

Welcome

Welcome to the Careers Update. It has been a busy start to Term 3 with the 2027 subject process well underway for our 2027 Senior School students. Students are welcome to visit the Careers Office if they have any questions about subject selection or would like to discuss the subjects they have chosen.

Year 12 News

Applications through VTAC for courses, Equity Schemes, and Scholarships are now open. Timely course applications close on **28 September**, while applications for Equity Schemes and Scholarships close on **9 October**. To ensure plenty of time for review and support, students are strongly encouraged to complete all applications by the end of Term 3 on **19 September**.

During Term 3, all Year 12 students will participate in a one-on-one careers interview to discuss their plans for 2027, including university and TAFE applications, as well as alternative pathway options.

Year 11 News

Year 11 students have completed their Subject Selections and are welcome to book a Careers Interview if they would like to further discuss university entry requirements, pathways, or career options. Where possible, interviews should be scheduled outside of class time.

Click here to book an interview:

<https://koonungcareers.com.au/for-students/appointment-booking>

Year 10 News

It has been a busy start to the Term 3 Pathways class with students reflecting on their work experience and getting ready to select their 2027 VCE subjects. It was wonderful to hear about the student's placements, what they did, what they enjoyed and what they learnt about the job and themselves. Thank you to our Yr 10 parents for supporting their student with their work experience; it is such a valuable opportunity for them to learn and grow.

Included in this newsletter:

- Open Days
 - Information Sessions and Events
 - Scholarships
 - Job Spotlight
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Open Days

During August most Universities, TAFEs and Private Providers will be hosting their Open Days. For a full list of Open Days including dates, times and links please visit:

<https://vtac.edu.au/opendays.html>

Information Sessions and Events

University of Melbourne Physics Phantasy

Location: University of Melbourne, Hercus Theatre, David Caro Building, University of Melbourne

Date: August 13, 2026

Get ready to have your mind blown as we turn science into a spectacle! Join us for an interactive high-energy show packed with bangs, sparks and exciting demonstrations.

[Find out more and register](#)

Conservation Science Careers Webinar

Location: Bush Heritage Australia, Online

Date: August 14, 2026

This virtual event offers the opportunity for students to connect with, learn from and be inspired by field professionals in conservation science.

[Find out more and register](#)

Meet an Enviro Scientist Panel at La Trobe – for Year 7-12 Students

Location: La Trobe University, Bundoora Campus

Date: August 18, 2026

Students will hear from La Trobe University environmental scientists and industry professionals from a diverse range of areas including ecology, freshwater and wetland management, restoration climate change adaptation, resource management, and conservation genetics. They will share their expertise, research and pathway to their STEM career.

[Find out more and register](#)

Swinburne Engineering Info Session

Organisation: Hawthorn Campus, Swinburne University of Technology

Date: August 20, 2026

Join us on campus to find out with a deep dive on our Bachelor of Engineering. You'll get a breakdown of our different majors, hear about scholarships, and visit some of the labs used by engineering students. We'll also have current students sharing their experiences – including why they chose Swinburne for engineering.

[Find out more and register](#)





Scholarships

Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (AusIMM) Undergraduate Education Endowment Fund Scholarships

Organisation: (AusIMM)

Location: Australia

Value: \$15,000 AUD per year + other benefits

Applications Open: July 27, 2026

Applications Close: September 4, 2026

[Find out more](#)

University of Melbourne Narm Scholarship

Organisation: University of Melbourne

Location: Victoria

Value: Up to AU\$35,500

Applications Open: August 3, 2026

Applications Close: October 9, 2026

[Find out more](#)

La Trobe John Richards Agricultural Scholarships

Organisation: La Trobe University

Location: Victoria

Value: \$6,000 AUD

Applications Open: July 30, 2026

Applications Close: December 31, 2026

[Find out more](#)

Swinburne Access Scholarships

Organisation: Swinburne University of Technology

Location: Victoria

Value: Up to AU\$15,500

Applications Open: August 3, 2026

Applications Close: October 9, 2026

[Find out more](#)

La Trobe Vice-Chancellor's Excellence Scholarship (Aspire)

Organisation: La Trobe University

Location: Australia, New Zealand

Value: \$5,000 AUD per year

Applications Open: August 3, 2026

Applications Close: October 9, 2026

[Find out more](#)





Workplace Spotlight

How to become a Environmental Health Officer

[How to become a Surveyor](#)

Precise spatial data underpins every construction, development, and infrastructure project ever built. Surveyors are the professionals who collect and interpret that data, working across urban and rural environments to establish the boundaries, measurements, and mapping that everything else depends on.

If you're precise and methodical, enjoy a mix of outdoor and office work, and like knowing that your data underpins everything that comes after, surveying could be a strong fit.

What skills do I need as a Surveyor?

- Precise & detail-oriented
- Methodical approach
- Spatial & mathematical ability
- Technical equipment operation
- Strong report writer
- Independent worker
- Problem-solving mindset
- Collaborative with project teams

What do Surveyors do?

A significant part of your work happens in the field. You'll travel to sites to collect spatial and geographic data using GPS equipment, total stations, drones, and other surveying instruments. Before heading out, you'll review existing records, plans, and titles to understand what you're working with, plan your approach, and make sure your equipment is calibrated and ready. Preparation matters in surveying because errors in the field create problems that can take considerable time to resolve.

Back in the office, you'll process the data you've collected, prepare survey plans and technical reports, and communicate your findings to the engineers, planners, architects, and legal professionals who depend on your work. Much of this involves specialist software, and accuracy at every stage is non-negotiable. You'll also liaise with clients and government land agencies to make sure your outputs meet the relevant standards and requirements.

Over time, surveyors often develop expertise in particular areas of the field. Cadastral surveying focuses on land boundaries and titles. Engineering surveying supports construction and infrastructure projects. Hydrographic surveying maps underwater environments. Mining surveying supports resource extraction. Each area draws on the same core skills but applies them in different contexts and industries.





How to become a Surveyor

1. **Complete a relevant degree:** A bachelor's degree in surveying, spatial science, or a related field is the standard route into the profession. Programs typically cover geodesy, mapping, spatial data, and field methods. Check that your chosen program is accredited by the relevant professional body, as this is important for registration later in your career.
2. **Work under supervision as a graduate:** After graduating, you'll work under the supervision of a licensed or registered surveyor, building your practical field and office skills across real projects. This supervised period is a formal requirement for registration in most places, so it's a necessary step rather than an optional one.
3. **Work toward registration:** Licensed or registered surveyor status is the professional benchmark in this field, particularly for cadastral work involving land boundaries and legal titles. The requirements vary by jurisdiction but generally involve a combination of qualifications, supervised experience, and an examination process.
4. **Build technical proficiency:** Get comfortable with surveying software, GPS systems, and drone technology early. The tools of the trade continue to evolve, and surveyors who keep their technical skills current are well placed to take on more complex and varied work.

From here, you could progress to licensed surveyor status, take on project leadership or practice management roles, move into spatial data and GIS work, or develop deep expertise in a particular area of the field such as cadastral, engineering, or hydrographic surveying.

What can I do right now?

If you're in high school and interested in working as a Surveyor, here are some practical steps:

- Focus on mathematics and science subjects, particularly those involving measurement, geometry, and data, as these form the technical foundation of surveying work
 - Explore mapping and spatial tools such as Google Earth, open-source GIS platforms, or drone photography to develop an early feel for how spatial data is collected and used
 - Reach out to local surveying firms or government land agencies to ask about work experience, as seeing the role firsthand is one of the best ways to understand what the day-to-day actually involves
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