In Focus Careers

October 2026



WA Training Award Winners

Good University Guide Ranking

Gifted and Talented Scholarships

Private School Scholarships

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Make your world BIGGER

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Section 1: For Students and Families

Career News

Marlissa White is WA School-based Apprentice of the Year

The WA School-based Apprentice of the Year is Marlissa White, a Year 12 student from Averley College.



AI enhanced image from DTWD Facebook photo.

Marlissa completed a Certificate II in Automotive Servicing Technology through MTA WA while employed by WesTrac.

> *Entering into a male-dominated industry did not deter Marlissa from pursuing a career in the automotive industry. She's always had an interest in understanding how cars and boats operate and has a personal goal to rebuild her own vehicles one day, which is why this school-based apprenticeship was ideal for her. Currently employed by WesTrac, and undertaking one of their first ever traineeships, Marlissa is developing personally and professionally and enjoys inspiring others to consider a VET pathway.*

See 2026 Training Award results HERE.

Student Winners



(Electronic Supply Industry)

- Certificate III in ESI – Distribution Overhead
- Trained at: Power Training Services WA (PTS)
- Employed by: Western Power

Georgia was the first female apprentice at the Western Power's Picton and Collie depot and has evolved from a dedicated apprentice into a highly skilled line worker.



- Certificate III in Sport, Aquatics and Recreation
- Trained at: Royal Life Saving Western Australia
- Employed by: Town of Port Hedland

Annika is demonstrating a level of capability, maturity, and professionalism well beyond her trainee status and exemplifies the success of traineeship programs.



- Diploma of Event Management
- Trained at: South Metropolitan TAFE

Brenna worked with Football West and had the opportunity to get involved with a huge variety of events and training programs that support development and strengthen communities.

	🌟Diploma of Counselling 🌟Trained at: Central Regional TAFE 🌟Employed by: Bega Garnbirringu Health Services Kevin's personal experience strongly influenced his career pathway, and he is now determined to make a difference and help support others.
	🌟Certificate III in Allied Health Assistance 🌟Trained at: North Metropolitan TAFE Leaving Iran was extremely difficult for Shokooh. She chose to study allied health because she understands the complexities of difficult situations and wants to help people feel understood and supported.
	🌟Diploma of Community Services 🌟Trained at: South Metropolitan TAFE Warona is an international student from Southern Africa, with family connections in Zimbabwe and Botswana. Having completed a Diploma in Community Services. She is now studying a Bachelor of Community Services.

Industry Awards



- Delivers training in community services
- Employed by North Regional TAFE

Rebecca is currently completing a Master of Learning and Teaching in Higher Education and working in remote WA.



MTA is at the forefront of electric vehicle, renewable energy and emerging automotive technology training, developing highly skilled, future-ready technicians equipped to meet and support the evolving needs of a rapidly transforming industry.



The National Energy Technician Training Scheme (NETTS) is an industry collaboration that brings together leading oil and gas operators and more than 20 partner organisations to develop the next generation of energy technicians.



ABN Group (ABN) is Australia's leading construction, property and finance company. Through its award-winning Group Training Organisation and dedicated People Development Team, ABN has supported more than 1,700 construction apprentices.



Apex Utilities (Apex) is a Western Australian-owned utilities contractor specialising in horizontal directional drilling and complex underground infrastructure.

Year 5 primary school students: Express Your Interest in 2028 Gifted and Talented Programs

Placement for Year 7, 2028 starts in Year 5

The selection process for the West Australian Education Department Gifted and Talented Programs start when students are in Year 5.

Testing takes place in early Year 6, with placement happening in Year 7.

Limited vacancies may also be available for entry into Years 9, 10 and 11.



- **Perth Modern School** is a fully selective academic school. It's a school just for students with high academic abilities.
- **In School Gifted and Talented** Other schools offer a Gifted and Talented program to students who have high academic abilities within the school. See the list of schools HERE.
- **Regional Schools** may offer an online academic program.
- **John Curtin College of the Arts** offers dance, drama, media arts, music theatre, visual arts, and music. There are other schools that offer specialist music, arts, and media programs. See the list HERE.
- **Mount Lawley and Rossmoyne Senior High Schools offer** specialist language programs. See details HERE.

Register your interest for the **Year 7, 9, 10 or 11**, 2028 intake.

Information to Parents evenings will be conducted by each school in October and November.

Apply for Scholarships to Private Schools Years 4-6

Many private schools in WA offer scholarships to academically gifted students.

Applications open on 21 September:



- **Applications close –** Applications close on 7 February 2027.
- **Tests –** that will happen early in 2027. Tests normally happen on a Saturday in February. The general set date is27 February 2027 but many schools run their tests on a different date.
- **Enrolment –** the tests are for enrolment in 2028.

The only primary school in WA that is currently registered as providing these scholarships is Court Grammar School in Mundijong.

Find details about the scholarship and testing process HERE.

21 September Applications Open for Scholarships to Private Schools Years 7 - 12

The complete list of Western Australian high schools that provide scholarships to academically outstanding students can be found HERE.



- You can read details about what schools are looking for and how to prepare for the test HERE.
- Students can register for the test HERE.
- Different schools set different test dates. It will be on a Saturday in February or March 2027. Once you have registered with a school you will be notified when the test date is set.

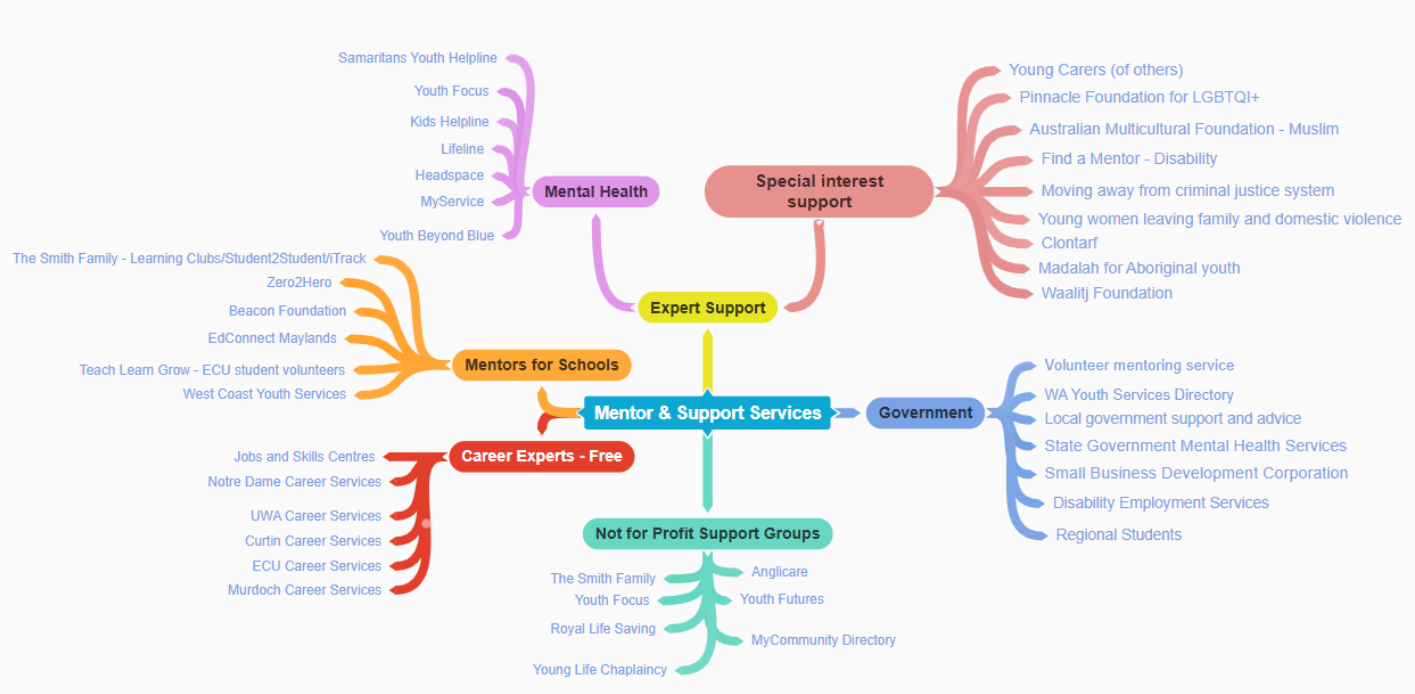
The tests, which are done in 2027 are for the 2028 academic year. Find more details HERE.

DIY Support Network

Check out these support services available to school students and school leavers and build your own safety net.

I collated this Mud Map of support services for career teachers but anyone can use them.

Use the services in this map to design your own support network.



How to check your pay

You can check to see if you are being paid the right wage HERE.

- Employers need to give you a payslip. It can be either printed or electronic.
- If you are being paid too much you may have to pay back the difference.
- If you are NOT getting paid the right amount, find out what to do about it HERE.



Talk with your career advisor or student services officer if you have an issue. Tell them about this Fair Work site so that they know where to check your pay with you.

Western Australia Builds Bendy Buses



China has BYD, we have Big Bendy Buses!

These long, electric, bendy buses are the first of their kind in Australia and they are being built in Perth at Volgren's Malaga facility.

More than 100 local jobs, including 15 apprentices, are supported at Volgren's factory - with battery electric buses produced and delivered for public transport across Western Australia.

Check for career opportunities HERE.



Career Events

20 September Construction Futures Centre Open Day



The building and construction industry is booming and there always seems to be demand for workers across the industry.

Discover the variety of roles available in building and construction at the Construction Futures Centre Open Day.

Admission is free but registration is essential.

11am – 1pm. 104 Belgravia St Belmont. To register go HERE.

26 September – 3 October Meet world leaders in agriculture at the Royal Show.

As food security and climate change become increasingly urgent global challenges, Western Australia's agricultural industry is recognised as world-class, with particular strengths in biosecurity, grain production and agricultural research.

You can speak with leading agricultural experts at the Perth Royal Show. Find experts in different fields by checking the **Animals and Agriculture events and exhibitions.**

I have collated headings with quick links to Agriculture Career Pathways **HERE**



3 October Youth Career Fair - Bayswater

Discover career opportunities, connect with employers and get job-ready at the Youth Advisory Council Career Fair.

Looking at uni, an apprenticeship, your first job, or just exploring your options? The Youth Career Fair has something for everyone!

Meet with universities, connect with apprenticeship and traineeship support services, discover local job opportunities, and learn about volunteering roles that can help build your skills and experience. You can also chat with the City of Bayswater team about career opportunities in local government.

City of Bayswater Civic Centre 11am Find details HERE.

Enrolments are open -WAAPA Summer School 2027



WAAPA Summer School is BACK!

11 – 22 January 2027

Now that WAAPA has moved to its new building in the city WAAPA will be bigger and better than ever for students in Year 7 – 12.



Available Summer School courses

2027 Program

- Music Theatre Kickstarter
- Acting on Screen
- Dance Squad
- The Actor's Studio
- Jazz Summer School

Earlybird Price closes 16th December 2026 Find details HERE

Employment Statistics

Australian Bureau of Statistics Labour Force Statistics for July

- Inflation figures are down to 3.5% but still not as low as the government wants it to be.
- **Unemployment steady at 4.5%**
- **WA Unemployment 4.4%**
- Gross Domestic Product (the value of what we produce) grew by 0.3% in the March quarter, making a 2.5% annual increase.
- Average weekly earnings in May were $2,083.70.

Internet Vacancy Index July

In seasonally adjusted terms, job advertisements increased by 2.7% (or 5,500 job advertisements) in July 2026 to stand at 212,200.

Advertisement numbers continue at elevated levels, with around 25% more advertisements in the labour market presently than compared with the monthly average for 2019.

August statistics will be available on 23 September HERE.

Recruitment Insights Report

The July data shows recruitment activity has declined, while recruitment difficulty remains higher than a year ago. Staff turnover also continues to be the main reason employers are recruiting.

Key findings include:

- The national recruitment rate dropped to 44%, down 7 percentage points in a month.
- Recruitment difficulty fell to 43% but remains above its level a year ago.
- 17% of employers expect to increase staff over the next three months.
- 58% of recruiting employers were replacing departing staff only.

Read the Recruitment Insights Report HERE.

Bankwest Curtin Economics Centre July Labour Market Update

- National **unemployment rate** essentially unchanged but rounding pushes the headline figure up from 4.4 per cent to 4.5 per cent.

  The number of people employed fell back by just 15,800 and all the jobs lost were in part-time roles**. The number of persons employed full-time actually increased** by a further 16,300 on top of a jump of almost 50,000 in the June numbers.

- Results impacted by a **suspiciously large fall in employment** in Western Australia.

  WA saw a 23,900 decline in the number of employed persons, and a rise in the State's unemployment rate from 4.2 per cent to 4.4 per cent despite the participation rate tumbling a full percentage point to 68.0 per cent.

  That equates to a 1.4 per cent fall in employment in a single month. To put that in context, it's the fourth largest monthly drop in almost 50-years of the current labour force survey for WA.

Wages have fallen over the year – down 0.3% for average weekly earnings. Wage rises have not kept pace with inflation.

Longitudinal Survey of Australian Youth (LSAY) age 15-25

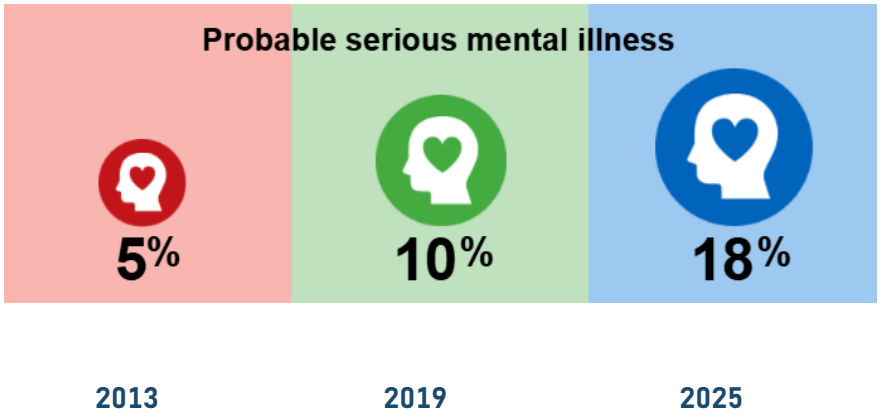
The Longitudinal Surveys of Australian Youth (LSAY) track young Australians from **age 15 to 25,** capturing their experiences as they leave school, pursue further study, and enter the workforce.

This infographic examines the experiences of 25-year-olds in 2013, 2019 and 2025, revealing how life at 25 has changed over the past decade.

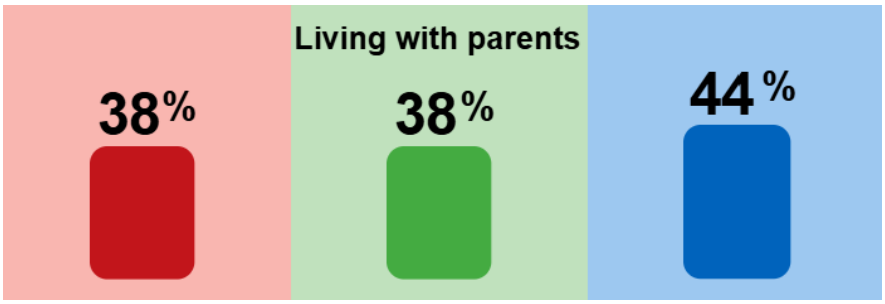
- Those with apprenticeships or traineeships consistently had the highest rates of permanent employment at age 25 (82% compared with 80% with a degree).

Health and Wellbeing Concerns

- Financial stress and mental health challenges have increased significantly, with financial stress more than doubling and high psychological distress more than tripling between 2013 and 2025.



- Traditional markers of independence are occurring later, with more 25-year-olds living with their parents and fewer married than a decade ago.



Key findings include:

- Young Australians remain highly engaged in work and study.
- Between 2013 and 2025 financial stress more than doubled and high psychological distress more than tripled.
- Traditional markers of independence are occurring later, with more 25-year-olds living with their parents and fewer married than a decade ago

(This is the final publication in the 30-year history of LSAY.)

University Events

17 September WAAPA Bachelor of Performing Arts (Performance Making) night.

WAAPA's Bachelor of Performing Arts, Performance Making is ideal for those interested in more than one area of performance, from creative development through to performing for an audience, for future writer-performers or director-performers.

6pm – 7.30pm ECU City Campus, 500 Wellington Street, Perth Find details and register HERE.

20 September UWA Day of Percussion



Led by some Australia's finest percussionists, including UWA Chair of Percussion Paul Tanner, the UWA Day of Percussion is packed with masterclasses, workshops and performances for percussionists of all ages.Find details and register HERE.



Event Highlights

- Masterclasses and workshops on drums, marimbas, and other percussion instruments.
- Sessions tailored for various skill levels and ages.
- Final group performance with the Conservatorium's Piñata percussion ensemble.

Register at Trybooking HERE.

UWA Contemporary Popular Music Major 2027



Applicants looking to complete the Contemporary Popular Music major at the University of Western Australia (UWA), should provide an audition video and register for an informal interview (in addition to fulfilling the standard University entrance requirements).

Find details of this creative audition process HERE. Apply to UWA via TISC and book an audition.

21 September Discover Theatre Arts at Curtin Open Night

Curtin has WA's oldest Theatre Arts program.

Curtin Theatre Arts offers the opportunity to learn from practising theatre professionals across acting, directing, devising, production and stage management, and design.

Students don't just learn theatre - they make it. Through Curtin's performance program, they work alongside visiting artists and companies, with opportunities to perform at the Hayman Theatre and venues across Perth and WA.



The annual Theatre Arts Open Night is a fantastic opportunity for drama teachers, students and parents to come along, meet the people behind the program and get a firsthand look at what studying Theatre Arts at Curtin is really like.

6,30 – 7.30 pm Hayman Theatre, Building 302 Curtin. Find details HERE.

22 September WAAPA Production and Design Information Evening

With hands-on, industry-focused training, these programs prepare students to design, build, manage and deliver live productions across theatre, music theatre, opera, dance and music.

Whether your interests lie in set and costume design, lighting, props, scenery construction, stage management, technical production, this session is a fantastic opportunity to learn more about the exciting study options available.

Please note that this information session will not cover performance courses.

6-7.30 pm ECU City Campus Register HERE.

25 September St Catherine's Residential College Open Day

UWA and Curtin have St Catherine's College open days on 25 October.

The opportunity to visit St Catherine's on 30 October and 27 November. Find details HERE.

7 – 8 October Year 10 – 12 Business Innovation Bootcamp

A two-day school holiday program for year 10–12 students interested in entrepreneurship or already running a start-up.

Your students will work on solutions to real-world problems and finish the program with a showcase and networking opportunity with local entrepreneurs.

Applications close: 5pm, Monday 28 September 2026

Bootcamp dates: Wednesday 7 to Thursday 8 October 2026

Find details and apply HERE.

13 October WAAPA Arts & Cultural Management Information Session

Our Bachelor of Arts (Arts and Cultural Management) prepares students for careers in the arts and entertainment industries. Students develop professional knowledge and skills in arts and cultural leadership, marketing, finance and legal compliance, and at every stage of the course apply what they learn to industry practicums.

To find out more about these courses, come along to our WAAPA Arts & Cultural Management Information Evening. 6-7.30pm ECU City Campus Register HERE.

Please note that this information session will not cover performance courses.

19 October UniPrep Information Session

If you successfully complete UniPrep, you'll be eligible to start many of our undergraduate degree courses.

- In this online session, we'll cover:

- ·What subjects you can expect to study in UniPrep
- How to apply for UniPrep
- ·Study options, including full or part-time and online
- Career advice and course selection post-UniPrep

Online Event 6-7pm Register HERE.

20 October Online Information Evening

Year 12 is almost over, what happens next? Take the leap from secondary school to university!

There are hundreds of study choices for school leavers. We're here to help you through this exciting new chapter in your life by providing all the information you need to transition through the remainder of Year 12 and beyond.

Join us for an Information Session Understanding ATAR outcomes & University offers 5.30 – 6.30 Register HERE.

University News

New Bachelor of Health Sciences at Curtin

Curtin has launched a new Bachelor of Health Sciences for students commencing in Semester 1, 2027.

The course offers two majors, giving your students the opportunity to focus on either Health Promotion or Health Services.

The **Health Promotion** major is ideal for students interested in working with communities and organisations to improve health equity, prevent illness and address the factors that influence people's health.

The **Health Services** major focuses on how healthcare is planned, managed and delivered. Rather than working directly with patients, your students can learn how to strengthen healthcare services and support healthier communities. Find details HERE

New Bachelor of Osteopathy Honours

Edith Cowan University is the first and only university in Western Australia to offer a degree in osteopathy.

The new Bachelor of Osteopathy Honours has been developed in close consultation with Osteopathy Australia, to prepare students for registration as an Osteopath. The course will welcome its first cohort of students in Semester 1, 2027.

Students enrolled in ECU's four-year degree will undertake at least 500 hours of clinical placement, gaining real-world experience with a range of healthcare providers.

For more information go HERE.

UniLaunch

UniLaunch is a new micro-credential for ATAR-bound Year 11 and 12 students who already have university in their sights.

Over two weeks in the January and July school holidays, UniLaunch focuses on the skills that drive success at university: independent learning, academic confidence, university study practices and navigating university life.

Cost: $450 per student (free for students from Future You schools)
Expressions of interest now open Find details HERE.

Notre Dame Opportunity Program Scholarship

New in 2027

The Notre Dame Opportunity Program is a coordinated program of scholarships, grants and personalised support designed to help students succeed throughout your university journey - from your first day at Notre Dame through to graduation. Whether you need financial assistance, academic support, help preparing for your career, or someone to talk to, the Opportunity Program brings together the support available to help you find the support that's right for you.

Apply to be considered for up to $20,000 in financial support throughout your degree. Applications open October 2026. To find out more and apply, visit www.notredame.edu.au/opportunity-program or contact scholarships@nd.edu.au.

The Good Universities Guide 2026 Rankings

These rankings are for university undergraduate courses in Western Australia. There have been some significant changes over the past year.

You can find the Good Universities Guide rankings HERE.

University of Divinity 2026 Ranking

The University of Divinity has excelled across multiple categories including teaching quality, educational experience, and student support and reported the lowest student-to-staff ratio (6:1) It has a campus, The Wollaston Theological College in Mt Claremont.

Students wanting to train for ordained ministry in the Anglican Diocese of Perth can find information about its ranking by students by going HERE.

As the University of Divinity is a specialist organisation, I have not compared it with other West Australian universities.

Overall Satisfaction

Year	ECU Edith Cowan University	Murdoch University	University of Western Australia	Curtin University	Notre Dame Australia University
2026	81%	77%	76%	76%	76%
2025	81.8%	76.3%	76.5%	76.5%	76%

Skills Development

Year	ECU Edith Cowan University	Notre Dame Australia University	Murdoch University	Curtin University	University of Western Australia
2026	86%	85%	81%	79%	77%
2025	86.4%	86.6%	80.9%	79.2%	77%

Full time employment					
Year					
2026	86%	76%	81%	70%	69%
2025	83.1%	71.8%	77.6%	67.5%	66.1%

Graduate Salary					
Year					
2026	73,400	73,000	72,900	67,000	70,000
2025 figures not available					

Learning Resources					
Year					
2026	87%	86%	83%	83%	72%
2025	85.8%	85.3%	85.8%	81.9%	79.3%

Student Support					
Year	ECU EDITH COWAN UNIVERSITY	MU Murdoch University	Curtin University	SEEK WISDOM	NOTRE DAME AUSTRALIA UNIVERSITY
2026	79%	75%	69%	67%	65%
2025	79.6%	71.5%	70.2%	67.7%	73.5%

Learner Engagement					
Year	NOTRE DAME AUSTRALIA UNIVERSITY	SEEK WISDOM	MU Murdoch University	ECU EDITH COWAN UNIVERSITY	Curtin University
2026	68%	62%	60%	58%	53%
2025	58.8%	58.8%	53.5%	57.9%	51.4%

Social Equity The proportion of students from low socioeconomic or disadvantaged backgrounds					
Year	Curtin University	MU Murdoch University	ECU EDITH COWAN UNIVERSITY	SEEK WISDOM	NOTRE DAME AUSTRALIA UNIVERSITY
2026	26%	25%	20%	11%	11%
2025	26%	20%	20%	12%	10%

Staff Qualifications Proportion of staff with masters or doctoral degrees					
Year	Curtin University	Edith Cowan University		Murdoch University	Notre Dame Australia University
2026	82%	74%	66%	40%	39%
2025	83%	75%	67%%	76%	61%

Student Teacher Ratio					
Year	Notre Dame Australia University	Curtin University	Edith Cowan University		Murdoch University
2026	17"1	24:1	25:1	26:1	37:1[1]
2025	22:1	23:1	27:1	23:1	18.1

Some of these statistics seem odd. For example, Notre Dame scores highest in “Learner Engagement” but lowest in "Overall Satisfaction”.



ComparED Undergraduate Assessments

COMPARED
INSPIRED DECISIONS, LIMITLESS POSSIBILITIES

The Good University Guide’s rankings are substantially similar or EXACTLY the same to those provided by the government’s assessments on the ComparED site.

[1] Something strange is happening here. I think they may have changed the way of calculating Student Teacher Ratio for Murdoch. There is no breakdown by faculty included to help verify the figures. Perhaps they didn’t include non-lecturing staff in the Student Teacher Ratio calculations…

Training News

VET to Uni pathways

It is going to become easier to see what credits you can get for TAFE qualifications in degree courses. Universities will be required to advertise what credits they will give from VET into uni.

> *Every university will be required to publish the credit arrangements it offers to students with VET qualifications wishing to articulate into higher education, as part of the federal government's efforts to break down barriers between TAFE and university.*

For Example,

If you have a Cert IV in School Based Education Support and you want to become a school teacher, some universities will take a year off your teaching degree, some will take six months, some will take three months, some will take nothing off at all. (From TAFE Directors Australia News.)

Free TAFE enrolments soar in WA

Free TAFE enrolments have soared in Western Australia, with latest data showing enrolment **targets exceeded by almost 400%.**

There were a total of 87,004 Free TAFE enrolments between 1 January 2024 and 31 March 2026, exceeding the end of 2026 target of 22,200 enrolments.

Early Childhood Education and Care

Since the commencement of Free TAFE in 2023, the Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care is the state's top Free TAFE course with 14,108 enrolments.

Flooring Apprenticeships to high paid jobs

There is a Flooring Covering Apprenticeship that teaches apprentices to lay timber, vinyl and carpet.

It is taught at NM TAFE Midland campus and leads to very well paid jobs.

The qualification is National Training Register - MSF30822 Certificate III in Flooring Technology

You can find information HERE.



Vocational Education and Training (VET) Explained

Ever wondered what the difference is between apprenticeships, traineeships and ordinary, mainstream VET courses?

Apprenticeships	Traineeships	Mainstream TAFE
Traditional jobs – construction, chef, hairdressing.	Newer jobs – childcare, arborists, computing, business.	Jobs like youth workers, vet nurses, computer programmers, fashion designers, lab technicians.
On the job training under a qualified professional	On the job training under a qualified professional	In class and on the job assignments.
Classroom instruction and prescribed workplace training.	Classroom instruction and prescribed on the job training.	Classroom instruction. Some courses have practical components
Earn as you learn – see pay rates	Earn as you learn – see pay rates	Classroom based learning. See if you can find a traineeship so that you get paid.

3 – 4 years	1 – 2 years	1 – 3 years depending on level.
You get an apprenticeship by applying for a job as an apprentice.	You get a traineeship by applying for a job. Many jobs require a qualification, like child carer. The traineeship provides that qualification.	You get a Certificate II (like year 9 – 10) Cert III (like year 10 – 11) Cert IV (like year 12) Diploma – many unis give credit for first year.
For more information go HERE.	For more information go HERE.	For more information go HERE.

Training Events

2027 TAFE Applications are Open

Applications Close 30 October

Applications for Semester 1, 2027 TAFE courses opened on 3 September.

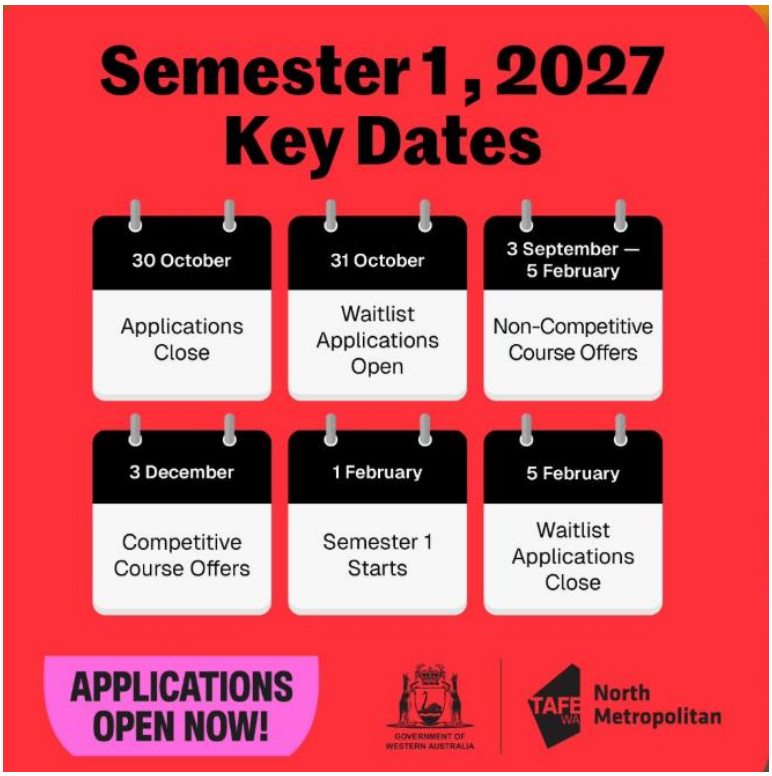
TAFE WA Central Regional | TAFE WA North Metropolitan | TAFE WA North Regional | TAFE WA South Metropolitan | TAFE WA South Regional

- . Some courses have **specific requirements such as pre-requisite units or qualifications**, submission of a folio or participation in an audition. To learn more about literacy and numeracy requirements for competitive and non-competitive courses, see the TAFE Admissions Guide
- **Competitive Course Offers**: Thursday, 3 December 2026 (online and via email from 3:00 PM)
- **Non-Competitive Course Offers**: Thursday, 3 September 2026 to Friday, 5 February 2027

- **Waitlist / Late Applications:** Saturday, 31 October 2026 through Friday, 5 February 2027 (for unfilled courses)

If you have further questions or need assistance or advice on careers, employment, traineeships and apprenticeships, you can also visit your local **Jobs and Skills Centre** for help.

Applications for all colleges are processed via centralized TAFE Admissions.



22 –27 September Countdown to Skillaroos in Shanghai

Good Luck to Australia's Representatives

Team Australia's Skillaroos are in Shanghai preparing for the International WorldSkills Competition.



For **Skillaroo videos** go to the Facebook page. Check out the baking and patisserie videos!!

30 September Applications close for 2027 Construction Careers Scholarships

The program is for Year 10 or Year 11 students commencing years 11 and 12 in 2027.



It offers students the opportunity to work towards a Certificate II in Building and Construction while attending school. Selected students will attend an RTO and do on-site work one or two days a week for either one year or two years

The Construction Training Fund will cover the cost of all uniforms and boots and course tuition, and offer ongoing mentoring and support, along with other wrap-around services.

Find information HERE.

Senior School Events

24 September Defence Officer and Management Careers Information Session

ADF CAREERS

We're always on the lookout for people with ambition and potential to lead and manage Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel in fields including (but not limited to) aviation, engineering, healthcare and combat.



As an Officer in the ADF you will have the opportunity to see more of Australia-and the world-make friends for life and experience a unique culture of teamwork, adventure and fitness.

Join us for an info session 6 – 8pm Perth ADF Careers Centre Level 6, 58 Mounts Bay Road, Perth Register Check details HERE.

29 September Perth Army Reserve Information Session



Experience flexible commitment in an Army Reserve role and earn money as you study for your degree or VET qualification.

Come to the upcoming information session to speak with current serving members about their own experiences and advice. It is at Irwin Barracks in Karrakatta at 7.30 on 29 September. Check details and book HERE.

1 October Perth Air Force Careers Information

Head to an upcoming local info session to learn more about Air Force careers in aviation, combat and security, healthcare, trades, cyber and support-and much more.

It is highly recommended you book as soon as possible to avoid missing out as places are strictly limited! 6pm – 8pm **Perth ADF Careers Centre** Level 6, 58 Mounts Bay Road, Perth

Find details HERE.

2 – 5 October Fogarty Futures Leadership Conference

The Fogarty Futures Leadership Conference is an annual four day camp, held from **2-5 October**, for students in year 10 and 11. Our aim is to build authentic and courageous leaders and to give them the tools they need to become leaders in their communities.

Find details HERE.

7 October Defence Careers Information Session

Consider a career like no other and represent Australia with pride in the Navy, Army or Air Force.

Speak with current serving personnel at our upcoming info session and ask your questions - is a career in the Australian Defence Force for you?

6pm – 8pm Perth ADF Careers Centre Level 6, 58 Mounts Bay Road, Register HERE

15 October Comms, IT and Intelligence Roles

Get connected with a future-focused career, using technologically advanced sensor and communication systems to keep the Australian Defence Force (ADF) in touch, informed and operating effectively.

Join us for an info session and speak with current serving personnel about Communications, IT and Intelligence careers in the ADF.

6pm – 8pm ADF Careers Centre Level 6, 58 Mounts Bay Road, Perth Find details HERE.

21 October Sky's the Limit: Aviation Career Pathways

Behind every flight is a team of skilled people working across engineering, cabin crew, ground operations, drone technology, automation, surveying, environmental conservation.

At Sky's the Limit: Aviation Career Pathways, students can explore the many ways to build a career in aviation, meet industry professionals, employers and training providers, and discover how VET, apprenticeships and traineeships can provide a practical pathway into the industry. **Wednesday, 21 October | 9:00am–3:00pm ECU Joondalup**

Find details and register HERE.

Apply now for Focus on Mining camp

When: 11 to 15 January 2027 (five-day residential camp)

Over five days, participating students visit industry sites in Perth and Kalgoorlie, spending time learning about university study pathways and student life.

- **Who:** years 11 and 12 domestic WA STEM students
- **Location:** Perth and Kalgoorlie
- **Cost:** free (regional support available)
- **Application requirements:** a recent report and reference letter from a relevant teacher (STEM or career counsellor).



Find details HERE.

Senior School Opportunities

TAFE pathways for school students who do not meet the OLNA standards

An OLNA (Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment) enables students to successfully to meet the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) minimum standard of literacy and numeracy.

There are several alternative pathways to TAFE for school students who do not achieve an OLNA:

- **Vocational pathway (VET in schools)**: school students who complete a vocational course while at school can rely on their AQF qualification to demonstrate their literacy and numeracy skills (this is included in the guide) i.e. students can achieve an OLNA or a Certificate I, II or III to gain entry to a TAFE course (with the exception of qualifications within the Foundation studies training package (FSK);
- **TAFE Admissions testing**: TAFE Admissions adopted the reading and numeracy modules of the OLNA as its literacy and numeracy testing tool. Subject to verification with the School Curriculum and Standards Authority, school students may be eligible to register for TAFE Admissions testing if they have not sat the OLNA at school within the six months preceding TAFE Admissions testing and if they have not exhausted their maximum six attempts at the OLNA while of compulsory school age.
- **Alternative assessment**: students can be referred to the learning area at their preferred TAFE college for a Learning Area Assessment.
- Students can apply to enrol at any Certificate I level, as there are no entry requirements (this is included in the guide); and
- Students can apply to enrol into one of the foundation skills and equity courses.

A prospective student who has not achieved an OLNA and who applies to TAFE Admissions will be guided into a learning pathway.

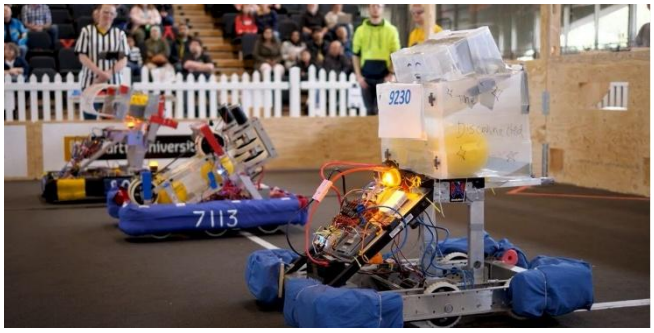
Find details HERE.

Year 9 – 12 Advanced Robotics Program 2027

Join the Curtin robotics team to design, build, and compete with your own robot. Starting in spring, students work alongside mentors to prepare for competitions in August and March. Perfect for those interested in engineering, programming or teamwork.

Build Season

- **When:** January to March 2027 (9 weeks)
- **Location:** Curtin University, Bentley
- **Competition:** March (Sydney)



Find details HERE. Email | FIRSTRoboticsTeam@curtin.edu.au

Follow the team on social media

FRC Team 4788 Facebook

FRC Team 4788 Instagram

FRC Team 4788 YouTube

Uni Prac Payments Extended



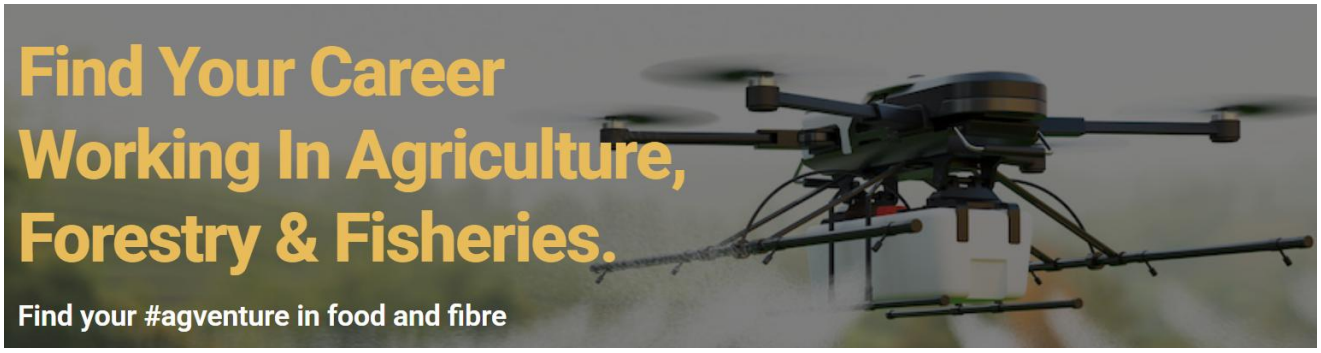
It is difficult for uni students to complete their course prac requirements as they often have to go to the country or work hours that mean they can't do to their part-time job.

In 2025 the Commonwealth government started paying some prac teachers $338 a week. Then they added nursing, midwifery and social work. Next year 10 more categories are to be added:

- clinical psychology
- physiotherapy
- occupational therapy
- speech pathology
- paramedicine
- radiography
- pharmacy
- rehabilitation therapies
- audiology
- podiatry

Don't get too excited. There are lots of barriers before you can qualify for this payment, but it is worth checking out. You can find details HERE.

Career Harvest – Find your career in Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries



The Career Harvest site provides information about a broad range of jobs.

AgCAREERSTART



If you are 18 next year and interested in these industries, try working in them through AgCareerStart.



You get a paid placement, $3,000 for training, industry networking, orientation and pastoral care.

Check out AgCAREERSTART HERE.

AI will check your job application

Employers can use AI to search your social media.

If you have pictures of you doing something stupid on social media, take them down so that your potential employer doesn't find them.

ALSO: If your email address is someonesexy@bigpond.com get a new one that mentions your name.



Year 12 Events

29 September – 2 October ATAR Revision Sessions



If you're a Year 12 ATAR student, don't miss ECU's free revision sessions. You can choose from a variety of subjects, each one delivered by a teacher familiar with the 2026 syllabus.

Select one subject and order 1 ticket. You can book for multiple subjects by repeating the process and selecting a different subject.

Joondalup	Tuesday, 29 September	Wednesday, 30 September	Thursday, 1 October	Friday, 2 October
9.00am – 1.00pm	Chemistry	Human Biology	Maths Methods	Maths Applications
2.00pm – 6.00pm	English	Biology	Physics	Maths Specialist

To find more information go HERE

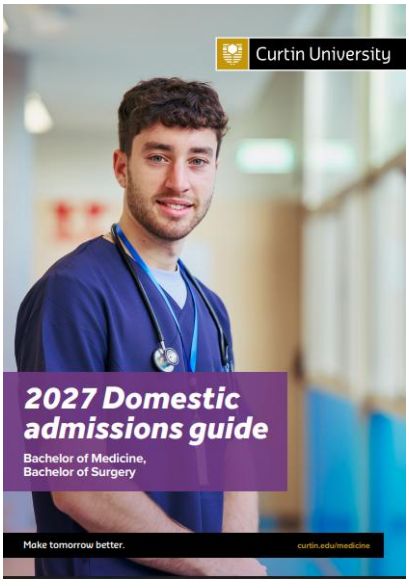
20 September Casper Test Preparation Curtin Medical Entry

Those students who have applied for Medicine at Curtin for 2027 should have a thorough knowledge of the admissions guide.

8 October final Casper Test for Curtin Medicine 2027

Applicants MUST undertake the Casper Test. Register at least 3 days before the test.

UCAT NIE Casper Test Preparation.



31 October Veterans' Children Assistance Scholarships



Children and grandchildren of veterans are eligible for scholarships to support their study at unis, TAFEs and other training providers. Applications for scholarships close on 31 October.

All bursaries and sponsored scholarships are for tertiary education and are $4000-$6000 per year, for up to three years. Read more about preparing your application in our Application Guide.

TISC Important Dates

Tuesday, 30 September	11.59pm - Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery at Curtin (including applications on the basis on financial hardship), the Assured Pathway to Dentistry and Medicine at UWA - you can't apply for these courses or add new preferences for these courses after today. You can still change the order of existing preferences on your preference list.
Sunday, 5 October	First early conditional offers despatch for Year 12 applicants for first preference.
Monday, 20 November	Skills for Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT) session for candidates with religious or work commitments

Friday, 27 November	5pm - Closing deadline for submission of Education Access Scheme (EAS) applications and supporting documentation for Main round consideration. 5pm - Final closing deadline for submission of Education Access Scheme applications and supporting documentation for Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery at Curtin, the Assured Pathway to Dentistry and Medicine at UWA.
28 November.	Skills for Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT) session being held at Curtin University.
30 November	11.59pm - Final closing date and submission of documents for the Bachelor of Exercise and Sport Science (Assured Pathway) into Master of Physiotherapy course at Notre Dame. You can't apply for or add a new preference for this course after today. You can still change the order of existing preferences on your preference list.
Wednesday 2 December	Last Early conditional offers despatch to Year 12 applicants for first preference.
Monday,7 December	11.59pm – Closing date for change of address for WACE students for mailing of Universities Admission Advice Letter.
Wednesday, 9 December	11.59pm – Final date for you to upload documents/transcripts of results to be guaranteed consideration for the main round of offers.
Sunday 20 December	8.00am – WA 2026 ATAR results and Universities Admission Advice Letters online.

	11.59pm - Closing date to apply and add/re-arrange preferences, and to update your postal and/or email addresses, before the Main round of offers.
Wednesday, 24 December	Main round offers available online and emailed. Applications and change of preferences re-open for Second round of offers.

Year 12 Opportunities

Gap Year?– Apply to Uni then defer

If you are planning to take a gap year in 2027 then go to uni in 2028, apply for your place in the course of your choice now. You apply through the normal TISC process.

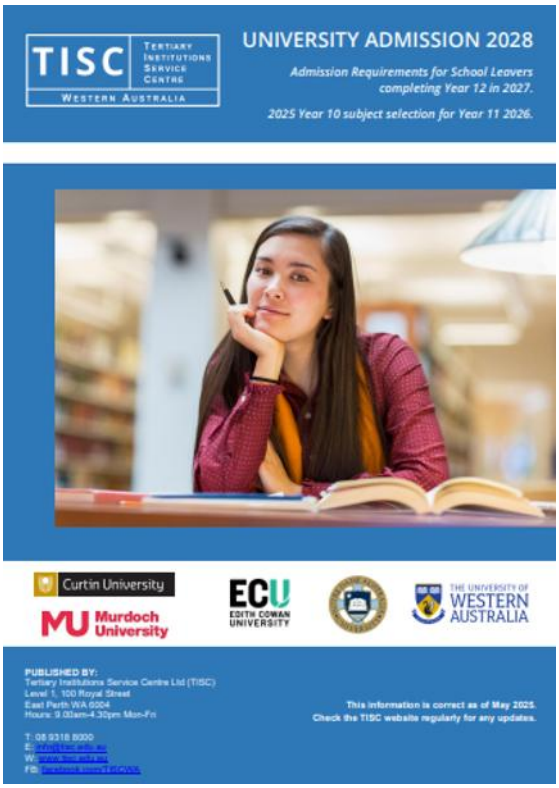
When your ATAR results come out and you get offered a place, get in touch with the uni and defer the offer for a year. Don't withdraw your application before you get your offer.

Year 11 News and Opportunities

Are you enrolled in the right pre-requisite subjects for your uni choice?

As you head towards the end of Year 11, check the University Admissions Guide for 2028 to make sure you are enrolled in the right subjects to qualify for your course of choice.

Download the University Admissions Guide 2028 HERE.



Year 10 Opportunities

Jobs List – Defence Work Experience Program

The Defence Work Experience Program gives young Australians the chance to explore life in Defence and discover careers in the Australian Defence Force

Eligibility

- Age 15-18 years at time of placement
- Be an Australian citizen or permanent resident
- Students 16 years and older need photo ID to gain base access

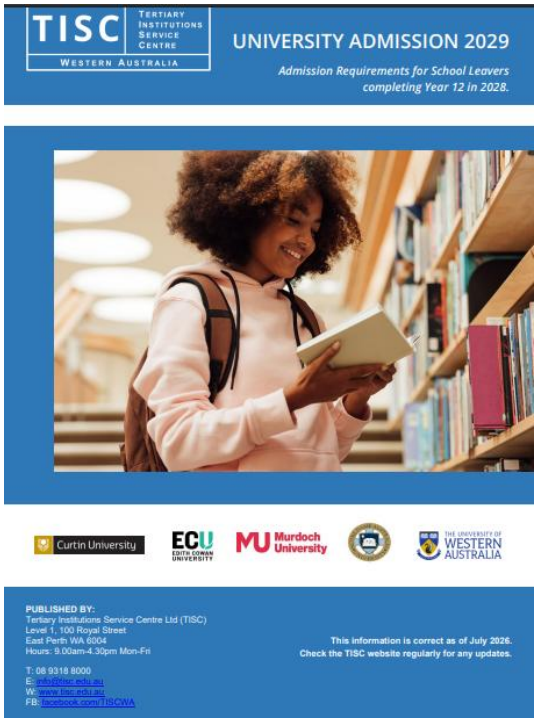
Need help?

For assistance or questions, email defence.workexperienceprogram@defence.gov.au

Job Name	Closing Date	Action
Navy Careers Experience: HMAS Stirling (November) **Job Ref – WEP/02294/26** • Navy • Garden Island, WA • 24 – 26 November 2026 Information Pack (PDF)	05-Oct-2026 12:30 AM (AEDT)	• Start New Application • Access Existing Application • Preview Application Form • Email A Friend
A Day in the Life of a Soldier: Irwin Barracks (November) **Job Ref - WEP/02580/26** • Army • Karrakatta, WA • 19 November 2026 Information Pack (PDF)	05-Oct-2026 12:30 AM (AEDT)	• Start New Application • Access Existing Application • Preview Application Form • Email A Friend

2029 Universities Admissions Guide for Year 10s

If you are in Year 10 and want to go to university when you finish school, this Guide lets you know what subjects you need to take as pre requisites and desirable subjects for different courses at each university.



Pre-Requisites and Desirable Subjects

Youi MUST have done pre-requisite subjects. They list desirable subjects as you will find your university course easier if you have done those subjects at school.

Additional Information

The Guide also identifies English skill requirements and it identifies contact addresses and phone numbers at each university. You can download a free copy HERE.

15 October SEDA Fremantle Dockers Online Information Session

This session is a great opportunity for students and parents to hear more about the Fremantle Dockers Sport, Business and Leadership Program and the opportunities available through the partnership.

6pm – 7pm Register HERE.

Year 6 – 8

5 October Explore STEM – Enviro Engineers

Explore the world of STEM through engaging holiday programs designed for curious minds. Each multi-day workshop allows you to explore various aspects of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics through hands-on activities and creative projects.



What to expect

- Learn how to increase local biodiversity.
- Conduct environmental sampling.
- Connect with like-minded peers and STEM role models.
- Be supported to develop skills and passion in environmental science.

5 – 7 October, 9.30 am – 3.30pm Canning River Eco Education Centre (CREEC), Wilson

Find details and book HERE.

Rural Regional Remote

Gifted and Talented Student Opportunities

Children from country Western Australia can access a range of Gifted and Talented Academic, Arts and Languages programs.

Program Options

Students may choose from the following options:

- Selective Academic Program Online
- attend a regional Gifted and Talented school
    - Bunbury Senior High School
    - Albany Senior High School
- study in Perth and board at City Beach Residential College
- study in Albany and board at Albany Residential College (students must live outside Albany).

Find details HERE.

Country Education Foundation Grants

Your local Country Education Foundation (CEF) supports youth in your area through financial grants for education and employment expenses.



Our grants contribute towards expenses related to apprenticeships, traineeships, cadetships, diplomas, certificate level studies, university qualifications or employment.

Apply for a local student grant

$50k grants to engage regional trainees

The West Australian government has announced grants of up to $50,000 to support the engagement of trainees in regional areas.

The latest round of the Regional Traineeship Program grants is now open, with $2 million available to build local jobs and workforce capacity in regional communities

Grants of up to $50,000 are available to WA Community Resource Network members and select regional Local Government Authorities to assist with the cost of employing a trainee.

The one-off payment supports vocational training to develop trainee skills and knowledge to help meet the needs of local businesses and industry in the regions.

Contact your local CRC or local government office and ask them if they are applying for a grant.

See Regional Traineeship Grant Guidelines.

New mobile TAFE units to advance remote learning

The federal government has spent $5 million to fund two new mobile TAFE projects in Western Australia that will benefit the Kimberley, Pilbara and Eastern Goldfields regions.

The mobile training units are custom-fitted vehicles or trailers that serve as classrooms or workshops on wheels.

Project 1 Kimberley

The Kimberley project, to be delivered in partnership with Djaringo Training, will receive $2.8 million to establish two mobile, on-country training units that will deliver training to First Nations and other learners in **15 remote and very remote locations**.

It will see around 150 additional students each year undertake courses including Certificate III in Indigenous Environment Health and Certificate III in Civil Construction Plant Operations.

Project 2 Pilbara and Goldfields

The second project, to be delivered in partnership with Carey Training, will receive $2.3 million to deliver two mobile training units to the Pilbara and Goldfields regions.

These will deliver training to 14 remote and very remote locations in the Pilbara, and 16 outer regional, remote and very remote locations in the Goldfields, benefitting around 100 additional students a year.

20 October and 10 November South West Undergraduate One on One Appointments

If you'd like to ask all sorts of questions about studying with us, here's your chance. This month we're offering personalised one-to-one appointments for anyone considering undergraduate study at ECU South West.

Register HERE

School Sport WA Country Week 2027

Planning ahead for School Sport WA Country Week 2027? High schools can now register their interest in enjoying breakfast, lunch, dinner, or a combination of meals at one of UWA's residential colleges at a reduced cost.

Secure your preferred dining options early and provide students with a convenient, nutritious, and welcoming dining experience during Country Week.

Register your interest HERE.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Opportunities

National Indigenous Business Summer School

Register Now for 14 – 17 December.

The National Indigenous Business Summer School – Western Australia (NIBSS-WA) is a free, fun, 3-night, 4-day residential program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high school students in Years 10, 11 and 12 from across Western Australia. High school teachers are also welcome to accompany a group of students, with teacher accommodation, travel and meals included as part of the program.

Hosted at the Curtin University Bentley campus in Perth, on Whadjuk Noongar Boodja. NIBSS-WA introduces students to the worlds of business, innovation, entrepreneurship and university life in a supportive and inspiring environment. Find details HERE

Year 9 – 12 Indigenous Australian Engineering School

A week-long residential program showcasing engineering's impact in communities across Australia. Students experience university life, connect with industry professionals and explore engineering career paths through site visits and hands-on activities.

Early nomination for July 2027.

Find details HERE

Apply now for 2027 Puggy Hunter Memorial Health Scholarship



The Puggy Hunter Memorial Scholarship is designed to encourage undergraduate students in health-related disciplines to complete their studies and join the health workforce.

The scholarship provides access to financial, cultural, mentoring, and other supports for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students studying in health, including access to up to $15,000 per annum (full time) for the normal duration of the course.

Find details and apply HERE.

Koomba Birdal North Metro TAFE

The Koomba Birdal (Big/Bright Spark) program at North Metropolitan TAFE offers free, supported training pathways and certificate courses designed for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in a culturally safe environment.

- **Hands-on training** in fields like construction, engineering, electrotechnology, care for country, and health support services.
- **Personal support** from Koolark Aboriginal mentors and career advisors.
- **Free literacy and numeracy assistance** with no strict standard entry requirements needed—just drive and passion.

To register your interest or ask about specific 2027 course availability, email **koombabirdal@nmtafe.wa.edu.au** or call **9233 1241**.

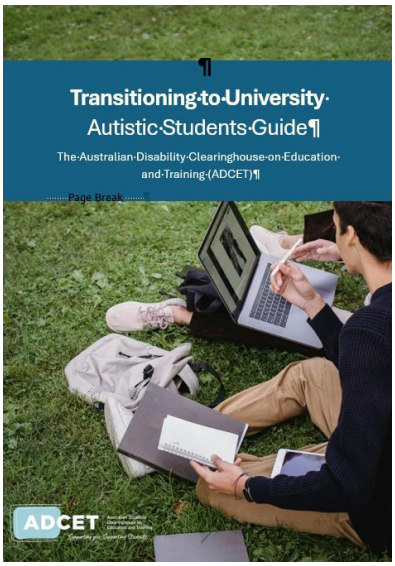
Madalah Scholarship to SEDA

SEDA Group are proud to offer one full scholarship to an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander student who has applied or will apply for a WA-based, Sport & Business Program powered by SEDA, with a MADALAH tertiary scholarship, in 2027.

For information email Scholarships@sedagroup.com.au

Students with Disability Opportunities

Transitioning to University: Autistic Students' Guide



This Guide covers the whole university journey, from navigating disability support to practical strategies for study, sensory needs and avoiding burnout.

Download it HERE.

University Services for Students with Disability

ECU Student Equity, Diversity and Disability Service

This is a free, confidential service for students with a disability and/or medical condition, either permanent or temporary, and can help make uni life a better experience.

Curtin Disability & accessibility support

If you have a disability, physical or mental health condition, or if you are caring for someone with a disability, you can access a range of support services and assistance to help you succeed at Curtin.

UWA UniAccess

UniAccess is a team of highly qualified advisors who support students with a disability or an ongoing, temporary or episodic medical condition. UniAccess also supports students who are carers of someone with a medical condition or disability.

Murdoch Access and Inclusion

If you have a disability or health condition (including mental health), or you are caring for a person with disability, we encourage you to reach out to us to discuss the support you may need whilst undertaking your studies.

Notre Dame Access and Inclusion

If you have a disability, injury, medical condition, mental health condition or learning difficulty, the Access and Inclusion Advisor can support you.

30 November Charlie Bell scholarship closes

Each year, the scholarship awards $5,000 grants to young people aged 15-20 who have had their education disrupted due to medical challenges and are now preparing to pursue university, TAFE, or vocational studies in 2026.



The funds can be used towards university fees, apprenticeship tools, course supplies, or anything that helps remove barriers to success.

(Charlie Bell was an Australian who started his career as a teenager working in McDonalds in Sydney and became the head of the McDonald's global empire. He died of cancer aged 44.)

Applications close on 30 November.

Check details and apply HERE.

International Students

International student scholarships for universities in Western Australia



If you are an international student planning to study in Western Australia, check out the scholarships that are available to you:

- Curtin University
- Notre Dame
- Murdoch University
- University of Western Australia
- Edith Cowan University

Welcome Bursary



All international academic scholarships are assessed for scholarships automatically at the time of application, making it easier for students to apply direct into courses and to be assessed for a scholarship at the same time.

If you have been successful, our Admissions Office will issue a separate letter relating to your scholarship, along with a Letter of Offer for your course. Check them out HERE.

The rights of international students at work

If you have any concerns about how you are being treated at work, ask your school career advisor for help.

International students have the same workplace rights and protections as anyone else working in Australia.

Here's what you need to know before starting to work in Australia:

- You must be paid at least the minimum wage
- You must pay tax on your income
- You must receive notification of your payment

International students can contact the Fair Work Ombudsman for help if they're having workplace issues, without fear of their visa being cancelled.

Find details HERE.

Don't work on an Australian Business Number (ABN) if you are an employee



I heard a story of a Year 10 boy working at a car wash business who was told to get an ABN to work there.

- You only need an ABN if you are starting your own business or working as a genuine independent contractor, never as an employee, doing regular work.
- Some businesses ask workers to get an ABN just to lower their costs and avoid paying holiday leave, sick leave, or superannuation. This illegal practice is called "**sham contracting**."

This boy had no insurance so could not make a claim if he got hurt.

He had to be there early in the morning, but he got paid by the number of cars that he washed, so if no cars came in, he didn't get paid.

This boy was not being treated fairly.

Contact Fair Work Australia if you have questions about your work conditions.

WA Jobs and Workforce Hub

If you want to find more about moving to work in WA, the Jobs.wa.gov.au site provides information on:

- Where to apply for visas,
- How to get skills
- The qualifications and skills required by various industries.

Find information HERE.



Introducing the new WA Jobs and Workforce hub

Migration Services

Further support is available from the Department of Training and Workforce Development Migration Services.