### BMGS CAREERS NEWSLETTER Tuesday, 20 July 2021

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### **Open Days & Info Sessions**

#### ADF | Defence Careers Virtual Information Session

Tuesday 20 July 2021, 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Online

Consider a career like no other and represent Australia with pride in the Navy, Army or Air Force. Tune in for a virtual info session to speak with current serving members and ask your questions – is a career in the Australian Defence Force for you? Find out more: <u>https://www.defencejobs.gov.au/events/events-detail/vtkvv4r</u>

#### ADF | Gap Year Virtual Information Session

Monday 26 July 2021, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Online

Spend an exciting 12 months in the Navy, Army or Air Force, where you'll get paid for meaningful work while travelling Australia, gaining skills for life and making lifelong friends.

Join us for a virtual info session to speak with current serving personnel about the Australian Defence Force Gap Year.

Find out more: <u>https://www.defencejobs.gov.au/events/events-detail/n3xogoc</u>

#### A Taste of Le Cordon Bleu

Tuesday 3 August 2021, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Le Cordon Bleu Australia, Sydney

Discover what it's like to study at the prestigious Le Cordon Bleu Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management Institute.

You are invited to a Taste of Le Cordon Bleu Sydney to spend an evening with our chefs and students who will showcase their skills, give you an insight into the food, wine and gastronomy business, and reveal how you could be a part of this global enterprise.

Indulge in a taste of French culture as our world-class chefs and lecturers demonstrate their expertise and the unique learning experiences offered at Le Cordon Bleu.

Find out more: <u>https://www.cordonbleu.edu/sydney/taste-of-lcb/en</u>

#### University of Sydney | Dentistry and the Bachelor of Oral Health

Wednesday 4 August 2021, 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm Online

Hear about Sydney's Dentistry and Oral Health programs and how they lead to a stand out career path. Oral Health Therapists are an integral part of the dental health team of practitioners and a profession in their own right.

Find out more: <u>https://uni-sydney.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_gwPBVjy0QHa0C5sXwYud0g</u>

#### **UAC Digital | Scholarships**

Wednesday 4 August 2021, 6:00 pm

Online

Equity scholarships can provide students from a low socio-economic background with financial support while studying. Learn about applying and key dates, and get answers to the most commonly asked questions.

We'll also discuss other scholarships that you can apply for direct to the university. Find out more: <u>https://uacdigital.easywebinar.live/scholarships-52</u>

#### UAC Digital | Early Entry

Thursday 5 August 2021, 6:00 pm Online

While the ATAR is still the main selection tool used by most unis, there are other ways for you to show that you're ready to succeed at uni. Many institutions have one or more early offer schemes for Year 12 students. Through these schemes, institutions assess you using criteria other than (or in addition to) your ATAR.

We'll give you an overview of the Schools Recommendation Scheme (SRS) and discuss:

- how to apply
- whether you're guaranteed early entry if you apply
- other universities' direct early entry schemes
- how many early entry schemes you can apply for.

Find out more: https://uacdigital.easywebinar.live/earlyentry-43

#### University of Sydney | Science student panel and Q&A

Wednesday 11 August 2021, 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm Online

Thinking about pursuing a future in Science and want to know more? Join us to hear from our current Science students about what they are studying. Learn how studying for science or mathematics may be different to studying other subjects and get some tips for the HSC.

Find out more: https://uni-sydney.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN ghClwlOsS 68dLXQbGllfw

#### UAC Digital | Let's Chat – Law

Wednesday 11 August 2021, 6:00 pm Online

In this session we'll give HSC students and their parents the information they need when applying for a Law degree in NSW and the ACT. We'll be joined by university experts to discuss:

- which HSC courses are recommended for a Law degree
- available degrees and majors
- entry requirements and selection criteria
- work experience opportunities
- how many students get accepted into law each year
- what to do if you don't meet your dream course's entry requirements.

And we'll give answers to the most commonly asked questions! Find out more: <u>https://uacdigital.easywebinar.live/law</u>

#### Indigenous Food and Agriculture

Friday 13 August 2021, 6:30 pm - 7:45 pm Online

Join us to yarn about native foods and Indigenous farmers — everything from practising agriculture as a traditional custodian, growing bush foods and making sure they're safe to eat, preparing amazing meals and getting Australian native foods to market.

Find out more: <u>https://inspiringvictoria.org.au/event/indigenous-food-and-agriculture/</u>

#### Girls Day Out in STEM Challenge: The Great Machine Learning Bake-off!

Saturday 14 August 2021, 9:00 am - Sunday 22 August 2021, 5:00 pm Online

Girls Day Out in STEM are unique online events for girls aged 10-14 to help them discover their potential through opportunities in STEM.

Girls Day Out in STEM is designing food differently this National Science Week: *Food Different by Design*. Ever wondered what a half-cookie, half-cake hybrid would taste like? Natalie and Marina, two Google Cloud engineers, will be able to tell you! Using machine learning (ML), Natalie and Marina have trained a ML model to create completely new recipes: 50% cookie and 50% cake – a Cakie, and 50% bread and 50% cookie – a Breakie.

Sign up to access the secret ML recipes that will be revealed on Saturday, August 14th at 9:00am. You have one whole week to do the baking challenge during National Science Week, August 14-22. After the baking challenge, let us know what you thought of the ML baking creations – will you vote for the Breakie or the Cakie? Let your voice be heard!

Find out more: <u>https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/girls-day-out-in-stem-challenge-the-great-machine-learning-bake-off-registration-162013026323</u>

#### Basair | Sydney Pilot Career Webinar

Monday 16 August 2021, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Online

In this free & interactive Pilot Career Seminar, you'll learn everything you need to know about a career as a Commercial Pilot.

Find out more: <u>http://www.basair.com.au/Events/Register/175</u>

#### UAC Digital | Let's Chat - Alternative pathways to university

Wednesday 18 August 2021, 6:00 pm Online

Pathway courses are for applicants who don't meet the minimum requirements for entry into a bachelor degree. In this session we'll be joined by a panel of admissions experts from various universities. We'll discuss:

- pathways you can take if you don't meet your dream course's selection criteria
- the benefits of taking a pathway course
- pathway course credits you can receive if you want to get into an undergraduate degree
- which unis offer pathway courses.

Find out more: <u>https://uacdigital.easywebinar.live/pathways-51</u>

#### WEP | Student Exchange Info Session

Tuesday 24 August 2021, 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Online

Imagine making friends from all over the world, learning about yourself and the world around you and seeing sights you could only dream of! Find out more about your student exchange opportunities at WEP's online info session.

Find out more: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN ililayNRRSGRETqTbNWTSA

#### Notre Dame | Sydney Open Day 2021

Saturday 28 August 2021, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

The University of Notre Dame, Broadway

Explore your study and career options at Notre Dame's Open Day.

You are the new generation of ethical leaders. Navigate your future with an ethical education. Find out more: <u>https://www.notredame.edu.au/events-items/sydney-open-day-2021</u>

#### WSU | Discover Western - Applying & Early Offers Webinar

Thursday 9 September 2021, 5:00 pm

Online

Come join us for all the important information about applying for University. With your HSC Trials behind you, discover our early offer programs and pathways to University, and explore how you can apply for University and get an offer without your ATAR.

Find out more: <u>https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/future/student-life/events/western-webinars.html</u>

#### Sydney Design School | Open Day

Saturday 11 September 2021, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Sydney Design School

Join us for our biggest day of the year! Our Director will take you through our courses and give you a comprehensive introduction to our School community. Meet our passionate Educators and explore our inspiring student work.

Find out more: https://sydneydesignschool.com.au/information-sessions/

### Workshops and Courses

#### Aviation Australia | Cabin Crew - Recruitment Day Preparation Course

Wednesday 21 July 2021, 5:30 pm - Thursday 22 July 2021, 8:00 pm Online

Domestic travel is in high demand, resulting in many of the airlines commencing recruitment for hundreds of roles to allow them to increase their services.

In such a competitive industry, gaining the knowledge and skills will improve your chances of securing employment as a Flight Attendant. The Recruitment Day Preparation course was designed to enhance your understanding of the Cabin Crew role as well as the aviation industry in general.

You will gain the confidence, skills, and inside-knowledge to get a head start in your career as a Flight Attendant. The course will give you a thorough understanding of the airline recruitment process.

This course is instructor-led, giving you the inside knowledge directly from an ex-cabin crew member. Find out more: <u>https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/cabin-crew-recruitment-day-preparation-course-tickets-159336601063</u>

#### AIE | Industry Experience Day

Thursday 30 September 2021, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Academy of Interactive Entertainment, Ultimo and Online

AlE's Industry Experience Days are a great opportunity for students in Years 10, 11 and 12 to learn about the local and international game development, 3D animation and visual effects industries. Students will get the opportunity to learn about the different pathways to get into the industry, what should be in a portfolio and will be able to get creative in practical workshops using industry-standard 3D animation and game development tools.

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

If you are thinking about a career in the games or film industry then we highly recommend registering for this free event.

Find out more: <a href="https://aie.edu.au/aie\_event/industry-experience-day/">https://aie.edu.au/aie\_event/industry-experience-day/</a>

### **Scholarships**

#### Harding Miller Education Foundation Scholarship

Value: Valued at \$20,000 AUD

Open/Closing Dates: July 15, 2021 - September 15, 2021

The Harding Miller Education Foundation Scholarship Program provides practical support to lift the educational and career aspirations of high potential Australian girls who are facing socio-economic hardship.

Find out more

#### 2022 Pinnacle Foundation Scholarships

Value: Up to \$7,000 AUD

Open/Closing Dates: July 1, 2021 - September 15, 2021

We provide educational scholarships, mentoring and opportunities for young LGBTIQ+ Australians to realise their full potential and overcome challenges arising from their identity. Scholarships are awarded for fulltime study at public institutions of higher education in Australia, for the purpose of gaining an educational or vocational qualification in any profession, trade or the arts. <u>Find out more</u>

#### **RAS Foundation Rural Scholarships**

Value: Up to \$6,000 AUD Open/Closing Dates: July 1, 2021 – September 5, 2021 Rural Scholarships are available to support individuals in NSW including the ACT, who demonstrate a passion for rural communities and commitment for any career that will ensure the future success of rural and regional NSW.

Find out more

### Competitions

#### The Comedy Pet Photo Awards

The Comedy Pet Photo Awards, sponsored by Animal Friends, is a funny pet photo competition supporting animal welfare charities and showcasing our favourite animals doing what they do best. Entries are open to anyone across the world. Take a photo or video of your pet doing something funny for your chance to win £2000 (~\$3707 AUD).

#### Entries close Sunday 15 August.

Find out more and enter here: <u>https://www.comedypetphoto.com/</u>

#### Indigenous Language Art Competition 2021

Create an artwork featuring the Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander language of your local area! Find out what your local Indigenous language is, and then create an artwork inspired by the landscape, plants or animals of the land where the language is spoken. Include the name of the language in the artwork.

This fantastic <u>interactive map</u> of Australia's first languages can help you find the local Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander language. If you can't find the local language, please <u>contact First Languages</u> <u>Australia</u> – they can help or suggest an alternative.

Each winning school will receive language resources that will be compiled by First Languages Australia to the value of \$200.

#### Entries close Friday 30 July.

Find out more and enter here:

https://education.abc.net.au/home#!/competition/4253652/indigenous-language-art-competition-2021

#### Jasart Winter Landscape Competition

If you've been waiting to create something special this winter and treat yourself to some art supplies, then this is for you. Get involved and be in the chance to add to your art collection. How to enter:

- 1. Create your favourite Winter Landscape artwork
- 2. Take a photo of your completed Winter Landscape artwork and upload it to Instagram and tag #winterwitheckersleys.
- 3. Follow @jasart au and @eckersleys on Instagram

You could win a prize pack valued at over \$200.

#### Entries are open until Monday 2 August.

Find out more: https://www.eckersleys.com.au/competitions/jasart-winter-landscape-competition

#### Schools BioQuest Program

Have fun competing against other schools as you work (and play) together as a team to map your local biodiversity for scientific research, while learning the fundamentals of nature science. Teachers can sign up their students in teams and work to identify nature all around us using the QuestaGame app. Take photos of any wildlife or plants you spot and upload them to score points for your team, as well as helping researchers identify and protect important species. Play anywhere, anytime – a backyard, a local park, or even by spotting insects that gather on the window at night.

#### Round 2 st

arts in August, so sign up and get ready here: <u>https://www.questaschools.com/</u>

### **Work Experience**

#### Blue Peanut Virtual Medicine Work Experience

A 7-week virtual medicine work experience placement with Hazelvalley Family practice. You will be seeing real patients, learning how to take a history and diagnose medical problems. Network with other students and fully qualified doctors.

The programme runs between 21 December 2021 and 28 January 2022 and is packed with live GP clinics and clinical training. All you need is a PC with a webcam and microphone and you can log in to the surgery from anywhere in the world.

Learn more

### **Careers & Jobs**

#### Talking Entrepreneurship at High School with Generation Entrepreneur

Following on from our post about the <u>School Entrepreneur of the Year</u>, we took the opportunity to ask Generation Entrepreneur some questions. We wanted to talk about Entrepreneurship in more detail and get some pointers on how a budding Entrepreneur could get a project off the ground. Ronaldo Keng, one of the Gen Entrepreneur team was kind enough to answer some questions for us. If you're not sure what Entrepreneurship is all about, or if you have tonnes of great ideas but aren't sure how to go about turning them into a solution or business, why not sit back and have a read of this interview.

#### SWG: What is Entrepreneurship?

Ronaldo: Entrepreneurship is positively impacting the world by solving problems you truly care about.

#### SWG: Why are change makers important?

Ronaldo: As our world changes rapidly, new challenges such as climate change and a growing population arise constantly. We need remarkable people to lead us to change the status quo and embrace these challenges. Those remarkable people? Well, they are called entrepreneurs.

# SWG: Are entrepreneurs just founders of multi-billion dollar tech companies, or do entrepreneurs exist in everyday life?

Ronaldo: Entrepreneurs exist in all walks of life. Lemonade stands, pizza shops and street side cafes are all products of entrepreneurship.

Some start-ups focus on positive societal impact rather than profit, <u>Generation Entrepreneur</u> is one such example.

#### SWG: Why is it important for students to learn entrepreneurial skills at school?

Ronaldo: Entrepreneurial skills are often labelled as '21st century skills' that are essential to our future workers however learning these skills at a high school level are extremely important. High school is the perfect time to experiment, fail and learn by utilising skills in the entrepreneurship space. Skills including problem solving, design thinking and building problem based solutions are very beneficial in school projects as they provide a more real life experience within academia.

#### SWG: What are the core skills that you'll need to become a successful entrepreneur?

Ronaldo: Anyone can become a successful entrepreneur with a growth mindset and resilience. Read any business biography and you'll find that entrepreneurs persevere through great challenges before becoming "successful". Learn to fail fast and learn fast, and never give up.

# SWG: Can entrepreneurial skills help people to thrive in their careers even if they don't want to be an entrepreneur – are the skills transferable?

Ronaldo: Entrepreneurial skills are some of the most adaptable skills a high school student can learn. These skills can be used in all career paths and even one's day to day life.

The skills to problem solve, think critically and strategically and then communicate your ideas is something that humans need to use every day. Learning these entrepreneurial skills provide us with the ability to do things efficiently and deliberately.

#### SWG: For students interested in beginning their entrepreneurial journey, what advice would you give?

Ronaldo: Transform your passion into a personal project.

- Love painting? Build a website to showcase your best work.
- Love exercising? Host a training club and motivate each other.
- Love politics? Write a blog and share your viewpoints online.

Your first attempt will probably have lots of room to improve, but your only regret will be not starting earlier.

# SWG: Could you name three things high school students could do right now to help them on their way to becoming an entrepreneur?

Three things that aspiring entrepreneurs could do right now are:

- 1. Find a problem you're truly passionate about
- 2. Go out there and network with people who are also passionate, and then put your ideas into action.
- 3. Test things out, try to have a go at the problem and if you fail, learn from it. The more you fail, the closer your final product will be to perfection.

#### SWG: Once you have an idea, what's your top tip to move it forward?

Ronaldo: One way to make yourself <u>accountable for action</u> is to publicise your idea! Share it on Instagram and tell your friends about how great it is! Naturally, you will put your idea into action, rather than get "embarrassed" about doing nothing about your great idea.

#### SWG: What are the biggest highlights and challenges of entrepreneurship?

Ronaldo: Entrepreneurs are truly the "master of their own fate". The feeling of creating your own business, working with people you love and making a positive change in the world is simply extraordinary. You have complete control over your time, energy and commitments. You will also be working on something you truly care about.

Of course, entrepreneurs go through the ups and downs. Most businesses fail within the first year, and entrepreneurs must learn to cope with failure, learn aggressively and adapt to a growth mindset.

# SWG: How could students benefit from taking part in Generation Entrepreneur programs, workshops and competitions?

Ronaldo: Students get access to practical education around business building and entrepreneurship as well as industry mentoring. This allows students to learn by doing and through this, students also walk away with the confidence of knowing their potential. Every student walks away with a well thought out business plan which has been reviewed by industry professionals.

#### SWG: So Ronaldo, do you consider yourself to be an entrepreneur?

Ronaldo: Definitely, and this applies to everyone at Generation Entrepreneur. As an entrepreneurial team, each of us has the freedom and resources to communicate our ideas and enact changes for the better.

In our lives outside of Generation Entrepreneur, we lead our lives with the same set of entrepreneurial skills. This often translates into successful businesses and careers fulfilled in a meaningful way.

#### SWG: Could you tell us a bit about your pathway into your current role?

Ronaldo: As a student, I felt that schools didn't teach us any real skills that were useful beyond the classroom. In Year 10, I came across Generation Entrepreneur and attended <u>Initiate 48</u> – a weekend startup hackathon for high school students. I learned essential business skills but more importantly, I felt surrounded by ambitious young people who were ready to change the status quo.

I felt the urge to improve students' scope for the future and its infinite possibilities. I started a few ventures surrounding this idea, represented Australian youth entrepreneurship internationally, and eventually returned to join the Generation Entrepreneur team and answer my calling – to empower high school students through entrepreneurship.

I believe programs such as Initiate 48 and our upcoming national tournament, School Entrepreneur of the Year, can truly change young people's lives as it changed mine. Today, as a Co-op scholarship recipient and first year representative at UNSW, I urge you and/or your students to take the first step in a transformative education – explore entrepreneurship, whether through Generation Entrepreneur's national programs or other avenues in your community.

#### Who are Generation Entrepreneur?

Generation Entrepreneur is a Non-for-profit instilling an entrepreneurial spirit within the future generation of young Australians. For the past 6 years, we have delivered entrepreneurial programs in partnership with industry and schools across NSW, empowering students to become social entrepreneurs, impacting over thousands of students and over 100 schools in 6 cities.

As a young organisation, we have been featured in the likes of Forbes and TED Talks, and sat alongside leading thinkers from the likes of NASA. We see entrepreneurship as a key vehicle for change, and an opportunity for students to live a life filled with passion, solving issues in their communities and making a positive impact on their world.

We run different programs such as Startup101, Initiate48 and for the first time ever, School Entrepreneur of the Year, a national entrepreneurship tournament in collaboration with Finder to find Australia's most promising young entrepreneur. We tailor our program to the needs of individual schools and students, and aim to unlock their full potential.

Generation Entrepreneur is on a mission to spread entrepreneurship across Australia. We have a heart for inspiring young high school students, and we are passionate about empowering them to change the world.

Listen to our story of the past 6 years and our vision for the next 5 years to come.

Our Purpose Video

What starts here, changes the world.

SWG: Ronaldo, thanks so much for your time and the work that you're doing, we can't wait to see where Generation Entrepreneur is in five years time.

### **Further Learning**

#### Change of heart? Not a problem, just change your preferences

If you're in Year 12 and want to go to Uni next year, then you'll probably know that Term 3 is the time to start getting your applications organised. But did you also know that if you have a change of heart, it's not a problem, you can just change your preferences?

Uni's have tried to design a system that's as flexible as possible, bearing in mind all the different courses on offer and the thousands of applications they receive each year. Both the universities and admission centres recognise that signing up for tertiary studies is a huge decision. There's a lot to take in, and so many options available, so it's inevitable that students are going change their minds for all kinds of reasons.

It happens and it's not a big deal. There are lots of ways that you can tweak your university applications even after you've submitted them. With just a little bit of time and effort you can easily get back on track.

#### Before ATAR results are released

Were you stressing about submitting your uni application between schoolwork and other commitments? If you were in a hurry perhaps you didn't give too much thought to the order of your preferences. If your choices have been weighing on your mind, or you've had some time to do a bit more research and found a different course that would suit you better; or maybe done some further reading on one of the courses you'd already selected but have now decided that's the one you'd *really* like to study. Perhaps you've had a change of circumstances which means that you'll need to rethink where you'll be able to go to uni.

Whatever the reason, the good news is that you can reorder your preferences any time.

You'll need the login and password details for the relevant account that you created when you originally applied. So dig those out, then hop online to see what you need to do next.

If you're having any trouble you can give the relevant admissions centre a call. If you applied directly to a university and want to change your application, it's best to contact the university directly – ask to speak to the admissions team, they'll know how to help.

#### Windows for changing your preferences

If you never got around to changing your preferences because life was just too busy and it wasn't a priority before your exams but you'd still like to change the courses you've selected or the ones you'd most like to receive an offer for. Or you've received your ATAR results and you've done much better, or perhaps not as well, as you'd hoped. You can still change your preferences.

Bear in mind that the whole results-to-offers process moves quickly, so if you're thinking you might want (or have) to change your preferences then keep reading...

In each state, the ATAR results are released on different days and the main round of offers made through Tertiary Admissions Centres happen a couple of days after that. They always allow a period where you can change your preferences between receiving your ATAR and offers being made. Say you do end up getting a lower ATAR than you expected. You could reorder your preferences and list a course with lower entry requirement first, you'll be more likely to receive an offer and you get to influence which course you'd like as your second option.

Or, if you did way better than expected, you can move a course with a higher selection rank to your top spot (just make sure you're not moving it because you can and that it's something that you do actually want to study).

State	Admissions	Results Release	Change of preferences cut-off for
	Centre	Date	main round offer
NSW &	<u>UAC</u>	10 December	By 11.59pm 13 December
ACT			
Victoria	VTAC	13 December	By 4pm 14 December
Queensland	<u>QTAC</u>	17 December	By 10am 21 December (TBC)
WA	TISC	19/20 December	By 11pm 21 December (TBC)
		(TBC)	
SA & NT	<u>SATAC</u>	Check	10 January
		SACE between 18-	
		20 December	
		(TBC)	
Tasmania*	<u>UTAS</u>	15 December	-

Here's the dates you'll need to know if you don't want to miss that opportunity.

\*UTAS issue main round of offers to Tasmanian students in Mid-December and to interstate students in January, you'll need to call and check with them what their system for changing preferences is. For students who have applied via **direct entry** to institutions, look on their website or give the admissions centre a call for dates and instructions.

#### But wait... there's more

Didn't get an offer in the main rounds? Or maybe you did get an offer but it's not the one you wanted. Well, there's more good news – you still have time to change your preferences before the next rounds of offers, if you'd like to.

For example, if you got an offer but it's not your first preference and that's the one you really, really want, accept the offer you received and leave your preferences as they were. You might be offered a place for your first preference course in the next round of offers.

That can happen if somebody else doesn't accept an offer and a place becomes available for the next in line students (you).

You might have been offered your first preference but not be as excited about it as you ought to be, that's ok too. Again, you can accept your offer, reorder your preferences list for the next round of offers and see if you get another offer for the course you want.

State	Admissions	Change of Preferences Closes for
	Centre	next round of offers round
NSW &	<u>UAC</u>	By 11.59pm 6 January
ACT		
Victoria	<u>VTAC</u>	By 4pm 21 December
Queensland	<u>QTAC</u>	7 January (TBC)
WA	TISC	By 11pm 17 January (TBC)
SA & NT	<u>SATAC</u>	Check with SATAC
Tasmania*	<u>UTAS</u>	Check with UTAS

These are the dates you'll need to know for the next round of offers:

#### Change your preferences even after you've accepted an offer

Say what? Yep, it's true – even if you received an offer in the main round, you can *still change your preferences*.

(If you get an offer, it's probably always best to accept it. That way, if you don't receive an offer in later rounds, you still have that option to fall back on).

For example:

- you receive an offer in main rounds for your first preference but have changed your mind about the course you want
- accept your offer
- reorder your preferences before the cut-off date (see above table or contact the TAC) for the next round, list the course you'd like to receive an offer for in first place
- wait to see what offers you get in the next round
- accept your new offer
- withdraw your enrolment from the first institution

*Important Note:* Make sure that you withdraw your enrolment for any offers that you no longer want, **before the census date** (check with the uni if the information isn't in your offer email), otherwise you could end up paying two lots of fees.

#### Looking for more help?

If you need more information on choosing courses and uni's, how to go about applying to university, as well as preferences and when you can change them, you can download our <u>guide</u>. It's out now and covers all the important information for each state.

#### Don't give up

If things don't work out the way you had hoped with your results and offers, there are still lots of different ways that you'll be able to access the courses and careers that you'd like to pursue. Speak with the TACs and universities, or have a look at some of the resources that you might find useful on our <u>website</u> including <u>alternative pathways</u>.

#### How to Apply to University

Do you think you want to go to university once school is over? There are over one million Australians currently studying at university, and if you've decided you want to join them then you need to know how to apply.

There are a few steps to follow, but we'll walk through them one by one in this article.

#### Step 1 – Decide to go to university

The first thing you need to do is decide that you actually want to go to university, and that it's the right decision for you. We know that lots of parents (around 80%) want their children to go to university, even if it's not the best choice for their circumstances, and if your parents want you to go then there can be a lot of pressure to apply.

Uni could be right for you if:

- You want to study a topic in depth
- You want a job that needs a degree (like teaching, nursing, engineering)
- You're doing well at school and want to extend yourself
- You're doing well but you're not sure which career path is right for you

Note: Some students feel like they don't want to go to university because they want a break from studying, but university is very different from high school. You have around 4 months between finishing your Year 12 exams and starting university, which many people find is more than enough time for a break. Plus, university study expects you to take an adult approach to learning – it's more targeted and you'll also be building your professional networks and gaining experience.

If you're still 'on the fence' about going to uni, it's a good idea to apply anyway. Not applying will guarantee that you don't get in, which means you'll have less options once school is over. If you've decided that applying is right for you, then move on to the next step.

#### Step 2 – Choose what you want to study

Before you start looking at shiny university brochures and going to open days, take a minute to think about the kind of things you want to study. You can approach this a couple of different ways, depending on how certain you are about your future career;

If you've chosen a preferred career pathway:

- Identify the qualification requirements for that pathway do you need a degree? If so, which degree do you need?
- You may be able to choose from more than one degree, and if this is the case then decide which ones you prefer. For example, if you want to work in robotics you could study mechatronics engineering, or mechanical engineering, or electrical engineering work out which is right for you.

If you haven't chosen a future career:

- Focus on things you enjoy and find interesting, rather than pathways you aren't interested in. This means don't pick accounting because you think you'll earn lots if you don't like maths and spreadsheets.
- Look for more general degrees which give you a wide range of possible career options and allow you to specialise during your degree. For example, many business degrees have a general first year, then let you pick specific courses further on.
- Avoid super specific degrees unless you also like the career they lead to. For example, dentistry almost always leads to becoming a dentist.

Once you've chosen what you want to study write it down and be clear about it *before* you start looking for somewhere to study it.

#### Step 3 – Find somewhere to study

Where you go to study isn't as important as what you study. Once you've graduated, most employers won't really care where your degree was from, as long as you can do the work – all degree qualifications at the same level are considered equal within the <u>Australian Qualifications Framework</u>.

- There are some important things to consider when you're looking for a place to study:
  - 1. Do they offer the course you want to study? If not, cross them out
  - 2. Where will you live if you study there? Can you stay at home for the first year or so, or are you keen to move out straight away? Will you be able to afford to live on campus? Choosing a university that is close to home and allows you to keep your part-time work could make the transition easier.
  - 3. What opportunities do they offer for building your network? Your network will be one of the most valuable things you gain from university, and the internships and connections you make there will give you access to better employment or business opportunities once you leave.

If you're in the lucky position of having a few good options to choose from, see if you can connect with current students at each university and get their feedback – are they happy with their course, are the getting the support they need, and what advice would they give you?

#### Step 4 – Prepare for application

Once you know what you want to study, and where you want to study it, you need to find out how you can apply.

You'll need to first find out about any important cut-off dates, so you don't miss out. Add these into your calendar and it could be a good idea to tell your parents and other key people about them as well. Next, find out what documents and details you need to apply. You'll <u>probably need your USI</u>, and you may need other student numbers, depending on your state. Some courses may require you to complete additional processes, for example if you <u>want to study medicine you may need to sit the UCAT</u>, which you need to do earlier in the year. Find out what you need to do early, so you can prepare in advance and don't end up missing out by accident.

The last step is to make sure you <u>meet the ATAR or other entry requirements</u>. ATARs are much less important than they used to be, and only a fraction of Year 12s rely on their ATAR as the only thing they use to get into uni. Regardless, you need to know what ATAR you may need, and if there are any other pathways you can use find out what you need to do for them as well. For example, ANU now have a <u>co-curricular or service requirement for entry</u>, which means you need to have done more than just scored an ATAR. You can use part-time work, school leadership, sporting participation, and other activities to prove that you can handle university study.

#### Step 5 – Apply and select your preferences

The application process varies depending on which university you've picked, but you can find out what you need to do for each university in the <u>Apply to Uni Guide for 2022</u>. Remember, it may not be enough to simply apply through the tertiary admissions centre in your state, so check directly with the university to make sure you have met all the entry requirements *before* you start your application.

The application process is usually straightforward, but if you have any questions we recommend that you get in touch with the university directly, as they'll be best placed to answer all your specific questions.

When you apply, you'll also be asked to <u>select your course preferences</u>. The key thing to remember here is to fill out every preference, even if you don't think you need to. You can always reject an offer, but if you only list one course then you're limiting your options before you start. Even if you are 110% certain that there is only one course you want to pick, find a few similar courses and list them just in case. A lot can change between selecting your preferences in September and receiving your offer in December or January, so don't put all your eggs in one basket.

We recommend you list your number one course choice first, then you second favourite. For the rest of the list, put some other courses you think you'd be happy with, and add a few 'easy' of lower ATAR/requirement options at the end, which will give you a couple of backups.

#### Step 6 – Wait

After you've submitted your application, you need to wait for an offer. Use this time to get some space from your choices, focus on your final exams and enjoy the last few weeks and months of school. If you decide you want to change your preferences during this time then you'll be able to do so, but be mindful of the cut off dates and don't let it dominate your thinking.

#### Step 7 – Accept an offer and enrol

All Year 12 students who are eligible for an ATAR will receive it just before Christmas, and if you've been successful, you'll receive an offer after that. You'll only receive one offer for each state for each round (so if you've applied in NSW and Queensland, you can receive an offer for both states), and you'll get an offer for the highest preference you are eligible for.

This means that if your top-rated preference requires an ATAR of 70, and you got 62, you may not get your first preference, but if your second preference requires an ATAR of 60 then you will receive an offer for that course.

If you want to take the offer, then follow the process to accept it an enrol. If you don't want to accept it, you can always wait for a later offer round to see if you get a higher preference, which does occasionally happen.

From here, you've moved from high school student to university student, so check out what you need to do to enrol and make sure you book in for orientation.

#### What are my other options?

University straight out of school is not your only option. Lots of students defer for 6 or 12 months and work, gain another skill, or just have some time off. Other students start with a VET qualification, apprenticeship, or traineeship, and from there they may work for a while and eventually go to university as a mature student.

Whatever you decide to do, take some time to reflect on your choices, and don't rush into a decision – after all, you'll be living with this pathway for quite a while.

#### Do you need advice on how to apply for the Macquarie Leaders and Achievers early entry scheme?

Macquarie University Student Ambassadors are here to help!

The Macquarie Leaders and Achievers Early Entry Scheme recognises your academic achievements as well as your leadership qualities and commitment to the community. This scheme is available for students completing the NSW Higher School Certificate, ACT Senior Secondary Certificate or International Baccalaureate in 2021. It recognises your academic achievement in Year 11 as well as your activity beyond the classroom.

You can watch our 'How to apply' recording here: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YxSuhUnZt5o</u>

Or book a phone or online consultation with us here: <u>https://page.mq.edu.au/personal-consultations-booking.html</u>

#### Applications close Friday, 20 August 2021 at 2pm (AEST).

Find out more about the early entry scheme here: <u>https://www.mq.edu.au/study/admissions/entry-requirements/domestic/macquarie-entry/macquarie-leaders-and-achievers</u>

#### Bond's Bachelor of Health Sciences introduces major and minor in Healthcare Informatics

Bond University's Bachelor of Health Sciences now features a major and minor in Healthcare Informatics. Healthcare Informatics is the science of how to use data, information and knowledge in an innovative way to improve human health and the delivery of healthcare systems. Read more about the broad range of exciting career paths this program can lead to: <u>https://bond.edu.au/blog/future-careers-blending-healthcare-and-data</u>

#### Resources

#### How you could benefit from School Excursions and Camps

Owner and Operator of <u>Getaway Trekking</u> Sue Fitcher has many years of experience in leading school treks. She was kind enough to take some time to write an article for us about the benefits you could gain from experiences like these.

If you haven't yet considered grabbing the opportunity to go on school camps and excursions, here are a few reasons why you might want to explore the idea further.

#### I have a challenge for you

Ask yourself how many aspects of your life have changed in the last year or so, and there's a fair chance you'll quickly run out of fingers, and perhaps even toes.

Festivals and school formals have been cancelled, and many people this year are belatedly having their '21+1' parties. And of course, many have become seriously ill and even died.

Other casualties of CoVid-19 have been school camps and excursions. Does that matter? We think it does.

#### The outdoors could make you feel amazing

Here's another question – do you feel better in a classroom or in the outdoors? Most would say the outdoors, though we can't always say why.

What's interesting is that there's now a raft of evidence relating to why this is. Did you know that there's a natural antidepressant in soil? It's true. Antidepressant microbes in soil, along with exposure to natural light, support the production of melatonin and serotonin, keeping our body clock in balance. Cool, huh!

A Japanese study compared people walking in forests to another group walking for the same length and intensity in an urban setting. The forest walkers had significantly lower heart rates and reported better moods and less anxiety than the others.

And then there are endorphins – your brain's feel-good neurotransmitters – which are boosted by physical activity. So the next time you feel like escaping the classroom for the sport ground, you'll know there's plenty of science backing that.

#### Make memories and grow

Some of my favourite school memories (and yes, they did have schools back then) are excursions and camps, where we went to exciting places and escaped the classroom schedule for other more fun activities.

Getting out of our day-to-day routines has so many benefits. When we're in a new environment, our minds are more open to learning new things (called re-framing – more science). That gives us the opportunity of experiential learning or learning through experience, to practice new teamwork and leadership skills and form new friendship groups.

Outdoor camps and excursions can provide some great opportunities for challenge and reaching beyond our comfort zone. Yes, that's a lovely place to live, but you won't find any personal development there. It also has the capacity to help us push beyond what we believe we can achieve.

Ask yourself, when was the last time you felt really good about yourself? I'm tipping it was when you achieved something that was hard. Something you had to work for, and maybe you didn't think you could do it, but you did. We only grow when we challenge ourselves. And that's when we learn the skills we need to take us into the future – leadership, resilience, adaptability, independence and empathy among them.

#### Get outside of your comfort zone

Our school excursion experience has been predominantly in taking students across the Kokoda Track in Papua New Guinea, definitely outside the comfort zone for most people, and particularly for students. Standing on the ground where Australian soldiers fought to defend our country provides an understanding of their courage and sacrifice that will never be found in a history book. Compound that with the challenge of tired legs on never ending mud and mountain ranges, and the appreciation magnifies. And meeting our PNG crew who take such pride in their work and have not yet learned to revere materialism over family and community takes the experience to another level.

Poet and philosopher Ralph Waldo Emerson had it right when he said:

'The mind, once stretched by a new idea, never returns to its original dimensions.'

The same applies to stretching out of our comfort zone. When we achieve, it stretches our self-imposed limitations and provides a benchmark for comparison.

'Ok, so I didn't think I could do that, but I did. So maybe I can do this too.'

In other words, doing hard things teaches us to do other hard things. And that, my friends, can set you up for life.

#### Are there opportunities in Australia?

With no international travel at present, we're unable to visit our PNG family and we're missing them terribly. But the silver lining in the cloud is the opportunity to visit, explore and learn about our own country.

You may have been to Cairns, but have you hiked and camped in the Atherton Tablelands, just a short distance away?

Learned about bush tucker and how to throw a spear on Cooya Beach?

Or perhaps hiked through the Great South West Walk in Victoria or followed the path of the Aussie Camino, a commemorative pilgrimage to Sister Mary Mackillop, Australia's only saint.

It is true there are many schools who have suspended their excursion programs, and they're undoubtedly doing so with the best of intentions, in keeping you safe. But we would argue that it's entirely possible to stay physically safe, while making sure we're also supporting your personal growth.

#### See what's possible

Don't give up on school camps. They are opportunities for great educational learning and some really significant personal development. All adults want our kids to grow into kind, ethical, resilient and active citizens, and many of the experiences that support such growth take place outside the classroom and outside the ordinary.

Sleeping in a swag under the stars after a day trekking with camels to Lake Torrens in the Flinders Ranges? There's an experience unlikely to be forgotten.

Because not all classrooms have four walls.

#### A little bit about Getaway Trekking & Adventures

Providing guided treks designed to challenge, educate and empower.

Operating since 2006, Getaway Trekking & Adventures has a wealth of experience in supporting students in the outdoors. Through our Kokoda School Treks program, hundreds of Australian students have learned about our history, challenged themselves physically, and through travelling in a developing nation, gained an appreciation for their own good fortune and global responsibility.

This experience can be equally as profound in Australia. With stunning country, vast open areas, a rich history of first nations people and early settler development, and a range of bio-diverse regions to visit, we are simply spoilt for choice.

We love what we do. Our passion is in helping students find out what's inside. Outside.

If you're keen to find out more, you can <u>contact Getaway Trekking</u> for more information – you'll even get to speak to a real person.

Don't forget, these are experiences that will look great on your <u>resume</u> too. If you're looking for <u>Gap</u> <u>Year</u> opportunities, this could be something else for you to research.

#### From Brazil to Bond – Biomedical Science and becoming a doctor

It was a high school exchange that set Caio Christiansen's journey to the Bond Medical Program in motion. Now, the future doctor is a Grenby Family Beyond Bond Medal winner in Year 2 of his medical studies who aspires to one day practice in a rural community.

Caio grew up in San Paolo, Brazil and jumped at the opportunity to go on year-long exchange program at just 16, which saw him move to the Gold Coast and commence his Year 11 studies at Elanora State High school. After experiencing the Gold Coast and visiting Bond twice during this time, Caio knew that it was the perfect fit for his pathway into medicine. Caio began his Bond journey with a Bond University College pathway program before progressing to complete a Bachelor of Biomedical Science, which then allowed him to apply for entry into the second year of the accelerated Bond Medical Program. Read more about Caio's journey to becoming a future doctor with Bond:

https://bond.edu.au/blog/brazil-bond-biomedical-science-and-becoming-doctor



#### Tax and Young People

#### What is tax?

It's not the most fun subject to talk about, but it's an important one – tax. If you've got yourself a parttime or casual job, even if you're still at school, chances are you'll need to know about tax. But what even is tax? Think of it this way. Tax is a small amount of money that gets taken off your pay. The government uses this money to provide important services and infrastructure, like roads, hospitals, and even schools – tax improves our quality of life. This means we can access services like Medicare for free, instead of having to pay every time we need to go to the hospital or doctor.

#### Do I need to pay tax, and how?

If you have a job, the short answer is yes, you probably need to pay tax.

You need to pay tax on your income once you make more than \$18,200 a year (this works out to roughly \$350 a week). Remember that this is **combined income** – so if you have more than one job, even if you earn \$10,000 at one and \$12,000 at the other, if it's more than \$18,200 combined you will need to pay tax. There are also some other things that count towards your income total, such as investments and some government payments. See the full list of things you need to declare as income <u>here</u>. Thankfully, paying tax easy – you don't even have to do anything. Your employer should automatically pay tax on your behalf. If you get a payslip, you should be able to see how much tax comes out of each pay. This is called "Pay As You Go" (PAYG) tax, and unless you work for yourself, this is how you will pay your tax. So don't stress!

#### So what do I need to do?

#### Tax File Number

Before you get your first job, you will probably be asked to get a <u>Tax File Number</u> (TFN). This is a unique number that stays with you for life that the government uses to keep track of your income, superannuation and debts (such as HECS-HELP).

You don't technically need a TFN to start working, but you'll pay more tax if you don't have one, and you won't be able to access any government benefits. But <u>getting one is easy and totally free</u>, so there's really no excuse not to.

Once you've got your TFN, simply give it to your employer, and *voilà* – that's really all you need to do.

#### Tax return

At the end of every financial year (which ends in June, not December), if you've been paying tax, you'll need to lodge something called a <u>tax return</u>.

Lodging a tax return adds up your income for the year, and then the government checks how much tax you've paid. If you paid more tax than is due, you'll get some money back. If you paid less, you'll have to pay the extra. Most people tend to get a small return each financial year. You'll need to lodge your tax return before 31 October each year.

If all of this is sounding a bit complicated, we promise it's not. You can use the ATO's <u>myTax</u> tool to lodge a tax return online and for free. You'll need to setup a <u>myGov</u> account first.

The best part about using myTax is that most of the information is already prefilled for you. Your employer sends your income info to the ATO so you don't need to.

If you're finding the whole process too confusing, you can also visit a registered tax agent and they can lodge a tax return for you on your behalf. But keep in mind you'll need to pay a fee for their service.

#### How do I lodge a tax return?

If you do lodge your own tax return, there are a few general steps to follow:

- 1. Declare all your income. You will need to fill in any money you earned throughout the financial year. Don't forget, this can include things like government payments and interest. Most of this information should already be prefilled for you. If your employer has sent you a payment statement, double-check to make sure the figures in your tax return match the statement.
- 2. Claim any deductions. If you have any work-related expenses, you can claim their cost as a deduction and receive some of the cost back. These can include things like uniforms and laundry costs, tools, travel expenses, and other things. They *must* be relevant to your work, and you can't have been reimbursed by anyone for them (for example, if your employer pays for your tools on your behalf, you can't claim them as a work-related expense). You will also need to keep a receipt or record of purchase. This step is totally optional, but it can be nice to get some money back. But be careful when claiming deductions, because if you get it wrong you may have to pay some money back. Read up thoroughly on <u>what you can and can't claim as deductions</u> first.
- 3. **Submit!** Triple-check all of the values you've entered, then submit your tax return. You should hear back from the ATO in around 2 weeks, and they'll tell you whether or not you can expect some money in the bank, or whether you owe them.

#### Why do I need to lodge a tax return?

You will need to submit a tax return every financial year, as long as you are earning money. It's important to make sure you submit it on time each year, or you might be missing out on some extra money you could get back. Even worse, if you owe money, not knowing and not paying could land you in hot water down the track.

#### Want to know more?

Staying on top of your finances can save you from future headaches, and can sometimes come with the bonus perk of a few extra dollars in your bank account.

If you want to find out more about money, we have heaps of resources on budgeting, superannuation, and more on the <u>Study Work Grow website</u>.

### **Job Spotlight**

#### How to become a Speech Pathologist

Improve people's quality of life through communication

#### What do Speech Pathologists do?

Speech Pathologists are experts who assist people with communication disorders, which could be problems with speaking, listening, reading, or writing due to a variety of issues. They work with people of all ages, from children to the elderly. Your work as a Speech Pathologist can greatly help improve a person's quality of life.

If you have a passion for helping people and are seeking a rewarding and challenging career, Speech Pathology could be ideal for you.

#### About you:

- Caring and empathetic
- Excellent communicator
- Passionate about helping people
- Emotionally resilient
- Likes to work indoors
- Good time management skills
- Works well in a team and independently
- Determined and adaptable

#### The job:

- Helping patients learn to communicate, verbally and non-verbally
- Identifying the cause and extent of communication disorders
- Giving patients strategies to manage their daily lives
- Relaying relevant information to other medical and health professionals
- Providing advice and support to family members, friends and carers of patients
- Working with people of all ages, from children to adults
- Helping patients overcome stutters and swallowing issues

#### Lifestyle Impact: Low

- Part Time opportunities: Moderate around 44% of Speech Pathologists work part-time (source: joboutlook.gov.au).
- Average hours for full-time workers: 41 hours a week, which is average (source: joboutlook.gov.au).
- Speech Pathologists' salary (average) \$80,000\* per year (source: com.au). \*Salaries vary depending on your skills and experience.
- Future career growth: Very strong (source: joboutlook.gov.au).
- Most of your work will be done indoors, either in clinics and hospitals, or travelling to patients in their homes.

#### Speech Pathologists are most in demand in these locations:

This is a small occupation, with around 7,300 people working as Speech Pathologists in 2019 (source: joboutlook.gov.au). However, there is very strong demand in the future and a strong need for more roles to be filled. Speech Pathologists are needed all across Australia, and you might have more luck finding work in regional and rural areas where there is a shortage of healthcare professionals. Most Speech Pathologists work in the healthcare and social assistance and education industries.

There are jobs available around Australia and globally. Most of your work will require you to be face-to-face with your patients, so there is little opportunity to work remotely or from home.

#### How to become a Speech Pathologist in Australia

To work as a Speech Pathologist, you will need to complete a Bachelor- or Master's-level qualification that has been accredited by <u>Speech Pathology Australia</u>.

Step 1 – Complete Year 12 with a strong focus on English and Health.

Step 2 – Volunteer or get work experience in a health-related setting, such as in a hospital or aged care facility.

Step 3 – Complete an accredited university degree. This will usually be a Bachelor of Speech Pathology. You can find a full list of currently accredited qualifications on Speech Pathology Australia's website <u>here</u>.

Step 4 – Register with Speech Pathology Australia to become a Certified Practising Speech Pathologist (CPSP) and start working.

Step 5 – Keep your skills and knowledge up to date through mandatory Continuing Professional Development (CPD) each year.

Find out more here – <u>https://www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au/</u>

#### Similar Careers to Speech Pathologist

Medical Doctor Surgeon Sonographer Registered Nurse Aged Care Worker Occupational Therapist Music Therapist General Practitioner (GP) Social Worker

Find out more about alternative <u>careers</u>.

#### Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

#### What do Speech Pathologists do?

Speech Pathologists help patients who have communication disorders, either from injury or disability, and teach them how to communicate, either verbally or non-verbally.

#### Which industries employ Speech Pathologists?

Most Speech Pathologists work in the healthcare and social assistance, and education industries.

#### What options are there for career progression?

You can start out working as a practising Speech Pathologist, and potentially move into roles in research and education.

#### Do I need to go to university to become a Speech Pathologist?

Yes, you will need to complete an accredited university-level degree in order to be qualified to practice as a Speech Pathologist in Australia.

#### Where do Speech Pathologists work?

Speech Pathologists work all around Australia and the world. They can work in private clinics or hospitals, or even travel directly to a client's home.

#### What are 3 things I can do right now to help me become a Speech Pathologist?

If you're in high school and you'd like to find out if a career as a Speech Pathologist is right for you, here's a few things you could do right now:

- 1. Try and find work experience in a healthcare-related setting that will let you build on essential skills such as patience, communication, and empathy. It might also help you start making connections for the future.
- 2. See if you can talk to a current Speech Pathologist, or watch videos, and get an idea about what a day in their life is like.
- 3. Volunteer in the community to assist people with disability and expose yourself to people from all walks of life.

#### The Study Work Grow Research Team

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