



Wednesday 11 November 2020

The A-Z of VET

Celebrating alternative pathways into STEM

Uni not for you? Bagging a bachelor's degree isn't the only way to kickstart a career in STEM. Careers With STEM have written an article celebrating alternative pathways into next-gen careers (think: certificates, diplomas and internships) and equipping you with the knowledge needed to look out of the box when sussing out study options.

<https://careerswithstem.com.au/the-a-z-of-vet/>

Campion College Summer Program

Students who are 16+ are invited to apply for the Campion College Summer Program. The program gives interested students the opportunity to live College life for five days and nights before they make any long-term tertiary decisions.

Participants will explore subjects such as literature, Latin, history, philosophy, theology etc. Students are encouraged to explore their Catholic faith and develop leadership skills.

When: 5 – 8 or 12 – 15 January 2020

Where: Toongabbie, NSW (program includes accommodation)

Info and RSVP: link below

www.campion.edu.au/summer-program/

Change of Preference

Year 12 students

Change of Preference (CoP) gives you the chance to add, delete and reorder your university and/or TAFE preferences.

If you receive an offer, you will be offered the course highest on your preference list you are eligible for (you have met the ATAR and selection criteria requirements).

It is also the last chance you have to make sure your preference list reflects what you would like to study in the future.

Good Universities Guide is running online Change of Preference Expos in each state to assist students through this process.

The Expos will be online, enabling students to connect directly with university and TAFE staff, regardless of whether you are celebrating your results at the beach, relaxing in between movies or sorting out your Christmas shopping.

For information on dates and how to register, visit:

<https://events.gooduniversitiesguide.com.au/>



Career websites

My Health Career

My Health Career is a fantastic website that has career resources such as information sheets and videos about careers in several health fields.

www.myhealthcareer.com.au

Student Edge

This website features competitions, information on how to secure a job, occupation profiles, and advice on how to narrow down career interests based on study areas.

<https://studentedge.org/>

Skillsroad

Students can explore courses, occupations, and industries. They can also undertake a mini career quiz and research occupations based on their favourite subjects,

www.skillsroad.com.au

Good Careers Guide

Students can search over 400 different occupations narrowed down by the field or type of work they would like to do in the future (e.g., helping / advising, creative / artistic). They can also research 'career ladders' and take an aptitude test to assist in narrowing down career ideas.

www.goodcareersguide.com.au/

Interesting articles from 'The Footnotes'

Business and Economics

- QnA: from Google to Tik Tok to venture capital in London
- From earning \$48,500 in consulting to \$82,000 in talent management
- I did a business degree, but don't know what I can actually DO
- How to get a graduate job at a bank
- Working at Deloitte – what it's like and how to get in
- Finance and accounting degrees are different – here's how

<https://thefootnotes.com.au/careers/business-economics/>

Medical Science

- Careers in pharmaceutical biotech
- QnA with a blood researcher. What he does and how to get in.
- What is studying medicine really like? QnA with a medicine student from UNSW
- How to become a doctor (step by step)
- Roundtable discussion – the true value of medical science
- Dinner with Charlie Teo – life as a brain surgeon

<https://thefootnotes.com.au/careers/medicine/>



Free online career planning and job seeker program

The team at My Career Match have developed a free program for high school students that is broken into five key categories:

- Career planning
- Promoting yourself
- Getting a job
- Personal development
- Wellness

Students can choose which categories and lessons they would like to work through.

www.blastoff.mycareermatch.com.au

Competitions

Add to your resume and have fun by entering competitions!

Creative Arts

Bright Awards – run by Billy Blue College of Design at Torrens University. Entries are now open for students in years 10-12 and their school to win monetary prizes to help kick start creative dreams. Entries close Monday 16 November.

www.billyblue.edu.au/apply/bright-awards



Dream with PSC

Photography Studies College (PSC) are running a photography competition for students in Years 11 and 12. This competition provides an opportunity for students to create a 'dream image' that will be seen by a national and international audience. Applications are due by Friday 4 December.

<http://explore.psc.edu.au/dream-with-psc>

Would you like to work with computers?

Monash University offers courses in computer science, information technology and software engineering.

Monash has produced a video explaining the differences between the courses led by the Monash Bachelor of Computer Science course director.

https://youtu.be/5JQJT9xCJ_w

Do you have a passion for agriculture?

If you are in Years 9 – 12 and are planning to study agricultural science in the future, you can join the University of Melbourne 'Pre-Ag Club'.

You will be able to:

- Attend university run lectures and practical sessions
- Meet with leading academics and students
- Connect with students who share your interests
- Discover the benefits of a career in agricultural sciences.

<https://fvas.unimelb.edu.au/study/pre-ag-club>

Virtual Career Events

Endeavour College of Natural Health

The College is located at Melbourne and offers higher education courses in:

- Naturopathy
- Acupuncture
- Nutritional and Dietetic Medicine
- Myotherapy
- Complimentary Medicine
- Remedial Massage (Diploma)

The institute is running several online information sessions for prospective students before the end of the year. For information and to RSVP, visit www.endeavour.edu.au/events



Macleay College

Macleay is located at Melbourne. The College is running the following course information sessions for prospective students in November:

- 18: Advertising and Digital Media
- 19: Journalism:
- 25: Business and Accounting

Information and RSVP: www.macleay.edu.au

Academy of Interactive Entertainment (AIE)

AIE is located at Melbourne and Canberra and offers courses in the following study areas:

- Game Art and Animation
- Game Programming
- Game Design and Production
- 3D Animation and VFX for Film
- Games and Virtual Worlds.

The Academy is running an open day for prospective students.

Date: Saturday 21 November

Information and RSVP: <https://aie.edu.au/>

Engineering & IT Showcase

Watch the La Trobe University 2020 Engineering & IT Showcase on Wednesday 25 November and view the very best of student industry projects delivering solutions in partnership with industry and government agencies.

Information and RSVP:

<https://engitshowcase.com/>

University vs Apprenticeship

Riley Payne's story

University or apprenticeship? Degree or trade qualification? Both take roughly the same time to complete and are completely different styles of learning. If you enjoy hands on learning, gaining an income whilst gaining a qualification, and don't want to sit in a classroom each day, you should consider an apprenticeship.

Not only will you be debt free after 3 – 4 years, you will have a nationally recognised qualification, be able to work in your trade area anywhere in Australia and in most cases, be able go straight into full time paid employment in your industry.

Meet Riley Payne. He completed the VCE with a strong ATAR. He had planned to go to university to study engineering, but when he really analysed his passions and preferred learning style, he decided to pursue an apprenticeship.

"Originally, I was considering going to university to study Aerospace Engineering, as I am passionate about aviation and design. There are a few reasons why I opted to head down the trade pathway even after being accepted into my university course.

Learning Style

I am a practical person and I love hands on learning, building construction etc. University would provide me with a great theoretical side to what I wanted to know, but it greatly lacked the hands-on learning style that I have found is most suited to me.

Time

The university course that I was considering is a four-year course as most engineering courses are. Generally, apprenticeships have a similar duration of four years, however the accelerated apprenticeship initiative works on competency-based progression.

This means that if you can complete your TAFE and your employer deems you competent then you can theoretically accelerate through the apprenticeship much quicker than the standard four years. As I had a lot of practical experience growing up, I thought this could be very beneficial.

Money

Although apprentice wages may be low initially, they quickly increase as your skills and apprenticeship status change. The possibility of earning money outside of work through your skills may also be an option for some apprentices. When comparing to a university course where you are paying to learn or acquiring a HECS debt, getting paid to learn even if it is a low rate is much more appealing.

Completing a trade gives you many more financial options and the possibility to invest if you are disciplined. Qualified tradespeople also have the opportunity to make quite reasonable yearly salaries in many instances.

Skilled workers shortage

With an ageing workforce, skilled workers will be in high demand in the coming years. With more students than ever opting to head to university instead of taking on a trade it means that job availability should be good for the foreseeable future. This gives me some sense of security in knowing that I should be able to fall back on my trade if I have to.

Getting to where I wanted to be

As I mentioned at the start I am interested in aviation and design as well as many other mechanical subjects. University would have provided me with a set syllabus and strict requirements which would be fantastic for the specific jobs that it is designed for, however I wanted a more personalised pathway that would allow me to learn what I was truly interested in.

The fact that each year of university consists of roughly three months holidays may be enticing to some, but it seemed pointless to me and showed that the course could be completed in a far more condensed time frame.

Basically, I decided that anything I couldn't learn through my apprenticeship I would be able to find the resources to self-teach meaning I was learning exactly what I wanted to."

Australian Apprenticeships Pathways

This website contains fantastic resources for young people interested in pursuing a professional trade or traineeship. Some of the resources include:

- Job and training descriptions
- Career interest explorer
- Job pathway charts
- Information on apprenticeships and school-based apprenticeships
- Literacy and numeracy quizzes for different industries such as carpentry, plumbing, electrical, and hairdressing.

To explore the website, go to www.aapathways.com.au



4 steps to finding an apprenticeship or traineeship



Australian Apprenticeships Pathways has developed a fantastic 4-step process for students to follow when seeking an apprenticeship or traineeship.

www.aapathways.com.au/job-hunting/steps

Prepare for an apprenticeship

What to do whilst you are still at school

Work Experience

You can complete up to 40 days of work experience per year once you turn 15.

Be resourceful

Speak to your career adviser, parents, teachers, family friends, people in industry, everyone! Get their advice, use their knowledge and make up your own mind.

VCAL

Consider studying the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) and/ or one or two VET subjects

Subjects

Find out what subjects you will need for your future trade i.e., Mathematics, Physics, Science.

SBAT

Consider starting a School Based Apprenticeship and Traineeship (SBAT) in an area of interest- this will cut the time it will take to complete your qualification once you leave school.

Talk to past students

Talk to past students of your school who are working in occupations you are interested in.

They will give you a picture of what working in the industry is like, how they got into their course or secured their apprenticeship/ traineeship and will be able to give you great advice.