

Weekly Careers News for Victoria

September 14, 2026

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Events

This Week's Events

ADF Indigenous Pathways Virtual Information Session

Organisation: Australian Defence Force

Location: Online

Date: September 14, 2026

Join the thousands of Australian Defence Force members who enjoy financial security, rewarding work and personal development in jobs that proudly represent their communities. Join us for a virtual info session to learn about Indigenous opportunities in the Navy, Army and Air Force.

Spaces are limited, so register ASAP!

[Find out more](#)

Melbourne Polytechnic Accounting & Bookkeeping Information Session

Organisation: Melbourne Polytechnic

Location: Online

Date: September 14, 2026

Choosing a brand-new career path, knowing where to upgrade your skills or how to start doesn't need to be a decision you make alone.

Hosted by teachers who can answer questions and offer advice on your chosen field, our information sessions help you make an informed decision around your study and career options. Find out more about a Certificate IV in Accounting and Bookkeeping.

[Find out more](#)

Melbourne Polytechnic Hospitality Courses Information Session, Preston

Organisation: Melbourne Polytechnic

Location: Melbourne Polytechnic, Preston Campus

Date: September 14, 2026

Choosing a brand-new career path, knowing where to upgrade your skills or how to start doesn't need to be a decision you make alone.

Hosted by teachers who can answer questions and offer advice on your chosen field, our information sessions help you make an informed decision around your study and career options. Find out more about the following course(s):

- Certificate III in Commercial Cookery - Non-apprenticeship
- Certificate III in Hospitality
- Certificate III in Patisserie
- Certificate IV in Hospitality
- Certificate IV in Kitchen Management
- Diploma of Hospitality Management

[Find out more](#)

ADF Health Careers Information Session, Perth & Online

Organisation: Australian Defence Force

Location: Perth ADF Careers Centre

Date: September 15, 2026

Protect the health and wellbeing of Australian Defence Force personnel both on base and on deployments, in a rewarding Health role.

Join us for an info session and speak with current serving members about the job variety and satisfaction you can experience while contributing to humanitarian, combat and disaster-relief operations.

Spaces are limited, so register ASAP!

Please arrive no later than 15 minutes early to allow time for check-in. Due to building access restrictions, late arrivals will not be permitted entry after the session begins.

[Find out more](#)

Federation Nursing & Individual Support Information Session, Horsham

Organisation: Federation University

Location: Federation University, Wimmera Campus

Date: September 15, 2026

The session will cover both Certificate III in Individual Support and Diploma of Nursing.

The Teachers will talk about the Programs, how many day per week and how long the course goes for, they will show a PowerPoint presentation and run through information on the courses, talk about Placement, Fee's and Charges, Uniforms, Scholarships, how to apply, entry requirements, applications, LLN, Interviews etc.

[Find out more](#)

VTAC Webinar: Applying for Equity Schemes and Scholarships

Organisation: Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre

Location: Online

Date: September 15, 2026

Have you been affected by educational disadvantage or want to find out more about financial support for your tertiary studies? Our webinar will guide you through the key opportunities available to support your journey.

We will speak about equity schemes and scholarships application, what it is, who is eligible and how to apply.

We will also speak about merit based and access based scholarships, explaining the differences and also how to research scholarships and apply.

Whether you're a student, a parent, or an educator, this webinar is designed to provide clarity and support you as you prepare your application for equity schemes and scholarships.

[Find out more](#)

Melbourne Polytechnic Drama & Theatre Arts Online Information Session

Organisation: Melbourne Polytechnic

Location: Online

Date: September 15, 2026

Choosing a brand-new career path, knowing where to upgrade your skills or how to start doesn't need to be a decision you make alone.

Hosted by teachers who can answer questions and offer advice on your chosen field, our information sessions help you make an informed decision around your study and career options.

Find out more about the following course(s):

- Diploma of Live Production and Technical Services - Costume
- Diploma of Live Production and Technical Services - Live Production
- Diploma of Screen and Media - Specialist Make-Up Services
- Diploma of Theatre Arts

[Find out more](#)

CDW Studios Online Information Session

Organisation: CDW Studios

Location: Online

Date: September 16, 2026

Discover our industry-recognised pathway into the entertainment design industry!

This free online session is designed for anyone interested in building a creative career in the entertainment design industry, becoming a professional artist for games, movies, animation and VFX.

[Find out more](#)

ADF Trade Careers Information Session, Albury

Organisation: Australian Defence Force

Location: Albury ADF Careers Centre

Date: September 16, 2026

Whether you're starting your trade career from scratch or are looking for new avenues for your skills, you'll receive world-class training in the Australian Defence Force from experts in your field.

You'll have the opportunity to gain nationally accredited qualifications that benefit you for life.

To find out more about available Trade roles, come along to an info session and speak with current serving personnel.

It is highly recommended you book as soon as possible to avoid missing out as places are strictly limited!

Please arrive no later than 15 minutes early to allow time for check-in. Due to building access restrictions, late arrivals will not be permitted entry after the session begins.

[Find out more](#)

Mission Control at Parliament House for Year 7-12 Students

Organisation: Australian Space Agency

Location: Parliament House, Parliament of Victoria

Date: September 16, 2026

The space sector is set to triple in size by the year 2028 and will have a role in many diverse industries including agriculture, meteorology, precision mapping and health. What industries would it take to make Mars our home?

In this program, students will think critically about the skills and knowledge needed for a successful mission to Mars. After debating and voting on industries to send on the mission, in a way that mirrors Victoria's parliamentary process, they will work collaboratively to complete a hands-on design challenge as they consider how to sustainably power operations, feed the population, and communicate across the far reaches of space.

This program is a collaboration between Science Gallery Melbourne, Australian Space Agency and Parliament of Victoria.

[Find out more](#)

Discover Pharmacy: Hear how the degree is changing at Monash

Organisation: Monash University

Location: Online

Date: September 16, 2026

Our Pharmacy program is changing. Find out everything you need to know about the new Bachelor of Pharmacy (Honours) / Doctor of Pharmacy. We'll cover the course structure, opportunities for professional experience and personal development while you study, and career outcomes.

We'll discuss courses, careers, and what it's like to be a part of the Parkville Campus community. We have identified some of the most commonly asked questions and invited students to address them and share their study experiences and advice with you.

[Find out more](#)

Le Cordon Bleu Melbourne Open Day 2026

Organisation: Le Cordon Bleu Australia

Location: Le Cordon Bleu, Melbourne Campus

Date: September 17, 2026

Now is your chance to discover how Le Cordon Bleu Australia can help kickstart your career in cuisine, pâtisserie, hotel management, restaurant management or business.

Our Melbourne campus will host an Open Day in October so you can explore our courses on offer and find out how we can help you succeed in the fast-paced food and hospitality world.

Marvel at our professional chef lecturers who will host cooking demonstrations in cuisine and pâtisserie and see first-hand why our culinary courses are elite. There will also be sensory experiences, information booths, plus those who apply on the day will have their \$250 application fee waived!

[Find out more](#)

ADF Trade Careers Information Session, Newcastle & Online

Organisation: Australian Defence Force

Location: Newcastle ADF Careers Centre

Date: September 17, 2026

Whether you're starting your trade career from scratch or are looking for new avenues for your skills, you'll receive world-class training in the Australian Defence Force from experts in your field.

You'll have the opportunity to gain nationally accredited qualifications that benefit you for life.

To find out more about available Trade roles, come along to an info session and speak with current serving personnel.

It is highly recommended you book as soon as possible to avoid missing out as places are strictly limited!

Please arrive no later than 15 minutes early to allow time for check-in. Due to building access restrictions, late arrivals will not be permitted entry after the session begins.

[Find out more](#)

Discover IT: New courses, industry experiences and more at Monash

Organisation: Monash University

Location: Online

Date: September 17, 2026

Hear directly from our Course Directors as they introduce our new courses spanning trending and emerging areas in technology, and learn about the innovative learning model that sets the Faculty of IT apart.

This includes guaranteed real-world experience and industry immersion through our professional practice units and Work-integrated Learning credit points built into each IT degree. We will also talk about our shift toward more flexible, student-driven assessments and how we're adopting AI-enriched, human-centred learning.

[Find out more](#)

Melbourne Polytechnic Information Technology & Security Online Information Session

Organisation: Melbourne Polytechnic

Location: Online

Date: September 17, 2026

Choosing a brand-new career path, knowing where to upgrade your skills or how to start doesn't need to be a decision you make alone.

Hosted by teachers who can answer questions and offer advice on your chosen field, our information sessions help you make an informed decision around your study and career options. Find out more about the following course(s) at Melbourne Polytechnic:

- Certificate III in Information Technology

[Find out more](#)

AIE Information Evening for Future Students, Melbourne

Organisation: Academy of Interactive Entertainment

Location: Academy of Interactive Entertainment, Melbourne Campus

Date: September 17, 2026

Discover the courses designed to get you started in game development, film, 3D animation and visual effects at the AIE Information Evening.

The evening will include presentations on different areas of industry to get into as well as information about AIE full-time and part-time courses and entry requirements. We will be showing off AIE student work and our staff and teachers will be available to chat with you about our courses and how AIE can get you into a creative career.

[Find out more](#)

SWTAFE Course Info Sessions

Organisation: South West TAFE

Location: South West TAFE, Warrnambool Campus

Date: September 17 to October 17, 2026

Get info. Get help. Get enrolled. Attend an information session for your chosen course area and find out about study at South West TAFE.

[Find out more](#)

Whitehouse Institute of Design Fashion Illustration Workshop – Melbourne

Organisation: Whitehouse Institute of Design

Location: Whitehouse Institute of Design, Melbourne Campus

Date: September 19, 2026

In this 1-day workshop, you will gain an understanding of how to complete Fashion Illustrations. At the end of this workshop, you will have covered illustration content ready for an application to study a creative degree and receive a certificate of completion.

The workshop focuses on the following areas of skill development:

- Fashion illustration techniques and methods
- Application of pencils, professional markers, and felt-tip pens for professional rendering
- Fabric texture and surface rendering
- Exploring an individual design aesthetic.

This workshop is for aspiring designers as a starting point for those wishing to develop their illustration skills.

[Find out more](#)

Next Week's Events

Whitehouse Institute of Design Studio Lighting and Fashion Photography Workshop – Melbourne

Organisation: Whitehouse Institute of Design

Location: Whitehouse Institute of Design, Melbourne Campus

Date: September 21, 2026

This is a hands-on 1-day workshop designed for aspiring photographers eager to learn the fundamentals of camera settings, studio lighting, and fashion photography.

Whether you're just starting out or looking to strengthen your technical foundation, this workshop will guide you through the essentials—from mastering manual mode to setting up professional lighting and capturing dynamic fashion portraits.

Perfect for beginners looking to expand into the world of studio and fashion photography.

[Find out more](#)

Camp SEEK 2026 for Year 9-10 Girls & Non-binary Students

Organisation: SEEK

Location: SEEK HQ Melbourne

Date: September 21 to September 24, 2026

Camp SEEK is a four-day immersive daily learning program for Year 9 and 10 girls and non-binary students. Spend four action-packed days at SEEK HQ in Melbourne learning about careers in technology, developing coding, design and product practical skills, exploring real-world problem solving and pitching with your fellow Camp SEEKers.

The technology industry is not as diverse as it could be. There is a shortage of women and non-binary talent in STEM school subjects, at the tertiary level and in the workforce. As a leading technology company, we champion diversity within our industry and our own talent pipeline, and Camp SEEK is one of our favourite, and most fun, programs. It is designed to increase the number of girls and non-binary students who choose to pursue a career in technology.

Participants must be currently enrolled as a high school student in Year 9 or 10 in Australia and have not completed the Camp SEEK program previously.

[Find out more](#)

VTAC Webinar: Explore Courses, Careers and Future Opportunities

Organisation: Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre

Location: Online

Date: September 22, 2026

Join the Victorian Skills Authority (VSA) and VTAC for an informative webinar designed to support students, parents and career practitioners with exploring course options and making informed decisions about future study and career pathways.

Hear from Cameron Fruzynski at the VSA as he demonstrates VSA's employment projections dashboards, providing valuable insights into future career and employment opportunities. The session will also include practical information from VTAC on researching and comparing courses on CourseSearch and navigating the VTAC application process.

Whether you're a student considering your next steps, a parent or a career practitioner helping your students make informed choices, this webinar will provide useful tools and information to help you connect course choices with future career opportunities.

[Find out more](#)

Melbourne Polytechnic Drama & Theatre Arts Online Information Session

Organisation: Melbourne Polytechnic

Location: Online

Date: September 22, 2026

Choosing a brand-new career path, knowing where to upgrade your skills or how to start doesn't need to be a decision you make alone.

Hosted by teachers who can answer questions and offer advice on your chosen field, our information sessions help you make an informed decision around your study and career options.

Find out more about the following course(s):

- Diploma of Live Production and Technical Services - Costume
- Diploma of Live Production and Technical Services - Live Production
- Diploma of Screen and Media - Specialist Make-Up Services
- Diploma of Theatre Arts

[Find out more](#)

Swinburne Fashion Portfolio Workshop

Organisation: Swinburne University of Technology

Location: TB225 Hawthorn campus, Swinburne University

Date: September 22, 2026

Are you getting ready to apply for fashion courses and need a portfolio? This free workshop will teach you exactly how to demonstrate your creative thinking and ideas during the design process – without needing to produce a final garment.

No design experience necessary. All you need to bring is your own laptop!

[Find out more](#)

Women in Defence Virtual Information Session

Organisation: Australian Defence Force

Location: Online

Date: September 22, 2026

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

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

Spaces are limited, so register ASAP!

[Find out more](#)

La Trobe Bundoora Campus Talk & Tours for Future Students

Organisation: La Trobe University

Location: La Trobe University, Melbourne (Bundoora) Campus

Date: September 22 to September 23, 2026

Explore your future university! Join us at our Melbourne (Bundoora) Campus Talk and Tours session.

This is your chance to find out what it's like to study at La Trobe. You'll also meet our student ambassadors and take a tour of the campus. Ask questions, meet course experts, and feel ready to start your dream course!

[Find out more](#)

Moving to Canberra and Living on Campus at ANU – Webinar for Future Students

Organisation: Australian National University

Location: Online

Date: September 23, 2026

Find out what it's really like to live on campus, meet new people and make Canberra your new home.

Hear from our team about residential life, making friends, finding your feet in a new city, getting around Canberra and making the most of everything campus has to offer — from study and support to social life and everything in between.

Whether you're moving from across the country or just a few hours away, you'll get practical tips on what to expect, what to bring and how to make the most of your first year away from home.

[Find out more](#)

Melbourne Polytechnic VET Creative Industries Taster Day

Organisation: Melbourne Polytechnic

Location: Melbourne Polytechnic, Fairfield Campus

Date: September 24, 2026

Choosing a brand-new career path, knowing where to upgrade your skills or how to start doesn't need to be a decision you make alone.

Hosted by teachers who can answer questions and offer advice on your chosen field, our information sessions help you make an informed decision around your study and career options.

Register for an information session for an in-depth look at:

- Certificate IV in Music - Sound Production
- Certificate IV in Screen and Media
- Diploma of Music
- Advanced Diploma of Music - Performance
- Advanced Diploma of Screen and Media

[Find out more](#)

Future Events

AIM Music Theatre Audition Workshop, Melbourne

Organisation: Australian Institute of Music

Location: Australian Institute of Music, Melbourne Campus

Date: September 29 to September 30, 2026

If musical theatre is your passion, this is where your industry journey begins.

AIM's Music Theatre Holiday Workshop is an immersive two-day experience designed for high school students who are serious about pursuing a career in musical theatre.

Working directly with the industry professionals who teach our Bachelor of Music Theatre, you'll build the skills, refine your repertoire, and receive the kind of hands-on feedback that prepares you to walk into your Bachelor of Music Theatre audition with confidence.

[Find out more](#)

Quantum Tech Camp for Year 9-12 Students and Teachers

Organisation: Sydney Quantum Academy

Location: Macquarie University, Wallumattagal Campus OR Online

Date: September 29 to October 1, 2026

Now in its fifth year, Quantum Tech Camp is a free three-day program for students in Years 9-12 who want to explore one of the world's most exciting emerging technologies.

Through interactive activities, coding and problem-solving challenges, you'll learn the fundamentals of quantum computing and experiment with concepts such as superposition, entanglement and quantum randomness. No prior knowledge of quantum physics or coding is required.

Beginners will be supported through hands-on activities, while students with coding experience can explore more advanced programming challenges using Python.

You'll also meet Australian quantum researchers and mentors, connect with like-minded students from across Australia, and discover study and career pathways in quantum technology. In 2026 the Camp is free to attend, but spaces are limited.

SQA is committed to making this event accessible to everyone. If you require any accommodations, please let them know in advance by sending an email to:

info.sqa@sydney.edu.au.

[Find out more](#)

You've Received an ANU Early Offer — What Happens Next? Webinar for Future Students

Organisation: Australian National University

Location: Online

Date: September 29, 2026

Congratulations! Your Early Offer is an exciting first step towards starting your university journey. Join our Future Students and Admissions team for a practical session covering everything you need to know about what happens next.

We'll walk you through accepting your offer, change of preference, key dates and important next steps, as well as answer some of the common questions students and parents have at this stage.

After the presentation, there'll be plenty of time to ask your questions and get advice directly from our team, so you can feel confident about what comes next.

[Find out more](#)

RMIT University Student for a Day Experience for Year 10-12 Students

Organisation: RMIT University

Location: RMIT City Campus

Date: September 30, 2026

Want a taste of life after high school? Register your interest in being a Student for a Day at RMIT this September school holidays.

Aimed at high school students in Years 10, 11 and 12, this event will let you experience student life at RMIT and discover more about our courses.

[Find out more](#)

AIE Games and Animation Workshop Day for Year 10-12 Students, Melbourne

Organisation: Academy of Interactive Entertainment

Location: Academy of Interactive Entertainment, Melbourne Campus

Date: September 30, 2026

AIE's Games and Animation Workshop Days are a great opportunity for students in Years 10, 11 and 12 to learn about the local and international game development, 3D animation and visual effects industries.

Students will get the opportunity to learn about the different pathways to get into the industry, what should be in a portfolio and will be able to get creative in practical workshops using industry-standard 3D animation and game development tools.

The sessions are run by industry professionals who have worked on blockbuster games and films. Everything is provided for you to participate in the hands-on workshops and you will be using the same software that is used in the industry.

If you are thinking about a career in the games or film industry then this is a great place to get started. Places are limited so registrations are required for this free event.

[Find out more](#)

Swinburne Innovation in Action for Year 10-12 Students

Organisation: Swinburne University of Technology

Location: Swinburne University of Technology, Hawthorn Campus

Date: September 30, 2026

The Swinburne Innovation in Action school holiday program is a 1-day program based at our Hawthorn campus where Year 10 - 12 students are given the knowledge and tools they need to come up with brilliant new ideas to solve real-world problems.

In this free program, you will:

- Identify and analyse a real-world problem
- Design possible solutions to your chosen problem
- Create a rapid prototype for your solution
- Pitch and evaluate your prototype with your peers

[Find out more](#)

CDW Studios Digital Art Holiday Workshop for Ages 14+ – Sydney & Online

Organisation: CDW Studios

Location: CDW Studios, Sydney Campus & Online

Date: October 1, 2026

Level up your drawing skills in a fun, interactive, full day workshop!

Participants will get an introductory insight to the industry whilst learning techniques that they can apply straight away! Perfect for beginners who wish to learn more as well as more experienced artists who want to push their work to the next level. This workshop is a fantastic starting point for those who are curious about venturing into the competitive world of visual effects and entertainment design.

Take this rare opportunity to learn from professional artists in a fun, engaging environment.

[Find out more](#)

AIE Film Production Workshop for Ages 16+, Melbourne

Organisation: Academy of Interactive Entertainment

Location: Academy of Interactive Entertainment, Melbourne Campus

Date: October 2, 2026

Learn what it takes to plan and produce a film shoot in this intensive film production workshop. You will get hands-on with cameras, lighting, and the latest in virtual production LED screens. Industry-experienced filmmakers will guide you in taking your script through the various production stages.

In this workshop, we will fast-track the film production process by choosing one scene and taking it through the pipeline from idea to finished shots. As part of this process, participants will be leveraging virtual production sets! This is an exclusive opportunity to learn more about this revolutionary technology which is empowering filmmakers.

This workshop is suited to participants 16 years+ that are interested starting their career in film.

[Find out more](#)

CDW Studios Digital Art Holiday Workshop for Ages 14+ – Melbourne & Online

Organisation: CDW Studios

Location: CDW Studios, South Bank Campus & Online

Date: October 2, 2026

Level up your drawing skills in a fun, interactive, full day workshop!

Participants will get an introductory insight to the entertainment design industry whilst learning techniques that they can apply straight away! Perfect for beginners who are interested in pursuing this field or for those who are curious about studying at CDW Studios.

Take this rare opportunity to learn from professional artists in a fun, engaging environment.

[Find out more](#)

Create for a Day at SAE Melbourne

Organisation: SAE University College

Location: SAE University College, Melbourne Campus

Date: October 3, 2026

This October school holidays, SAE University College Melbourne is opening its doors for Create for a Day: a one-day, hands-on experience where you'll step into the studio, lab or production space and start creating.

Choose from:

- Animation
- Audio
- Computer Science
- Film
- Games
- Songwriting & Electronic Music Production
- VFX

Create for a Day lets you skip the textbooks and jump straight into building, recording, designing, coding or filming, all guided by lecturers who work in the industry.

By the end of the day, you'll walk away with your own finished project and a certificate of participation, plus a clearer idea of what studying at SAE is really like and where your skills could take you in the future.

Open to students in Years 10-12 and young creatives up to age 21.

[Find out more](#)

JMC Academy Portfolio & Audition Masterclass, Melbourne

Organisation: JMC Academy

Location: JMC Academy, Melbourne Campus

Date: October 3, 2026

JMC is running a fun and interactive series of masterclasses for future creative students this October.

Ace that audition in Acting, Musical Theatre or Music Performance, or perfect that portfolio in Animation, Design, Game Design or Music Production.

Choose a stream that suits your creative aspiration.

These sessions are great for:

- Year 10-11 students wanting to make an early start on their journey into a creative course
- Year 12 students applying through UAC, VTAC or QTAC
- Year 10-12 high school students looking to experience JMC facilities

Masterclasses not only give you a chance to get practical advice, expert feedback and hands-on experience to help you prepare for auditions or develop your portfolio, but you'll also get to enjoy a fun and interactive experience with our creative courses.

[Find out more](#)

SWTAFE Nursing Info Session, Hamilton

Organisation: South West TAFE

Location: South West TAFE, Hamilton Campus

Date: October 6, 2026

Get info. Get help. Get enrolled. Attend an information session for your chosen course area and find out about study at South West TAFE.

[Find out more](#)

Apply to ANU: UAC Now Open – Webinar for Future Students

Organisation: Australian National University

Location: Online

Date: October 6, 2026

Ready to apply to ANU? Join us for a quick, practical session on how to apply through the University Admissions Centre (UAC). We'll walk you through the process, key dates and what you need to know to get your application sorted.

Already completed your ANU Early Offer application? You're all set – there's no need to apply again.

[Find out more](#)

SWTAFE Diploma of Nursing Info Session, Online

Organisation: South West TAFE

Location: Online

Date: October 7, 2026

Get info. Get help. Get enrolled. Attend an information session for your chosen course area and find out about study at South West TAFE.

[Find out more](#)

ACMI Games for Change Showcase

Organisation: Australian Centre for the Moving Image

Location: ACMI Melbourne

Date: October 7 to October 8, 2026

The Games for Change Showcase is an exciting opportunity for students in health, environmental, and humanities disciplines - as well as aspiring game developers and gaming enthusiasts - to connect with creators of serious games, discover the ideas and design processes behind their work, and experience these innovative games firsthand.

Secondary and tertiary teachers will learn how serious games are moving from entertainment to proven tools that offer interactivity and engagement for student learning, plus insights about innovative careers.

[Find out more](#)

Federation Come and See Day, SMB Campus

Organisation: Federation University

Location: Federation University, SMB Campus

Date: October 13, 2026

Keen for a lifestyle change? Our courses are open and will help you reskill, upskill and stand out in 2027.

Come and find out more, meet your future classmates and explore your hands-on training facilities at our SMB Come and See Day on Tuesday 13 October 2026 between 4pm and 7pm.

Come and find out everything you need to know about vocational studies in:

- Hairdressing
- Beauty
- Cookery

- Hospitality
- Bakery
- Building design
- Carpentry
- Building and Construction
- Bricklaying
- Automotive
- Barbering
- Engineering

What's on:

- Explore our training facilities
- Meet our industry experts
- Observe real students engaging in their study
- Explore student support options
- Receive information about the courses you're interested in

[Find out more](#)

Discover Melbourne Webinar Series – October Sessions

Organisation: University of Melbourne

Location: Online

Date: October 13 to October 16, 2026

Discover Melbourne online webinars are for high school students thinking about undergraduate study with us. Across the sessions, you'll explore the Melbourne curriculum, our discipline areas, course structures, faculties, career pathways and more.

Our October sessions will take a deeper dive into specific discipline areas, with staff and current students available to answer your questions during each webinar.

[Find out more](#)

Discover Engineering at Monash

Organisation: Monash University

Location: Online

Date: October 15, 2026

Discover everything you need to know about studying Engineering at Monash.

You'll have the opportunity to meet current students and alumni, hear about their experiences, and ask questions.

Our engineering degrees offer an outstanding study experience, along with excellent opportunities to engage with industry and gain hands-on experience through our teams and clubs.

[Find out more](#)

University of Melbourne Extension Program Information Session

Organisation: University of Melbourne

Location: Online

Date: October 20, 2026

Are you looking to further your academic potential in Year 12? Join us for an online information session to learn more about the [University of Melbourne Extension Program](#).

At this session, you'll discover how this academic enrichment program will provide you with a chance to not only experience university life while still in high school, but also how to build up your academic capabilities.

This interactive session will cover:

- Benefits of studying an Extension Program subject
- Subject offerings and their delivery modes for 2027
- Eligibility and entry requirements

You will also hear from an Extension Program alum, who will share their experience and how the program helped them gain a valuable head start at university.

There'll also be an opportunity to ask the panel questions.

[Find out more](#)

Deakin University Accelerate Uni at School Program – Webinar for High School Students

Organisation: Deakin University

Location: Online

Date: October 21, 2026

Are you a high-achieving student ready to kick-start your university journey? [Register for our webinar on Wednesday 21 October](#) to learn how the Deakin Accelerate program can fast-track your path to university.

You'll learn how the program works, what subjects you can choose from and how completing Deakin Accelerate can give you a valuable head start towards your future degree. You'll also hear from current and past students who have taken part in the program and gained confidence, new skills and a clearer idea of where they want to go next.

Whether you already have a dream career in mind or you're still exploring your options, Deakin Accelerate is a chance to challenge yourself, try something new and take your first step into university life.

Parent, guardians and career practitioners are also welcome to join and learn how Deakin Accelerate can support students as they prepare for life after school.

[Find out more](#)

It Takes a Spark STEM Conference for Year 4-10 Students and Teachers, Melbourne

Organisation: Intuyu Consulting Pty Ltd

Location: The Knox School

Date: October 22, 2026

Most conferences currently being offered on STEM, STEAM and Entrepreneurship tend to be targeted towards teachers and involve a series of speakers and the occasional mini-workshops. This conference is designed to be different. This conference is designed by students and teachers for students and teachers.

The intent of the It Takes a Spark STEM Conference is to bring together Students (Year 4 to 10) and Teachers to connect with inspiring industry role models, share their current school based activities and projects using an authentic sharing and experiential model, create networks of teachers and student teams, and solve social justice design challenges.

The participation of the students is as important as teachers as our intent is to ignite, empower and nurture both to be leaders of STEM and Entrepreneurship within their schools. This is a conference designed and led by students and teachers for students and teachers.

Teachers will have both formal and informal opportunities to speak to other teachers who have enacted programs and activities in their schools and get their questions answered.

The Problem Solver design challenges are all hands-on so students and teachers will experience first-hand what it is like to be part of great STEM and entrepreneurial learning. This will spark new ideas about curriculum and pedagogy.

[Find out more](#)

Monash University Webinar – What Does My First Year in Science Look Like?

Organisation: Monash University

Location: Online

Date: October 22, 2026

Hear from our current students as they share their stories and experiences from their first year of study.

We'll also take you through some handy resources to help you design your degree, from unit enrolments and majors to learning beyond the classroom, such as field trips and international experiences.

[Find out more](#)

VU TAFE Open Night 2026, Sunshine Campus

Organisation: Victoria University

Location: Victoria University, Sunshine Campus

Date: October 22, 2026

Future TAFE student? We've got an event just for you.

Join us at Sunshine for an action-packed evening to explore TAFE options in trades, health, English language and cyber security.

Meet students and teachers, explore campus and facilities, and discover courses designed to get you job-ready from day one.

[Find out more](#)

Discover Monash: Bachelor of Music

Organisation: Monash University

Location: Room G11, David Derham Law Building, Monash Clayton Campus

Date: October 22, 2026

Experience where creativity, performance and professional practice come together at Discover Monash: Bachelor of Music. Explore our state-of-the-art music facilities, including performance, rehearsal and teaching spaces, and gain insight into studying music at Monash.

Meet current students and academics, learn about our study options, and discover how a music degree can lead to diverse creative and professional careers.

The experience concludes with a student-led lunchtime concert, showcasing the talent, passion and vibrant community that make Monash Music unique. Imagine your future in music with us.

[Find out more](#)

Deakin A Day in the Life of a Medical Imaging Student – Year 11 & 12, Geelong

Organisation: Deakin University

Location: Deakin University, Geelong Waurin Ponds Campus

Date: October 28, 2026

Step into the world of medical imaging and experience university life before you even finish school.

This immersive day gives Year 11 and 12 students who live in the South West and Grampians/Wimmera regions the chance to see what it's really like to study [medical imaging](#) at Deakin – from hands-on practical activities to exploring the technology that helps diagnose and treat patients every day.

You'll connect with Deakin academics and current students, discover entry pathways to your ultimate course and start imagining where a career in medical imaging could take you.

Deakin will provide shuttle buses from select locations in the South West and Grampians regions.

Expressions of interest close Friday 2 October 2026.

[Find out more](#)

Yr 12 & Beyond with ADHD – Webinar for Year 12 Students and Parents

Organisation: ADHD Webinars

Location: Online

Date: October 29, 2026

Designed to help Year 12 students and parents navigate the transition to tertiary study or employment with practical ADHD management strategies. It offers actionable guidance on post-school options, strengths and interests, accommodations, and setting up tailored support systems.

[Find out more](#)

Procrastination & ADHD – Webinar for Year 10, 11, 12 Students and Parents

Organisation: ADHD Webinars

Location: Online

Date: November 5, 2026

A practical session focusing on why ADHD brains procrastinate and how students in Years 10–12 can overcome executive dysfunction. Attendees will learn evidence-based study tools, time-management hacks, and task-initiation techniques.

[Find out more](#)

CSU Making It In Media Workshop for Year 9-12 Students, Bathurst

Organisation: Charles Sturt University

Location: Charles Sturt University, Bathurst Campus

Date: November 6, 2026

Are you passionate about content creation, journalism, advertising or public relations?

If you're a student in Year 9, 10, 11 or 12, join us for our free Making it in Media workshop!

Ever wondered what it's really like to host a podcast, write newsworthy articles or work in TV? In this exciting full-day workshop, you'll dive deep into the dynamic worlds of design and content creation, journalism and strategic communication.

This interactive, hands-on experience invites you to collaborate with other students and explore the diverse majors on offer when you study with Charles Sturt.

What to expect:

- Hear from our course director, leading academics and alumni and get your questions answered.
- Step into our brand-new TV studio and creative hub.
- Get a taste of what it's really like to work in media.
- Take part in practical and fun workshop sessions.

[Find out more](#)

University of Melbourne Extension Program Application Support Session

Organisation: University of Melbourne

Location: Online

Date: November 17, 2026

In Year 11 and thinking about applying for the [University of Melbourne Extension Program](#)?

Get practical support from our team to help with your application, before applications close 27 November 2026.

We'll walk you through everything you need to know to submit your application, including:

- Navigating the application portal
- Required documentation
- Important deadlines and timelines for offers.

[Find out more](#)

Federation Open Day 2026, Gillies Street

Organisation: Federation University

Location: Federation University, Gillies Street Campus

Date: November 18, 2026

Keen for a lifestyle change and a career working outdoors?

Our Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation Science courses are open and will help you reskill, upskill and stand out in 2026.

Dig deep into hands-on courses in Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation, Ecosystem Management, and free TAFE options.

Come and find out more, meet your future classmates and explore your hands-on training facilities at our Gillies Street Open Day on 18 November from 10 am to 2 pm.

What's on:

- Student-led campus tours
- Observe real classes at our hands-on learning facilities, classrooms and science labs
- Explore student support options
- Find out if you're eligible for free TAFE course funding
- Get application assistance
- Find out course info, including contact hours, assessment overview, outside class study and pre-application advice

[Find out more](#)

La Trobe Engineering and IT Showcase 2026

Organisation: La Trobe University

Location: La Trobe University, Union Hall

Date: November 18, 2026

Sponsored by industry partners, student projects will focus on innovations within the areas of engineering, computer science, IT and physics.

Our keynote speaker, Arnie Bhattacharya, is the Chief Product Officer at Nuix, a technology company specialising in investigative analytics, digital forensics, and eDiscovery software. An accomplished alumnus of the School, Arnie holds a Bachelor of Computer Systems Engineering (Honours) with a specialisation in Software and Network Engineering.

The evening will be hosted by Professor Wenny Rahayu, Dean of the School of Computing, Engineering and Mathematical Sciences.

The showcase is open to staff, students, employers, alumni, industry and schools.

[Find out more](#)

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

Organisation: La Trobe University

Location: Online

Date: November 19, 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.

Panellists for this event will be:

- Jessarne Palmer: Ecologist
- Sam Lewis: Fish ecologist
- Mads Dwyer: Botanist and Fire Ecologist
- Willow Cuthbert: Archaeologist

After an interactive Q&A panel discussion, participants will have the option to network with our panelists to build valuable connections with both student researchers and established academics.

This event is part of the [Victorian Challenge and Enrichment Series](#), providing free extension opportunities for high-ability students in Victorian Government Schools. Funded by the Department of Education's Student Excellence Program.

[Find out more](#)

AIE November Open Day, Melbourne

Organisation: Academy of Interactive Entertainment

Location: Academy of Interactive Entertainment, Melbourne Campus

Date: November 21, 2026

Discover the courses designed to get you started in game development, 3D animation, film and visual effects at the AIE Open Day.

AIE Open Day is a great opportunity to meet our teachers, staff and students. The day will cover 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.

This event will also include presentations on entry requirements and how to apply. Find out how AIE can get you into a creative career.

[Find out more](#)

Year 11 & Beyond with ADHD – Starting Strong in the Senior Years

Organisation: ADHD Webinars

Location: Online

Date: November 26, 2026

Focuses on setting senior students up for success as they enter their final school year and look ahead to future pathways. This webinar for parents, senior high school students and career practitioners covers strategies for managing workload stress, building independence, and planning post-school transitions.

[Find out more](#)

SAE Online Info Session: IT & Computer Science

Organisation: SAE University College

Location: Online

Date: December 1, 2026

From software development and cyber security to cloud computing and AI, technology careers are evolving fast. At SAE's Online Info Session: IT & Computer Science, you'll explore our complete range of technology courses, including our new Information Technology qualifications launching in February 2027, alongside our established Computer Science and Cyber Security pathways.

[Find out more](#)

AIE Online Campus Day

Organisation: Academy of Interactive Entertainment

Location: Online

Date: December 5, 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](#)

Scholarships

SAE Excellence in Technology Scholarship

Organisation: SAE University College

Location: Australia

Value: Half tuition fees

Close Date: January 8, 2027

[Find out more](#)

Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Scholarship

Organisation: Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand

Location: Australia, New Zealand

Value: \$10,000

Open Date: August 3, 2026

Close Date: September 27, 2026

[Find out more](#)

AFTRS Relocation Scholarship

Organisation: Australian Film Television and Radio School

Location: Australia

Value: \$12,000 AUD

Open Date: June 29, 2026

Close Date: October 21, 2026

[Find out more](#)

Roberts Gray Lawyers Scholarship Program

Organisation: Roberts Gray Lawyers

Location: Australia

Value: AU\$5,000

Close Date: January 22, 2027

[Find out more](#)

Competitions

MiNDFOOD Short Story Competition

Organisation: MiNDFOOD

Location: Australia, New Zealand

Value: \$1,000 AUD

Close Date: October 31, 2026

[Find out more](#)

2026 AO Schools Block Buster Tennis Challenge

Organisation: Australian Esports League

Location: Australia

Value: See details

Close Date: September 28, 2026

[Find out more](#)

Somerset National Poetry Prize

Organisation: Somerset Storyfest

Location: Australia

Value: AU\$300

Close Date: December 4, 2026

[Find out more](#)

Little Stories, Big Ideas for Years 7-12

Organisation: Express Media

Location: Australia

Value: AU\$250 + writing masterclass and more

Close Date: October 11, 2026

[Find out more](#)

Museum After Dark: Monstrous! Creative Arts Competition

Organisation: Macquarie University

Location: Australia

Value: Up to AU\$500

Close Date: September 20, 2026

[Find out more](#)

Experiences

AFTRS Intro to VFX & 3D Animation Course for ages 16+

Organisation: Australian Film Television and Radio School

Location: Australia

[Find out more](#)

Busy Bees – Casual Volunteering Session at Collingwood Children’s Farm

Organisation: Collingwood Children’s Farm

Location: Melbourne

[Find out more](#)

Weekly Posts

Jobs & Careers

What's the difference between Graphic Designers and Illustrators?

If you've ever seen a job ad for a Graphic Designer and one for an Illustrator and wondered what separates them, you're not alone. Both roles are creative, both produce visual work, and both often turn up in the same industries, from publishing to advertising to product design. But what each one is asked to do, and how much creative freedom they have while doing it, is quite different. Understanding that difference can make it easier to work out which path lines up with the kind of creating you enjoy.

What is graphic design?

Graphic design uses layout, typography, colour and imagery to solve a communication problem. That might mean designing a logo that represents a new business, laying out the pages of a magazine so they're easy to read, building a brand's visual identity across packaging and social media, or designing a website so visitors can find what they need without getting lost.

Most of this work starts with a brief from a client or employer. The brief sets out what the design needs to achieve, who it's for, and any rules it has to follow, such as an existing brand's colours or logo. A Graphic Designer's job is to take that brief and turn it into something that looks good and does its job, whether that's selling a product, explaining an idea, or guiding someone through information.

What is illustration?

Illustration is about creating original artwork, usually to tell a story, set a mood, or bring an idea to life visually. That could mean drawing the pictures inside a children's book, creating a character for an animated series, producing an image to sit alongside a magazine article, or designing artwork for a product like a t-shirt or a game.

Where a Graphic Designer often works with existing elements like photos, type and layout grids, an Illustrator is usually creating the central image itself, starting from a blank page. Illustrators tend to develop a personal style over time, a recognisable way of drawing or rendering that sets their work apart from anyone else's. Clients often choose an Illustrator specifically because they like that style, rather than asking them to follow someone else's.

What sets the two apart

There's plenty of common ground between the two roles, but a few clear differences show up once you look past the surface, from the kind of problem each one solves to how each workday unfolds.

What problem each one is solving

Graphic design is generally about communication, making sure a message reaches its audience clearly and fits the brand or context around it. Illustration is generally about creating an image that carries meaning, emotion or story on its own, even without any surrounding text, layout or branding to support it.

How much of the work is original artwork

A Graphic Designer might spend a project working with existing photography, stock images or simple shapes, arranging and combining them so the overall layout works. An Illustrator is usually producing every part of the artwork itself, piece by piece, using drawing and rendering skills built up over years of practice.

What a typical day looks like

A Graphic Designer typically spends time in design software, arranging layouts, adjusting typography and preparing files for print or digital use. Client or team meetings are common too, since most projects involve rounds of feedback before anything is finalised.

An Illustrator typically spends more time drawing, whether on paper or using a digital tablet, taking a piece from a rough sketch through to a finished image. Many Illustrators work independently or freelance, managing their own clients and deadlines rather than working inside a design team.

Where the two overlap

The line between the two roles isn't always sharp. Plenty of Graphic Designers illustrate as part of their work, adding hand-drawn elements to a poster or packaging design. Plenty of Illustrators use design principles like layout and colour theory to arrange their artwork for print or digital publishing. Some professionals move between both titles depending on the project, and several qualifications train people in both areas at once.

Study pathways

Both careers can lead to a formal qualification, but how structured that pathway is, and how much it matters next to a portfolio, differs between the two.

Graphic design is usually studied through a vocational qualification, such as a diploma at a technical college, which typically takes one to two years and focuses on practical, industry-ready skills. It can also be studied through a university degree in graphic design or visual communication, which usually takes around three years and covers design theory in more depth alongside practical work. Whichever path someone takes, a strong portfolio matters alongside the qualification, and in some studios or freelance settings, a strong enough portfolio can outweigh which pathway someone studied.

Illustration doesn't always follow one set path. Some Illustrators study a diploma or degree with a focus on illustration or visual arts, learning technique, style development and how to build a body of work. Others build their skills independently through practice, short courses and freelance projects, relying on a strong portfolio to open doors rather than a formal qualification. Employers and clients in illustration tend to weigh a portfolio even more heavily than they do for design roles.

At school, subjects like visual art, design and digital technologies build a useful foundation for either path.

Which one might suit you

A Graphic Designer role could be a good fit if you:

- Like solving problems within a clear brief
- Enjoy typography, layout & visual communication
- Are comfortable balancing creativity with brand guidelines
- Want work that spans branding, packaging, web & marketing

An Illustrator role could be a good fit if you:

- Enjoy creating original artwork from scratch
- Want to develop a personal, recognisable style
- Like telling stories through pictures rather than words
- Are drawn to book, editorial or character-based work

Plenty of creative people end up doing a bit of both over their career, picking up design skills to support their illustration work, or adding illustration to a design-focused role. The overlap between them means skills built in one tend to carry across if you decide to head toward the other.

If you're curious about other creative career paths, our [Jobs & Careers hub](#) has more guides like this one.

Skills for Work, Travel

The skills travel builds that show up at work and school

Travel puts you in situations you don't fully control: a schedule you didn't set, a plan that falls apart, a budget that has to stretch, decisions nobody else will make for you, and a place you've never been before. Each one builds something you'll use again, well beyond the trip itself. The clearest place to start is with the one thing almost every trip runs on: a timetable you don't get to set.

Time management and planning

On a school trip, that timetable isn't optional. The bus leaves at a set time whether you're ready or not, and if you're late to the meeting point, the whole group waits. On top of that you're managing your own bag, your own money, and your own ID, all while keeping pace with times you didn't choose.

An assignment due on a date you didn't set works the same way, and so does a shift that starts regardless of how your morning went. Working backwards from a fixed time is the same habit either way.

Problem-solving under pressure

Sticking to a tight schedule like that gets harder the moment something goes wrong, and on a trip, something usually does. A direction turns out wrong, a venue closes early, or a connection you were counting on doesn't show, and there's rarely a moment to weigh up every option properly. You work with what you know and adjust.

A group assignment falling apart close to a deadline works the same way. A shift that throws up a problem nobody saw coming does too. Travel just serves up more chances to practise it, since something unplanned is fairly likely on any longer trip.

Adaptability

One disruption is one thing. On a trip with no fixed itinerary, they don't stop coming: a bus that's stopped running, a booking that's fallen through, advice from someone you meet that sends you somewhere else entirely. Working around it happens more than once a day.

Subjects, teachers, and even the direction of a whole course of study can shift over a few years. A new manager, a new role, or a different process at a job can show up with just as little warning.

Managing money over time

Every adjustment on the road often comes with a cost. On a longer trip, like a gap year or an extended stretch of backpacking, that cost is money: a fixed amount that has to last until the end. Every choice becomes a trade-off: spend more here, and there's less for later. Small regular costs, a coffee, a snack, add up faster than the occasional big one, and that becomes obvious once there's a hard limit on what's left.

Saving from a part-time wage toward something specific asks for the same discipline. Sticking to an agreed budget for a school project or work event, without going back to ask for more halfway through, asks for the same thing.

Independence and decision-making

Deciding how to spend what's left is one of many calls you make without anyone else weighing in while travelling. Nobody's checking in when you're travelling without family, even when you're travelling with friends. Where to stay, how to get there, and what happens if the plan changes are all decisions nobody else is making for you.

Nobody tracks a study schedule day to day, and a task at work often gets handed over without anyone standing behind you the whole time. Both call on the same kind of self-reliance.

Approaching unfamiliar situations with confidence

Every trip eventually puts you somewhere completely unfamiliar, with systems and norms you don't already know: a transport network you've never used before, social customs that don't quite match your own, streets that look different simply because you don't know them yet. Doing this again and again, even on short trips, builds a habit of walking into the unknown without needing it mapped out first.

Starting a new job, joining a new team, or walking into a classroom for the first time all ask for the same thing: stepping into something you don't fully know yet and getting oriented anyway. Having done that already through travel means it tends to happen faster, even though the specific situation is different every time.

Building on what a trip gives you

You don't need to travel to build any of these skills. School and a part-time job can do it too, usually more slowly and one at a time. A trip tends to bundle several of them together, in situations where you don't have much choice but to develop them quickly.

Our [Travel section](#) has more on gap years, exchanges, and other options to consider.

Job Spotlights

How to become a Heritage Consultant

Heritage Consultants assess the cultural and historical significance of places, buildings, and landscapes, and advise on how those values should be considered when development or change is proposed. They sit at the point where history meets the planning system, translating what makes a place meaningful into practical guidance that architects, developers, and planners can act on.

If you're curious about history, enjoy research and writing, and want work that connects the past to decisions being made right now, this is a career with a clear sense of purpose.

What skills do I need as a Heritage Consultant?

- Research & analytical thinking
- Clear & precise writer
- Attention to detail
- Knowledge of planning systems
- Curious & historically minded
- Confident communicator
- Collaborative approach
- Objective & evidence-based

What do Heritage Consultants do?

Before you can advise on anything, you need to understand what you're dealing with. A significant part of your work involves researching the history and cultural context of a place, drawing on archival records, historical maps, photographs, and other sources to build a picture of its significance. This research forms the foundation of everything that follows, and doing it

thoroughly is what gives your advice credibility when it's tested against competing development interests.

Day to day, you'll prepare heritage impact statements and reports that assess how a proposed development or change would affect a place's heritage values. These documents need to be clear, well-evidenced, and defensible, because they're often submitted as part of a formal planning process and may be scrutinised by councils, heritage authorities, or planning tribunals. You'll also liaise regularly with planners, architects, developers, and government agencies, explaining your findings and helping project teams understand what heritage considerations mean for their work in practical terms.

Periodically you'll work on more complex projects involving significant heritage places, contested assessments, or the adaptive reuse of historic buildings where heritage values and contemporary needs need to be carefully balanced. Some Heritage Consultants develop areas of specialisation in particular periods, building types, or cultural contexts. Others focus on specific aspects of the work such as conservation advice, indigenous heritage, or landscape significance.

What kind of lifestyle could I expect?

Heritage Consultants work for specialist heritage consultancies, architecture and planning firms, local and state government agencies, and statutory heritage bodies. Some work independently, building a practice around assessment and advisory work across a range of clients. The role exists wherever planning and development intersect with places of historical or cultural significance, which means opportunities across urban, regional, and rural settings.

Work is primarily office-based, with site visits to inspect and document places as part of the assessment process. The balance between desk work and fieldwork varies depending on the project mix, but report writing and research are central to the role regardless of the setting. Hours are generally average, and the role offers a reasonable degree of flexibility, particularly in consultancy environments where work is project-based.

Salaries are average, reflecting the scale of the field and the research-focused nature of much of the work. This is a small field with a defined scope, so opportunities are more limited than in broader planning or architecture professions. Demand is steady rather than rapidly growing, tied to the volume of development activity and the regulatory requirements that trigger heritage assessment. For those with genuine interest in the subject matter, the work offers consistent engagement with meaningful and often irreplaceable places.

How to become a Heritage Consultant

- **Study a relevant foundation discipline:** Entry into heritage consulting comes through a range of backgrounds including heritage studies, history, architecture, and archaeology. Each brings something different to the work, and all are recognised starting points. A degree in any of these areas gives you the research skills, contextual knowledge, and analytical foundation the role requires.
- **Build experience in heritage or planning settings:** Look for graduate roles or work experience with heritage consultancies, local councils, or state heritage agencies. Early exposure to real assessment work, even in a supporting role, builds the practical skills and professional judgment that study alone can't provide.
- **Develop your knowledge of the planning and regulatory framework:** Heritage consulting operates within a specific legal and policy context. Understanding how heritage legislation, planning schemes, and assessment processes work is essential to producing advice that holds up in a formal planning environment. This knowledge develops on the job but is worth pursuing actively from early in your career.

- **Build your writing and research skills:** The quality of your written reports is central to your professional reputation in this field. Seek out opportunities to write clearly and rigorously, whether through academic work, research projects, or early professional roles. Strong writers who can make complex assessments accessible to non-specialists are consistently valued.

From here, you could move into senior consulting roles managing complex or high-profile heritage assessments, take on project leadership within larger consultancies or government agencies, develop expertise in policy and standards, or build an independent practice around a particular area of specialisation.

What can I do right now?

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

- Visit heritage-listed buildings, historic precincts, and local museums to start developing an eye for what makes places historically and culturally significant, and practise articulating what you notice
- Look for work experience with local council planning or heritage teams, or with historical societies and heritage organisations, to get a sense of how heritage values are assessed and protected in practice
- Focus on building strong skills in research, writing, and history, as these are the core tools of heritage consulting work at every level of the profession

Find out more about alternative careers on [our Job Spotlights page](#).

People with Disability, Study Tips

How to get reasonable exam adjustments at school and university

Exams and assessments are usually built around one standard way of working: sit down, read the questions, and answer within a set time. For some students, a disability or learning difficulty makes that standard format harder to work with, whether it affects concentration, processing speed, reading, writing, or physical access to the exam room. Reasonable adjustment is the term used across schools and universities for changes made to remove that barrier, without changing what's being assessed.

What counts as a reasonable adjustment

A reasonable adjustment is a change to teaching, learning, or assessment that lets a student with disability or a learning difficulty take part on the same basis as everyone else. Schools and universities are required to provide them under national disability discrimination law, including the [Disability Standards for Education](#), which applies to every education provider in the country. The purpose is to remove a barrier related to the disability, not to change what's being tested. Reasonable adjustments are usually set up in advance, based on an ongoing need, and stay in place across a term, semester, or course. That's different to special consideration, which covers a one-off request made after something unexpected, like an illness or a family emergency, affects a specific assessment. If that's closer to your situation, our guide to [applying for special consideration](#) covers that process instead.

How it works at school

At school, the first step is usually a conversation with a classroom teacher, learning support coordinator, or year level coordinator. Schools are required to look at each student's individual needs and work out which adjustments would help them access the curriculum and show what

they know, using evidence such as an educational assessment, a diagnosis, or documented observations from teachers over time.

Common adjustments at school level include:

- Extra time to complete an exam or assessment task
- A separate, quieter room to reduce distractions
- Use of a computer, word processor, or speech to text software
- A reader to read questions aloud, or a scribe to write down answers
- Modified exam papers, such as larger text or simplified wording
- Rest breaks during longer assessments

Raising this early, ideally at the start of a school year or term, gives schools time to put adjustments in place, particularly ahead of major exams.

How it works at university

University adds an extra step. Rather than a teacher arranging things directly, students usually need to register with the university's disability or equity support service themselves, often before their course starts or early in first semester. A staff member in that service, sometimes called a disability advisor or disability practitioner, helps the student set up what's usually called a [learning access plan](#), setting out the adjustments that apply to their study.

From there, it's the student's responsibility to share that plan with each lecturer or unit coordinator, usually at the start of every semester or whenever they start a new subject. One arrangement at school often covers every class a student takes. At university, it has to be actioned subject by subject, and the plan can be reviewed and updated as those subjects change, since a prac-based unit might need different adjustments to one assessed purely by exam.

Any information a student shares about their disability is treated as confidential, and support services generally can't pass it on to lecturers or other students without the student's consent.

If you don't have formal documentation

Formal adjustments usually rely on some form of documentation, but that's not the only way to get support. Speaking up clearly about what's making an assessment harder, sometimes called self-advocacy, can lead to informal adjustments from a teacher or lecturer without needing to disclose a diagnosis at all. This might look like asking for feedback on a draft before it's submitted, checking you've understood a task correctly, or requesting a quieter spot to sit an in-class test.

Raising it early and being specific about what would help makes it easier for a teacher or lecturer to say yes. It also doesn't rule out applying for formal adjustments later, if that becomes the right option.

Preparing for exam day

Whatever adjustments are in place, general exam preparation still matters. Getting familiar with the format in advance and practising under similar time pressure both help. A calm, distraction-free study space also makes a real difference, and our guide on [building a study environment that actually helps you focus](#) covers how to set one up. Tools like flashcards or a simple summary sheet can make information easier to recall under pressure, and reading through the whole paper before you start writing helps you plan your time instead of running out of it on the first section. For a full breakdown of how to prepare in the weeks and days before a big exam, see our guide on [what to do in the last few weeks before a big exam](#).

Support is there to be used

Reasonable adjustments exist because a standard exam format doesn't suit every student, and schools and universities are required to provide them where they're needed. The process looks different at each stage, more arranged for you at school, more self-directed at university, but the same principle carries through: the adjustment removes a barrier, it doesn't change what's being assessed.

Note: information is accurate as of September 2026, but schools, universities, and government departments regularly update these processes, so check directly with your institution for the specifics.

If you'd like to read more on this topic, our [resources for students with disability](#) cover a wider range of support options. We also have [heaps more study tips](#) and [resources for students with disability](#) on our website.

Jobs & Careers

Could you design the ships of the future?

Think about the biggest ferry, cruise ship or navy vessel you've ever seen. Someone had to design it before a single piece of metal was cut. That someone was probably a naval architect. It's not a job many people talk about at school, but it impacts everything from surf lifesaving boats to submarines.

If you like maths, love the ocean, and enjoy solving tricky problems, this could be a career worth looking into. Let's dive into some what naval architecture is all about and how you could become a professional in this industry.

What does a naval architect do?

A [naval architect](#) designs and builds ships, boats and other structures that float. That includes cargo ships, ferries, super yachts, navy vessels, and even oil rigs out at sea. They work out how a vessel will handle rough water, how much weight it can carry, and how to keep it stable when it's fully loaded. Every ship needs to be strong enough to survive the sea, but light enough to move through it efficiently. Balancing those two things is most of the job.

[Naval architects](#) don't work alone. They team up with marine engineers, who focus on the engines and machinery, and with shipbuilders, who turn the drawings into something real. A lot of the design work now happens on computers, using software that can test how a hull will behave in a storm before it's ever built.

Pathways into the field

In Australia and New Zealand, naval architecture is usually studied through an engineering degree, and there are a few different routes in.

Some universities offer naval architecture as a specialist stream within a broader engineering degree. At UNSW Canberra, for example, students doing a [Bachelor of Naval Architecture Engineering \(Honours\)](#) spend their first two years studying mechanical engineering before moving into a specialised naval architecture stream for their third and fourth years. Other students like those at Flinders University complete the first two years there before transferring to the [Australian Maritime College](#) to finish the [Bachelor of Engineering \(Naval Architecture\) \(Honours\)](#) head to Tasmania, for their dedicated naval architecture and maritime engineering units/degrees. Alternatively, you could complete a related degree and choose a postgraduate qualification like the [Submarine Naval Architecture Maritime Engineering course offered at Adelaide University](#).

New Zealand doesn't have as many courses with "naval architecture" in the title, but there's still a clear path. [Auckland University of Technology runs a maritime engineering major](#) where students study for two years in Auckland, then transfer to the Australian Maritime College in

Tasmania to specialise in naval architecture or ocean engineering. Students at the [University of Auckland](#) can also build a strong base through mechanical engineering, then branch into marine-related projects and research later on. There's also the possibility of studying overseas depending in the courses, costs, and other requirements.

None of these pathways are quick. Most naval architecture degrees take four years, and after that, graduates typically build up more hands-on experience before they're considered fully qualified. It's a long road, but it leads somewhere quite specific and quite rare.

Naval architect or marine engineer?

You'll often hear naval architecture mentioned alongside marine engineering and ship building, and it's easy to mix them up. The simplest way to tell them apart is to think about what each person is focused on. A naval architect designs the vessel itself: its shape, structure, stability, and how it will handle the water. A marine engineer, on the other hand, looks after what makes the vessel move and function, including the engines, propulsion systems, electrics, and other onboard machinery.

In practice, marine engineering and naval architecture roles can overlap a lot, and many degrees, including some in Australia and New Zealand, teach both areas before students specialise. If you love the maths of hull shapes and stability, naval architecture may suit you best. If you're drawn to engines, systems, and how things are powered, marine engineering could be the better fit. Either way, the school subjects and early pathways are very similar, so you don't need to choose too early.

A shipbuilder is the person (or company) that actually constructs the vessel from the designs from the naval architect. This covers the physical work of shaping and welding steel, assembling hull sections, fitting out the interior, and installing engines and equipment on the shipyard floor. Shipbuilding is a hands-on trade, and it involves large teams of tradespeople such as welders, fitters and riggers, usually working under a shipyard's project managers and engineers. Again, ship builders often work closely with naval architects throughout a project, since a design has to be practical to build, and builders often flag issues that feed back into the design.

Skills you'll need

Maths and physics are foundational to naval architecture, so a solid handle on both will take you a long way. You'll need to be comfortable with numbers, but also with visualising how things move and behave, since so much of the job involves predicting how a ship will act in water long before it's built.

Problem-solving is just as important as having raw number skills. Ships have to work in tough and unpredictable conditions, so architects need to think through what could go wrong and design around it. Attention to detail is essential too, a small mistake in a calculation could turn into an expensive, or even dangerous, mistake at sea.

It also helps to be a good communicator. Naval architects work closely with engineers, shipbuilders and clients, and a design is only going to become a reality if you can explain it clearly to the people who'll be building, buying, and using it.

Subjects and experience that can help

As we mentioned before, maths and physics are the two subjects most likely to open doors here, so keep them up in school if you're considering this path. Design and technology subjects are useful too, particularly anything involving computer-aided design, since that's a tool you'll use constantly at university and beyond.

Work experience doesn't need to be inside a shipyard to be worthwhile. Time spent with a local boat builder, marine surveyor, or engineering firm can show you what the day-to-day work is really like, and it looks strong on any university application. Joining a sailing club, helping maintain boats, or even building small model boats at home all show genuine interest and

initiative, which admissions teams notice. Plus it will give you invaluable real-world knowledge about how boats are built and function. If you can find work experience connected to engineering more broadly, that's still a great foundation, since the first year or two of most naval architecture pathways overlaps heavily with general engineering study.

Ready to chart your course?

Naval architecture is a specialised field, but it rewards curious, maths-minded students who want a career with purpose. If you're weighing up whether this pathway is right for you, it's worth exploring the different study routes available and how they connect to your interests.

Remember, if you [study engineering](#) more broadly to start off with, you'll have more options and back up plans if you change your mind down the track.

Take a look at our [Job Spotlights](#) to see learn about other careers on the water (or on land) and their pathways that might interest you.

First Jobs

What you're entitled to when you leave a job

Every job ends differently. You might resign and move on to something else, your employer might decide your role isn't continuing, or a casual role might simply stop being rostered without either side making it official. Which of these applies to you determines what you need to do first, starting with notice.

Giving notice when you're resigning

If you're in a permanent role and decide to resign, the notice you need to give comes from whichever document sets out your pay and conditions, your award, enterprise agreement, or employment contract. If none of these mention notice, you're not legally required to give any, though it's considered good practice to give some so your employer has time to adjust.

You can give notice verbally, but it's worth putting it in writing too, including the date you intend to work until. This gives both you and your employer a clear record of when your employment ends.

If your employer ends your employment

If your employer is the one ending things, they generally need to give you [notice based on how long you've worked there](#):

- Less than 1 year: 1 week
- 1 to 3 years: 2 weeks
- 3 to 5 years: 3 weeks
- More than 5 years: 4 weeks

You could also be entitled to an extra week if you're over 45 and have worked there for at least two years. If your employer doesn't want you to work out this notice period, they can pay you instead of having you come in. This is known as payment in lieu of notice.

There are exceptions. Your employer doesn't need to give any notice if you're dismissed for serious misconduct. If your role is being made redundant because the business no longer needs it done, you may be entitled to separate [redundancy pay](#) on top of your notice. This doesn't apply to everyone. Casual employees, staff who've worked there for less than 12 months, and staff at small businesses with [fewer than 15 employees](#) generally aren't entitled to redundancy pay, even if the redundancy meets all the legal requirements.

Casual work and notice

A casual role doesn't come with the same notice requirements as a permanent one. Since there's no ongoing guarantee of shifts on either side, [a casual role can end](#) because you stop being available or because you're no longer being rostered on, without a formal resignation or dismissal taking place. Neither side is usually required to give notice in this situation, though it's still worth letting your employer know your last day, or checking in if you're unsure whether you're still expected on the roster.

We've covered how casual work differs from part-time and full-time roles, including what that means for entitlements, in [our article on the difference between casual, part-time, and full-time work](#).

Your last day

On your last day, you should be paid for every hour you've worked, including any penalty rates (extra pay for things like weekend or public holiday shifts) or allowances owed. You may be asked to return anything belonging to the workplace, like uniforms or equipment, and some employers use the opportunity to ask for feedback on your way out. You'll usually get a final payslip covering the period between your last regular pay and your final day.

What your final pay includes

Your final pay is the last payment you receive after your employment ends. Along with pay for hours worked, [it should include](#):

- Any unused annual leave you've built up, plus leave loading if your job includes it, an extra percentage some workers are paid on top of their normal rate while on leave
- Payment in lieu of notice, if your employer chose not to have you work out your notice period
- Redundancy pay, if your role was made redundant & you meet the requirements
- Accrued long service leave, extra paid leave you may be entitled to after many years with the same employer

Not every item applies to every situation. A casual role ending, for example, usually won't involve any of these, since [casual employees don't build up annual leave](#) in the same way.

What doesn't get paid out

[Unused sick and carer's leave isn't paid out](#) when your employment ends, no matter how much you've built up. This is different to annual leave, which does get paid out. It's worth understanding the difference well before you leave a job, since it's an easy detail to miss if you've been saving personal leave rather than using it. We've covered this in more detail in [our article on sick leave vs personal leave](#).

When you should get paid

Most employers need to pay your final pay [within seven days of your last day](#), though the exact timing can depend on your award or employment contract. Superannuation, the retirement savings your employer contributes on your behalf, is a separate process. Since 1 July 2026, employers have needed to [pay super at the same time as wages](#) rather than once every three months, and it needs to reach your super fund within seven business days of payday. This applies to your final pay too.

What to do if something doesn't add up

If your final pay looks off, start by checking it against your payslips and the hours you've actually worked. It's reasonable to ask your employer or payroll to explain how it was worked out. If you've asked and things still don't line up, the Fair Work Ombudsman has free tools and guidance that can help you work out what you're owed.

Note: information is accurate as of September 2026, but workplace rules around pay and leave are reviewed regularly, so it's worth checking the [Fair Work Ombudsman](#) directly if you want the specifics that apply to your situation.

If you're new to working life and want to build a broader understanding of how jobs work, you can find more in our [Jobs & Careers section](#).

Competitions, Fees & Scholarships

Understanding different scholarship types

Most students apply to a handful of scholarships and never find out why they missed out, or realise they were never really in the running for that one to begin with. Knowing what a scholarship is checking for before you apply changes that.

Why scholarships are worth applying for

- Help cover education costs, including course fees, textbooks & everyday living expenses
- Strengthen a resume or university application
- Open doors to networks, mentoring & other opportunities beyond the funding itself
- Don't need to be paid back, unlike a student loan

What's the difference between a scholarship, bursary, grant, and prize?

These words get used almost interchangeably, but they're not quite the same thing. The University of Melbourne distinguishes scholarships (awarded based on merit or personal circumstances), prizes (awarded for a specific current achievement), bursaries (awarded for financial need), and grants (put toward education costs more broadly). The University of Sydney adds that bursaries specifically cover essential living and study costs, not things like tuition or travel.

In practice, the lines blur constantly. Some universities use "bursary" and "scholarship" as different words for the same thing, and a "prize" for a single outstanding piece of work can function exactly like a one-off scholarship.

Merit scholarships

Merit scholarships are awarded for what you've achieved. They can be based on:

- Academic achievement, usually strong results in senior secondary studies or in a university course already underway
- Sporting excellence, shown through competition results, representative honours, or a clear elite pathway
- Creative or artistic talent, demonstrated through a portfolio, audition, or recorded performance
- Leadership, built through student leadership, captaincy, or a track record of organising others toward a shared goal
- Community involvement, particularly sustained volunteering over time, more than a single one-off event

Most merit scholarships are offered directly by individual universities. There's no single centralised application, so eligibility and what counts as evidence changes from one institution to the next.

Equity scholarships

Equity scholarships work differently, responding to financial hardship or educational disadvantage instead of achievement. This can include:

- Financial hardship, often connected to a Centrelink payment like Youth Allowance or ABSTUDY
- First Nations students
- Students with disability
- Students from regional or remote areas
- Students who are the first in their family to attend university

You'll usually still need to meet the course's entry requirements, but your academic performance beyond that isn't the deciding factor. For more detail on two of these groups specifically, we've got separate guides on [scholarships for regional and rural students](#) and [scholarships for students with disabilities](#).

Subject-specific and industry scholarships

A third category doesn't sit neatly under either of the above, since it's built around funding source and field of study rather than achievement or circumstance. These come from employers, industry bodies, or professional associations wanting to attract people into a specific field, engineering, nursing, or teaching, for example.

They tend to split into two different arrangements. Some are tied to future employment: the sponsor covers your study costs, and in return you commit to working for them, or in that industry, for a set period after you finish. Others carry no such obligation, offered by a professional association or foundation simply to support people studying in that field. Eligibility and structure vary widely by industry and sponsor, so this deserves its own read instead of a full summary here. Our guide on [industry-specific scholarships](#) goes into more detail.

One-off vs ongoing scholarships

Scholarships also differ in how long they last. Some pay out once, covering a single year, semester, or specific cost, and finish there. Others are ongoing, continuing for the length of a degree provided certain conditions keep being met, most often maintaining a minimum level of academic performance, staying enrolled full-time, or continuing to meet the circumstances the scholarship was originally awarded for. The University of Melbourne structures its coursework scholarships this way too, either as a one-off payment or a series of regular payments spread across the course.

This matters when comparing offers. Because ongoing scholarships pay out repeatedly, their total value across a degree depends on how long they run, not just the amount advertised up front, and losing eligibility partway through can mean losing the funding too. Whether an offer is one-off or ongoing, and what's required to keep it, is worth checking before accepting, not after.

Working out which category fits you

A single scholarship can sit in more than one category at once. An equity scholarship might still expect solid entry requirements, and a merit scholarship might specifically target students heading into a particular field. The title alone won't tell you this, so reading the full criteria is what shows what a scholarship is looking for, and whether it fits your situation.

Our [scholarships hub](#) has more on how to apply, current opportunities in our database, and support for specific circumstances.

University, Vocational Education

How credit transfer works for TAFE and university study

A lot of students take a mixed route into and through university: TAFE first, then a degree, or one course that turns into a different one, or a move from one university to another partway

through. None of that has to mean starting from scratch. There's a formal process that lets study from one step count toward the next, called credit transfer.

What is credit transfer?

Credit transfer is the formal recognition of study you've already completed, applied toward a new course. If a subject or unit you've finished lines up closely enough with something taught in your new course, you may not have to study it again.

Universities and TAFE providers don't hand this out automatically. Someone has to check your previous results against the new course and work out how closely the content lines up before any recognition is approved.

From TAFE into a university degree

TAFE study and university study aren't always treated as separate tracks. Many universities have set agreements with TAFE providers, often called articulation agreements, that map a specific TAFE qualification onto a set amount of credit in a related degree. A Diploma completed at TAFE could, in some cases, line up with close to a full year of a related Bachelor degree under one of these agreements, though the exact amount varies by course and provider. Even where there's no formal agreement in place, you can usually still apply for credit transfer directly. You submit your TAFE transcript, and the university assesses your units against their course content. This is one of the reasons a TAFE pathway can still lead somewhere further, rather than being a separate option to university altogether.

A worked example

Consider how this might play out for one student. They spend two years completing a Diploma in Business at TAFE, then apply for a Bachelor of Business at university. Under an articulation agreement between the two providers, the Diploma is recognised as equivalent to first year, so the student enters directly into second year and finishes the Bachelor in around two more years. That's four years of combined study rather than five. The specifics depend entirely on the agreement in place and how closely the two courses match.

Between two degrees, or two universities

You don't need TAFE study behind you for credit transfer to apply. Starting a degree, then switching into a different course, or moving to a different university partway through, doesn't necessarily mean losing the subjects you've already completed. Each one is checked individually against what's taught in the new course, based on content and learning outcomes rather than the subject's name or code.

This matters most for students whose interests shift once they're actually studying something, or who need to move for personal reasons partway through a degree.

Where credit transfer has limits

Credit transfer isn't unlimited, and there are three main boundaries worth understanding early. First, most providers cap how much credit you can receive based on the total length of the course, so a shorter course might allow recognition for around half its units, while a longer degree might only allow it for part of the first year or two.

Second, being granted credit isn't the same as being accepted into a course. These are assessed separately, so meeting one doesn't automatically mean you've met the other.

Third, recognition is assessed unit by unit, not as a full qualification. Some subjects in your new course might not have a match in your previous study, meaning you'd still need to complete them regardless of how much other credit you're given.

What it changes about your course length and workload

The clearest effect of credit transfer is on two things: how long your course takes, and how much you're studying at any one time. Enough recognised study can mean skipping whole semesters, letting you start partway through a degree and finish sooner than someone starting from the beginning. In other cases, the course length stays the same, but recognition reduces how many subjects you're juggling in the semesters it applies to.

Which of these happens depends on how the course is structured. Some degrees only let recognition reduce elective subjects, meaning your overall timeline doesn't shift even though your weekly workload does. Others allow it against core, discipline-specific subjects, which is far more likely to shorten the course itself. Asking a university directly how this would apply to your situation is the only reliable way to know which one you're dealing with.

Why it matters before you've left school

The subjects and study pathways you're choosing now can affect how much flexibility you have later. If you're deciding between VET in Schools, a TAFE-based pathway, or heading straight into university, these routes are more connected than they might appear as separate options on a subject selection form. Choosing vocational study now doesn't rule out university later, and picking a degree doesn't lock you into finishing that exact course if your interests change. Credit transfer is what makes that flexibility possible in practice. Without it, switching direction partway through would generally mean starting the new course from the beginning.

Checking if credit transfer applies to you

Most universities have an online credit assessor or a searchable credit transfer database, so you can check what your previous study might be worth before you formally apply. You'll typically need your transcript, or your Unique Student Identifier, known as a USI, along with outlines of the specific units or subjects you've completed, so the university can compare the actual content. A university's admissions team or student advisor can also explain what's likely to count in your case, since this can vary depending on the course and how long ago you completed your previous study.

If you want to learn more about the different pathways into and through university, check out our [university](#) section.

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