



Dates to Diarise in Term 4

- Year 12 VTAC late applications – throughout October (with late fee)



Reminder: VTAC 2026 Upcoming Key Dates



ATARs Released	Thursday 11 December 2025
Change of Preference (CoP) closes	Saturday 13 December 2025
December Round Offers	Tuesday 23 December 2025
January Round One Offers	Tuesday 13 January 2026
January Round Two Offers	Tuesday 27 January 2026
February Offer Rounds	Tuesday 3 February 2026 onwards

Students applying for courses with **essential requirements** (i.e., submitting a folio, a pre-selection kit, arranging an interview, etc.) are reminded that failure to meet the deadline date for these means students may no longer be eligible for selection into that course.

For a full list of cancelled, amended, and new courses, visit [VTAC Course Updates](#).

The VTAC website is www.vtac.edu.au



Tax File Number (TFN) – REMINDER to Year 12s

Any student will need a tax file number if he/she starts work (part-time and full-time) and all students planning on a tertiary education require one when they start.

Importantly, current **Year 12 students are reminded** that they cannot enrol in a CSP course (Commonwealth Supported Place: the Australian Government pays part of the course fees) at university without a Tax File Number, so **all students applying to CSP courses should have their Tax File Number organised before 2026 tertiary course places are offered in December.**

Visit [Apply for a TFN | Australian Taxation Office](#)

Low Income Health Care Card for Australian and PR Students

*Once you have finished school you are no longer a student and you may be eligible for a **Low Income Health Care Card**.*

This card gives access to a range of [benefits](#), not only on some health care items but also on a range of other goods and services if you are on a low income.

In particular, some TAFE and other short courses may offer discounts for cardholders.

You may also be eligible for public transport concessions (note that if you are studying interstate you are not eligible for public transport concessions in Victoria).

Eligibility for a Low Income Health Care Card is based on YOUR income over the previous 8 weeks before applying. As long as your income is less than \$6,288 over that period (or \$786 per week) you are eligible to apply. You will be eligible to keep the Low Income Health Care Card as long as your income does not exceed \$7,860 (or \$982.50 per week) in any 8 week period prior to renewing your card.

It is highly recommended that all eligible graduating Year 12 students consider applying for this card once the exams are over.

Visit [Low Income Health Care Card - Services Australia](#) and find out more about all the benefits, your eligibility, and how to apply.



Useful Websites and Links

Discover Your Career - a website launched by the National Careers Institute, and become more informed about career ideas, career industries, and how to become job ready.

[Explore Your Career | Your Career](#)

Myfuture - a career information & exploration service providing current career information, articles and links to many resources.

[Myfuture - Australia's National Career Information Service | Myfuture](#)

Careers Online - career research, resume help, job hunting tips, job links, etc.

[Welcome to Careers Online](#)

Workforce Australia - free online jobsite, searches can be made by region and state, occupational category, type of employment – casual, part-time, or full-time, and covers a range of occupations.

[Workforce Australia for individuals](#)

Victorian Government Vacancies - find out about government jobs and careers available at the Victorian Government of Australia.

[Careers in the Victorian government public sector](#)



Useful Tips for a University Degree Wannabe (UDW)

UDW: definition - a person who is convinced they want to go to University but are not sure where or exactly what they want to study! Also suffers from ATAR anxiety.

- Choose a degree that allows some flexibility in selecting a sequence of units that is right for you
- Make sure the program offers opportunities for practical work experience (sometimes called Industry Based Learning)
- Do not base your decision solely on what your friends are doing
- LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION!!! Make sure travel time from your residence to the campus is within what you are willing and able to do on a day to- day basis
- Do not just pick courses based on ATAR alone



Study Abroad & Exchange Programs offered by Victorian Universities

Students who choose to take up an opportunity to do some of their university study overseas get the opportunity to immerse themselves in another culture, study at an overseas university, and really get to engage with students and lecturers at those institutions.

A bonus of many study-abroad programs is that students get to study for one or two semesters at these overseas partner institutions and earn credit towards their degrees.

Find out more about the Study Abroad programs offered, by browsing the following links:

Australian Catholic University	<u>Study overseas - ACU</u>
Deakin University	<u>Study abroad - Deakin</u>
Federation University	<u>Study abroad - Federation University Australia</u>
La Trobe University	<u>Studying overseas - La Trobe University</u>
Monash University	<u>Monash Abroad - Study Abroad</u>
RMIT University	<u>Study Overseas - RMIT University</u>
Swinburne University	<u>Study Abroad & Exchange - Swinburne</u>
University of Melbourne	<u>Study overseas - The University of Melbourne</u>
Victoria University	<u>Study overseas - Victoria University</u>

Links to Victorian University Clubs & Societies

Australian Catholic University	Clubs and Societies – ACU student life
Deakin University	Clubs and Societies - Deakin
Federation University	Clubs and Groups - Federation University Australia
La Trobe University	Amenities and Facilities - La Trobe University
Monash University	Clubs and Societies – Monash University
RMIT University	Student life - RMIT University
Swinburne University	Clubs & Student Organisations - Swinburne
University of Melbourne	Student Groups and Clubs - UniMelb
Victoria University	Clubs & student groups - Victoria University

Useful links to Victorian Universities Student Support Services

Australian Catholic University	Student Services – ACU student life
Deakin University	Student life and Services - Deakin
Federation University	Student Support - Federation University Australia
La Trobe University	Support to Help You Thrive - La Trobe University
Monash University	Student Services - Monash University
RMIT University	Student Support - RMIT University
Swinburne University	Student Support Services - Swinburne
University of Melbourne	Student Services directory - University of Melbourne
Victoria University	Advice & Support - Victoria University



University Terms

When students are looking into university study, they often come across words or terms they are unfamiliar with. Here are a few of the more commonly used terms to help students understand what these mean.

Associate Degree – an associate degree is generally a two-year qualification that is made up of two-thirds of a bachelor's degree and may be offered by both TAFEs and universities. Students often use this as a steppingstone to the full Bachelor Degree.

Assumed knowledge – refers to subjects the university recommends or prefers a student to have studied at school before starting the course.

ATAR – Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank – the figure used by UAC and VTAC to calculate the entrance ranking for a university course.

Bachelor's degree – the award/qualification a student gains when they have completed studies in an undergraduate course, which takes between 3 or 4 years of full-time study. This is the traditional starting point of a university qualification.

Bridging Course – an introductory course to help students achieve the preferred entry level to a degree, e.g., a bridging maths course for students who do not have the preferred maths but need it to access a course.

Census Date – the last day a student can withdraw from their university course and not owe fees.

Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP) – a student's enrolment in a university degree for which the Commonwealth government contributes towards the cost of that student's education.

Credit – if a student has previously studied – perhaps at TAFE – and has Recognised Prior Learning (RPL), the student may be able to receive credit for a subject or subjects in their course. Also often referred to as *Advanced Standing*.

Double degree – a student can choose to complete a double degree – this integrates studies in two degrees resulting in an award of two degrees, usually after a minimum of 4 years of study. Often also referred to as *Combined Degrees*.

Defer – a student may choose to delay starting their course. Deferring an offer of a place might mean delaying for 6, 12, 18 or 24 months. Deferral ensures the student is guaranteed their place in their selected course.

Elective – a subject that is not core to the degree and is often from another faculty, e.g., a commerce student might choose psychology (from the Arts Faculty) as an elective.

Faculty – a department within a university devoted to a particular area of study, e.g., Faculty of Arts or Faculty of Science.

FEE-HELP – a loan scheme for domestic students used to pay all or part of an eligible student's tuition fees for university courses but cannot be used for additional study costs such as accommodation or textbooks. A 20% loan fee usually applies.

HECS-HELP – a loan scheme that assists domestic students with a CSP place to pay their contribution. Students may choose to pay their fees upfront or choose to defer payment via the HECS-HELP loan scheme.

Honours – many Bachelor degrees offer a fourth year – called an Honours year. The Honours year allows students to further focus on a particular area of interest. The Honours year can either be integrated into a 4-year bachelor's degree or be offered as a separate year after completion of a 3-year bachelor's degree.

Lecture – a period of teaching given by a lecturer to a large group of students in a lecture theatre; can often be as many as 300 students in a lecture.

Major study – an area within a course that allows in-depth study in a particular field. More than one major may be allowed in some courses.

Minor study – a grouping of subjects allowing a broader understanding of a few subjects, with less emphasis on in-depth study.

Prerequisite – a set of conditions – usually the completion of a subject – that must be met before enrollment in a subject or course is allowed.

SA-HELP – SA-HELP is a loan scheme that assists eligible students to pay for all or part of their student services and amenities fees – so, non-academic fees.

Transcript – this is the university academic record each student receives, like a school report.

Tutorial – a period of teaching given to a small group of students – involving discussion and participation.

Undergraduate – a student studying at university for a first level degree, e.g., a bachelor's degree.

VET Student Loans – a loan scheme for domestic students used to pay all or part of an eligible student's tuition fees for TAFE courses but cannot be used for additional study costs such as accommodation or textbooks.

Workplace learning – practical training in a workplace, such as internships or practical work experience. This is a hands-on experience – some universities call it *Industry Based Learning* or *Work Integrated Learning*.