FUTURES HUB

Newsletter

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Apprenticeships and Traineeships - FAQ's

Australian Apprenticeships (often referred to as Apprenticeships or Traineeships) are a great way to earn an income while learning new skills. They are available to anyone of working age, enabling you to combine work with study. There are over 500 different occupations. As an Australian Apprentice you can:

- Earn an income while you study
- Gain hands-on work experience
- Get a nationally recognised qualification that is held in high regard in many overseas countries
- Be debt free (no HECS-HELP or FEE-HELP debt).

You can even begin your Australian Apprenticeship while you're still at school, through an *Australian School-based Apprenticeship*. Click here for the answers to the following questions:

- What is an Australian Apprenticeship?
- What are the benefits of apprenticeships or traineeships?
- How much does it pay?
- What kind of jobs do apprenticeships and traineeships cover?

- How long does an Australian Apprenticeship take?
- Need more information?
- Find out more

Post school options - Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships offer nationally recognised qualifications and pathways to over 500 occupations across Australia, from traditional trades to new and emerging occupations. You can explore the many options available by clicking on the links below:

- Learn more about Apprenticeships
    - Australian Apprenticeships offer a world of possibilities
    - First year apprentice's videos
    - VET. It's right now video
    - Occupation shortage list
    - Career stories
- Australian Apprenticeships offer a world of opportunities
    - Find an apprenticeship that suits you
    - Improve your chances

Start an apprenticeship or traineeship

You can find apprenticeship information on the The Queensland Government website. At the *Start An Apprenticeship or Traineeship* webpage you can find information under the following headings:

- Choose the right apprenticeship or traineeship path
- Find an employer for your apprenticeship or traineeship
- Choose your training partner - Apprentice Connect Australia provider

- Choose your training partner - training provider
- Sign a training contract
- Start probation

Check it out!

What you need to know before starting employment

The Fair Work Ombudsman has put together information that will help you successfully transition into your job. Click here to find out more about:

- Before starting employment
- Probation
- Types of employees
- Unpaid work
- Library



Upcoming Australian Defence Force information sessions

For details about the following events and more information on Army Reserve Information Sessions, visit the Defence Jobs Australia Facebook site. or visit the ADF's Upcoming Events.

04/11/2026 Engineering Careers Information Session

05/11/2026 Brisbane Defence Careers Information Session

Townsville Defence Careers Information Session

10/11/2026 Caboolture A Night in the Army Reserve

12/11/2026 Gold Coast Defence Careers Information Session

14/11/2026 Brisbane Army Reserve Experience Day

17/11/2026 Redlands Defence Careers Information Session

Cairns A Night in the Army Reserve



Alternative pathways to university

Can you go to uni without an ATAR? The answer is yes! The Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) is one way universities select students for their courses but it's not the only way. Find out about the ATAR and other pathways available to help you achieve your goals. Find out how to get there without an ATAR here including:

- Enrol in a non-degree or bridging course first
- Enrol in an undergraduate certificate course
- Try vocational education and training (VET)
- Special Tertiary Admissions Test
- Educational Access Scheme
- Selection rank adjustments

Benefits of an apprenticeship pathway

In today's changing world of work, Australia needs a capable, skilled and adaptive workforce. According to The Good Universities **Guide** there are five advantages of apprenticeships and traineeships such as:

- You earn while you learn
- You can choose from a wide variety of interests
- Training is flexible
- You will receive a nationally recognised qualification
- You can start them at school

Busting career myths

Success looks different for everyone. *Your Career* has put together a video about common career myths to help you focus on what's right for you. Click here and scroll down to watch the video.

Career exploration or wanting a plan for next year

myfuture is a great website to find information to assist you in doing some quality career research especially now as key decisions need to be made for senior schooling or life after school. On the myfuture website, you can find information about:

- My career profile - Complete activities to identify interests, values and skills and view suggested occupations to explore career pathways.
- Occupations - Explore over 350 occupations describing tasks, skill levels and current labour market information.
- Industries - Access important information (including employment prospects) for each industry.
- Career articles - Discover practical information to support your career exploration.
- Courses - Discover a course for you by viewing current higher education and vocational education and training (VET) courses.
- Career bullseyes - Find out what career pathways are related to school subjects that you like.

- Career stories - Learn tips and tricks by reading real-life career stories about personal experiences.
- Job Seeker resources - Discover resume and cover letter templates and other resources to help you find and gain a job.
- User guide videos - View short videos that demonstrate key sections of the website to learn how to get the most out of myfuture.

You have to sign up to the site, but it is free and they only ask for an email address and your postcode.

Parents and guardians guide

Is your young person a school leaver and not sure what to do next? Your Career's Parents and guardians guide summarises the resources and information available to help you explore all the education, training and work options available to your young person. It can also help you start a conversation on what's next with their career. Click here to find out more including:

- Parents and guardians guide
- Information in other languages
- Information for School Leavers
- Leaving school and not sure what is next?

School to Work Pathways

Discover how myfuture can help you to explore career pathways and make career decisions. Click here to access infographics that will help you find career/work pathways that support your job interests.

What matters to you?

Your values are the things that matter most to you. Understanding them can help you choose a career that feels right for you. Which of these values are important to you? What would you add?

Adventure: Trying new things and exploring

Assertiveness: Speaking up respectfully for yourself

Authenticity: Being true to yourself

Caring: Looking after yourself, others and the environment

Challenge: Pushing yourself to learn and improve

Cooperation: Working well with others

Creativity: Coming up with ideas and new ways of doing things

Curiosity: Asking questions and making discoveries

Fairness: Treating yourself and others fairly

Humour: Enjoying the funny side of life

Independence: Making your own decisions

Open-mindedness: Considering different views and ideas

Leadership: Taking charge, organising and influencing others

Respect: Valuing yourself and others

Personal growth: Building your skills, knowledge and experience

Support: Helping and encouraging others

Trustworthiness: Being honest, loyal and reliable

Pick your top five. How could these help guide your career choices?

Work experience - give it a go!

Work experience can help you build skills and discover jobs that interest you. Here are three ways to get started:

- **Tour a workplace:** Ask your school or a local employer about a visit.
- **Hear from workers:** Attend career talks or chat with employers at careers expos.
- **Interview someone:** Ask about their career journey and what their job is really like.

Find out more.



2027 St Kilda Film Festival- Under the Radar Film Competition

Presented and produced by the City of Port Phillip, the St Kilda Film Festival supports the Australian film industry by showcasing the best short films. A special category of St Kilda Film Festival is the Youth Short Film Category - Under the Radar. This category provides an opportunity for young filmmakers (under the age of 21) to show their work in an internationally recognised film festival. Click here to find out more information including entry details. Applications close on 31 January 2027.

FLiCKERFEST 2027 FlickerUp Competition reminder

FLiCKERFEST, Australia's premier international short film festival, will be held at Sydney's famous Bondi Beach in January 2027. The Festival in 2027 will celebrate 36 years of screening the best short films from Australia and around the world in competitions and special showcases. FlickerUp submissions deadline is Wednesday 23 November 2026. Click here for more information and entry details.



Inclusive Employment Australia (IEA)

Work is one of life's great adventures. IEA can support you to start or continue your career path. They will work with you to find sustainable and meaningful employment. Find out more about them here including:

- Are you looking for a job?
- Ways IEA can support you
- Who IEA are
- Steps to get started
- Eligibility
- Client stories
- FAQs about IEA for jobseekers
- Other services

Leaving school? Plan your next step

If you're an NDIS participant, support may be available to help you build skills and prepare for life after school. The NDIS website has information about:

- When support is available for young participants
- Support while still at school
- Moving from school to work
- Transitioning from school to further education or training

Explore NDIS information for school leavers.

Ostara Australia

Ostara Australia is a national not-for-profit organisation that works closely with the Australian Government, member services, communities and employers to provide employment services for those job seekers who are the most disadvantaged in Australia. They work with employers to remove these barriers to meaningful employment. Visit their website (click on Participants) to find out more about:

- Supporting you on your mental health
- Who they support
- Eligibility
- Employability training
- Up-skilling
- Access to psychology sessions
- Disability Advocacy
- School leaver employment supports



Agriculture is more than farming

Interested in science, business or the environment? Agriculture offers careers in food production, aquaculture, forestry, horticulture and research. The industry also needs people in sales, transport and product management. Explore agriculture careers, including where you could work, new technology and future job opportunities.

Graduate programs in Queensland Government

Queensland Government offers many university graduates opportunities in a diverse range of public services that include health, education, housing, transport, infrastructure, police, environment, tourism, emergency and community services, to name a few. Find out more about these opportunities here.

Jobs by occupation

Your Career has useful information about different occupations. An occupation is a group of jobs that involve similar tasks. Australia's classification system, ANZSCO, sorts occupations into eight major

groups and is used for employment data. Download here (scroll down) to find out more including:

- Occupation overview
- Managers
- Professionals
- Technicians and Trades workers
- Community and Personal Service workers
- Clerical and Administrative workers
- Sales Workers
- Machinery Operators and Drivers
- Labourers
- Which occupations do young people work?
- Shift towards higher-skilled occupations
- Employment by occupation group

Jobs seekers resources

If you are looking for work during secondary school or beyond and/or considering an apprenticeship, then you can learn how to find opportunities, produce quality applications, prepare for job interviews and more from the myfuture's job seeker resources, tips and templates including information on:

- Before you apply
- Writing your resume and cover letter
- Applying for jobs
- How to prepare for a job interview

Mix creativity with technology

Love being creative and working with tech? Explore careers in gaming, film, design and digital media. You could create virtual worlds, animate characters or design apps that are easy to use. Career options include:

- Game designer
- Digital animator or 3D artist
- Extended reality (XR) developer
- Graphic designer
- User experience (UX/UI) designer
- Technical artist.

Your creativity, storytelling and problem-solving skills could help you stand out as AI changes the way we work. Find out more here including qualifications to get you there.

Pathway after school support - Link and Launch

Link and Launch support young people who have completed Year 12 but are not in education or employment. They will help you to navigate your options and choose a pathway that will see you successfully transition to study, training or work. Some options you may consider through the program include:

- free apprenticeships for under 25s
- Fee-Free TAFE
- Skilling Queenslanders for Work programs
- alternative entry to university

- employment
- federal incentives and participation programs like Transition to Work.

Click here to find out more remembering that although based at local schools you don't have to be a past student to use their services.

Tips for developing good networking skills

Networking is about building and developing professional relationships that can help you achieve your employment goals. Networking can take many forms. You can:

- join professional associations
- attend formal networking or business events
- build relationships online or through your existing business or social channels.

Having a network of professional contacts can be useful for:

- getting a better understanding of your dream career or industry
- finding future employment opportunities and
- landing a job.

Click here to find more networking tips.

What is an Archivist and what do they do?

Archivists plan systems for the safekeeping of documents and records and analyse artefacts to assess their relevance and place in those systems. Archivists work primarily in offices and the work suits people who are meticulous, analytical and curious. Some tasks include:

- Examining, Identifying and classifying documents, objects, specimens and artefacts.

- Evaluating and preserving records in keeping with systems and protocols.
- Identifying items that require specialist examination.
- Organising restoration of artefacts based on their deteriorated condition.
- Assessing authenticity of objects and documents.
- Devising record-keeping systems, processes, procedures and indexes.
- Scheduling and arranging the retention and destruction of records.

Click here for more information.

Work Trials - Insights from employers

Employers use work trials to decide whether someone has the skills to do the job and whether they will fit in with the team. Click here for some insights from employers on what they look for during a work trial, including tips on preparing for one:

- What should I expect during a work trial?
- What do employers look for during work trials?
- How can I use this information?
- Tips for preparing for a work trial
- More resources to help you



ACU Scholarships and fee information

Studying is a big financial commitment. Discover how to understand your university fees, work out if you're eligible for scholarships or financial assistance, and learn what other expenses you may have to pay. Click here to find out more about:

- International student fees and scholarships
- Other fees and costs
- Scholarships
    - Find a scholarship
    - International scholarships
- Scholarship stuff you should know
- Finance your studies
- Payments and refunds

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Uni Scholarship for rural and regional students

2027 applications for scholarships open on 1 December 2026 and close on 31 January 2027. Successful recipients will be notified early in 2027. What you need to know:

- There are three scholarships:
    - Regional and Rural Scholarship for University and TAFE:
        - University - $6,500 per year for 2 years
        - TAFE - $5,000 per year for 2 years
    - Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Scholarship for University and TAFE
        - University - $6,500 per year for 2 years
        - TAFE - $5,000 per year for 2 years
    - Agribusiness Scholarship for University and TAFE
        - University - $6,000 per year for 2 years
        - TAFE - $3,000 per year for 1 years

Click here to find more information including a 'Fast Facts' section.

Griffith University Adam Scott Foundation Sports Business Scholarship

The Adam Scott Foundation Business Scholarship is for students who have overcome adversities in their life, are passionate about business and may also have an interest in sport. The scholarship is for payment of the student contribution charges (CSP/HECS). Visit the website for more information. Applications close on 26 January 2027.

QUT Sport Scholarships, applications open now for 2027:

Finishing school and planning to study at QUT in 2027? QUT offers sport scholarships valued from $5,000 to $10,000, paid over two years,

to support talented and high-performing sportspeople. Opportunities include Rising Sports (including esports) and Elite Sport scholarships, alongside scholarships offered in partnership with the AIS, QAS and AusCycling. Successful applicants also receive access to QUT's Elite Sport Program and additional development opportunities. Sport Scholarship applications close 8 January 2027. Explore scholarships and eligibility requirements.

Scholarships for accommodation

With scholarships available for both on-campus residential colleges and approved off-campus purpose-built student living providers, you'll be able to find the support you need. And UQ's scholarships can fund more than just textbooks – for example, our HDR scholarships can be used towards accommodation. Check the scholarships below to find something to suit you. Find out more here including:

- UQ residential scholarships
- On-campus residential college scholarships
- Off-campus purpose-built student living scholarships
- Check out all our scholarships
- On-campus Residential Colleges

Torrens University faculty scholarships

Are you planning to study Business and Technology, Creative Technology, Design, Education, Health or Hospitality or study at the Blue Mountains International Hotel School? Torrens University may have a 2027 scholarship for you. If you're motivated, future-focused and keen to fast-track your career, you are encouraged to apply for one of their scholarships. Successful students get up to 20% off their course fees and access to a range of exclusive opportunities.

UniSQ Academic Excellence scholarships

The USQ Academic Excellence Scholarships are automatically awarded to eligible Year 12 Students who put USQ as #1 on their QTAC application for 2027 and achieve the required ATAR. You do not have to put in an application.

UQ Kathy Hirschfeld AM Scholarship Endowment for Women in Engineering

The purpose of this scholarship is to encourage and support first year female students who are currently experiencing financial barriers to undertake studies in engineering at The University of Queensland. The award is valued at $4,500 for one year. See the website for details. Applications open January 2027 close March 2027.

UQ key scholarships

Here are a few key scholarships that are currently open and accepting applications. All information about scholarships can be found on UQ's Scholarships website.

2027 Academic Scholarships
Applications close 20 November 2026. Click here for more information.

Schools of Business and Economics Indigenous Student Scholarship
Indigenous students in Economics. Click here for more information.

Calboonya Legacy Information Technology and Computer Science Scholarship
For students experiencing financial hardship and enrolled in:

- Bachelor of Computer Science
- Bachelor of Computer Science (Honours)
- Bachelor of Information Technology

- Bachelor of Information Technology (Honours)
- Bachelor of Science (Computer Science Major)
- Bachelor of Science (Honours) (Computer Science Major)
- any dual program including the above programs.

Applications open January 2027 close March 2027. Click here for more information.



InspireU Explore

InspireU Explore is a 5-day residential camp for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high school students focused on building aspirations. If you're in Years 9 to 11 in 2026, this is your chance to participate in a wide range of activities at UQ's 2027 camp that will help you get a better idea of what university life is all about. Click here for more info including eligibility and application process. Applications close on 15 November 2026.

InspireU Scholars

InspireU Scholars is a 2-year program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander senior school students who are committed to attending university. Key activities include:

- tutoring, webinars and one-on-one check-ins
- two 5-day residential camps
- help to transition to UQ during and after Year 12

Find out more here including:

- Guidance activities in Year 11 and 12

- Camps
- Transitioning to UQ
- Program timeline: camps and activities
- Key dates
- Transport
- How to apply

It is a free program and applications close on 15 November. Find out more here.

Pearl Duncan Teaching Scholarship

If you identify as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and are studying or intend to study an undergraduate or postgraduate teacher qualification, the Queensland Government's Pearl Duncan Teaching Scholarship might be right for you. The scholarships are valued at up to $40,000 and the opportunity to secure permanent employment as a teacher in a Queensland state school after graduation. You must be commencing an undergraduate Teacher Education (ITE) program, such as a Bachelor of Education. Applications close on 11 December 2026. See the website for details.

SAE University College's First Nations Scholarship

SAE's Creative First Nations Scholarship celebrates Indigenous students commencing a full-time Bachelor's degree in Trimester 1, 2027. The scholarship covers the full tuition costs of successful applicants. Applications close on 8 January 2027. Click here for more information.



Gap year may be an option

Taking a gap year after school is becoming more popular in Australia and abroad. It's not difficult to see why as employers are on the lookout for well-rounded candidates with 'work ready' skills. Also, many universities and TAFEs are accepting student deferrals for a gap year. Some openly support their many benefits to students. Click here to find out more about Gap years: making them work for you including:

- Volunteer at home
- Travel
- Upskill and get fit while you're at it
- Time out
- Work in any capacity



Compare US colleges and universities

When researching US colleges and universities, you can open an account on the College Board website to save all your college planning activities. The website has a Compare Colleges page where you can compare up to three colleges. It can help you research.

QUT International student information

Finishing high school and starting university is a once in a lifetime experience. If you're an international student finishing Year 12 in Australia, click here to find out how QUT can assist you by providing information about:

- Scholarships
- Adjustment schemes
- ATAR requirements
- Changing your preferences
- Double degrees
- Global opportunities
- Student life
- Workplace experience

World University Rankings 2027

Discover the top universities worldwide with the *Times Higher Education* World University Rankings 2026. This year, they have ranked 2,297 institutions from 118 countries and territories.

University rankings 2027: Highlights

- University of Oxford is number one for record 11th consecutive year
- China's Tsinghua University rises to number 11, overtaking Switzerland's ETH Zurich
- Asia is ahead of continental Europe for the first time

- National University of Singapore (NUS) moves into top 15
- Three Asian universities in top 15 for the first time

Click here to explore the table and discover the full rankings and how universities around the world are performing this year.



ACAP online Information sessions

Australian College of Applied Professions (ACAP), is hosting Online Info Sessions this November on the following careeer pathways:

- Psychology - 17 November; 6pm
- Social Work - 17 November; 7pm
- Counselling - 18 November; 7pm
- Criminology - 18 November; 6pm
- Coaching - 16 November; 6pm

It's a great opportunity to hear directly from their academics and Course Advisors, gain rich insights into their courses and have your questions answered. The sessions will be held between 16 and 18 November. Find out more here including registration information.

Jazz Music Institute (JMI) 2027 courses and audition information

Keen to study at JMI? You'll need to pass an audition.

- Check your course's audition requirements.
- Domestic students: complete the audition application form. JMI will contact you to book your audition.

- International students: visit the International Students page to apply.

The audition costs $30, payable on the day. Questions? Contact JMI.

JMC Academy – Creative Workshops for High School Students

JMC Academy is offering hands-on workshops across their creative disciplines for students in Years 10-12 to diversify their skills and to get an authentic taste of the JMC student experience.

- Range from one-hour 'taster' sessions to three-hour deep dive experiences either as an excursion on the JMC campus or as in incursion at your school
- Designed across the creative disciplines of Music, Audio Engineering, Film & Television, Animation, Game Design and Entertainment Business Management, tailored to students' current skills and creative interests
- Taught by industry professional lecturers using the course curriculum to enhance your working projects, refine your skills and provide guidance on the various pathways into a creative career

Workshops are designed for student groups of any size and are facilitated across the term and school holidays – and it's free! Contact their Outreach Team and speak to your teacher to learn more about the range of hands-on learning experiences they can provide.

SAE Scholarships

SAE scholarships are now open, providing financial support to talented applicants across a variety of backgrounds. Check out their scholarships on offer and apply. You might even get one!

SAE University College's Music degree

Keen on a music career? SAE's Bachelor of Music helps you build creative and business skills for a changing industry. Hear from about their course and how the degree could support your future in music.



Assistance schemes and Adjustment Factors

Need support getting into uni or paying for study? Explore QTAC's:

- Educational Access Scheme (EAS)
- Financial Assistance information
- Other Assistance schemes, (scroll down) including special admission and elite athlete schemes.

Check eligibility and deadlines early — some schemes require you to apply before receiving an offer. Visit individual university websites for their support options too.

Contacting QTAC

If you have any questions or need some assistance from QTAC you can call them on 1300 467 822. Their phone lines are open from 8.45am to 4.30pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and from 9:00am to 4.30pm Wednesday.

Do you have all your QTAC documents and numbers in a safe place?

Including:

- A copy of your QTAC preferences

- Your QTAC password
- Your QTAC reference number
- Your LUI, Learning Account password and Unique Student Identifier (USI).

If you are going on holidays over Christmas, especially overseas, you should take these with you.

QTAC FAQs

Q Will I get an offer for all the courses I applied for through QTAC?

A No. You will only receive one offer for your highest eligible preference course that you are competitive for. Therefore, it is essential to order your courses according to your preference, putting the course you most want first and having a 'safety net' course as your 6th option.

Q Will I get a letter in the mail from QTAC with my offer?

A No. If you have an offer, QTAC will notify you by email or SMS. You need to sign your application on the QTAC website for details of your offer and to respond to your offer. Because there are numerous offer-round dates (see Course offer dates), you must check your emails regularly (including your Junk folder).

Q Is there anything I can do if I don't respond to an offer by the due date?

A Yes. Contact QTAC immediately. QTAC may be able to reinstate your offer.

Q What happens after I have accepted an offer of a course place?

A You enrol at your institution by the due date. Most institutions will have an 'Enrol here' link on the QTAC website. If there's no enrolment link, your university will contact you directly.

Q I have applied for courses that start in Semester One and Semester Two 2027 on my QTAC application. Is this OK?

A Yes, if the Semester One courses are listed before the Semester Two courses. However, a better strategy is to put only Semester One courses on your application in the first instance. After the major offer-round for Semester One courses in January 2027, you can put Semester Two courses on your application if you have not received your preferred offer.

Q What should I do if I don't get an offer?

A First check your application on the QTAC website. You may be ineligible for the courses you applied for. This will be indicated on the Preferences page of your application beside each course preference. Reasons for not receiving an offer may include:

- Quota restrictions (that is, your ATAR/rank did not meet the minimum threshold)
- Failure to satisfy minimum entry requirements (prerequisite subjects, audition, etc.)
- Failure to pay QTAC processing/application fee
- Preferencing your courses incorrectly (e.g. putting semester two courses before semester one courses; not including a 'good' pathways option for your 5th and 6th preferences)
- Applying after the due date for the offer-round
- Not submitting required documents
- Not responding to an earlier offer.

If you don't get an offer and none of the above points apply, contact QTAC immediately.

Q What do I have to do when I receive an offer?

A You must respond to QTAC by the due date. You usually have four days to respond. If you don't respond by the due date, your offer will lapse and your application will become inactive. When you respond to your offer, you have two main options:

- Make an outright acceptance, deferment or rejection OR
- Conditionally accept your offer so you can be considered for higher preferences in future offer rounds. If you choose this option, you must go back into your QTAC application and put your preferences back into your application.

See more information about responding on the Application Services page on the QTAC website.

If you were ineligible for the courses you applied for, you can change your course preferences for consideration in any subsequent offer-round if further offers are made. QTAC usually publishes remaining course vacancies on its website after a major offer-round. You can also contact QTAC by phone, email or Facebook for advice.



QCE Achievement Awards certificates go online

The Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) will issue Queensland Certificate of Education, Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement and Achievement Awards Commendation Certificates electronically via student learning accounts. Eligible students will be able to download their certificate on Wednesday 16 December 2026:

- Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement - for students who undertook an Individualised Learning Program (QCIA)
- Queensland Certificate of Education - for students who meet identified learning outcomes (QCE)
- Certificate of Academic Commendation — for students who achieve an A in six or more General and/or General (Extension) subjects.
- Subject Achievement Commendation — for students who achieve the highest result in at least one General or General (Extension) subject.

Students can access their learning account in the Student Portal, via the myQCE website.



A suggestion as to what to do if you get a mind blank in an exam

Art of Smart has an article which outlines some strategies that may suit you if you get a memory blank during exams. They say that it happens to the best of us! That's why in the video, Rowan will show you how to deal with a mind blank in an exam so that you can come back into focus and maximise your marks anyway. Click here to read about the steps including (only use these if they assist you):

- Step 1: Acceptance
- Step 2: Meditation
- Step 3: Hydration
- Step 4: Self-Talk
- Step 5: Self-Confirmation
- Step 6: Have a Plan!

Stress - How well am I managing it?

Healthdirect has put together some key facts on stress. Knowing what to look for and getting on top of your stress can make your life manageable, successful and happy. Remember, if you are not coping well speak to your Guidance Officer, School Counsellor, Family Doctor or responsible adult. You can read more about the follwing here:

- What is stress?
- How do I know if I'm too stressed?
- What are some common causes of stress?
- How can I manage my stress?
- When should I see my doctor?
- How can I prevent stress?
- What happens if I don't manage my stress?
- Resources and support
- Related information on Australian websites

The Myth of Work-Life Balance, and the Healthy Way Students Can Achieve it

Balancing school, study, part-time work and a social life can feel tricky. Add exercise, hobbies and looking after your mental health, and there's a lot to juggle! Balance means making time for what matters, rather than splitting your time equally. You can read The Switch's article that gives some general tips to help you balance your work, study and social life including:

- Getting organised early
- Getting *a minimum* of eight hours sleep per night
- Working out to maintain health and fitness, and don't make definitive goals
- Making studying the new socialising
- Shutting out distractions
- Giving your brain a rest
- Becoming a list maker



Adult Tertiary Preparation Course

If you don't think you will gain entry to your preferred tertiary course or you need to meet subject prerequisites, consider completing the Certificate IV in Adult Tertiary Preparation. You can learn about this course by visiting the TAFE website.

Semester 1 2027 applications are now open!

Picture where you could be a year from now. TAFE Queensland can help you turn your plans into progress. Find out more about the study areas and courses you can choose from. You can also find information on:

- Course types
- Flexible study options
- Campus locations

TAFE Queensland offers more than trade courses

TAFE offer a wide range of qualifications from Certificates to Diplomas, to Degrees, to trade qualifications all across many different

industry areas. Click here to read more about the different pathways that TAFE offers.

Unilearn Ready Program

Need a pathway to uni or help completing your QCE? The Unilearn Ready Program lets you study three subjects online over 30 weeks, full-time. You'll complete Academic Literacy Skills and choose two electives from Science, Maths, English or Economics. The program can help you gain a QTAC selection rank or complete your QCE. Find out more and how to apply.



Alternate pathways to Uni

Alternative entry pathways are available for people who:

- don't have the ATAR needed for standard admission
- don't have an ATAR at all.

Ways to get into University without an ATAR include:

- Enrol in a non-degree or bridging course first
- Enrol in an undergraduate Certificate course
- Try Vocational Education and Training (VET)

Read more about these options and more here.

Student accommodation in Brisbane

Brisbane is a welcoming city offering an ideal student lifestyle with its vibrant culture, green spaces and high-quality living standards in well-connected suburbs. With so many options available, you may be wondering, 'where is the best accommodation for students in Brisbane?' Discover your options here including style of accommodation and cost.

Australian Catholic University

Don't have the prerequisites for primary teaching?

The Diploma of Educational Studies is a great pathway if you do not meet the prerequisites (English or Maths) for entry into an education course. You can complete the Diploma in one year and request a transfer into the desired initial Education course and receive full credit (apart from the unit/s that you did not have as a prerequisite/s). You can read more here about the units you would study. This is a direct application to ACU, which means you do not list it as a QTAC preference. Contact ACU for more information.

Entry schemes/Adjustment factors

These schemes can help you improve your chances of gaining entry to ACU courses through the allocation of adjustment factors. You can be allocated a maximum of 12 adjustment factors. You don't have to submit an application for most entry schemes however, some require a direct application to ACU. Read the information carefully to be sure you meet all entry requirements and application processes.
The available Adjustment factor categories schemes are:

- Year 12 ACU subject program (max 5 points)
- Elite Athlete and Performers Program (EAPP) (depends on level of competition)
- School relationship program (max 5 points)
- Campus program (max 5 points)
- Regional Schools Program (max 5 points)
- State access and equity schemes (apply through QTAC)

You must apply for the following entry schemes through your QTAC application:

- QTAC's Educational Access Scheme
- ACU's Elite Athlete and Performers Program

Talk with Industry

You can go online and hear from ACU alumni about their professional experiences after completing their studies at ACU. Click here to listen to videos from the following study areas:

- Arts, Education and Teaching
- Business, IT, Law and Human Rights
- Health Sciences
- General Sessions

Central Queensland University

CQUniversity online chat session reminder

If you are thinking about starting a TAFE or university qualification and have a few questions or would like to talk through your study options, join the CQU online chat session from 3 – 6 pm on 19 November 2026. Get to know CQUniversity a little better whether it's in relation to your course of interest, student support services or anything else to do with studying at CQU.

English Language Proficiency (ELP) Requirements

For future international or domestic students born outside of an approved English-speaking country, in addition to specific academic requirements, you will also need to meet the English Language

Proficiency (ELP) requirements for your undergraduate or postgraduate degree. ELP is required regardless of citizenship status and can be met by country of birth, secondary or tertiary education study or an ELP test. For specified CQU courses, countries of birth that meet ELP requirements include:

- Australia
- Canada
- Ireland
- New Zealand
- United Kingdom
- United States of America.

ELP requirements differ amongst undergraduate and postgraduate courses. You'll find details in the Requirements section of their course pages. Find our more here.

Griffith University

Live chat with Griffith and discover your options.

Whether your ATAR results aren't quite what you'd hoped for or you may have a change of heart after submitting your university application, you can chat with someone at Griffith and talk through your pathway and course options. Between 16 – 18 December 2026, the Griffith team will be online to chat with you about your study options and how to make the most of your results, no matter what they look like. Click here to join their free online sessions this December.

One on One Q&A session

You can book a 30-minutes Q&A session to explore your study options, receive personalised application support and get advice on a range of support services available at Griffith. Video call or telephone appointments are available. Click here for more information and booking details.

Sports College applications

If you are competing at a state, national or international level you might be eligible to join the Griffith Sports College. Griffith Sports College supports you by helping you to devote time to training and competition while you complete your tertiary studies at Griffith University. Click here for more information and application details.

Study Griffith's Diploma of Languages part-time with any bachelor degree

Communicating in other languages can be beneficial in almost any career. With Griffith University's Diploma of Languages, you can continue learning a language taken at school or start a new language as a beginner while also studying a degree in another area. You can specialise in one of the following languages:

- Chinese
- Italian
- Japanese
- Spanish

The Diploma is taken part-time on top of your usual studies and completed in two years. Find out more here.

Undergraduate Diploma pathways to Griffith Uni

Griffith University's undergraduate diplomas give you a supported start to your university studies, providing you with a practical pathway to achieving a full bachelor's degree. Click here for more information and a list of Diplomas and pathways that they offer. You will gain credit when applying to a related degree at Griffith Uni.

Queensland University of Technology

Four days. New experiences. Big possibilities. Future You Summit 2027.

The QUT Future You Summit is back in 2027, giving Year 11 and 12 students four days to explore their interests, experience uni life and discover where their future could take them. Meet QUT academics, students, alumni and industry professionals, take on real-world challenges and get hands-on with different study areas across QUT. Ready to explore what your future could look like? Find out more including:

- *Summit will be held: 29 June – Friday 2 July 2027*
- *Applications open: 27 January 2027*
- *Applications close: 22 February 2027*
- *What to expect*
- *Application details*

Interested in Law and the world around you?

You can combine a law degree with the opportunity to explore human behaviour, communication, politics, international affairs and society with QUT's Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Laws (Honours). You will develop advanced skills in critical thinking, communication and ethical judgement, preparing you to contribute across government,

industry, community and policy settings. Explore this double degre now.

QUT campus tours

Explore QUT on guided campus tours with a current student. Tours are available at Gardens Point and Kelvin Grove campuses on 1 and 2 December. Find out more and register here.

University Preparation Program

QUT's redesigned free University Preparation Program provides you with the opportunity to achieve a selection rank and meet assumed knowledge or prerequisite subjects in just one semester of study. Find out more. If the course you are interested in is at another university, check with them to be sure that they will accept any prerequisite gained through the University Preparation Program.

Year 12 ATAR Advice Webinar

Year 12 students are invited to join QUT's ATAR Advice Webinar on Friday 18 December, following the release of ATAR results. The session will provide practical advice about studying at QUT in 2027 including:

- pathways to your preferred course
- how to order your QTAC preferences
- guaranteed entry, study costs and support
- a current QUT student's experience – hear about why they chose QUT.

Find out more and register.

Southern Cross University

Heading off to Southern Cross Uni next year?

Going to Uni is a great adventure with many new academic, social and personal experiences on offer. Remember, help is always at hand if you have any questions about your course options, explore Locations, services and support, accommodation, financial support and university life. Year 12 students are welcome to book a personalised campus tour and talk with the staff face-to-face. The Help and Contact Us team members are also available by phone and email to help you every step of the way.

The University of Queensland

ATAR Advice online event

Year 12 students are invited to join UQ's online event to receive personalised advice on pathways to UQ the day they receive their ATAR, Friday 18 December from 4–7pm. What to expect:

- Live chat one-on-one with UQ Admissions staff.
- Understand your options if your ATAR is higher or lower than expected.
- Get personalised advice on the best pathway to UQ for you.
- Find out how to change your QTAC preferences, and how to respond to an offer.
- Get scholarship application tips.

Find out more information and registration here.

Bachelor of Agricultural Science

The Bachelor of Agricultural Science is becoming more flexible from 2027 with intakes in Semester 1 and Semester 2, plus a new Crop Science major. Check out the Bachelor of Agricultural Science with majors in:

- Animal Science
    - nutrition and reproduction of both grazing animals and intensively housed animals
    - animal health
    - animal behaviour
    - microbiology
    - anatomy and physiology
    - biochemistry and pasture science.
- Crop Science

Doctor of Medicine Multiple Mini Interviews (MMIs)

MMI interviews for the Provisional Entry and Direct Entry pathways will be held from 24–27 November. Offers to participate in an MMI were emailed to successful applicants on 19 October. UCAT cut-off thresholds are:

- Rural: 2120
- Qld: 2330
- Interstate: 2510

Review the MMI process

Effective Thinking and Writing (WRIT1999)

The eligibility criteria for WRIT1999 has changed. Students in Year 11 in 2026 who are from specific backgrounds are encouraged to apply to help improve their Year 12 performance and prepare for uni. Applications open Monday 10 August, 2026 and close at 5pm Sunday 29 November 2026. No late applications can be accepted. The course will be held over a five-day intensive block (9am-3pm) from Monday 11 to Friday 15 January 2027 at UQ's St Lucia campus. There are no tuition fees for this course. Accommodation on campus is available. Find out more info here including eligibility.

Helping Teens manage their exam period

When you have a teenager in high school, navigating the stress of exams is inevitable. You can be prepared by implementing these helpful exam stress tips for parents. Exam stress can take many shapes and forms for both parents and teenagers. What's important is being able to recognise when your teen is stressed and preventing your own stress from affecting their behaviour. Find out more about the following here:

Exam preparation tips for parents

- Create a quiet study space
- Plan a study timetable
- Discuss expectations
- Devise coping methods for stress

Tips for parents during exams:

- Make sure they're eating right
- Encourage them to make sleep a priority
- Get them moving
- Offer reassurance

InspireU Explore camp

InspireU Explore is a 5-day residential camp for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high school students focused on building aspirations. If you're in Years 9 to 11 in 2026, this is your chance to participate in a wide range of activities at UQ's 2027 camp that will help you get a better idea of what university life is all about. Click here for more info including eligibility and application process. Applications close on 15 November.

InspireU Scholars

InspireU Scholars is a 2-year program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander senior school students who are committed to attending university. Key activities include:

- tutoring, webinars and one-on-one check-ins
- two 5-day residential camps
- help to transition to UQ during and after Year 12

Find out more here including:

- Guidance activities in Year 11 and 12
- Camps
- Transitioning to UQ
- Program timeline: camps and activities
- Key dates
- Transport
- How to apply

It is a free program and applications close on 15 November. Find out more here.

School Opportunity Scheme

UQ's School Opportunity Scheme can boost your ATAR by 2 or 4 selection ranks based on your school's Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage (ICSEA) value. The adjustment aims to enhance the educational opportunities for all students. Click here to find out more including:

- Who is eligible
- Find your school's ICSEA value
- How to apply

UQ Residential Scholarship Scheme

The UQ Residential Scholarship Scheme offers financial support to help cover accommodation costs at a UQ approved provider. Apply for scholarships in this scheme if you:

- are or will be residing at a UQ approved accommodation provider, and
- are experiencing financial hardship.

Click here to find out more including:

- How to apply - applications close 4 December 2026
- Scholarships in this scheme
- Approved off-campus purpose-built student living provider
- Cromwell College
- Duchesne College

- Emmanuel College
- International House
- King's College
- St Leo's College
- St John's College
- The Women's College
- UQ Res
- Young Achievers Program

UQ's support for neurodivergent students

UQ offer a range of programs that provide study tips for neurodivergent students and assist with the transition to university life. Find out more here including:

- Tertiary Transition Toolbox
- Drop ins
- Mentoring
- Regular meet ups
- Semester-long ADHD coaching
- Expressive arts for neurodivergence

University of Southern Queensland

Pathways to Uni

UniSQ's pathway programs are your stepping stone into your dream degree. They include:

- UniSQ Ready

- UniPrep
- Indigenous Higher Education Pathway Program
- Pathway Diplomas

Find out more here as it could be an option for you.

You don't have an ATAR but want to go to USQ?

The Accelerated Entry Pathway Program (AEPP) aims to enable school leavers to develop the skills, knowledge and attributes needed to successfully transition from high school to university study. The program provides you with the opportunity to develop the academic literacies required to locate, interpret, analyse and critically evaluate a wide range of information, including quantitative data and to construct and support your own ideas and arguments. This program is online with residential blocks. Click here for more information.

University of the Sunshine Coast

Explore pathways to Uni online session

During this online session you will be able to find out more about UniSC's fee-free bridging program, diploma-to-degree pathways, entry requirements and their popular Equip program, designed to build your confidence and skills before you begin your studies. The webinar will be held on 11 November from 6 - 7pm. The following will be covered:

- How to choose the right pathway for you
- Understanding the application process
- How you can balance study, work and family with our flexible study options

- Support services available to help you succeed including money to help you study and placement payments for select programs
- Answers to your questions from UniSC staff and current students
- Key dates and next steps to get started

Find out more here including registration.

Worried your child won't get the ATAR they need?

For many High School students, the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) represents their final score after 13 years of School. Whatever the outcome, a student's ATAR represents one pathway to university study. Waiting for the final ATAR score can be nerve wracking. Read the article, *Does my ATAR really matter?* from USC's Parent Lounge Updates about some suggestions about how you help your child navigate these times.

Post School Info



School leavers support

Leaving school and not sure what is next? Your Career has put together the School Leavers Information Kit (SLIK) to help young people make their next move. Explore the SLIK as your guide to education, training and work options. Find information including:

- School leavers information kit
- Parents and guardians guide
- Information in your language
- Accessibility

Upcoming Events



Date	Event
04/11/2026	ADF:Engineering Careers Information Session
04/11/2026	Early offer final day to submit docs for 20 Sept round
04/11/2026	GU Final date to submit supporting documentation for the main offer round on 20 November.
04/11/2026	QUT Early offer final date to submit documentation
05/11/2026	ADF: Brisbane Defence Careers Information Session
05/11/2026	ADF: Townsville Defence Careers Information Session
09/11/2026	UQ COllege bridging course applications close
10/11/2026	ADF: Caboolture A Night in the Army Reserve
10/11/2026	UQ Maths Summer School applications close
11/11/2026	UniSQ Explore pathways to UniSC webinar
12/11/2026	ADF: Gold Coast Defence Careers Information Session
12/11/2026	QUT Discover Creative Arts and Design dau
13/11/2026	QUT Early Offer - successful students receive notification
14/11/2026	ADF: Brisbane Army Reserve Experience Day
15/11/2026	UQ InspireU Explore applications close
15/11/2026	UQ's InspireU Scholars applications close

16/11/2026	ACAP Coaching webinar
16/11/2026	GU Early Offer last date to change your course preferences
17/11/2026	ACAP Psychology online webinar
17/11/2026	ACAP Social Work webinar
17/11/2026	QUT Early Offer - last day to rearrange preferences
18/11/2026	ACAP Counselling webinar
18/11/2026	ACAP Criminology webinar
19/11/2026	Bond Medical Program Information Session for 2027 Intake webinar
19/11/2026	CASPER Test for Veterinary Science entry optional test date
19/11/2026	CQUni Online Chat Session
20/11/2026	QUT Early Offers released via QTAC
20/11/2026	UQ Academic shcolarship applications close
23/11/2026	FLiCKERFEST 2027 FlickerUp Competition entries close
24/11/2026	FlickerUp Youth competition closes
29/11/2026	UQ Enhanced Studies Program (ESP) - Semester 1 2027 applications open now
29/11/2026	UQ's Effective Thinking and Writing course applications close
30/11/2026	UniSC scholarship applications close
01/12/2026 to 02/12/2026	QUT Campus tours

07/12/2026	Due date to apply and submit documents for December offer round
11/12/2026	Pearl Duncan Teaching Scholarship applications close
14/12/2026	UQ IML Enrichment program applications close
16/12/2026	QCE results are published on myQCE website portal
18/12/2026	ATAR Advice online event
18/12/2026	ATAR's released
18/12/2026	IBAS will be released for Qld IB students.
18/12/2026	QUT Year 12 ATAR Advice Webinar
21/12/2026	Due date to change preferences for 23 December round offer
31/12/2026	Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) Education Award