Processing times vary by country, so apply as soon as you have everything in order. Don't book flights or make final plans until your study permit has been approved.

### **Step 5 – Research scholarships and financial support**

Studying in Canada is a significant financial investment, so it's worth exploring scholarship options as early as possible, ideally at the same time as you're researching universities.

Many Canadian universities offer scholarships specifically for international students, ranging from partial tuition reductions to more substantial awards. Some of these are automatically assessed when you apply for admission, so you don't always need to submit a separate application. Check each university's website for what's available and whether any additional applications are required. For a broader overview of scholarship opportunities available to international students coming to Canada, the [EduCanada scholarships page](#) is a good place to start.

Keep in mind that scholarship deadlines don't always align with application deadlines, so track these separately and plan ahead.

### **Step 6 – Plan your accommodation**

Once your offer is confirmed and your study permit is in progress, it's time to think about where you'll live. Most Canadian universities offer on-campus accommodation such as residence halls, which can be a great option for your first year as they put you close to campus and make it easier to

meet people.

Off-campus private accommodation is also widely available, though costs will vary significantly depending on the city. Major cities like Toronto and Vancouver tend to have higher living costs than smaller university towns, so factor this into your budget early.

Apply for on-campus accommodation as soon as you receive your offer, as spots fill up quickly, especially for the September intake.

### **Other resources**

These are worth bookmarking as you plan your application:

- [EduCanada](#) – the official government portal for international students
- [OUAC](#) – for applying to universities in Ontario
- [Study permit information](#) – everything you need to know about study permits



- [EduCanada scholarships](#) – scholarship options for international students coming to Canada

Early entry: Quick facts

If you're in Year 12 this year, you've probably already started thinking about university. But you don't need to wait until the end of the year - you can secure your place at university before you sit your end of year exams. Read on to learn some interesting facts about early entry.

### **What is early entry?**

Early entry gives you the chance to receive an offer to university before you've finished your exams. This can give you peace of mind and help you be more relaxed during what can be a stressful time. One important thing to note is that most early offers are conditional - this means you need to meet one or more 'conditions' before your offer becomes final. Common conditions include things like

completing Year 12, achieving a minimum ATAR, or completing prerequisite subjects.

### **How do I apply for early entry?**

Most universities manage their own early entry programs, so you'll be applying directly instead of through a Tertiary Admission Centre (though sometimes you'll need to apply through both).

Unfortunately, this means they all have different application processes and dates.

But don't worry. Each year, we compile a guide with key information on every early entry program available in Australia, making it easy to find the information you need. [You can grab the latest edition of the Early Entry Guide from the library](#) - or if your school has a Study Work Grow membership, ask your careers advisor for a copy.

### **You can apply for more than one program**

Most students apply for early entry through more than one university or program. This is generally allowed, and it can increase your chances of receiving an offer before Year 12 results are released. Each application is assessed separately, based on that university's own criteria. Receiving an offer from one institution does not usually affect your eligibility for others, so you can keep multiple options open at the same time. It can help to keep track of deadlines and requirements so you do not miss key steps across different applications.

### **Quick facts about early entry**

Curious to learn more? We've put together some interesting facts about early entry over the last year, and what you might be able to expect this year. [View the infographic online here.](#)

### **Want to find out more?**

Have more questions? We've provided the answers to some of the most commonly asked questions about early entry - [you can read them here.](#)

[Or you can read heaps of other blogs on early entry, university pathways, and more about study on our website here.](#)

## **JOB SPOTLIGHTS**

### **How to become an Environmental Health Officer**

Environmental Health Officers protect community wellbeing by inspecting workplaces, construction sites, and public spaces to make sure they meet health, safety, and environmental standards. They investigate complaints, assess risks, enforce legislation, and advise organisations on how to operate in ways that are safer for people and the environment.



Detail-oriented, practically minded, and motivated by making a tangible difference to the communities around them, people who do this work well tend to be just as comfortable out in the field as they are writing up a report back at the office.

### **What skills do I need as an Environmental Health Officer?**

- Curious & observant
- Strong investigative ability
- Clear report writer
- Knowledge of health & safety legislation
- Confident communicator
- Analytical problem-solver
- Ethical & community-minded
- Calm under pressure

### **What do Environmental Health Officers do?**

Before heading out to inspect a site, you'll review relevant records, complaints, or previous inspection reports to understand what you're looking for and what the history of a particular premises or business looks like. You'll familiarise yourself with the applicable regulations and prepare any documentation you need to carry out the inspection properly. Getting this preparation right means you're more likely to identify genuine issues and less likely to miss something significant once you're on site.

Day to day, you're out conducting inspections of workplaces, construction sites, industrial facilities,

and public spaces, assessing whether they meet environmental health and safety standards. You'll take samples, measure noise or pollution levels, document your findings, and prepare detailed reports on what you observed and what action is required. When businesses or operators aren't meeting their obligations, you'll advise them on how to achieve compliance, and in more serious cases, you may issue notices or escalate matters through formal enforcement processes. Back at the office, you'll manage your caseload, respond to complaints from the community, and maintain accurate records of your inspections and investigations.

Periodically, you'll work on larger investigations involving pollution incidents, systemic compliance failures, or emerging environmental health risks in a particular area or industry. Some Environmental Health Officers develop specialist expertise in areas such as contaminated land, construction noise and dust management, or industrial emissions, taking on more complex casework and advisory roles over time.

### **What kind of lifestyle could I expect?**

Environmental Health Officers work primarily for local government, where councils are responsible for enforcing public health and environmental legislation across their area. The role also exists within state and territory regulatory agencies, construction and infrastructure organisations, and private consultancies that provide environmental health and compliance advisory services. The breadth of industries that require environmental health oversight means the role is available across urban and regional areas alike.

The work splits your time between field inspections and office-based tasks, with the balance varying depending on your caseload and the organisation you work for. Hours are generally standard, though investigations into complaints or incidents don't always follow a predictable schedule. The role typically offers moderate flexibility, with some scope for varied working arrangements depending on the employer.

The work is physically active compared to most office-based roles, involving regular travel between sites, time on your feet during inspections, and occasional work in challenging environments.



Salaries are generally average, with opportunities to increase earnings as you develop specialist expertise or move into senior compliance or advisory roles. The field has steady demand, underpinned by ongoing regulatory requirements, and growth in construction activity and industrial development continues to create consistent need for qualified environmental health professionals.

### How to become an Environmental Health Officer

- **Complete a relevant degree:** A bachelor's degree in environmental health is the standard qualification for this role, and in most jurisdictions it is required for professional registration. Some people also enter through degrees in environmental science or public health, though you should check the registration requirements in your state or territory. Look for programs that include practical field placements, as hands-on experience is an important part of developing the inspection and investigation skills the role requires.
- **Gain practical field experience:** Work experience with a local council environmental health department, a regulatory agency, or an environmental consultancy gives you early exposure to real inspection and compliance work. Even shadowing an experienced officer for a short period can give you a clearer picture of what the day-to-day role involves and help you build the professional connections that matter when you're looking for your first role.
- **Develop knowledge of relevant legislation:** Environmental health officers need to understand the regulatory frameworks that govern their work, including environmental protection legislation, occupational health and safety laws, and local government requirements. Building this knowledge during your studies and staying current with regulatory changes throughout your career is essential for doing the role effectively.
- **Register as a qualified environmental health officer:** Most jurisdictions require environmental health officers to hold professional registration through the relevant environmental health association. Completing your degree and any required supervised practice hours is the pathway to registration, which is typically needed before you can work independently in the role.

From here, you could progress to senior environmental health officer roles managing complex investigations or teams, develop specialist expertise in areas like contaminated land or industrial compliance, move into policy development or regulatory advisory positions, or transition into environmental consulting to work across a broader range of clients and industries.

### What can I do right now?

If you're in high school and interested in working as an Environmental Health Officer, here are some practical steps:

- Get involved in local environmental initiatives such as community clean-up events or sustainability projects to develop your understanding of environmental issues and demonstrate a genuine commitment to the field
- Contact your local council's environmental health department to ask about work experience opportunities or the chance to shadow an officer on an inspection, as direct exposure to the role is one of the most useful things you can do at this stage
- Study science subjects at school, particularly biology, chemistry, and environmental science, as these provide the foundational knowledge you'll build on in an environmental health degree



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