



'Motivate your mate'

Justice and Solidarity

Careers Newsletter

31 March 2021

Disclaimer – all information is printed in good faith

It is the responsibility of the student to confirm all details with the appropriate institution.

To contact Mr Madani please email jmadani@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au

JobJump - Parents and students please watch YouTube video and sign up

Sign up to JobJump for information about tertiary study options, ATAR's and apprenticeship and TAFE information. Create a resume, sign up for news alerts.

To register go to <https://www.jobjump.com.au/>

Search school – St Pius X Chatswood

Register with an email address (use a private address, not spx)

Password – pius (lower case)

Parent information: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fZoyckJwVg&feature=youtu.be>

[iWorkinSport Education Virtual Expo](#)

6 April - 8 April 2021

Online

The iWorkinSport Education Virtual Expo is the first-ever digital admissions fair for top sport management programmes, which delivers many of the benefits of traditional MBA fairs – and much more – without the inconvenience and prohibitive costs of attending in person.

The first-of-its-kind digital event is designed to allow all interested in pursuing or boosting a career in sport to digitally connect and interact with some of the best sports management programmes in the world.

Find out more: <https://www.iworkinsport.com/eve>

[iCanMed | Free UCAT 2021 Webinar: Final 90-Day Study Plan to Complete UCAT Prep](#)

6 April 2021, 1:00 pm

Online

At the time of this workshop, you will have approximately 90 days until you sit one of the most significant tests of your life: the UCAT. So, how do you make sure that your preparation will help you to perform well on the big day? And if your preparation isn't up to scratch, how do you fix it in time for the test?

This iCanMed webinar will show you exactly what you should be doing (and when) to manage your time well and put your best foot forward on the day of the exam, plus identify any existing weaknesses in your study approach before it is too late.

Find out more: https://www.bigmarker.com/icanmed/Free-UCAT-2021-Webinar-REPEAT-Final-90-Day-Study-Plan-to-Complete-UCAT-Prep?utm_bmc_source=1803

[ADF | Army Information Systems Technician Virtual Information Session](#)

7 April 2021, 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Online

As an Information Systems Technician you'll be trained throughout your career to carry out a range of duties, including:

- Installing and configuring computer systems as needed by military personnel
- Providing technical support on base and out in the field
- Identifying and remediating software and hardware issues, plus analysing software performance
- And much, much more.

Discover whether a technical career in the Army is your kind of challenge at the upcoming virtual info session.

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

[University of Newcastle | TAFE to Uni Webinar](#)

13 April 2021, 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Online

Are you looking at studying a University degree after completing TAFE? We invite you to join us for our TAFE to Uni webinar via zoom. Tune in to hear from our admissions staff and student ambassadors that will provide advice and give key insights into studying at the University of Newcastle.

Find out more: <https://www.newcastle.edu.au/events/future-students/tafe-to-uni-webinar>

[AIM | Info Session: Careers in Music](#)

20 April 2021, 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Australian Institute of Music, Surry Hills

Join us on campus for our next information evening dedicated to highlighting the career opportunities within the music industry. Register now to find out how you can get started on a career in music and how The Australian Institute of Music can help get you there.

Find out more: <https://aim.edu.au/events/aim-info-session-sydney/>

[SPE Virtual Career Pathways Fair](#)

27 April 2021, 5:00 pm - 29 April 2021, 4:00 am

Online

The Society of Petroleum Engineers' Virtual Career Pathways Fair (VCPF) gives students and young professionals an opportunity to network and meet with other Oil and Gas Professionals from all over the world. Attendees will have the chance to take part in quick-fire mentoring sessions to talk about the future of specific job roles.

VCPF also has a series of keynote presentations, industry updates, and soft skill training aimed at getting students and young professionals ready for their next job in the industry.

This event runs over three days from 27–29 April and will have both live and recorded sessions at different times globally. Live features include one-to-one chats with professional members as well as live webinars and discussion forums.

Find out more: <https://www.spe.org/events/en/2021/virtual/careerpath21/spe-virtual-career-pathways-fair.html>

[UAC Digital | Let's Chat – Health Science Webinar](#)

12 May 2021, 6:00 pm

Online

Are you are thinking of pursuing a career in nursing, midwifery, physiotherapy, speech pathology or radiology? A panel of NSW and ACT university experts will break down what's required to apply to and study a Health Science degree. We'll discuss:

- HSC courses that can help you build a good foundation for uni study
- selection criteria
- work placement opportunities
- career opportunities
- the UAC application process.

And we'll give answers to the most commonly asked questions!

Find out more: <https://uacdigital.easywebinar.live/healthscience>

[UAC Digital | Let's Chat – Construction and Engineering Webinar](#)

19 May 2021, 6:00 pm

Online

Thinking of applying for a Construction or Engineering degree? We'll provide HSC students and their parents with information about:

- HSC courses that can help you build a good foundation for uni study
- selection criteria
- work placement opportunities
- career opportunities
- the UAC application process.

And we'll give answers to the most commonly asked questions!

Find out more: <https://uacdigital.easywebinar.live/construction-engineering>

[UAC Digital | Let's Chat – Teaching Webinar](#)

27 May 2021, 6:00 pm

Online

In this session we'll give HSC students and their parents information about applying for a Teaching degree. UAC and an expert panel from various universities will discuss:

- which HSC courses are recommended for Teaching
- different types of teaching you can apply for
- entry requirements
- application statements
- available pathways if you don't meet the selection criteria
- high-demand teaching areas.

And we'll give answers to the most commonly asked questions!

Find out more: <https://uacdigital.easywebinar.live/teaching>

[Australian Virtual Careers Expo 2021](#)

18 July 2021, 9:00 am - 19 July 2021, 5:00 pm

Online

Welcome to the Australian Virtual Careers Expo! Boasting exhibitors from all over Australia including 7 of the 8 'Group of Eight' universities, TAFE and training colleges, study and career advisers, employers, apprenticeship and traineeship providers, international exchange and gap year programs, this virtual event will be an online version of our live events with opportunities for one-on-one conversations with exhibitors, a high-quality seminar program with seminars on the ATAR, course, career and study advice and much more!

In addition to our live events, the Australian Virtual Careers Expo 2021 offers years 10, 11 and 12 students, their parents and teachers exclusive access to a variety of higher education, training, apprenticeship and employment information from all over Australia, specifically targeted to them. Find out more: <https://www.acexpo.com.au/>

[University of Sydney | Open Day 2021](#)

28 August 2021, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

The University of Sydney, Camperdown/Darlington Campus

Immerse yourself in University life, meet experts in their field and learn about your study and admission options at Open Day 2021.

Find out more: <https://www.sydney.edu.au/study/events-for-prospective-students/undergraduate.html>

[AMPA | Music Experience Day](#)

8 April 2021, 1:30 pm - 16 April 2021, 9:00 am

Academy of Music and Performing Arts

The Academy of Music and Performing Arts (AMPA) is opening the doors of its Music Campus during the April school holidays to provide future students insight into tertiary studies.

You'll have the chance to speak to staff and students about AMPA's performance-based Music degrees, participate in classes hosted by industry professionals and experience what life is like at AMPA.

Find out more: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/experience-day-music-easter-holiday-program-tickets-145396658319>

[AMPA | Dance Experience Day](#)

14 April 2021, 8:30 am - 1:30 pm Academy of Music and Performing Arts

Join our current dance students and experience what it feels like to be part of the Bachelor of Dance program. The ballet, contemporary & jazz classes are led by AMPA's extraordinary international teaching faculty. Find out more: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/experience-day-dance-easter-holiday-program-tickets-145168347435>

[RSPCA Pet Insurance Future Animal Carer's Grant](#)

Value: \$5,000 AUD

Open/Closing Dates: February 1, 2021 – October 31, 2021

RSPCA aims to provide support to people who are interested in getting into roles which are related to Veterinary Medicine, Animal Care and Animal Sciences by providing the RSPCA Pet Insurance Future Animal Carer's Grant.

[Find out more](#)

[WWDA LEAD Scholarships](#)

Value: Up to \$2,000 AUD

Open/Closing Dates: March 24, 2021 – April 16, 2021

The WWDA LEAD scholarships will be open to existing and new WWDA members who can apply for a range of leadership and/or training courses that will help develop leadership skills and provide further opportunities to be involved with WWDA.

[Find out more](#)

[Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards](#)

Entries to the Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards are now open for 2021.

Students in all years from kindergarten to year 12 can enter.

This year the theme is “Rich and Rare.”

Entries are open until Wednesday 30 June.

Find out more and enter here: <https://www.dorothea.com.au/How-to-Enter-awards>

[2021 National Capital Art Prize](#)

The National Capital Art Prize will be held annually with Australian citizens or permanent residents of Australia over 18 years of age invited to submit up to four paintings in any of the four categories (Open, First Nations, Landscape and Student).

The submitted artwork:

- Must be a painting
- Must be available for sale
- Can be of any subject (such as a portrait, landscape, abstract or any subject matter)
- Can be painted in any medium (such as oil, acrylic, watercolour, mixed media, pencil)
- Must not exceed the size limit of 150x150cm

Entries open on Tuesday 30 March and close Thursday 1 July.

Find out more and enter here: <https://nationalcapitalartprize.com.au/competition/>

[Future You Competition](#)

How would you change the world with Science, Technology, Engineering or Maths?

Upload your drawing and tell us in 50 words or less about the STEM job you would have and how you would change the world!

The two most inventive and exciting entries will win a STEM prize pack and have their character featured on the Future You website.

The competition is open to Australian residents aged 8-12 years. **Entries close Sunday 11 April.**

Find out more and enter here: <http://www.womeninstem.org.au/futureyou/competition/>

[Agriculture in Australia with NT Farmers](#)

A snapshot of Agriculture in Australia

Agricultural Production is a [growing industry](#) in Australia. It accounts for:

- 55% of Australian land use (427 million hectares, excluding timber production in December 2020)
- 25% of water extractions (3,113 gigalitres used by agriculture in 2018–19);
- 11% of goods and services exports in 2019–20;
- 1.9% of value added (GDP) and 2.6% of employment in 2019–20 (Figure 1).

(Source: Agriculture.gov.au)

Here in Australia, the type and level of agricultural activity is usually determined by physical factors including:

- climate,
- water availability,
- soil type and
- proximity to markets.

Livestock grazing is widespread and occurs across most of Australia, cropping and horticulture are generally more concentrated in locations that are closer to the coasts.

In the Northern Territory cattle make up the largest sector of the agricultural industry. Other important commodities in the region include mangoes and hay (Source: [ABS](#)), as well as nursery and turf, field crops and fodder, tropical exotic fruits, forestry, vegetables, melons, grapes, and other crops (Source: [NT Farmers](#)).

Employment in Agriculture

Employment figures in Australia are falling with the advances in mechanisation and technology, but labour will always be an important part of farming and there are lots of jobs that only people can do.

In 2018-2019 on average 326,000 workers were employed in the Agricultural industry in Australia, including full-time, part-time, casual and contract workers (Source: [ABARES](#)).

Broadacre farms employed the highest number of workers, followed by fruit, grape and nut farms, vegetable farms and dairy farms (Martin, Randall & Jackson 2020).

An interview with NT Farmers

We spoke with Aisla at NT Farmers who generously provided us with some details about what farming in Australia, specifically plant farming in the NT looks like.

[You can read the full interview here.](#)

If you'd love a career in Agriculture and think that the Northern Territory would be a great place to work, you could connect with [NT Farmers](#) for more information, read more about their [career pathways and scholarships](#) or check out their employment programs.

Or have a quick read of our [Farmer](#) job spotlight for more information.

[What does a career in Workforce Planning and Development involve?](#)

We had a chat with Aisla from NT Farmers this week, talking about Agriculture in the NT, some of the careers available, as well as duties, qualifications required and some of the pathways into the industry, and more. You can read the full article [here](#).

We also spoke about her own role within the NT Farmers organisation, and this is what she had to say:

“My role as NT Farmers has evolved from Workforce Planning to Workforce Development. The Plant Industries Workforce Development Plan 2020-2025 outlines the industry requirements and recommendations to meet these.

The diverse tasks include:

- supporting growers to access various employment programs including accessing international workers (including during COVID-19 restrictions!)
- promoting the industry to potential employees
- trialling programs within the career pathway such as pre-employment programs
- engaging with stakeholders to inform of the current growth of the NT plant industries and the support available to those within it.

I have attended career expos, school assemblies and held online and in person events for our NT Young Farmers group.

I have hosted international exchange students and Ambassadors from Timor Leste and Vanuatu.

I also am on the National Farmers Federation, Horticulture Council, Workforce Committee.

This year NT Farmers are holding the bi-annual Northern Australia Food Futures conference at the Darwin Waterfront in May, this will include being a tour guide on a field trip to greater Darwin farms hosting interstate visitors.

The role is diverse, requires a coordinated approach, creative thinking and engaging with people from culturally diverse backgrounds, I enjoy it.”

If you are interested in a career in Agriculture, there are plenty of other roles that could be just as rewarding and diverse as Aisla’s but still within the industry.

Head over to our [Careers](#) page to look at other jobs you might be interested in, or have a look at some of the employment programs offered by [NT Farmers](#) if you’re looking at having a go.

[UAC Key Dates for 2021-22](#)

If you’re thinking of studying at a university in New South Wales or the Australian Capital Territory in 2022, you’ll probably need to submit an application through UAC.

UAC has released their key dates for students looking to start study in 2022, including offer rounds, closing dates, change of preference, and ATAR release dates.

You can find a list of their key dates here: <https://www.uac.edu.au/assets/documents/ug-fact-sheets/ug-fact-sheet-key-dates.pdf>

[How to Apply for Early Entry Programs](#)

Understand what Early Entry is all about

First up, before you can even think about applying, you've got to fully understand what Early Entry is.

Some high demand courses such as Teaching, Dentistry, Medicine, and Nursing might have earlier opening and closing dates than other courses. They're not Early Entry Programs though.

Early Entry is where a university (or other institution) may allow you to submit an application before the main application period, sure, but the clincher is that you could also receive an offer from them before you've even sat an exam.

You can find out about all the Early Entry Programs, eligibility criteria, key dates and more in our [Early Entry Guide](#).

Fast forward to the application process

The application process isn't quick, and you'll need to be prepared to fill in a fair bit of paperwork.

The good news is that this is good practice for once you leave school, when you'll need to apply for lots of different things.

If you don't have a [portfolio](#) of your achievements already, before you start any applications it's a good idea to put one together.

Each Early Entry Program is unique

Just as every program has different dates, benefits and eligibility criteria, each program also has a different application process. The good news is that there are some similarities across the programs, so you can follow these steps and skip any that don't apply for your program.

Step 1 – Get your portfolio ready and organised

Create a portfolio, if you haven't already, by collecting all your certificates and awards into the one place – everything counts at this stage – then make a list of all your achievements in order from newest to oldest.

You may need to get a copy of your reports and any recent assessment scores – even though you won't need your ATAR right now (which is good, because you don't have it), the universities are likely to want to see how you are performing and if there have been any changes. Speak to your teacher or school office about how you can get a hold of those documents.

Step 2 – Find one or more programs to apply for

If you have a specific university in mind, check and see if they have an Early Entry Program available.

Not sure which university you'd like to go to but have an idea about a course? Then start by looking at the universities offering Early Entry and check if they provide the course(s) you're interested in studying.

Finally, double check that the course you want to apply for is eligible for Early Entry. You'll need to read about the eligibility and application criteria for each Early Entry Program you're thinking of applying for.

If you're not sure, contact the universities directly and speak with someone in either the Future Students or Admissions office.

Step 3 – Check the Key Dates

Make sure you know when applications open, the cut-off or closing date, the notification date and any other important dates such as interview or assessment days.

If the program isn't open yet, you could start preparing.

If it's open now, then get your skates on and start your application.

If the program is closed:

- Double check that you're not looking at last year's dates (sometimes the websites aren't updated until mid-year).
- Don't stress if you're looking at this year's dates and you've missed the cut-off; you can still apply through the traditional stages a little bit later in the year anyway. And on the plus side, you've probably already narrowed down your preferences and started to get all your application paperwork in order which could save you time later on.

Step 4 – Are you eligible to apply?

Each Early Entry Program have their own eligibility criteria, such as:

- Academic Achievement or Merit
- Elite Sporting Abilities
- You're the dux or captain at school
- You've got leadership experience
- Your school are happy to recommend you
- You're an artist, musician or actor
- You've been active in your school or local community
- You live in a rural or remote part of Australia
- You've been disadvantaged
- You are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander

If you think you fit one of these categories and that makes you eligible to apply for an Early Entry Program, you'll need to have evidence of your achievements or be able to prove that you meet the eligibility criteria.

If you're not sure what you need or if you're eligible, reach out to the university and check before you apply.

Step 5 – Gather the paperwork

You'll need to fill in an application, but may also need to supply supporting documents. If you need a recommendation from a teacher or your Principal, get that as well.

If you need a letter of recommendation then make sure you ask the person with plenty of time left, as they are probably busy, and it may take them a little while to draft the letter.

Step 6 – Apply to the right people

Do you need to apply directly to the university e.g. [Macquarie’s Leaders and Achievers Early Entry Scheme](#)? Or you need to apply through UAC/VTAC/QTAC/SATAC/TISC, e.g. [USYD’s Gadigal Program](#)? In some cases, you may have to apply both to the university and through a TAC, e.g. [La Trobe’s Aspire Program](#).

Make sure you submit your application on time and pay any fees if there are any.

Step 7 – The Assessment

Some universities might assess you purely on the basis of the application and supporting documentation that you’ve supplied.

However, sometimes they’ll also be keen to see if you’re ready for university, so you may be asked to attend and interview, audition, testing or simply supply a letter of recommendation from your school after you’ve submitted your application.

It’s important to prepare yourself for these scenarios so that you can do your best and secure that Early Offer.

Step 8 – Wait for your outcome

It’s a good idea to keep track of the expected notification date, so you’ll know when you can expect to hear the result of your application.

What’s Next

If your application is successful and you receive an offer, then you can focus on your studies and doing well in your exams and extracurricular activities for the rest of Year 12.

Make sure you read all the details when you receive your offer about:

- how to accept you offer
- the date you’ll need accept by
- if you can defer your offer, and if yes for how long
- what happens if you change your mind about the university or course you want to study before 2022

If at any point you’re not sure, remember your first port of call should always be the university.

A Final Note

If you’re really keen, as long as you meet the eligibility criteria, you can apply for every early entry program available.

Got more questions?

If you're still got some questions about Early Entry and the application process, then these blogs might be useful:

[Understanding University Early Entry](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\) about University Early Entry](#)

[Early Entry Schemes | Apply now](#)

You can download a copy of the Early Entry Guide [here](#), and if you need a bit more help working through the process you can get the [Handbook](#) as well.

[Work Experience with Museum of Applied Arts & Sciences](#)

We are committed to inspiring creativity and curiosity through placement programs at the Powerhouse Museum and Sydney Observatory that enhance students' educational experiences.

Our Secondary Student Placement Program provides a snapshot into the world of museums and cultural institutions. It gives high-school students a taste of an industry that they might one day be part of.

This program can be used as part of a secondary student's work experience requirement in Year 10, 11 and 12.

[Learn more](#)

[5 Top Tips to Nail your Cover Letter](#)

Have you ever sat down to write a cover letter for your job application and wondered where do you even start? If an application asks you for a cover letter, getting it right could be the difference between getting the job and not.

So how can you make sure your cover letter is on point? We've got some tips to help you stand out.

What is a cover letter?

If you apply for a job, chances are you might have been asked to include a cover letter with your resume. But what's the point of a cover letter?

Well, it's there to help the employer get a brief snapshot of you and why you might be the perfect fit for the role. So if your cover letter is nothing exciting, chances are they won't read through to the rest of your resume. Here are some tips to make sure your cover letter is number one.

Do your research

It can be tempting to write one generic cover letter and attach it to all of your job applications. But going the extra mile by addressing the letter to the right person and talking about the job role and what you think you can bring to it shows the employer you've done a bit of research and are invested in getting the job.

Highlight relevant experience

Your cover letter should be relatively short and snappy, so you don't want to list every single work or life experience; try to stick to what you think is relevant to the role you're applying for. Going for a

job that requires a lot of typing? Maybe you have some relevant office work experience you can mention.

Showcase your skills

Employers don't just want to know what you've done – they want to know what you learned from it as well. Even if you've never had any work experience in the field you're applying for, chances are you've still developed some relevant skills through other activities. These can be through sport, volunteering, school projects, or more.

Focus on the positives

If you don't have much work experience it can be easy to get bogged down into thinking that there's nothing for you to offer. But that doesn't mean you aren't the right person for the job. Make sure you don't go on and on about how limited your experience is, and instead highlight the skills and experiences you do have.

Edit, edit, edit

Because a cover letter is a first impression, you want it to be a really good one. And this means you should go through what you've written and triple-check everything; spelling, grammar, tone. That extra attention to detail can really make you stand out.

What's next?

Now that you've nailed the cover letter, it's time to start on the rest of your resume. If you're feeling a bit lost, you can check out our blog on [how to write a resume](#), or even give our [super simple resume builder](#) a try.

[Career Expos happening in 2021](#)

What are Career Expos?

Careers expos (also known as job fairs) are events that where industries, employers and recruiters are able to share information with high school or uni students who are all potential employees.

Attending Career Expos could benefit you

If you're at high school, they are an excellent way to explore your post-school options.

You could get the opportunity to talk to representatives from tertiary education providers, student support services, employers or industry groups about careers, courses, pathways and work experience as well as learning about other training and employment opportunities.

We've put together some of the Expos scheduled so far this year.

In-person Career Expos taking place in 2021:

[South East Careers Expo 2021](#) 27 April

[Northern Rivers Careers Expo](#) 29 April

[The VCE and Careers Expo 2021](#) 29 April to 2 May

[Perth Careers Expo 2021 + VET Expo](#) 29 April to 2 May

[2021 Tomorrow Bound Careers Expo](#) 5 May

[Gold Coast Careers Festival](#) 6 to 8 May

[Adelaide Careers & Employment Expo](#) 7 & 8 May

[EQIP Gladstone Careers Expo 2021](#) 12 May

[Newcastle & Lake Macquarie Career Expo 2021](#) 13 May

[Hunter Valley Career Expo 2021](#) 14 May
[Victorian Careers Show 2021](#) 14 & 15 May
[Brisbane Careers & Employment Expo](#) 21 & 22 May
[The HSC and Careers Expo 2021](#) 3 to 6 June
[Western Sydney Careers Expo 2021](#) 24 to 27 June
[Tertiary Studies Expo \(TSXPO\), Brisbane](#) 17 & 18 July
[Sunshine Coast Daily Careers Expo](#) 20 July
[Melbourne Careers and Employment Expo](#) 23 to 25 July
[Broken Hill Careers Expo 2021](#) 28 July
[Townsville Careers Expo](#) 2 August
[Canberra CareersXpo](#) 4 & 5 August
[Perth SkillsWest Careers & Employment Expo](#) 26 to 28 August
[Cairns Youth & Careers Expo 2021](#) 26 August

Online Career Expos happening this year:

[iWorkinSport Education Virtual Expo](#) 6 to 8 April
[ACN Nursing & Health Virtual Expo](#) 24 April
[SPE Virtual Career Pathways Fair](#) 27 to 29 April
[Year13 Expo](#) 17 to 19 May
[Creative Careers Expo 2021](#) 10 & 11 June
[Western Victorian Careers Expo 2021](#) 22 June
[Australian Virtual Careers Expo 2021](#) 18 & 19 July

Keep up to date

Find more Expos near you or keep an eye out for other events that you could find useful or interesting on our [events database](#).

[Skills and Thrills Digital Parents Showcase](#)

The Skills and Thrills Digital Parents Showcase is a half hour video, available (free) to all parents, with most benefit to parents of high school aged students.

This free video resource will be available from 3 March to 31 May 2021 only and will cover the following information areas:

- Industry trends for the next 5-15 years
- Industry trends post Covid-19 impact
- Apprenticeships
- Traineeships
- School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships (SBATs)
- Opportunities in the vocational education and training sector (VET)
- How to support your child in making informed career choices

Take a look here: <https://www.skillsone.com.au/digital-parents-showcase/>

[How to become a Chef](#)

Nourish patrons and create culinary experiences

What do Chefs do?

Chefs prepare and cook a variety of foods for customers in restaurants, cafés, and other places. Many chefs choose to focus on a specific type of cuisine or specialise in a certain type of cooking, such as patisserie or fine dining.

If you have a passion for food and can work well under pressure, then becoming a Chef could be perfect for you.

About you:

- Creative with great taste
- Responsible and reliable
- Thrive under pressure
- Dextrous and able to work well with your hands
- Work well in a team and independently
- Prepared to work long shifts and irregular hours
- Can remain calm in stressful and hectic situations
- Good communicator and leader

The job:

Your roles as a chef might depend on the size of the place you are working, and whether you want to specialise. Some of the duties you can expect include:

- Preparing and cooking food
- Preparing kitchen and cooking areas
- Monitoring the quality of food that leaves the kitchen
- Demonstrating techniques to other cooks
- Managing kitchen inventory, e.g. stock levels and equipment
- Communicating with other kitchen staff, including cooks, waiters and kitchenhands
- Keeping food preparation and storage areas clean and sanitised
- Planning new dishes for menus
- Leading and supervising other chefs and cooks
- Discussing food preparation issues with managers and other staff

Lifestyle Impact: High

- Part Time opportunities: Low – 28% of Chefs work part-time (source: Joboutlook.gov.au).
- Average hours for full-time workers: 46 hours a week, which is above average (source: joboutlook.gov.au).
- Chefs' salary (average) \$60,000* per year (Source: com.au). *Salaries vary between industries, your role, and depending on your skills and experience.
- Future career growth: Very strong (Source: Joboutlook.gov.au).
- Working as a Chef comes with a high level of responsibility, and you will be expected to work in peak hospitality times such as weekends, nights and holidays.

Chefs are most in demand in these locations:

Over 101,000 people were employed as chefs in 2019 (source: AISC) and this number is set to continue to grow. Most workers are employed in New South Wales and Victoria (Source: joboutlook.gov.au) but there are opportunities in every state.

It is highly unlikely that you will be able to work from home as a chef, as you will need to physically be in the kitchen to prepare food and perform other important duties.

How to become a Chef in Australia

To become a successful Chef, you'll need to learn the practical skills required for the job. This is usually done through relevant Vocational and Educational Training. It would also be a huge benefit to get hands on, relevant, work experience.

Step 1 – Consider completing your high school certificate, Health and Hospitality could be useful subjects, as well as business related subjects.

Step 2 – Undertake a relevant VET qualification.

The minimum qualification usually needed to work as a Chef is a [Certificate IV in Commercial Cookery](#). This qualification is often undertaken as an apprenticeship.

Step 3 – Get plenty of real life, hands-on, work experience.

Step 4 – Consider specialising or upskilling with a specialist qualification, such as a [Certificate IV in Patisserie](#) or [Certificate IV in Asian Cookery](#).

You could also do more management-based courses such as [Advanced Diploma of Hospitality Management](#) or [Bachelor of Culinary Management](#), and become a Head Chef, or start your own restaurant or café.

Find out more here –

<https://www.austculinary.com.au/>

<https://www.lestoquesblanches.com.au/>

<https://www.technicalchef.com/>

Similar Careers to Chef

Cook

Baker

Chocolatier

[Sommelier](#)

Waiter

[Dietician](#)

Restaurant Manager

[Food Technologist](#)

Barista

Kitchenhand

[Bartender](#)

Find out more about alternative [careers](#).

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What do Chefs do?

Chefs prepare and cook food for customers and clients in a variety of different culinary settings.

Which industries employ Chefs?

Chefs work in hospitality, accommodation and food services, health services, and more. Check out a few more industries [here](#).

Do I need to go to university to become a Chef?

You will usually need a minimum Certificate IV in Commercial Cookery to work as a Chef. This qualification is usually done as an apprenticeship.

If you're wanting a more lucrative role as a Head Chef or manager, you will most likely need further qualifications or lots of experience.

Where do Chefs work?

Chefs can work in places like restaurants, cafés, hotels, pubs and clubs, food trucks, or in a commercial kitchen for catering services. You could also create and cook food for people with special dietary needs, such as in an aged care home.

What are 3 things I can do right now to help me become a Chef?

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

1. Get work experience and learn about the basics of cookery. This may also help you to decide which area to specialise in.
2. Complete a few short courses or VET qualifications that could help you to develop the skills you'll need even further.
3. Work on your communication, organisation, leadership and resilience skills.

Mr Madani