



To contact Ms. Hall please email chall@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au or call 9414 4733.

Events

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Torrens University Virtual Open Day 2026

Organisation: Torrens University Australia

Location: Online

Date: May 19 to May 20, 2026

Ready for the next step on your career journey? Join us online as our academics talk you through the courses on offer and how you can get the most out of studying with us. Learn about scholarships, study pathways, our industry partnerships with global brands and what sets us apart from other universities.

[Find out more](#)

UNSW Business School Information Evening

Organisation: University of New South Wales

Location: Online

Date: May 20, 2026

Are you considering a future in business or unlocking opportunities to help you thrive in the dynamic world of business? Start your career at UNSW Business School.

Join us online to hear from our expert panel of academic staff and advisers:

- You'll gain insights about our range of programs designed to equip you with the skills and knowledge needed to excel in today's competitive business landscape.
- You will also hear from our current student and alumni about their student experiences and about the importance of the current industry landscape.
- Additionally, find out detailed information on the application and admissions process for 2027 entry including various pathways.

Whether you're interested in finance, marketing, management, analytics, information systems, entrepreneurship or any other aspect of business, UNSW Business School has a program tailored to your interests and goals.

[Find out more](#)

ACU Talk with Arts Students and Graduates

Organisation: Australian Catholic University

Location: Online

Date: May 20, 2026

Curious about where your study could take you? Join our Talk with Industry Series - a range of online Q&A sessions connecting you directly with ACU students and graduates across diverse fields.

Hear authentic stories from those who've walked the path you're considering. Our alumni share real insights about their careers post-graduation, while current students offer a genuine look at campus life and coursework. Whether you're certain about your direction or just starting to explore possibilities, these conversations will provide the clarity you need.

No matter where you are in your decision-making journey, you'll gain valuable perspectives on what studying and working in your chosen field truly involves.

[Find out more](#)



STEM + X: Data Science – Webinar for Students, Teachers & Parents

Organisation: Careers with STEM

Location: Online

Date: May 20, 2026

Data science is an increasingly crucial tool for understanding the world. Datasets get bigger and messier with every year, and there's a growing need for skilled experts who can handle these floods of information. Data scientists need to be able to collect, process, clean and analyse all of this information – and they need to be able to do it ethically.

Join Careers with STEM for a free STEM + X career webinar, supported by QUT, to hear from data science students and graduates who are learning to navigate the world with numbers.

[Find out more](#)

Study Mathematical Sciences at the University of Sydney – Webinar for Future Students

Organisation: University of Sydney

Location: Online

Date: May 20, 2026

Are you a keen mathematician eager to explore the world of mathematics? From computing to data science, statistics to financial mathematics, our new Bachelor of Mathematical Sciences will prepare you to take on novel challenges we have yet to see in this fast-paced, data-driven world. Perhaps you will find the solution to a Millennium Problem or you might help uncover a new Earth-like planet in a nearby galaxy!

Join this information session to find out all about the infinite career possibilities in the exciting future ahead.

[Find out more](#)

University of Newcastle Year 10 Subject Selection Webinar

Organisation: University of Newcastle

Location: Online

Date: May 20, 2026

Our student ambassadors will share key Year 10 Subject Selection information and share their stories and experiences with subject selection and transition to University studies.

Presentation topics:

- Subject selection process (our 3 simple steps on how to select your subjects)
- Subject selection resources, case studies and examples
- What if I don't know what I want to do or change my mind?
- What can you study at the University of Newcastle?
- Differences between school life and university life
- Pathways to University
- Ask a Student platform

The session will be approx. 1 hour including 15 mins for Q&A.

[Find out more](#)

Year 10 HSC Subject Choices with ADHD – Webinar for Students & Parents

Organisation: Claire Pech Careers

Location: Online

Date: May 21, 2026

Subject selection in Year 10 is stressful for any family. For parents of ADHD teens, the stakes feel even higher — because you know that the wrong subjects don't just feel hard, they can genuinely derail your teen's motivation and confidence for two years.

Most advice about HSC subject selection wasn't designed with ADHD in mind. This webinar was.



What we'll cover:

- Why subject choice matters for students with ADHD
- How the ATAR and subject selection system actually works
- Common myths around subject selection
- Matching HSC Subjects to strengths, interests, workload, readiness, rigour
- Settling on your subject list - its OK to not feel OK
- Live Q&A

Hosted by [Claire Pech](#), CICA-Accredited Careers Practitioner, and [Amanda Krulis](#), endorsed Organisational Psychologist.

View the [full series of webinars](#) for the ADHD community on all things careers, schooling and the workforce.

[Find out more](#)

A Conservation Biologist's Dream of Improving Endangered Species Survival – Discover Lecture Series with Macquarie

Organisation: Macquarie University

Location: Macquarie University, Wallumattagal Campus

Date: May 21, 2026

In the late 20th century, scientists around the world became alarmed by the sudden collapse of frog populations. Decades later the cause was identified as chytrid, a fungal pathogen. No invasive species has caused comparable destruction: chytrid has affected hundreds of species worldwide and driven at least 90 to extinction, surpassing the impacts of cats, rats, and cane toads.

Dr Anthony Waddle's research focuses on increasing frog resistance to chytrid through vaccination strategies, artificial "frog sauna" shelters that allow frogs to clear infections, and molecular approaches to engineer genetic resistance in endangered species. Crucially, his team not only develops these tools but deploys them in real time to protect declining wild populations. Most conservation biologists only dream of seeing their work make a difference in wild populations and this team is doing just that.

This event is part of Macquarie's [Discover Lecture Series](#), monthly talks suitable for ages 10 and up that offer inspiring insights and a glimpse into the technological advancements shaping our future.

[Find out more](#)

University of Newcastle Parents and Carers Info Session – Central Coast

Organisation: University of Newcastle

Location: University of Newcastle, Gosford Central Campus

Date: May 21, 2026

If you have a child who is currently completing senior studies, come visit us for our Parents and Carers Info Session.

Parents and Carers will have the opportunity to hear from University staff and current students, with a presentation touching on areas such as:

- Our different entry schemes, such as the Early Entry Program, Schools Recommendation Scheme & Year 12 Subject Spotlight
- Our campus locations, accommodation, scholarships and more
- Student experience and support services available

Following this, there will be an opportunity for Q&As if you had any specific inquiries. Students are welcome to attend as well!

[Find out more](#)

ACU Talk with Biomedicine and Nutrition Experts

Organisation: Australian Catholic University



Location: Online

Date: May 21, 2026

Curious about where your study could take you? Join our Talk with Industry Series - a range of online Q&A sessions connecting you directly with ACU students and graduates across diverse fields.

Hear authentic stories from those who've walked the path you're considering. Our alumni share real insights about their careers post-graduation, while current students offer a genuine look at campus life and coursework. Whether you're certain about your direction or just starting to explore possibilities, these conversations will provide the clarity you need.

No matter where you are in your decision-making journey, you'll gain valuable perspectives on what studying and working in your chosen field truly involves.

[Find out more](#)

AIE May Open Day, Sydney

Organisation: Academy of Interactive Entertainment

Location: Academy of Interactive Entertainment, Sydney Campus

Date: May 23, 2026

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

AIE's Open Day is a great opportunity to meet our teachers, staff and students. The day will cover everything you need to know about the:

- careers in games and VFX that we train students for;
- studios and industries that we work with;
- courses we offer - from beginners to professional mastery, and;
- the software, skills and knowledge we teach.

AIE's Open Day will also include presentations on entry requirements and how to apply. Find out how AIE can get you into a creative career.

[Find out more](#)

Future Doctors Weekend with PreMed Projects for students 14-18

Organisation: Premed Projects

Location: Online

Date: May 23 to May 24, 2026

We have 3,000 free places for students aged 14-18 to join a free weekend online course designed for students interested in careers in medicine and healthcare.

Premed Projects offers residential summer camps, designed for students from all over the world who are interested in medicine. Students join us from all over the world to take part in our summer camps and we also offer online work experience projects for students who dream of careers in healthcare.

Our free online work experience weekend is for any student interested in healthcare to help provide some work experience that you can use in your applications and interviews. All students receive a signed certificate from our doctors for taking part.

Delivered live online each day (12pm–2pm BST or 9-11pm AEST)

What students will gain:

Real insight into careers in medicine and surgery

Experience working through clinical case studies

Understanding of medical ethics and interview scenarios

Exposure to how doctors think, diagnose and make decisions

A signed certificate from doctors (useful for applications & interviews)

These sessions will be recorded so if can't attend live you'll be able to watch them back for 60 days and still obtain your certificate.



[Find out more](#)

NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

CSU Careers in Agriculture and Environment Online Information Night

Organisation: Charles Sturt University

Location: Online

Date: May 26, 2026

Love the planet? Want to solve real-world challenges? So do we. Explore limitless agriculture careers that shape the future of food and fibre production, farming systems and environmental management.

From food security and climate resilience to data and robotics. Protect and manage natural environments. And power a more sustainable future with the #1 uni for agriculture and environmental science grads who get jobs.

We have been cultivating the next crop of ag innovators for over 120 years. When you study with us, you'll gain hands-on skills and industry knowledge for the future of diverse and rewarding careers in agriculture and the environment.

- Unpack ag and enviro careers and courses, plus dive into our early offer program.
- Hear from industry experts, students and graduates.
- See what hands-on learning is all about and check out our virtual facilities tour.
- Have your questions answered live!

[Find out more](#)

Your Pathway to Teaching at the University of Sydney – Webinar for Future Students

Organisation: University of Sydney

Location: Online

Date: May 27, 2026

Join us for an information session on studying early childhood, primary, and secondary education at the University of Sydney. Learn about course structures, admission pathways, professional placements, and the career opportunities available to graduates. This is a great chance to understand your options and see how a teaching degree from Sydney can shape your future.

[Find out more](#)

CSU Careers in Animal, Equine and Veterinary Sciences Online Information Night

Organisation: Charles Sturt University

Location: Online

Date: May 27, 2026

Passionate about animals? Curious about a career in the animal health sector? Our info night is the perfect place to start. Uncover caring careers that help creatures big and small. From livestock industries, clinical settings, government and biosecurity, animal welfare or the wildlife sector. Discover careers that help change the way we look after animals.

Companion animal health, veterinary hospitals and clinics, livestock production, equine nutrition, herd health, zoos and cutting-edge research. Think big when it comes to where your animal career can take you. Discover how you'll build real-world skills and learn to support animal health, welfare and care through hands-on experience.

- Discover where animal, equine and vet careers can take you.
- Hear from industry experts, students and graduates.
- Explore our hands-on courses and facilities.
- Have your questions answered live!

[Find out more](#)



UNSW Science Information Evening

UCAT, GAMSAT and Pathways into Medicine – Webinar for Students, Teachers & Parents

Organisation: National Institute of Education

Location: Online

Date: May 27, 2026

This forum is an excellent opportunity for teachers, students and their parents to find out about the UCAT, pathways into medicine, and have all questions answered by an expert teacher who has been working in the field since 1999.

The session is packed with invaluable information during which we will be covering the following topics, and more:

- What is UCAT? UCAT scores? UCAT Sub-tests?
- Year 10, 11 and 12 - things to consider now
- The undergraduate selection criteria
- Application process into universities for medicine and dentistry
- When and who can sit the UCAT?
- GAMSAT
- Can you prepare for the UCAT?
- Undergraduate interview process
- What, how and why about Gap Year?
- Alternative degrees and career choices
- Work experience advice
- Q&A

[Find out more](#)

Year 12 & Early Entry with ADHD – Webinar for Students & Parents

Organisation: Claire Pech Careers

Location: Online

Date: May 28, 2026

Early Entry can feel like the answer to a lot of anxiety. Lock something in early, take the pressure off the ATAR, give your teen something to aim for. But for families with an ADHD teen, the decision is rarely that straightforward — and the process itself can create as many problems as it solves.

This webinar is for Year 12 parents who want an honest, practical guide to Early Entry — not just how it works, but whether it's actually the right move for your family, and how to navigate it well if it is.

What we'll cover:

- What Early Entry is, how it works, and why universities offer it
- Is it actually worth it for your family — an honest framework for deciding
- How can you plan a Plan A, Plan B and even Plan C
- Can I get any supports for my ADHD at this early phase
- Best approaches to effective parental support
- Q&A

Hosted by [Claire Pech](#), CICA-Accredited Careers Practitioner, and [Amanda Krulis](#), endorsed Organisational Psychologist.

View the [full series of webinars](#) for the ADHD community on all things careers, schooling and the workforce.

[Find out more](#)



HSC and Careers Expo 2026

Organisation: Resources for Courses

Location: Winx Stand, Randwick Racecourse

Date: May 28 to May 30, 2026

The HSC and Careers Expo 2026 is Sydney's longest running education and career event, designed to help high school students, parents, teachers, and jobseekers explore study and employment pathways. It brings together universities, TAFEs, training providers, employers, and career advisers in one location to provide practical information about courses, apprenticeships, and career options. The event aims to support informed decision-making about future study and work choices through exhibits and HSC seminar presentations.

[Find out more](#)

FUTURE EVENTS

Macquarie Year 12 Early Entry Webinar

Organisation: Macquarie University

Location: Online

Date: June 3, 2026

Year 12 comes with a lot to navigate – ATARs, selection ranks, preferences, early entry, pathways and more!

Before you make decisions, it helps to understand the broader admissions landscape.

Our Year 12 Webinar Series demystifies the mechanics, milestones and misconceptions surrounding uni entry – and outlines practical next steps, whatever stage you're at.

Here's what will be covered in this webinar:

- Macquarie's early entry schemes
- How early entry applications are evaluated
- Characteristics of a strong application

- What happens after an early offer is made
- Live Q&A

[Find out more](#)

Study Advanced Computing at the University of Sydney – Webinar for Future Students

Organisation: University of Sydney

Location: Online

Date: June 3, 2026

From intelligent drones to virtual reality apps, cybersecurity to the Internet of Things, the Bachelor of Advanced Computing will teach you the design principles and programming skills to build the systems behind emerging information technologies with our flexible and innovative degree. Hear from us to learn more. You'll have the opportunity to submit questions live.

[Find out more](#)

UNSW Canberra Cyber Security Information Evening

Organisation: University of New South Wales

Location: Online

Date: June 3, 2026

The Bachelor of Cyber Security at UNSW Canberra is a future-focused degree informed by critical government and industry skills gaps. You'll graduate ready to make an impact in a constantly evolving cyber security landscape, with the skills and competencies that are in demand across



industry, government and Defence.

Being based at UNSW Canberra City places you in the heart of Australia's cyber security sector, providing unique opportunities to connect with industry and build valuable career pathways. Join us online to hear from current UNSW Canberra students about their experiences studying Cyber Security and how they've navigated their degree, sharing tips to help make your own journey a rewarding one.

You'll also hear from our academic staff and advisers as they discuss the Bachelor of Cyber Security program, including the hands-on learning opportunities, industry mentorships and placements that help prepare students for real-world cyber security challenges. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions during an interactive Q&A panel.

[Find out more](#)

University of Sydney Women in Engineering Information Night

Organisation: University of Sydney

Location: University of Sydney, Camperdown/Darlington Campus

Date: June 3, 2026

Are you in Year 11 or 12 and thinking about studying Engineering, Computer Science or Project Management? Have you ever wondered what it's like to study engineering at the University of Sydney?

We're committed to supporting women-identifying students to thrive across all areas of engineering, computer science and project management - and that's why we're investing in that future with **\$2 million of scholarships for 2027 specifically for women**. We believe the future of engineering is more diverse, more inclusive, and led by the next generation of bold thinkers.

Join us for an evening of conversation and connection and explore what it means to study engineering at Sydney. Hear from current students and academic leaders, including Professor Hesham El Gamal (Dean of Engineering) and Professor Renae Ryan (Associate Dean, Culture & Community), as they share how we're creating space for women to lead, innovate, and shape the future of engineering.

You'll have a chance to talk with representatives from all our disciplines, and have your questions

answered in a Q&A session with engineering staff and current students. The event will be fully catered. Register now to explore your path and find your place in Engineering. Your future, our community.

[Find out more](#)

AIE Online Campus Day

Organisation: Academy of Interactive Entertainment

Location: Online

Date: June 6, 2026

Discover the courses designed to get you started in game development, 3D animation, film and visual effects at the AIE Online Campus Day. AIE will be running this event for students interested in studying online. You will be able to meet our teachers, explore how classes will run, course options, career pathways and see our amazing student work.

We will be covering everything you need to know about the:

- careers in games and VFX that we train students for;
- studios and industries that we work with;
- courses we offer - from beginners to professional mastery, and;
- the software, skills and knowledge we teach.

[Find out more](#)



Discover Western Webinar – For Year 10-12 Students: Pathways, Alternative Entry and Early Offers

Organisation: Western Sydney University

Location: Online

Date: June 9, 2026

This webinar is aimed at students in Years 10-12. We will explore and explain our HSC True Reward Early Offer Program, Alternative Entry Pathways and more.

[Find out more](#)

Study Interaction Design at the University of Sydney – Webinar for Future Students

Organisation: University of Sydney

Location: Online

Date: June 10, 2026

There is so much more to design beyond websites and apps. But how much do you know about interaction design and the role of designers in today's rapidly evolving digital landscape?

Join this session to explore how the Bachelor of Design (Interaction Design) at Sydney can prepare you to shape the way we experience the world through technology.

[Find out more](#)

UQ Ramsay Undergraduate Scholarship Information Webinar

Organisation: University of Queensland

Location: Online

Date: June 12, 2026

The UQ Ramsay Undergraduate Scholarship provides up to 30 full-time enrolled students approximately \$20,000 per year for the first 3 years of the Western Civilisation program.

Students from an Australian state or territory other than Queensland, or from a non-metropolitan region of Queensland may be eligible to receive an additional \$12,000 per year for 3 years.

Learn about the UQ Ramsay Undergraduate Scholarship's benefits and eligibility requirements. Join UQ for a webinar to:

- learn more about the scholarship requirements and application dates
- explore UQ's programs in Western Civilisation.

[Find out more](#)

CDW Open Day 2026, Sydney

Organisation: CDW Studios

Location: CDW Studios, Sydney Campus

Date: June 13, 2026

This is your chance to come down and explore our creative space, meet staff and students, and learn more about our programs!

Whether you're an aspiring entertainment design artist or just curious about the world of games, movies and animation, this is the perfect opportunity to kickstart your career at CDW Studios.

[Find out more](#)

UOW Year 10 Subject Selection Webinar

Organisation: University of Wollongong

Location: Online

Date: June 15, 2026

Choosing the right subjects in Year 10 is an important step towards achieving your future study and career goals.

Join the University of Wollongong (UOW) for a free online event designed to help Year 10 students



and their parents make informed subject choices for senior years.

In this session, experts from UOW and the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC) will cover:

- How subject choices can influence university entry and career pathways
- The importance of prerequisite subjects and assumed knowledge
- Understanding the ATAR and the role of Year 11 results
- Tips for keeping your options open

You'll also have the chance to ask questions during a live Q&A and chat with our team.

[Find out more](#)

Becoming a Protective Service Officer with the AFP – Online Information Session

Organisation: Australian Federal Police

Location: Online

Date: June 16, 2026

Gain insights into the role of a protective service officer (PSO), hear first-hand experiences, and discover what it means to do legendary work in the Australian Federal Police (AFP).

[Find out more](#)

Music Careers Expo 2026, Adelaide

Organisation: The Push

Location: Oxford Art Factory

Date: June 16, 2026

A free, one-day event with keynotes, workshops, and one-on-one conversations with people who actually work in the industry.

You'll hear from people working across the industry (artists, managers, producers, engineers) and have the chance to sit down one-on-one with professionals and educators for advice on your next steps.

This event is ideal for students, so teachers, bring your classes along for an unforgettable day. And if you're a young person outside of school, you're absolutely welcome too!

Attendance is free but registration is essential.

[Find out more](#)

Why Study Business at the University of Sydney? Webinar for Future Students

Organisation: University of Sydney

Location: Online

Date: June 17, 2026

Discover how our commerce degree prepares you for the future of work and a wide range of career opportunities. You will learn about the range of study areas (or majors) available – such as marketing, finance, or innovation and entrepreneurship - and the many ways in which you can combine your interests, with over 100 study areas to select from our shared pools of majors and minors.

Find out more about internships, industry-focused experiences, and global mobility opportunities on offer to our Bachelor of Commerce students.

[Find out more](#)

You Can Get In: How to Job Hunt for Entry Level Roles in the Screen Industry

Organisation: Screen Careers

Location: Online

Date: June 20, 2026

The screen industry recruits through friends and recommendations. The good news about this is that



everyone, initially, doesn't know anyone. We'll cover how to create a screen ready CV, the role of crew agencies, credits and how to find work.

[Find out more](#)

UTS Tech Fest

Organisation: University of Technology Sydney

Location: University of Technology Sydney, City Campus

Date: June 22 to June 26, 2026

Experience the future of engineering and IT at UTS Tech Festival 2026 - Sydney's annual student-driven tech showcase held on the UTS campus each June.

Now in its fifth year running, Tech Fest is returning with an action-packed calendar filled with showcases, interactive workshops, panel talks, hackathons and real-world tech challenges led by industry leaders.

Whether you're a current Engineering or IT student, industry partner, tech enthusiast, or university student of the future, this year's program has an event for everyone.

[Find out more](#)

SCU Live Talks: Parent Information Evening

Organisation: Southern Cross University

Location: Online

Date: June 23, 2026

Here at Southern Cross University, we are organising an exclusive session designed specifically for parents and students in Years 11 & 12 and encourage you to join us for an upcoming Parents Information Webinar.

The session will cover a wide range of topics, including:

- How to apply
- Taking advantage of our early entry application
- Why SCU
- Scholarship opportunities
- Understanding costs
- Support services
- Uni life and global opportunities

[Find out more](#)

Study and Career Options in Occupational Therapy at the University of Sydney – Webinar for Future Students

Organisation: University of Sydney

Location: Online

Date: June 24, 2026

Interested in supporting people live a fuller life? Join us for this informative webinar to learn what occupational therapists do, explore the Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy) at the University of Sydney, hear about work-based placements and student life, and get guidance on entry pathways. Join us live with the Program Director and get answers in the Q&A.

[Find out more](#)

Western Sydney Careers Expo 2026

Organisation: Resources for Courses

Location: The Dome - Sydney Showground

Date: June 25 to June 27, 2026

The Western Sydney Careers Expo 2026 is Sydney's biggest education and career event, designed to help high school students, parents, teachers, and jobseekers explore study and employment



pathways. It brings together universities, TAFEs, training providers, employers, and career advisers in one location to provide practical information about courses, apprenticeships, and career options. The event aims to support informed decision-making about future study and work choices through exhibits and seminar presentations.

[Find out more](#)

How Computational Mathematics Powers the Modern World – Discover Lecture Series with Macquarie

Organisation: Macquarie University

Location: Macquarie University, Wallumattagal Campus

Date: June 25, 2026

Since the earliest days of computing in the 1950s, computational mathematics has been quietly reshaping the world around us. From the algorithms that simulate climate and weather to those that enable medical imaging, advances in computational mathematics sit at the heart of modern technologies that define our world today. This talk will illustrate some of the big ideas in computational mathematics, including some of Associate Professor Stuart Hawkins' favourite innovations.

We'll then look at the techniques behind Professor Hawkins' own research on simulating sound and light waves in complex materials and in the atmosphere. Together, these examples reveal how computational mathematics makes it possible to model the invisible forces that shape our world.

This event is part of Macquarie's [Discover Lecture Series](#), monthly talks suitable for ages 10 and up that offer inspiring insights and a glimpse into the technological advancements shaping our future.

[Find out more](#)

UOW Open Day 2026, Wollongong

Organisation: University of Wollongong

Location: University of Wollongong, Wollongong Campus

Date: June 27, 2026

The University of Wollongong (UOW) Open Day is the perfect opportunity to visit our amazing Wollongong campus, speak with our staff and students, and see why UOW is ranked as one of the best universities for student experience.

Whether you are looking at your next steps after Year 12, or you finished school some time ago and are looking for a pathway into university, Open Day is for you.

UOW Open Day also caters to graduates who are considering further study, offering one-on-one consultations with postgraduate course experts. Whatever your education or career goals, our staff are able to answer your questions.

[Find out more](#)

UOW Future Talk for Parents – Early Entry

Organisation: University of Wollongong

Location: Online

Date: June 29, 2026

Year 12 can be a stressful time for students and for the parents and carers supporting them. With big post-school decisions ahead, these sessions are designed to provide clarity, reassurance and practical advice to help you navigate the year with confidence.

Across the program, you'll gain insights into:

- Supporting students through the HSC and common challenges
- Understanding UOW degrees, pathways and study options



- How AI and emerging technologies are shaping degrees, careers and the future workforce
- Navigating university applications, Early Admission and UAC
- Financial planning for university, including scholarships, budgeting and accommodation
- Accessing UOW support services for a smooth transition to university
- Connecting with other parents and carers in a supportive environment

You'll also receive regular emails with practical tips, resources and expert advice to help you and your young person feel informed, prepared and supported throughout Year 12 and beyond.

[Find out more](#)

ACPE Careers in Sport Day

Organisation: Australian College of Physical Education

Location: Australian College of Physical Education

Date: July 3, 2026

For the lovers of sport; ACPE presents you with a day that is packed with information presented by special guest speakers from the sport industry. From education and sport degrees to taking your first steps into the sport industry as your career path, you can immerse yourself in interactive panel discussions and workshops. You'll also have the chance to mingle and network with likeminded individuals, and rub shoulders with professionals working in the sport industry.

Come along and have a great day in the sport hub of Sydney Olympic Park, and take your first steps into a career in sport.

Unlock your access to successful careers in sport:

- Gain invaluable insights from industry professionals
- Discover the range of job opportunities in the sport industry
- Identify the attributes and experiences it takes to be successful in sport
- And much more!

Careers in Sport Day is perfect for:

- Anyone looking to turn their passion for sport into a career
- Year 11 and 12 students
- Career advisors and school teachers

[Find out more](#)

WSU Open Day 2026

Organisation: Western Sydney University

Location: Western Sydney University, Parramatta South Campus

Date: July 5, 2026

Open Day is coming to Western on Sunday 5 July 2026, from 10am–4pm at our Parramatta South Campus.

Explore your study options, attend course information sessions, and meet our academics and students. Experience uni life and see all that Western has to offer!

Ask questions, see things up close, and get a clear sense of where your next step could take you.

[Find out more](#)

Sydney Design School Introduction to SketchUp Workshop

Organisation: Sydney Design School

Location: Sydney Design School

Date: July 6 to July 8, 2026

Looking to extend your presentation skills? Create detailed 3D models using this intuitive and easy-to-learn program.

Over 3 days you will be introduced to the fundamentals of SketchUp enabling you to create realistic floor plans and 3D models. You'll use the 3D Warehouse, the world's largest online library, to import



furniture and lighting.

[Find out more](#)

UOW EmpowerHER STEM Summit for Female Year 10-12 Students

Organisation: University of Wollongong

Location: University of Wollongong, Wollongong Campus & Bluescope

Date: July 7 to July 8, 2026

The University of Wollongong is excited to bring back the EmpowerHER STEM Summit in 2026, a two-day, hands-on STEM experience designed exclusively for female students in years 10, 11 & 12. Held during the Winter school holidays, this immersive event aims to raise the STEM-bar for girls and ignite their passion for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Maths (STEM)!

EmpowerHER STEM Summit is split across two action-packed days:

- Day 1: Explore UOW's vibrant Wollongong Campus and rotate through exciting STEM taster-sessions lead by UOW academics.
- Day 2: Journey to Bluescope and experience local STEM in action. Meet current Bluescope cadets and learn first-hand what it means to be a working woman in STEM! End the day with a UOW STEM Clubs expo.

Students will at all times be accompanied by faculty, current students, and industry professionals to deliver an enriching and collaborative experience.

[Fully sponsored](#) places are available for disadvantaged students - please contact UOW at future-events@uow.edu.au to privately discuss your situation.

Registration closes 19th June 2026.

[Find out more](#)

Discover ACU Strathfield: Early Childhood, Primary and TAS Secondary Education

Organisation: Australian Catholic University

Location: Australian Catholic University, Strathfield Campus

Date: July 7, 2026

Are you passionate about making an impact in the lives of young people? Do you want to inspire the next generation through teaching? At ACU, you'll learn how to turn your passion for education into purpose: shaping minds, inspiring curiosity and helping students to thrive.

Join us for Discover Early Childhood, Primary and TAS Secondary Education, an engaging event designed for students in Years 10 – 12 who want to explore a rewarding teaching career. Take part in hands-on workshop, meet our education experts, and find out what it's really like to study teaching at ACU.

[Find out more](#)

Discover ACU Strathfield: Exercise and Sports Science and Biomedical Science

Organisation: Australian Catholic University

Location: Australian Catholic University, Strathfield Campus

Date: July 7, 2026

Are you fascinated by how the human body works, moves and performs? Or curious about the science that helps diagnose disease and improve health?

Come and experience what it's like to study exercise and sports science or biomedical science at ACU. Step inside our specialist biomechanics and human performance laboratory, where you'll see how cutting-edge technology is used to analyse movement, measure force, track motion and understand the science behind athletic performance. You'll also explore how biomedical science students investigate the building blocks of life through biology, chemistry and anatomy, preparing for careers in medical science, research, pathology and health innovation.



Plus, you'll meet our expert academics and hear from current students about where a degree in these fields can take you – from elite sport to research, rehabilitation, medical science and beyond. Open to Year 10 – 12 students, this free event is your chance to explore two exciting science-based study areas at ACU.

[Find out more](#)

Sydney Design School Designer for a Day Workshop for Year 10-12 Students

Organisation: Sydney Design School

Location: Sydney Design School

Date: July 9, 2026

Curious about what it might be like to work as an Interior Designer? We have developed the perfect one day workshop for students in Years 10, 11 and 12 to find out more.

You'll get hands on in our studios experimenting with colour and materials. Find out what it takes to become a professional Interior Designer and understand what an average day looks like on the job! We've included a 3D modelling activity to give you an opportunity to create an interior space.

[Find out more](#)

AMPA Dance Experience Day

Organisation: Academy of Music and Performing Arts

Location: AMPA Performing Arts Centre, Alexandria

Date: July 13, 2026

The Academy of Music and Performing Arts (AMPA) invites dancers to experience a dynamic day on campus. Register, bring your friends, and get ready to move.

Throughout the day, you'll take part in a variety of classes led by AMPA's inspiring faculty, offering a glimpse into what it's like to study dance full-time in a professional training environment.

You'll also have the opportunity to attend a Q&A session with the Head of Dance, designed to give aspiring dancers, choreographers, and future educators valuable insight into tertiary study and the pathways it can open. This is a fantastic opportunity to connect with our welcoming student community and expert faculty, while experiencing first-hand what it means to be part of AMPA's Bachelor and Associate of Dance programs.

[Find out more](#)

AMPA Classical Performance & Composition Experience Day

Organisation: Academy of Music and Performing Arts

Location: AMPA Music Campus, Surry Hills

Date: July 13, 2026

The Academy of Music and Performing Arts is ready to welcome budding performers and composers to our music campus for our Classical Music and Composition Experience Day.

Spend a day on campus at AMPA to learn what studying Classical Music or Composition is like at a tertiary level and to find out how you can benefit from AMPA's elite training as part of our Bachelor or Associate Degree in Music (Performance).

At Experience Day, once you have been given a guided tour of our practice studios and performance spaces, you will have your choice of Classical Music or Composition workshops to attend, the chance to observe Classical Performance Classes, and enjoy relaxed Q&A sessions with our faculty and admissions department, while also connecting with our student body to gain real perspectives on student life at AMPA.

[Find out more](#)



AMPA Music Theatre Experience Day

Organisation: Academy of Music and Performing Arts

Location: AMPA Music Campus, Surry Hills

Date: July 15, 2026

Calling all triple threats! While you're waiting for your big break, AMPA is excited to invite passionate performers and theatre makers to our Music Theatre Experience Day.

This is your chance to find out what studying Music Theatre at a pre-professional level looks like, learn what the Music Theatre industry is looking for and to experience the training it takes to become a true triple threat performer within our Bachelor or Associate Degree of Music (Performance).

At Experience Day, you will receive a tour of our music campus and our dedicated performance space, the Tom Mann Theatre, followed by the chance to watch our Music Theatre Performance Class and attend a Music Theatre Workshop as our students prepare their end of trimester showcase. You are also invited to partake in Q&As with our faculty of Music Theatre professionals, our admissions team for information about auditions, and our student body for their perspective on life at AMPA.

[Find out more](#)

AMPA Contemporary Music & Music Production Experience Day

Organisation: Academy of Music and Performing Arts

Location: AMPA Music Campus, Surry Hills

Date: July 16, 2026

Get ready to rock out at AMPA with our Contemporary Music and Music Production Experience Day – whether you're a jazz cat, metalhead or DJ in the making, Experience Day will give you the info you need if you're considering the path of a musician.

Our Bachelor or Associate Degree of Music (Performance) could be the next step in your journey and our Experience Day will be your chance to learn what studying music at a tertiary level looks like and how it can benefit your career.

After a tour of our music studios, recording/editing suites and performance space, you'll get the chance to watch our students in action during Contemporary Performance Class, followed by your choice of either a Performance or Production workshop, with time to have casual Q&As with our industry staff, admissions team and student body about anything from networking and training, auditions or campus life.

[Find out more](#)

Experience Design@Western – Portfolio Day for Year 12 Students, Parents & Teachers

Organisation: Western Sydney University

Location: Western Sydney University, Parramatta South Campus

Date: July 17, 2026

Mark your calendars! Join us for early entry interviews for the Bachelor of Design 2027, plus studio tours, talks and hands-on workshops for students interested in Graphic design, branding, digital storytelling, UX/UI, photography and motion design

This is a fantastic opportunity for Year 12 students, parents, and teachers to:

- Participate in course entry interviews for early entry offers (September) into the Design program
- Hear from recent graduates
- Meet Design tutors and lecturers
- Check out our facilities
- Take part in hands-on workshops

[Find out more](#)



ACU Guarantee Early Offer and Pathways Webinar (NSW/ACT/QLD)

Organisation: Australian Catholic University

Location: Online

Date: July 22, 2026

Learn about ACU's entry and pathway options, including the ACU Guarantee early offer program, key dates and how to apply. Plus, hear from current students about their journeys.

This webinar is for NSW, ACT and Queensland Year 12 students and their parents.

[Find out more](#)

Clean Energy: Why It Matters and What Comes Next – Discover Lecture Series with Macquarie

Organisation: Macquarie University

Location: Macquarie University, Wallumattagal Campus

Date: July 23, 2026

Clean energy systems such as solar, wind, and biomass are often presented as the answer to climate change. While they aim to reduce pollution, they must also deliver reliable and affordable energy for everyday life, powering homes, transport, and industry without disruption. If clean energy is so promising, why haven't we fully switched to it yet? The answer lies in the practical challenges of performance, safety, and scale that must be solved before new energy technologies can replace the systems we rely on today.

In this talk, Associate Professor Fatemeh Salehi explores how engineering helps address these challenges, turning clean energy ideas into real-world solutions. This talk explains how understanding what affects performance, and identifying safety issues early, can make clean energy systems work at large scale. Through this lens, she provides insight into how research supports the transition from promising concepts to energy solutions that can meet future needs.

This event is part of Macquarie's [Discover Lecture Series](#), monthly talks suitable for ages 10 and up that offer inspiring insights and a glimpse into the technological advancements shaping our future.

[Find out more](#)

UOW Open Day 2026, Liverpool

Organisation: University of Wollongong

Location: University of Wollongong, Liverpool Campus

Date: July 25, 2026

Chat with course experts, find your dream degree, and get a taste of uni right in the heart of Liverpool. There will be plenty of opportunities to get all your questions answered and ensure you're

making a confident decision about your studies in 2027.

Whether you are looking at your next steps after Year 12, or you finished school some time ago and are looking for a pathway into university, Open Day is for you.

[Find out more](#)

ACU Open Day 2026, Blacktown

Organisation: Australian Catholic University

Location: Australian Catholic University, Blacktown Campus

Date: July 25, 2026

Open Day gives you the opportunity to ask our teaching staff any questions you might have about your dream course, the application process, pathway options, entry schemes and more.

Chat to current students and discover the facilities your new campus has to offer. And sit in on information sessions from each of the faculties to find out more about the courses you're interested in.

[Find out more](#)



UTAS Open Day 2026, Sydney

Organisation: University of Tasmania

Location: University of Tasmania, Rozelle Campus

Date: July 26, 2026

Going to university is an exciting time. Understanding what to expect and how to navigate this new environment can help you make the most of your experience.

You will have the opportunity to explore our campus, discuss your study options, and discover how studying at the University of Tasmania could be the perfect fit for you.

[Find out more](#)

Parramatta & Hills District Apprenticeship/Traineeship & Jobs Expo 2026

Organisation: Brett Carter Events

Location: Wenty Leagues

Date: July 28, 2026

Our Apprenticeship/Traineeship & Jobs Expos are held annually and have grown to a status where they are widely accepted as the premier events of their kind in NSW. The timing of the expos is a hit with families as they allow parents to attend with their children and have those all-important career chats with industry experts.

The Expos provide our career/job seekers, business and industry, education providers and employers with the opportunities to all come together under the one roof where exhibitors also get the chance to collect resumes and promote their organisation for upcoming recruitment drives.

[Find out more](#)

Discover Western Webinar – Uni Life and Making the Most of Your Time at Uni

Organisation: Western Sydney University

Location: Online

Date: July 28, 2026

University is not all about study! Western has over 130 different clubs and societies you can join to make friends and meet like-minded people. Join our webinar to learn about university life at Western, including clubs and societies, overseas study opportunities, Jobs on Campus, and more.

[Find out more](#)

Becoming a Protective Service Officer with the AFP – Online Information Session

Organisation: Australian Federal Police

Location: Online

Date: July 28, 2026

Gain insights into the role of a protective service officer (PSO), hear first-hand experiences, and discover what it means to do legendary work in the Australian Federal Police (AFP).

[Find out more](#)

ATAR, Bonus Points, & Uni Entry Explained with ADHD – Webinar for Year 12 Students & Parents

Organisation: Claire Pech Careers

Location: Online

Date: July 30, 2026

Join our webinar designed for Yr 12 students and parents, navigating university admissions with ADHD, which can impact these processes.

We'll cover:

- The ATAR - explained
- What the Educational Access Scheme (EAS) is and who qualifies



- How to apply for EAS and what you will need
- Other bonus points (adjustment factors) on offer
- Important dates and deadlines
- University preference strategies that work
- Early entry options and their benefits

Hosted by [Claire Pech](#), CICA-Accredited Careers Practitioner, and [Amanda Krulis](#), endorsed Organisational Psychologist.

View the [full series of webinars](#) for the ADHD community on all things careers, schooling and the workforce.

[Find out more](#)

CSU Open Day 2026, Port Macquarie

Organisation: Charles Sturt University

Location: Charles Sturt University, Port Macquarie Campus

Date: August 2, 2026

Discover what uni life is like! Whether you're in high school, looking to upskill, want to change careers, or are a parent, teacher or carer – there's something for everyone.

- Jump on a campus tour – explore our facilities and accommodation.
- Get detailed info about courses.
- Chat to current students about Charles Sturt life.
- Be inspired by our expert teaching staff.
- Discover the social side of life at Charles Sturt.
- Enjoy live entertainment, giveaways, competitions and free food!

Plus, you can explore our expo, info, and career and skills hubs. Chat to our friendly teams about our support services, early offer programs and how to boost your hiring potential.

[Find out more](#)

AFTRS Open Day 2026

Organisation: Australian Film Television and Radio School

Location: Australian Film Television and Radio School

Date: August 8, 2026

Discover your place in screen and audio storytelling at AFTRS, Australia's national screen and audio school. Join us at our purpose-built campus to explore everything you need to know about studying at AFTRS.

Open Day is designed to give you clear, practical answers as you plan your next steps. Find out more about the application process, scholarships, and career outcomes, and gain insight into where an AFTRS qualification can take you.

On the day, you will be able to explore our campus and experience our facilities firsthand, from industry-standard studios and the tech store to the prop room and Australia's premier audio and screen library. You can also connect with current students and alumni, and speak with our staff for guidance on preparing a strong application.

[Find out more](#)

UOW Future Talk for Parents – Financial Considerations, Scholarships, Accommodation, Wellbeing & Support Services

Organisation: University of Wollongong

Location: Online

Date: August 10, 2026

Year 12 can be a stressful time for students and for the parents and carers supporting them. With big



post-school decisions ahead, these sessions are designed to provide clarity, reassurance and practical advice to help you navigate the year with confidence.

Across the program, you'll gain insights into:

- Supporting students through the HSC and common challenges
- Understanding UOW degrees, pathways and study options
- How AI and emerging technologies are shaping degrees, careers and the future workforce
- Navigating university applications, Early Admission and UAC
- Financial planning for university, including scholarships, budgeting and accommodation
- Accessing UOW support services for a smooth transition to university
- Connecting with other parents and carers in a supportive environment

You'll also receive regular emails with practical tips, resources and expert advice to help you and your young person feel informed, prepared and supported throughout Year 12 and beyond.

[Find out more](#)

Central Coast Apprenticeship/Traineeship & Jobs Expo 2026

Organisation: Brett Carter Events

Location: Mingara Recreation Club

Date: August 11, 2026

Our Apprenticeship/Traineeship & Jobs Expos are held annually and have grown to a status where they are widely accepted as the premier events of their kind in NSW. The timing of the expos is a hit with families as they allow parents to attend with their children and have those all-important career chats with industry experts.

The Expos provide our career/job seekers, business and industry, education providers and employers with the opportunities to all come together under the one roof where exhibitors also get the chance to collect resumes and promote their organisation for upcoming recruitment drives.

[Find out more](#)

Future Choices Expo for Young People with Disability, Hunter

Organisation: Career Links

Location: TBC

Date: August 13, 2026

Transitioning from school to adult life can bring unique challenges - and exciting new opportunities - for young people living with disability. The Future Choices Expos are here to help make that journey easier.

As the only events of their kind in the region, the expos bring together over 120 exhibitors, including:

- Employment services
- Employers
- Education and training providers
- Disability service organisations
- Government agencies

These expos are designed to connect school leavers with the support, information, and opportunities they need to make confident decisions about their future. Whether you're a student, parent, carer, or educator, the Future Choices Expo is your opportunity to discover the pathways, programs, and services that can make a real difference.

[Find out more](#)

Macquarie University Open Day 2026

Organisation: Macquarie University

Location: Macquarie University, Wallumattagal Campus



Date: August 15, 2026

Open Day is your opportunity to discover everything a Macquarie University education can offer you.

We get to share with you why we're the #1 university in Sydney for teaching quality, as well as showcase our future-focused degrees, cutting-edge facilities, collaborative spaces for learning and leisure, and our stunning green campus.

Come along and find out firsthand how we can help you achieve your career – and your life – aspirations.

What you can do on Open Day:

- Attend info sessions
- Speak 1:1 with our academics
- Learn about our scholarships, adjustment factors, pathways, and RPL (recognition of prior learning) if you've studied before
- Chat to current students
- Join campus and faculty tours
- Engage in faculty-led workshops
- Alumni are welcome back to be a part of Alumni Reunion Day
- Participate in hands-on activities
- Enjoy entertainment and giveaways

[Find out more](#)

University of Newcastle Open Day 2026, Newcastle

Organisation: University of Newcastle

Location: University of Newcastle, Callaghan & City Campuses

Date: August 15, 2026

Open Day is packed with everything you need to know about going to the University of Newcastle. Participate in degree presentations, info sessions and tours of the campus.

Enjoy a hands-on experience with our program activations, and ask our student ambassadors questions about uni life.

[Find out more](#)

ACAP Open Day 2026, Sydney

Organisation: ACAP University College

Location: ACAP University College, Sydney Campus

Date: August 15, 2026

Ready to turn your passion into a purpose-driven career? ACAP Open Day is your opportunity to discover how our practical, people-focused courses can help you make a real difference – in your community and your life.

Join us on campus this August and experience what makes ACAP different. Whether you're considering counselling, psychology, social work, criminology, law or business, you'll get a firsthand look at the learning, support, and outcomes that set our students up for success.

From expert-led masterclasses and career panels to course advice and campus tours, Open Day is designed to give you the insight and inspiration to take the next step.

[Find out more](#)

SAE Open Day 2026, Sydney

Organisation: SAE University College

Location: SAE University College, Sydney Campus

Date: August 15, 2026



Whether you're still exploring your study options or you're ready to apply, SAE Open Day is the perfect place to get inspired, get informed, and get hands-on with your creative future. Join us on campus this August to tour our studios, meet your future mentors, and experience what it's like to study at SAE – the University College built for creators and tech innovators. Explore your study and career pathways across animation, audio, design, film, games, music, VFX and more. Connect with current students, industry-experienced lecturers, and alumni who've turned their ideas into careers.

[Find out more](#)

ACU Open Day 2026, Strathfield

Organisation: Australian Catholic University

Location: Australian Catholic University, Strathfield Campus

Date: August 16, 2026

Open Day gives you the opportunity to ask our teaching staff any questions you might have about your dream course, the application process, pathway options, entry schemes and more. Chat to current students and discover the facilities your new campus has to offer. And sit in on information sessions from each of the faculties to find out more about the courses you're interested in.

[Find out more](#)

Discover Western Webinar – Scholarships

Organisation: Western Sydney University

Location: Online

Date: August 18, 2026

If you're applying to study at university in 2027, you will also want to apply for Scholarships! This webinar will go through the different types of Scholarships available, as well as the application process, and give you tips for writing your Personal Statement.

[Find out more](#)

Why the Honey Bee is Smarter than ChatGPT – Discover Lecture Series with Macquarie

Organisation: Macquarie University

Location: Macquarie University, Wallumattagal Campus

Date: August 18, 2026

How smart is the honey bee really? This lecture considers the biological marvel that is the honey bee brain, and the bee mind it supports.

Bees' brains incorporate rapid feedback on their actions, and can quickly learn different types of art,

recognise abstract concepts and learn to navigate for kilometres around their hives. Professor Andrew Barron argues the honey bee is significantly smarter than ChatGPT and surpasses the best that contemporary AI has to offer. He will discuss what lessons AI and robotics developers could learn from consideration of the humble bee.

This event is part of Macquarie's [Discover Lecture Series](#), monthly talks suitable for ages 10 and up that offer inspiring insights and a glimpse into the technological advancements shaping our future.

[Find out more](#)

Collarts Open Day 2026, Sydney

Organisation: Australian College of the Arts

Location: Collarts, Sydney Campus

Date: August 22, 2026

At Collarts, our Open Day is all about making this process simple and hands-on. Information sessions,



workshops and the chance to chat with students, teachers and leaders are an important part of learning more about what sets us apart from the rest.

We invite you to come and experience life at Collarts: from our passion for creativity, close community, industry-level facilities, expert faculty, and more.

From guided tours to live demonstrations, here are some of the activities you can catch at the next Collarts Open Day:

- **Guided tours:** Experience our campuses firsthand with guided tours led by our enthusiastic Student Ambassadors.
- **Info hubs:** Our info hubs provide convenient drop-in spaces where you can have direct conversations with Program Leaders, Academics, and students about your desired course.
- **Demonstrations:** Demonstrations are your chance to see our course content come to life. They allow you to be actively involved in projects and see our cutting-edge equipment in action, so you can get a firsthand preview of what studying at Collarts is really like.
- **Displays:** Our campus displays are positioned throughout different areas of our campuses, offering a showcase of our community's achievements and journeys.

If you have specific accessibility needs or require additional assistance, please contact Collarts in advance, and they will do their best to assist you.

[Find out more](#)

CSU Open Day 2026, Bathurst

Organisation: Charles Sturt University

Location: Charles Sturt University, Bathurst Campus

Date: August 23, 2026

Discover what uni life is like! Whether you're in high school, looking to upskill, want to change careers, or are a parent, teacher or carer – there's something for everyone.

- Jump on a campus tour – explore our facilities and accommodation.
- Get detailed info about courses.
- Chat to current students about Charles Sturt life.
- Be inspired by our expert teaching staff.
- Discover the social side of life at Charles Sturt.
- Enjoy live entertainment, giveaways, competitions and free food!

Plus, you can explore our expo, info, and career and skills hubs. Chat to our friendly teams about our support services, early offer programs and how to boost your hiring potential.

[Find out more](#)

South Western Sydney & Macarthur Apprenticeship/Traineeship & Jobs Expo 2026

Organisation: Brett Carter Events

Location: Liverpool Catholic Club

Date: August 25, 2026

Our Apprenticeship/Traineeship & Jobs Expos are held annually and have grown to a status where they are widely accepted as the premier events of their kind in NSW. The timing of the expos is a hit with families as they allow parents to attend with their children and have those all-important career chats with industry experts.

The Expos provide our career/job seekers, business and industry, education providers and employers with the opportunities to all come together under the one roof where exhibitors also get the chance to collect resumes and promote their organisation for upcoming recruitment drives.

[Find out more](#)

Future Choices Expo for Young People with Disability, Central Coast

Organisation: Career Links



Location: Mingara Recreational Club

Date: August 27, 2026

Transitioning from school to adult life can bring unique challenges - and exciting new opportunities - for young people living with disability. The Future Choices Expos are here to help make that journey easier.

As the only events of their kind in the region, the expos bring together over 120 exhibitors, including:

- Employment services
- Employers
- Education and training providers
- Disability service organisations
- Government agencies

These expos are designed to connect school leavers with the support, information, and opportunities they need to make confident decisions about their future. Whether you're a student, parent, carer, or educator, the Future Choices Expo is your opportunity to discover the pathways, programs, and services that can make a real difference.

[Find out more](#)

Say Yes to the Trades Expo

Organisation: Superior Training Centre

Location: Entertainment Park, Bankstown Aerodrome

Date: August 27, 2026

Say Yes to the Trades Expo is a trade-focused event designed for high school students who are curious about hands-on careers and the opportunities available in Australia's growing trade industries. The event brings together training providers, employers, and industry professionals to give students a practical introduction to careers in trades such as electrical, air conditioning and refrigeration, and metal fabrication.

Students attending the event can explore different career pathways, speak directly with employers and industry representatives, and gain a better understanding of what it's like to work in a skilled trade. Exhibitors will showcase tools, equipment, and technologies used in the industry, helping students see how these careers operate in the real world.

In addition to learning about training and employment opportunities, attendees will also be able to enjoy the entertainment facilities at the venue, making the day both informative and fun. The event is designed to inspire students, answer questions about entering the trades, and help them take their first steps toward a practical and rewarding career.

If you're considering a future in the trades or simply want to explore your options, Say Yes to the Trades is the perfect place to start.

[Find out more](#)

Sydney West Careers & Employment Expo 2026

Organisation: Kym Jones Exhibitions

Location: Sydney Showground

Date: August 28 to August 29, 2025

The Sydney West Careers & Employment Expo will be at the Sydney Showground - Hall 4. The Expo will showcase over 80 organisations and employers with career opportunities for all ages. Entry is free.

The event is for school students, parents, teachers, graduates, job seekers, people looking for courses, and workers seeking new opportunities.

The Expo is packed with free advice, where you can:

- Talk with over 80 training organisations and employers
- Gain free career advice



- Discover jobs of the future
- Talk with leading organisations about training and apprenticeships
- Experience the free career seminars
- Learn how to write a winning resume

If you're looking for a job, career change, or course, or you're a school student looking for a career path, you can't afford to miss the Expo.

[Find out more](#)

University of Newcastle Open Day 2026, Central Coast

Organisation: University of Newcastle

Location: University of Newcastle, Ourimbah & Gosford Campuses

Date: August 29, 2026

Open Day is packed with everything you need to know about going to the University of Newcastle. Participate in degree presentations, info sessions and tours of the campus.

Enjoy a hands-on experience with our program activations, and ask our student ambassadors questions about uni life.

[Find out more](#)

CSU Open Day 2026, Orange

Organisation: Charles Sturt University

Location: Charles Sturt University, Orange Campus

Date: August 30, 2026

Discover what uni life is like! Whether you're in high school, looking to upskill, want to change careers, or are a parent, teacher or carer – there's something for everyone.

- Jump on a campus tour – explore our facilities and accommodation.
- Get detailed info about courses.
- Chat to current students about Charles Sturt life.
- Be inspired by our expert teaching staff.
- Discover the social side of life at Charles Sturt.
- Enjoy live entertainment, giveaways, competitions and free food!

Plus, you can explore our expo, info, and career and skills hubs. Chat to our friendly teams about our support services, early offer programs and how to boost your hiring potential.

[Find out more](#)

Sutherland Shire Apprenticeship/Traineeship & Jobs Expo 2026

Organisation: Brett Carter Events

Location: Tradies Gynea

Date: September 1, 2026

Our Apprenticeship/Traineeship & Jobs Expos are held annually and have grown to a status where they are widely accepted as the premier events of their kind in NSW. The timing of the expos is a hit with families as they allow parents to attend with their children and have those all-important career chats with industry experts.

The Expos provide our career/job seekers, business and industry, education providers and employers with the opportunities to all come together under the one roof where exhibitors also get the chance to collect resumes and promote their organisation for upcoming recruitment drives.

[Find out more](#)



Scholarships

DISSH Pride Scholarship for Creative Industries

Organisation: DISSH

Location: Australia

Value: AU \$15,000

Open Date: May 16, 2026

Close Date: June 22, 2026

[Find out more](#)

Global Footprints Scholarship

Organisation: Global Footprints

Location: Australia

Value: \$9,000 AUD

Open Date: May 1, 2026

Close Date: June 1, 2026

[Find out more](#)

Competitions

2026 Speech Competition for Year 7-12 Students

Organisation: Robert Menzies Institute

Location: Australia

Value: Up to AU\$1,500

Close Date: July 12, 2026

[Find out more](#)

They Did What? STEM Video Competition for Australian Students

Organisation: Get into STEM

Location: Australia

Value: Up to AU\$300

Close Date: October 16, 2026

[Find out more](#)

Weekly Posts

SUBJECT SELECTION

Where physical education can take you

Physical education builds more than fitness. It develops a genuine understanding of how the body works, how movement affects health, and how people perform and improve over time. Those ideas connect to a wider range of study and career pathways than most people expect.

The skills you build studying physical education

One of the strengths of PE as a subject is that the skills it develops are grounded in both practice and understanding.



Health and body literacy

PE gives you a working knowledge of how the human body functions during physical activity. You learn how exercise affects different systems, how to assess fitness, and how lifestyle choices influence long-term health outcomes. This kind of applied health knowledge is directly relevant in a range of careers and further study areas.

Performance analysis and planning

PE involves designing, implementing, and evaluating training programs and movement strategies. You develop the ability to observe performance, identify areas for improvement, and plan responses based on evidence. These analytical skills carry well beyond sport into any role that involves assessment and planning.

Communication and leadership

Working with others in physical contexts builds practical communication and leadership skills. Whether it's organising a team, giving feedback on technique, or motivating others through challenges, PE develops the kind of interpersonal confidence that's valued across many workplaces.

Wellbeing awareness

PE connects physical activity to mental and emotional health in a concrete way. Understanding that relationship, and being able to apply it in practice, is increasingly relevant across health, community, and education-related careers.

Physical education in a changing world

The relationship between physical activity and health is becoming better understood, and that's shifting how communities, governments, and organisations approach wellbeing. There's growing recognition that physical activity plays a meaningful role in mental health, chronic disease prevention, and healthy ageing, which is expanding the range of settings where PE-related knowledge and skills are put to use.

At a community level, there's increasing investment in programs that use sport and physical activity as tools for social connection, youth development, and public health. People who understand both the physical and human dimensions of movement are well placed to contribute to these kinds of initiatives.

Careers directly related to physical education

Sport, performance, coaching, and teaching

The most direct pathways from PE lead into sport and physical activity in a professional capacity. Strength and Conditioning Coaches work with athletes and teams to develop physical performance, designing and overseeing training programs tailored to specific sports and individuals. Sports Scientists support performance through data collection, movement analysis, and research into how the body responds to training.

Physical Education Teachers bring the subject back into schools, helping young people develop fitness, movement skills, and an understanding of health. This pathway requires a teaching qualification at university level, typically combining education with a health and physical education specialisation. Coaches work across community clubs, elite sporting organisations, and national programs, guiding athletes at every level of participation.

Health and fitness

Exercise Physiologists assess and design exercise programs for people managing chronic conditions,



recovering from injury, or working toward specific health goals. This role requires further university study but builds directly on the foundations PE establishes. Personal Trainers and Fitness Instructors work with individuals and groups in gyms, community centres, and private settings, with vocational qualifications providing a more direct entry pathway into the field.

Community fitness and recreation roles also sit within this space, including positions in aquatic centres, sporting facilities, and local government recreation programs.

Careers where physical education gives you an edge

Sport business, media, and management

Sport is a significant industry, and it relies on people who understand it from the inside. Sport Administrators and Event Managers coordinate competitions, manage facilities, and oversee the operational side of sporting organisations. These roles draw on organisational and communication skills that PE helps develop, combined with further study in business, sport management, or event management.

Sports journalists and broadcasters benefit from genuine knowledge of sport and physical performance. Understanding how athletes train, how competition works, and what makes performance meaningful gives you a credibility in those roles that's difficult to develop from the outside.

Community health and wellbeing

Health Promotion Officers work within government agencies, non-profits, and community organisations to design and deliver programs that improve population health. Physical activity is a central focus of many of these programs, making PE knowledge a real asset. Youth workers and community development roles similarly benefit from an understanding of how physical activity supports social and emotional wellbeing, particularly when working with young people.

Public health is a growing field, and people who can connect an understanding of movement and fitness to broader health outcomes are increasingly sought after in planning and program delivery roles.

Where could it take you?

Physical education develops a combination of health knowledge, analytical thinking, and interpersonal skills that translate into a surprisingly broad range of careers. Whether you're drawn to working with athletes, supporting community health, managing sport organisations, or teaching the next generation, the foundations built in PE are genuinely useful across all of them.

If you're motivated by physical activity, interested in how the body works, and enjoy working with people, PE could be a strong and flexible starting point for your future.

Trying to figure out which subjects are right for you? [Explore our subject selection resources here.](#)

FEES & SCHOLARSHIPS

What is a HECS debt and what does it mean for you?

If you're thinking about going to university, you've probably heard the term "HECS debt" thrown around and maybe felt a little unsure about what it actually means. It sounds serious, but it works very differently from the kind of debt most people are familiar with. Understanding how it works before you get there makes a real difference, so here's a proper explanation.

What is HECS-HELP?

[HECS-HELP](#) is a government loan scheme that covers the cost of your university tuition. Instead of paying your fees upfront, the government pays your university on your behalf, and you repay that



amount later through the tax system once you're earning above a certain income threshold. "HECS debt" is the informal name people use for the balance you owe under this scheme. Technically, HECS (Higher Education Contribution Scheme) is an older name that's stuck around in everyday conversation, even though the current system is called HECS-HELP. To be eligible, you need to be an eligible domestic student enrolled in a [Commonwealth supported place \(CSP\)](#) at an approved university. Most domestic students studying at public universities in Australia are enrolled this way, though it's worth confirming your enrolment type when you apply.

What is a Commonwealth supported place?

A Commonwealth supported place means the government subsidises a significant portion of your tuition cost. What's left after that subsidy is called your student contribution, and that's the amount you're actually responsible for paying. The subsidy amount varies depending on your field of study, with some disciplines receiving more government funding than others. Your student contribution is what gets covered by HECS-HELP if you choose to defer payment. You don't have to use HECS-HELP, you can pay your fees upfront if you prefer, but most students choose to defer.

What is FEE-HELP?

[FEE-HELP](#) is a separate but related loan scheme. It's designed for students who aren't in a Commonwealth supported place, including:

- Domestic students enrolled in full-fee paying places at Australian universities
- Students studying at certain private higher education providers
- Eligible students studying postgraduate courses that aren't subsidised by the government

The key difference is that FEE-HELP covers full tuition fees rather than just a student contribution, which means the loan amounts involved can be significantly higher. There's also a lifetime limit on how much FEE-HELP you can access, so it's worth being aware of that if you're considering multiple qualifications over time. The limit is set by the government and updated periodically, so check the current figure on the StudyAssist website when you're planning.

Both HECS-HELP and FEE-HELP operate under the same repayment system, which we'll get to shortly.

What is SA-HELP?

[SA-HELP](#) is a smaller, often overlooked part of the system. It covers your Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF), which is a separate charge universities apply to fund things like student unions, sporting facilities, and campus services. It's not part of your tuition, but it is a real cost. SA-HELP lets you defer this fee in the same way as your tuition, and it gets added to the same debt that you repay through the tax system.

How does repayment work?

This is the part that makes HELP loans different from a bank loan. You don't make regular monthly repayments and there's no interest charged in the traditional sense. Instead, repayment works like this:

Once your income reaches a minimum threshold set by the government each year, a percentage of your income is automatically withheld through the tax system and put toward your debt. The percentage increases gradually as your income rises, meaning higher earners repay more each year. If your income drops below the threshold, repayments stop until you're earning enough again. The threshold and repayment rates are reviewed and updated regularly so it's worth checking the [current rates](#) through the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) or StudyAssist before making any decisions based on specific numbers.

Because repayments are tied to income, you're never in a position where you owe a repayment you



physically can't make.

What is indexation and why does it matter?

Indexation is the part of HECS-HELP that tends to catch people off guard, and it's worth understanding properly.

Each year on the 1st of June, your HELP debt is indexed, meaning the balance is adjusted to reflect changes in the cost of living. The rate used is based on either the Consumer Price Index (CPI) or the Wage Price Index (WPI), whichever is lower, a change that was legislated in recent years to make the system fairer for borrowers.

In practical terms, this means your debt doesn't stay at the same dollar figure from the day you finish studying. If inflation is high, your debt increases in line with it, even if you haven't added any new study to your balance. This is not interest in the traditional sense because it's not a profit mechanism for the lender, but it does mean your balance can grow if repayments aren't keeping pace with indexation.

For example, if you finish your degree with a debt of \$30,000 and indexation that year is applied at 4%, your balance becomes \$31,200 before you've made a single repayment. If your income is below the repayment threshold at that point, you haven't repaid anything yet and the indexed amount adds to the total you'll eventually need to clear.

Does HECS debt affect your credit rating?

This is a common misconception worth clearing up. HECS-HELP debt doesn't appear on your credit file the way a personal loan or credit card does. It won't affect your credit score directly.

However, when you apply for a home loan or other significant credit, lenders will typically ask about your HECS debt because your repayment obligations reduce your take-home pay. That reduction in disposable income can affect how much a lender is willing to offer you. So while it doesn't damage your credit score, it does factor into borrowing assessments in an indirect way.

Can you pay it off early?

Yes. You can make voluntary repayments toward your HECS-HELP debt at any time through the ATO. There's no penalty for paying it off early, and doing so reduces the balance subject to indexation each June.

Whether or not early repayment makes sense depends on your individual circumstances, including your income, other financial priorities, and the current indexation rate. It's a decision worth thinking through carefully, and potentially discussing with a financial adviser, rather than assuming one approach is automatically better.

What about vocational education?

HECS-HELP and FEE-HELP apply specifically to higher education, which means university-level study. Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses, including TAFE qualifications, operate under a different government loan scheme. If you're considering a VET pathway, it's worth looking into what loan support is available separately, as the structure and eligibility rules differ.

Knowing what you're signing up for

Taking on a HECS-HELP debt is a significant financial decision, and the mechanics of how it works, particularly indexation, mean it's not as simple as "borrow now, repay later at the same amount." Understanding the system properly puts you in a much better position to make an informed choice about your study pathway, the type of course you enrol in, and how you manage repayments once you're working.

If you want to explore more about planning your future, check out our other articles on how you can navigate [university](#).



WORK EXPERIENCE

Emergency service and cadet youth programs explained

Thousands of young people are curious about career in the Emergency service, but most don't realise you can start gaining real experience right now, while you're still at school. Emergency service youth programs and cadet programs exist exactly for that reason. They're structured, supervised, and open to high school students in Australia, New Zealand, and many other countries around the world.

What are these programs?

Emergency service youth programs are run by organisations like the fire brigade, police, State Emergency Service (SES), and ambulance services. They give young people a look inside how these services operate, and they teach practical skills along the way. Things like first aid, navigation, communication under pressure, and working as part of a team.

Cadet programs are slightly different. They're often a bit more formalised, and often run weekly or fortnightly. Military cadet programs such as the [Australian Air Force Cadets](#), [Australian Army Cadets](#), and [Australian Navy Cadets](#) are some of the most well-known. Joining these programs doesn't commit you to joining the military, and the vast majority of cadets never do. It's more about learning discipline, leadership, and practical skills in a structured environment.

There are also [police cadets](#), [fire cadets](#) (sometimes called junior firefighters), and [St John Ambulance youth programs](#), all designed to give young people hands-on experience in public safety roles. For opportunities in NSW

https://www.police.nsw.gov.au/recruitment/cadet_traineeship_program

What do they actually involve?

It varies by program, but most involve regular meetings or training sessions after school or on weekends. You might practise navigation and outdoor survival, learn how to use communications equipment, take part in first aid training, or go on excursions related to the service. Military cadets often include camps, flying experience, leadership courses, and even overseas exchanges. Most programs are free or very low cost to join. You'll usually need your parent or guardian's permission to participate, and some have a minimum age, often 12 to 13, which you'll need to check out before applying.

Finding programs in Australia and New Zealand

In Australia, each state and territory runs its own version of many of these programs, so availability depends on where you live. A good starting point is to search directly on the websites of emergency services or defence organisations in your area.

In New Zealand, similar programs exist through the [New Zealand Cadet Forces](#), which include army, navy, and air training corps. [St John New Zealand](#) also runs youth programs for young people from age 8 through to 18, so there's a long runway to build skills.

The best approach is to check the national websites and then look for units or groups in your local area. Most programs have a unit locator tool or a contact form you can use to ask about joining.

What about the UK, Ireland, and beyond?

These programs are global. In the UK, the [Combined Cadet Force](#) and their [Cadet Expansion Programme](#) operate through schools, while the [Air Training Corps](#), [Army Cadet Force](#), and [Sea Cadet Corps](#) all run separately from schools. St John Ambulance also has a strong youth arm in the UK. In Ireland, the [FCA Youth \(Óglaigh na hÉireann\)](#) and [St John's Ambulance](#) offer youth engagement pathways.



Beyond these countries, similar programs exist across Canada, the United States, Singapore, South Africa, and many others. If you're not in Australia or New Zealand, searching your country's defence or emergency services websites is the quickest way to find what's available near you.

Why bother getting involved?

These programs also look great on your CV and university applications, but that's not really the point. The bigger benefit is what you actually learn and experience.

You develop skills that are hard to pick up anywhere else, like staying calm in stressful situations, following and giving instructions clearly, making decisions quickly when the stakes feel real. These are skills that employers across every industry value, not just in emergency services.

You also get a realistic look at careers you might be interested in. If you're thinking about becoming a paramedic, police officer, pilot, or engineer, spending time inside a related program will tell you a lot more than researching it online. Some people discover they love it. Others figure out it's not for them, and that's a useful thing to know early.

Beyond skills and career exploration, many young people find a genuine sense of community in these programs. You meet people your own age who are motivated and interested in similar things, and the connections you make can last well beyond the program itself.

Ready to take the next step?

The first thing to do is find a program near you and reach out to express your interest. Most programs are welcoming to new members and will explain everything you need to know at an information session before you commit to anything.

If you're not sure where to start, explore our [volunteering](#) and [work experience](#) pages, there's plenty of information to help you start figuring out what could be the the right pathway for you.

UNIVERSITY

Applying to university in New Zealand as an international student

Thinking about studying in New Zealand? It's a popular destination for international students, and for good reason. The country has eight universities, all of which appear in the QS World University Rankings, and a straightforward application process compared to places like the US or UK. That said, there are still a number of steps to work through, so it pays to start planning early.

Unlike some other countries, there's no centralised application system in New Zealand. Each university manages its own admissions process, which means you'll be applying directly to the institution you want to study at.

Your best starting point

Before anything else, head to [Study with New Zealand](#), the New Zealand government's official portal for international students. It covers everything from choosing a course to understanding visa requirements and life in New Zealand, and it's a reliable place to begin your research.

New Zealand has eight universities spread across the country, each with its own strengths, locations,

and areas of focus. It's worth spending time exploring your options before you commit to applying anywhere.

Step 1 – Check if you're eligible

The first thing to do is confirm that your current qualifications are recognised for entry into a New Zealand university.

Most universities in New Zealand require international students to have completed secondary schooling to a level equivalent to New Zealand University Entrance. What counts as equivalent will



depend on the qualification system used in your home country, so it's important to check directly with the university you're interested in.

A useful starting point is the [Universities New Zealand eligibility page](#), which gives a general overview of how international qualifications are assessed.

Keep in mind that some programmes, particularly in medicine, law, and health-related fields, may have additional entry requirements on top of general eligibility. Always check the specific requirements for your chosen course, not just the university's general entry criteria.

A note for Australian students

If you're applying from Australia, the process is a little more straightforward. Australian students are generally treated similarly to domestic students at New Zealand universities, and your Year 12 results are well understood and recognised. Many universities list a minimum ATAR as part of their entry criteria for Australian applicants, though this varies by institution and programme. Check the entry requirements page of each university you're considering, as most will have a dedicated section for Australian school students.

Step 2 – Research your options

Once you've confirmed you're eligible, it's time to narrow down where you want to study and what you want to study.

New Zealand universities each have different strengths, campus environments, and locations, ranging from large cities to smaller regional towns. Think about what matters to you beyond just the course itself, including things like campus size, location, support services for international students, and cost of living in that area.

It's also worth attending any virtual open days or international student information sessions you can find. Most universities run these and they're a great way to get a feel for a place without having to travel there first.

Step 3 – Apply directly to your chosen university

Because there's no central application system, you'll need to apply to each university individually through their own online portal. The process is generally straightforward, but each institution has slightly different requirements and timelines, so read the instructions carefully for each one you apply to.

Most universities recommend applying at least three months before your intended start date to allow time for your application to be assessed, any offer to be made, and your visa to be arranged.

Intake dates

New Zealand universities typically have two intakes each year:

- **Semester One** starts in February or March. Applications generally close around October to November of the previous year.
- **Semester Two** starts in July. Applications generally close around March to May.

Not all programmes are available in both semesters, so confirm this early in your research.

What you'll need to apply

While requirements vary between universities and programmes, most will ask for:

- Certified copies of your academic transcripts and secondary school results
- Proof of English language proficiency (if applicable, see below)
- A copy of your passport
- A personal statement or statement of purpose for some programmes
- A portfolio or audition results for creative or performance-based programmes



English language requirements

Since all teaching at New Zealand universities is in English, most international students need to demonstrate their English proficiency as part of their application. The most widely accepted qualification is the IELTS Academic test, though universities also accept alternatives such as TOEFL and PTE Academic.

Minimum scores vary by institution and programme, but as a general guide, most undergraduate programmes require an IELTS score of at least 6.0 to 6.5. Postgraduate programmes typically require a higher score. Always check the specific requirements for your chosen course.

If you're a citizen of a country where English is the primary language of instruction, you may be exempt. Check with the university directly to confirm.

Types of offers

Once your application has been assessed, you'll receive one of the following:

- **An unconditional offer**, meaning you've met all requirements and have a confirmed place if you accept
- **A conditional offer**, meaning you've been offered a place subject to meeting certain conditions, such as achieving a minimum final grade or providing additional documentation
- **An unsuccessful application**, which means you haven't been offered a place in this round

If you receive a conditional offer, make sure you understand exactly what's required and by when, so you don't risk losing your place.

Step 4 – Sort out your student visa

If you're not an Australian citizen, you'll need a student visa to study in New Zealand for more than three months. You can only apply for this after you've received an offer from a university, so it's not something you need to organise upfront.

Australian citizens do not need a student visa to study in New Zealand. If you're Australian, you can skip this step entirely.

For everyone else, the main option is the Fee Paying Student Visa, which allows you to study full-time for up to four years. To find out about the different visa types available and what you'll need to apply, visit the [Immigration New Zealand student visa page](#).

A few things to keep in mind with your visa application:

- Apply as early as possible once you have your offer, as processing can take several weeks
- You'll need to provide proof of your offer of place, evidence of sufficient funds to cover your study and living costs, and a valid passport
- Students under 18 have additional requirements around accommodation approval, so check these carefully
- There are costs involved in applying

Step 5 – Research scholarships and financial support

Studying overseas is a significant financial commitment, so it's worth exploring scholarship options early in the process. Many New Zealand universities offer scholarships specifically for international students, which can cover anything from a partial tuition reduction to a full scholarship including

living costs. The best place to find these is directly on each university's website.

There are also government-funded scholarships available. The [Study with New Zealand scholarships page](#) is a good place to start exploring what's on offer and whether you might be eligible.

Scholarship deadlines don't always align with application deadlines, so make sure you're tracking both separately.

Step 6 – Plan your accommodation



Once you have an offer and your visa is in progress, it's time to think about where you'll live. Most New Zealand universities offer on-campus accommodation such as halls of residence, which can be a great option for your first year as they put you close to campus and make it easier to meet people. Private accommodation, such as renting a flat or room off campus, is also widely available. Costs will vary depending on the city and type of accommodation, so factor this into your budget planning early.

It's worth applying for on-campus accommodation as soon as you receive your offer, as spots can fill up quickly, particularly for Semester One.

Other resources

For more information and help with planning your studies in New Zealand, these are worth bookmarking:

- [Study with New Zealand](#) – the official government study portal
- [Universities New Zealand](#) – information on all eight universities and general eligibility
- [Immigration New Zealand](#) – everything you need to know about student visas

MONEY

What the 2026-27 federal budget means for someone still in school

On the 12th of May 2026 the federal government handed down its 2026–27 budget, officially called "Resilience and Reform." Every year, the government releases a budget that maps out how it plans to spend public money and collect taxes for the coming financial year. It's essentially a plan for the country's finances, and the decisions made in it ripple out to almost everyone, including you.

Even if you're still in school, the budget affects the world you're about to step into. Whether it's the tax you'll pay when you start working, the cost of seeing a doctor, or how realistic it is to one day own a home, what gets decided in the budget shapes your options. Here's what came out of yesterday's announcement and why it matters.

What is a federal budget?

The federal government needs money to pay for things like hospitals, schools, roads, and social services. That money comes mainly from taxes paid by workers and businesses. Once a year, the Treasurer delivers a budget to parliament that outlines how much money the government expects to bring in and how it plans to spend it.

Think of it like a household budget, just at a national scale. If the government spends more than it collects, it runs a deficit. If it collects more than it spends, it runs a surplus. The decisions made in the budget directly affect things like how much tax workers pay, what healthcare costs, and whether there's funding available for housing or education.

The 2026–27 budget was handed down on 12 May 2026 and covers the financial year beginning 1 July 2026.

Tax changes and what they mean for workers

One of the biggest announcements in this year's budget is a [series of tax cuts for working Australians](#). From 1 July 2026, the tax rate on income earned between \$18,201 and \$45,000 will

drop from 16% to 15%. Then, from 1 July 2027, it drops again to 14%.

That 2% reduction might sound small, but it adds up. If you're working part-time and earning around \$30,000 a year, a 2% cut means you keep an extra \$236 or so over the course of the year. For someone earning \$45,000, the saving is closer to \$536 annually from 2027. That's real money, especially when you're just starting out.

Other [tax-related changes](#) in this year's budget that could affect you once you're working include:



- A [\\$1,000 instant tax deduction](#) for workers, meaning you can reduce your taxable income by \$1,000 without needing to keep receipts for work-related expenses
- A [\\$250 Working Australians Tax Offset](#) from 2027–28, which is an additional annual tax cut on top of the rate reductions
- A [phase-out of junior pay rates](#) for 18 to 20 year olds in retail, fast food and pharmacy, meaning workers in those industries will move toward adult pay rates sooner

If you're already working part-time, some of these changes could apply to you sooner than you think.

Housing and what it could mean for your future

Buying a home is one of the most common long-term goals young people have, and it's also one of the hardest to achieve right now. This budget includes a few changes aimed at making that more realistic over time.

The most significant is a [reform to negative gearing and capital gains tax](#). Negative gearing is a tax arrangement where property investors can reduce their taxable income using losses from investment properties. This has historically made it easier for people who already own property to keep buying more, which contributes to pushing prices up for everyone else.

From 1 July 2027, negative gearing will be limited to new builds only. Investors who purchase established homes after yesterday's announcement won't be able to claim those losses against other income like wages. The capital gains tax discount will also change, moving from a flat 50% to one based on inflation instead. These changes are estimated to [support an additional 75,000 homeowners](#) over the next decade.

Other housing measures in the budget include:

- A [\\$2 billion Local Infrastructure Fund](#) to help build the infrastructure needed to support up to 65,000 new homes
- [Continued support for renters](#) through Commonwealth Rent Assistance, which supports over 1.4 million people currently renting
- [\\$59.4 million for social housing](#) specifically for young people aged 16–24 who are at risk of, or already experiencing, homelessness

None of these changes will make buying a home easy overnight. But they're aimed at gradually shifting the balance away from investors and toward people buying their first home.

Cheaper medicine and healthcare access

Healthcare is something most young people don't think about much until they need it, but the cost of seeing a doctor or filling a prescription affects families every day.

This budget puts a significant focus on making healthcare more accessible. The government is [investing \\$11.4 billion to increase bulk billing rates](#), with a goal of nine out of ten GP visits being bulk billed by 2030. Bulk billing means your doctor charges the government directly through Medicare rather than charging you out of pocket. Since late 2025, over 1,400 GP practices that previously charged patients have switched to fully bulk billing.

For medicines, the budget includes [\\$5.9 billion to list new medications on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme \(PBS\)](#), which is the system that subsidises the cost of prescription medicines.

Medicines on the PBS cost significantly less than they would at full price, and the new listings include treatments for conditions like cystic fibrosis, kidney disease, and various cancers.

Other healthcare changes include:

- [\\$1.8 billion to make Medicare Urgent Care Clinics permanent](#), with the aim of having four in five Australians within a 20-minute drive of one by July 2026
- [\\$25 billion in additional funding for public hospitals](#) over the next five years

These changes affect your family now and will continue to affect you as you move into adulthood



and start managing your own healthcare.

Why this budget matters to you

You don't need to understand every line of a federal budget to get something useful out of it. What matters is recognising that the decisions made in it shape the environment you're entering, whether that's your first pay cheque, your ability to see a doctor without paying upfront, or how realistic it is to buy a home one day.

If you want to dig into the detail yourself, the full 2026–27 budget is available at budget.gov.au.

FAMILY SUPPORT

How you shape your child's career thinking

When it comes to your teenager's future, you might feel like you're competing with TikTok, their friends, and the general chaos of adolescence for airtime. But [research consistently shows that parents are one of the single biggest influences on how young people think about careers and further study](#). That's a remarkable amount of sway that you may not know you even had, so it's worth having it in mind when you make statements or have conversations with your teens. The good news is, you don't need to have all the answers, it's enough just to stay curious alongside them.

Your influence runs deeper than you think

All the jobs you've held, the people you know, the stories you've shared around the camp fire or across the dinner table, the comments you make after a busy day at work — they become trusted reference points for your teen about what's possible (or out of reach). If they only hear about a handful of jobs or pathways, that's the majority of what they'll have for planning out their next steps. It's not that other options don't exist; your child just doesn't have them in mind yet. This is why the conversations you have at home matter so much. Offhand comments like "that's not a real job" or "you'd never get into that" can quietly close doors before your teenager even knows they were open. On the flip side, asking open questions — "what did you enjoy about doing that project?" or "what's your favourite subject you had today?" — can do a lot to keep those doors ajar. Commenting on people's work when you're watching a movie together or out and about round town or on holidays could spark something in your teen too. They don't have to be hard questions and big conversations to have an impact.

Expand their options, don't limit them

One of the most common traps you could be inadvertently falling into, is projecting your own career experiences — or fears — onto your children. The job market your teenager will enter looks very different from the one you navigated. Many of the roles that will be in demand in ten years don't even have names yet. And equally, some of the pathways that feel traditional or "safe" are changing rapidly.

Your experiences and opinions should definitely still be shared and talked about, but it benefits your young people to stay curious and learn what other options are out there. There are now more pathways than ever to meaningful, well-paying work. From university degrees, vocational training, apprenticeships and traineeships, short courses, and even gap years, and a wide variety of combinations of all of them. When you explore these options alongside your teenager rather than presenting a fixed verdict, you model the kind of open thinking that could serve them well throughout their working life.

Getting involved in career education

Schools put a lot of effort into career education, and its impact multiplies when parents are engaged too. If your child comes home with information about a careers event, an industry excursion, or a subject selection decision, that's your cue to lean in rather than leave it to the school.



Ask to see what they're working on. Attend information evenings if you can. Talk to their careers counsellor to understand what tools and resources are available. Some schools now have platforms where students explore [career clusters](#), [work readiness skills](#), and [subject pathways](#). Being familiar with what your teenager is engaging with means you can have more informed conversations at home.

It's also worth thinking about the informal career education you can offer. Do you know someone who works in a field your teenager is curious about? Could you help them arrange a conversation or a brief work shadow? Sometimes a single real-world conversation with a professional is worth more than a dozen career quizzes. Or when the time comes for [work experience](#), is there anyone in your network you could ask about opportunities?

Their career, your support

Research suggests that teenagers, particularly girls and those from lower socioeconomic backgrounds, can often limit their career thinking based on what they believe is "for people like them." Your assumptions or biases about certain pathways or jobs might have come from beliefs your parents had, or been influenced by labour market information from when you were at school. They may not be accurate or relevant anymore, but you might still be bringing these beliefs to conversations with your children. You can unintentionally keep reinforcing these limits, or you can actively challenge them, and help to open up new avenues for your teens to explore.

If your teenager is drawn to a career that feels unfamiliar or uncertain to you, resist the urge to immediately question it. Start with curiosity, find out what appeals to them about it. Learn about the daily reality of the role, the skills would it need, and what paths could get them there. You could also look at the latest labour market information and see where opportunities exist locally or further afield. You'll be much better placed to support them once you're in the know, and they'll be much better prepared to start heading down the right path.

Explore more together

The most important thing you can do is to keep learning and chatting. Careers aren't a single decision made at seven or seventeen; they're a direction that evolves over time as children experience life and different subjects. If you help your teenager feel like that direction is worth exploring, and feel that they have someone in their corner while they do, you're already doing a brilliant job.

Our [Resources for Families](#) page has more practical information to help you support your teenager's study and career thinking, whatever stage they're at. Or the [Study Work Grow](#) website has lots of other information to help you unpack careers and have great conversations with your teens.

JOB SPOTLIGHTS

How to become a Materials Engineer

Materials Engineers develop and test the materials that make up the physical world around us, from the metals in bridges and aircraft to the polymers in medical devices and the composites in sports equipment. They work with manufacturers, scientists, and designers to understand how materials behave, improve their performance, and find more sustainable alternatives.

If you're curious about how things are made, enjoy working at the intersection of science and practical problem-solving, and want a career where your work ends up in real products and structures, materials engineering could be a great fit.

What skills do I need as a Materials Engineer?

- Curious & analytical mind
- Strong scientific aptitude



- Problem-solving ability
- Attention to detail
- Collaborative team player
- Technical report writing
- Materials testing knowledge
- Creative & innovative thinker

What do Materials Engineers do?

A significant part of your work happens before any testing begins. You'll review existing research, study the properties of materials already in use, and develop a clear picture of what a product or structure needs its materials to do. This might mean understanding load-bearing requirements for a construction material, thermal resistance needs for an industrial component, or biodegradability targets for a packaging application. From there, you'll design test plans and experiments that will help you evaluate whether existing or new materials can meet those requirements.

Day to day, you'll conduct laboratory tests on materials, analyse results, and draw conclusions about performance, durability, and suitability. You'll work closely with design teams, manufacturing engineers, and scientists to share findings and recommend material choices or modifications.

Writing clear technical reports and specifications is a regular part of the role, as your findings need to be communicated accurately to people across different parts of an organisation. When materials fail or products underperform, you'll investigate the cause and recommend improvements.

Periodically, you'll take on larger research and development projects, such as working to develop an entirely new material or adapt an existing one for a new application. You might visit manufacturing facilities, construction sites, or supplier operations to understand how materials behave in real-world conditions rather than just in a controlled lab environment. Some Materials Engineers specialise in particular material types such as metals, polymers, ceramics, or composites, or in specific industries such as aerospace, construction, biomedical, or sustainable manufacturing.

What kind of lifestyle could I expect?

Materials Engineers work across a broad range of industries, including construction, aerospace, automotive, medical devices, consumer electronics, and packaging. Employers include manufacturers, engineering consultancies, research institutions, government agencies, and materials testing laboratories. The role can sit within large industrial organisations or smaller specialist firms, and some Materials Engineers move into academic research. Depending on the industry, you might split your time between a laboratory, an office, and visits to manufacturing or construction sites. Hours are generally standard for salaried roles, with the working week typically following regular patterns. Project deadlines and testing schedules can create busier periods, but sustained irregular hours are not a typical feature of the role. The balance between desk work, lab work, and site visits varies considerably depending on the employer and the specific focus of the role.

The work involves a mix of hands-on laboratory activity and desk-based analysis, reporting, and collaboration. Some roles involve more physical activity than others, particularly those with a strong site or manufacturing focus. Salaries are above average, reflecting the level of technical expertise required, and tend to increase significantly with experience and specialisation. The field has moderate growth overall, with stronger demand emerging in areas connected to sustainable materials, lightweight composites, and the circular economy, where the need for engineers who can develop lower-impact alternatives to conventional materials is growing.

How to become a Materials Engineer

- **Study a relevant degree:** A bachelor's degree in materials engineering, materials science, or a closely related field such as mechanical or chemical engineering is the standard entry



point. Look for programs that include laboratory work and industry placements, as hands-on experience during your degree makes a significant difference when entering the workforce.

- **Build laboratory and technical skills:** Strong practical skills in materials testing, data analysis, and technical writing are essential. During your studies, take every opportunity to work in lab environments, engage with real testing and analysis tasks, and develop your ability to communicate technical findings clearly. Familiarity with industry-standard testing equipment and methods will give you an advantage in early career roles.
- **Gain industry experience:** Work experience with a manufacturing company, engineering consultancy, or research institution helps you understand how materials engineering operates in practice and exposes you to the kinds of problems and constraints that don't appear in textbooks. Many graduates find their first roles through contacts or organisations they encountered during study placements.
- **Develop specialist knowledge:** As you progress, look for opportunities to develop deep expertise in a particular material type or industry. Specialising in an area of high demand, such as sustainable materials, composites, or biomedical applications, can open up more senior and rewarding roles over time.

From here, you could progress to senior engineer or principal engineer roles leading complex material development projects, move into project management or technical leadership positions, transition into research and development within industry or academia, or specialise in emerging fields such as nanomaterials, biomaterials, or circular economy applications.

What can I do right now?

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

- Focus on building a strong foundation in chemistry, physics, and mathematics at school, as these subjects underpin most materials engineering study and keeping them going will keep your options open
- Start paying attention to the materials around you by picking everyday objects and researching what they're made from, how those materials are produced, and what happens to them at the end of their life
- Look for work experience opportunities with local manufacturing companies, engineering firms, or research institutions to get an early sense of how materials engineering operates in a professional setting

Created by Study Work Grow in 2026

Web: studyworkgrow.com

Email: schools@studyworkgrow.com

Phone: +61 7 4039 3862

This newsletter and its contents are copyright © 2026 Study Work Grow. Member Schools have a limited, non-exclusive licence to use and adapt the content for their school community, in internal and public-facing communications, including newsletters, social media, websites, virtual notice boards, and printed materials. Attribution is not required; however, redistribution to external parties, non-member schools, or use outside the intended school community is not permitted without prior written consent from Study Work Grow. By using this content, schools agree to these terms of use.