

CAREER  
INFORMATION  
BULLETIN

Edition 1  
23/01/2024 to 05/02/2024



[](https://apps.apple.com/au/app/options-career-information/id1561507588)

[](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=au.com.optionscareers)

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Announcements



Quick and easy career information using Options Career Information App

As a member of your school community, you can access to your school's Options Career Information subscription products through the Options Career Information App. The App is available through Apple Store and Google Play. The App gives you convenient access to career information and key calendar dates. Ask your Guidance Officer or School Counsellor for your school's access code.

Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day will be held on 6 February 2024. [Safer Internet Day](https://theaca.us13.list-manage.com/track/click?u=e946fbca4e84ce448faf5539d&id=a0f45149b4&e=1d09cbe55c) is a global initiative to raise awareness of online safety issues. The eSafety Commissioner leads the initiative in Australia to educate people about risks, abuse, and how to be safe. Click [here](https://theaca.us13.list-manage.com/track/click?u=e946fbca4e84ce448faf5539d&id=3f1dad412b&e=1d09cbe55c) to get involved or view more information.

Something to think about

"Don't let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do: - John Wooden

Apprenticeships and Traineeships



Apprenticeship and Traineeship pathways - a great option!

Over 500 jobs offer Australian apprenticeships in over 30 different industries. Completion of an apprenticeship:

* Required for skilled trade areas such as electrical, plumbing, carpentry, cabinetmaking, automotive, hairdressing, engineering fabrication, fire systems technician, etc.
* Can take up to four years to complete.
* Is a nationally recognised qualification.
* Is held in high regard in many overseas countries.

Completion of a traineeship:

* Required for vocational areas such as office administration, information technology, tourism, hospitality, beauty therapy, etc.
* Can take from one to three years to complete.
* Is a nationally recognised qualification.
* Is held in high regard in many overseas countries.

Click [here](http://www.qtis.training.qld.gov.au/Apprenticeship) for a list of Nationally accredited apprenticeships and traineeships.

VET graduates in demand

The 2023 *VET student outcomes* report shows that vocational education and training (VET) graduates’ employment outcomes continue to improve. The [report](https://ncver.us10.list-manage.com/track/click?u=8cd8b7df7ae0c55ba7d07149f&id=f79ce0a0ae&e=504e06afe4) offers a comprehensive overview of student outcomes and satisfaction for those who completed nationally recognised VET programs in the previous calendar year.

Australian Defence Force



Australian Defence Force Information Sessions In Queensland

Upcoming [ADF events](https://www.adfcareers.gov.au/events?page=1&perPage=21&query=&eventsDate=upcoming) and information sessions are listed below:

23/01/2024      [Toowoomba: New Year New Career Information Session](https://www.adfcareers.gov.au/events/events-detail/w5zv6hv)

24/01/2024        [Army Careers Information Session](https://www.adfcareers.gov.au/events/events-detail/o1jc3zg)

[Brisbane: New Year New Career Information Session](https://www.adfcareers.gov.au/events/events-detail/53dn92y)

30/01/2024        [Toowoomba: Army Careers Information Session](https://www.adfcareers.gov.au/events/events-detail/tintz3u)

[Maroochydore: New Year New Career Information Session](https://www.adfcareers.gov.au/events/events-detail/l3dn0j9)

[Gold Coast: New Year New Career Information Session](https://www.adfcareers.gov.au/events/events-detail/3pgfmbb)

31/01/2023        [Brisbane: Army Careers Information Session](https://www.adfcareers.gov.au/events/events-detail/c8dh7b9)

[Townsville: Army Careers Information Session](https://www.adfcareers.gov.au/events/events-detail/v11adiw)

05/02/2024        [Ayr: Parents and Teachers Information Session](https://www.adfcareers.gov.au/events/events-detail/88vgeik)

06/02/2024        [Cairns: ADFA Careers Information Session](https://www.adfcareers.gov.au/events/events-detail/v1e0jex)

[Charters Towers: Parents and Teachers Information Session](https://www.adfcareers.gov.au/events/events-detail/iasi691)

[Gold Coast: Army Reserve Information Session](https://army.adfcareers.gov.au/army-reserve/events/events-detail/rcbyeyn?_gl=1*zhrju6*_ga*MTcwNTczNTkyMi4xNzA0Njk0ODI1*_ga_L7JJVP5TLB*MTcwNTI5OTQ0Mi4yLjEuMTcwNTMwMDY3My4wLjAuMA..*_fplc*TVVoMmdOa3dTcnZMJTJCdFNZbmdzNE80JTJCdDJzcXFlOCUyRnVyUmdrY1FRV2s3R0pIbFJxQUpKd0hTYXYzeWZSRXB0Y3h0JTJGOGNmQVYxTHBkQjRnUVJjSSUyRlZwNkJNMVFPdTZ2aWExVFNEVUFBWUltaUdPcDk3eWFrOWdlRmFQRlFWUSUzRCUzRA..)

Defence Force work experience program

Try out an ADF job by doing a Defence Force work experience placement. You must be at least 15 years of age at the time of the placement. Click [here](https://www.defence.gov.au/jobs-careers/student-pathways/work-experience) for more information including:

* Information for students
* Information for parents
* Information for educators
* How to apply

Is the Defence Force for you?

Click [here](https://www.adfcareers.gov.au/about-the-adf) to find out more about the Australian Defence Force and what they offer including:

* Learn about what the ADF does and why
* Learn about the tech that gives us the edge
* See where you’ll work when you join
* Read about our recruitment policies
* Learn about our commitment to equality
* Explore opportunities for Indigenous Australians

Career Exploration



2024 school leavers' guide to jobs and training

The 2024 school leavers’ guide - career options and information provide contemporary career resources and information. Information is under the following headings:

* Tools and resources to explore career options
* Vocational training and further study
* Subsidised training and incentives
* Industry specific career exploration
* Assistance with finding a job
* Gain on the job experience
* Mental and physical wellbeing support for young people
* Support for young people with cancer
* Youth Employment Program
* Preparing for work
* My future, My choice videos
* Link and Launch
* Support for young people living out of home

Click [here](https://desbt.qld.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0021/12549/school-leavers-guide-to-jobs-and-training.pdf) to access the guide.

Career decision making is challenging

Career decision making is always challenging but always remember that you are only making a decision at the end of Year 12 to get you started on your career journey. But where to start? Consider:

* Start doing your research about what's out there. For starters:
  + [Myfuture](https://myfuture.edu.au/)
  + [Jobs and Skills Australia](https://www.jobsandskills.gov.au/)
  + [Australian Apprenticeships and Traineeship Pathways](https://www.aapathways.com.au/?gclid=Cj0KCQiA_8OPBhDtARIsAKQu0gbVv6NOxOL9cYbsk-WYcOsEMZIiqXI77gTty43BGtFvmmy1MYKsjUgaAs-CEALw_wcB)
* Talk to people and find out what they do and where they work
  + Your parents
  + Your friends' parents
  + Your parents' friends
  + Your coach
  + Neighbour etc
* Take up opportunities while at school:
  + Work experience
  + Work shadowing
  + Lunchtime career meetings and presentations
  + Listen and engage during career lessons
  + See your Guidance Officer/Career Counsellor/VET coordinator for information on opportunities

Common career roadblocks for doctors

Thinking about Medicine after school?  It's a long, expensive journey but can be a very rewarding profession. It's best to go into medicine with your eyes open. Click [here](https://www.cdaa.org.au/Web/Blog/Posts/Common-Career-Roadblocks-for-Doctors.aspx) to read about some of the challenges that new doctors face. If you are thinking about medicine as your career, it's worth a read.

Specific occupational information - accounting and agriculture

Great career decisions are made when you do your research! Check out:

Accounting

* [You Unlimited](https://www.youunlimitedanz.com/)
* [Accounting Careers](https://mallory.com.au/accounting-careers-job-types/)

Architecture

* [What does an architect do?](https://www.careerexplorer.com/careers/architect/)

The career jigsaw - jobs, courses, industry areas!

Career FAQs has put together a useful list of ‘Courses by Industry’. Click [here](https://www.careerfaqs.com.au/) for a list of jobs and some courses that will lead to a job in that area. Other information included is:

* Related industry
* Work sector description
* How to become …
* Career outcomes

VET ... it's not all about trades!

A Vocation Education and Training (VET) qualification provides a fast, cost-effective pathway to employment, giving you first-hand experience and confidence to move from school to work. You won’t have to study subjects or relearn skills that you have already mastered. VET is not just about the traditional trades, it includes hundreds of different occupations and industries, including:

* Information Technology (IT), Cyber Security and Computing
* Travel, Tourism, and Hospitality
* Business, Accounting, Management, and Entrepreneurship
* Engineering, Automation, and Technology
* Architecture, Planning, Building and Construction
* Agriculture, Horticulture and Agritech
* Legal Studies
* Automotive
* Health, Medicine, Psychology, and Laboratory Sciences
* Creative Industries, Fashion, and Design.

Click [here](https://www.yourcareer.gov.au/learn-and-train/myskills) to find out about career options available.

Wanted: ‘New Collar’ Workers

These are jobs that require advanced skills but not necessarily advanced degrees, especially in emerging high-tech fields like A.I., electric vehicles and robotics. Step aside, blue collar. white collar, pink collar and green collar. There’s a new collar in town. Click [here](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/12/29/business/jobs-skill-new-collar.html?unlocked_article_code=1.K00.i5aD.upZxu_xCef2K&smid=url-share&mc_cid=fa39dccb3b&mc_eid=3f8cb3ff69) to find out more about these jobs of the future.

Will knowing about job clusters help?

The [Foundation for Young Australians (FYA)](https://www.fya.org.au/) researched 1,000 occupations and identified seven large job clusters based on similar skills wanted by employers. These clusters are:

* The Artisans (builders and maintainers)
* The Generators (sellers and servers)
* The Coordinators (balance the books and do repetitive tasks)
* The Informers (teach and provide information)
* The Designers (use expertise to construct or engineer things)
* The Carers (improve the wellbeing of others)
* The Technologists (understand and manipulate digital technology).

How will it help you? It's good to understand that all jobs will give you skills that will see you move forward on your career journey. Know that:

* The skills you get from working in one job could be transferred to 13 other jobs. It is important to recognise the skills you have and understand their transferability.
* With seven job clusters, you could choose a cluster based on your strengths and interests rather than on one dream job.
* You could get a ‘foot-in-the-door’ job in a job cluster as an entry level job and progress from there to other jobs in clusters that you find rewarding.
* Some job clusters have stronger prospects than others. It would be wise to consider clusters with strong job prospects and jobs that are most likely to grow.
* You could develop a portfolio of skills that will give you a broad range of options within the type of work you want to do in the future. This could future proof your employment.

Click [here](https://www.fya.org.au/app/uploads/2021/09/The-New-Work-Mindset_2016.pdf) to read FYA's article explaining the Job clusters approach to career decision making.

Competitions



2024 Australian Geographic Nature Photographer of the Year competition

Entries for the 2024 Australian Geographic Nature Photographer of the Year competition opened on 8 November 2023 and will close at 5:00 p.m. on 6 February 2024. All photographs must be of natural fauna, flora or natural land/sky formations and must have been taken in the ANZANG bioregion. Click [here](https://www.samuseum.sa.gov.au/c/npoty/competition) for more information and entry details.

IM2C International Mathematical Modeling challenge

IM2C International Mathematical Modeling challenge is a team competition that aims to promote mathematical modelling to solve problems of real-world importance. In teams, students work collaboratively to solve a problem by devising and applying an original mathematical model. Registrations open on 1 February and close on 25 March. Click [here](https://www.immchallenge.org.au/#register) for more information and registration details.

Lions Youth of the Year competition now open

If you are a student between the ages of 15 and 18 years of age as at the 30th of June in 2024, then you may be eligible to enter the Lions Youth of the Year public speaking [competitio](https://lionsaustralia.sharepoint.com/sites/yotycommittee/Public%20Documents/Forms/AllItems.aspx?ga=1&id=%2Fsites%2Fyotycommittee%2FPublic%20Documents%2FPublic%20Participant%20materials%2FStudent%20Information%2D%20YOTY%202024%2Epdf&parent=%2Fsites%2Fyotycommittee%2FPublic%20Documents%2FPublic%20Participant%20materials)n[.](https://lionsclubs.org.au/our-programs/youth-opportunities/youth-of-the-year/how-to-enter/) The competition aims at recognising the achievements of young people in Australian communities in education, sports, community service and public speaking. Click [here](https://lionsclubs.org.au/our-programs/youth-opportunities/youth-of-the-year/how-to-enter/) to find more competition details and click [here](https://lionsaustralia.sharepoint.com/sites/yotycommittee/Public%20Documents/Forms/AllItems.aspx?id=%2Fsites%2Fyotycommittee%2FPublic%20Documents%2FPublic%20Participant%20materials&p=true&ga=1) to enter. Entries close soon so don't miss out!

QUT's BlueShift business case competition

BlueShift is a business case competition for secondary school students. You will work in small teams to develop real business solutions for a real business. Teams of three or four analyse a real business challenge and prepare a written solution to the business case. Registrations close on 27 February and teams will know their business case on 28 February. Written submissions due 24 April. Click [here](https://www.qut.edu.au/study/business/blueshift?utm_id=116560&sfmc_id=24216687) for more details including:

* Competition details
* Registration
* Key dates
* How to enter
* Preparing for the competition
* Prizes

The Rubbish Film Festival film competition

The competition's theme is [Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)](https://sdgs.un.org/goals) 12 & 13 revolving around two key SDGs:

* [SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production](https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal12): Explore responsible consumption and production practices. Advocate for more sustainable lifestyles and the reduction of waste in your films.
* [SDG 13: Climate Action](https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal13): Address the pressing issue of climate change and its impact on our planet. Explore solutions, raise awareness, and inspire action to combat climate-related challenges.

The competition submissions close on Friday 1 March. Click [here](https://www.rubbishfilmfestival.com/australia) to find out:

* About The Rubbish Film Festival
* Why Participate?
* Competition Details
* Judging Criteria
* How to Participate

Disabilities



Peoples' stories

Every young person with and without disabilities should have the opportunities and supports needed to pursue meaningful work. Jobs help youth explore their strengths and interests, develop relationships in the community, formulate their future goals and learn important workplace skills. Click [here](https://dzp4370ojv4q1.cloudfront.net/wp-content/uploads/sites/74/2017/05/OntheJob.pdf) and read the career stories of 6 young disabled people making it in today's world of work.

Supported decision making

Supported decision making is the process of providing support to people to make decisions to remain in control of their lives. Everyone uses supported decision making, as everyone needs support with decisions at different points in time. Supported decision making involves building the skills and knowledge of people with disability, their friends, families, carers, peers and professionals. How much and what kind of support a person needs to make decisions can change from time to time. Click [here](https://youtu.be/Gm4GtC_9bUk) to hear Luke from Inclusion Australia as he talks about what supported decision making is and how he was involved in the development of the policy.

Employment, Job and Labour Market Info



A career in policing or security at all entry levels

If you are interested in a job in security or policing, there are several employing organisations you can investigate. These include:

* [Queensland Police Recruiting](http://www.policerecruit.qld.gov.au/)
* [Australian Federal Police](https://www.afp.gov.au/)
* [Australian Defence Force](http://www.defencejobs.gov.au/)
* [Australian Secret Intelligence Service](https://www.asis.gov.au/)
* [Australian Security Intelligence Organisation](https://www.asio.gov.au/)
* [Australian Border Force](https://www.abf.gov.au/about-us/careers/a-career-with-us)
* [Queensland Corrective Services](http://www.correctiveservices.qld.gov.au/Employment/index.shtml)
* [Queensland Boating and Fisheries Patrol](https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/business-priorities/fisheries/monitoring-compliance/queensland-boating-fisheries-patrol/joining)

At these websites, find out:

* What jobs (and job titles) do they have/recruit for?
* What tasks would you be doing and what skills do you need for each job?
* Entry requirements – age, education level, tests required, physical/medical requirements, criminal checks, driver's licence, etc.
* If you get the job, do you have to live away from home?
* Do they recommend you do specific university or TAFE courses?
* Would having a second language be an advantage?
* What is the recruitment process?
* Frequently Asked Questions
* Can you contact the organisation by email from the website for other questions you might have?

A glimpse into the future: Queensland's 2024 employment landscape

Randstad provides a view into Queensland's future jobs and employment. Click [here](https://www.randstad.com.au/hr-news/attracting-recruiting-talent/a-glimpse-future-queenslands-2024-employment-landscape/) to read more about what they predict about:

* Challenges and opportunities ahead: job seekers
* Insights for business leaders
* Where are the biggest opportunities in queensland next year?
* Predictions for the world of work
* Navigating Queensland's evolving employment landscape
* Top tips for 2024: navigating the queensland job market

ABS Labour Force Data - November 2023

The Australian Bureau of Statistics have released the [Labour Force Data for November 2023](http://url3939.cdaa.org.au/ls/click?upn=EoSWXIdKWLPManDaRAJg2hzQt9toii3cjPaiFQLMObR277uNqu4EfSXA4jMy3-2FRIBFgLO1mbqYJoMbY5GDsBzBycViOT5wYpb-2F-2FWNhii3UVh3o6TOFfcUdd4b1MCceQN6jOBuCZ6Kl0371BIEMkpEUFEFl1fuG72HMOu1Upf3V8-3Dwxpm_mlmYpZfqtqGO8hmIHBIR3GzfgZFv-2BKkfPUJxYGITca7Ahk7TtYgkt0h3TJY8x4-2FvunfbYtQGZTCVjp92SONqvDxAQ3FnfHTOk2ztTFLCaQ4iGeqjCj9YxTD0mX2Nzp6lON1Ds99VZoRHt07lHXkur7ZtARMNTGLUrv4f9GH1Lw3WZcwKSbUoPJsr2Ic2E6pcZx41-2FBsHgAuCNIh2rYAX0U9l4YSdN8Vm2fSlx1ARKTosVHL7aNog35tseZUCleyVqLRN6HdMSLNbWgaLwzah-2B1UgMfcU4GqbAougWDkK8-2BkxxeQhXCEwkQvyxIFFmKvWwGfH-2BNxVeipuVIbBsY-2B-2FItrsKATWoSs0KcSi2iT8dtnC9ne7tYdQi-2F0UATLTKniHsYUUVjVntuLzWXAQe3C-2FvTVicLT1bskDAL3uzwXYRGIh0r5Kq2Msri2P83Shixul2AN6B0IBE-2Bu-2ByuN2e0Do6-2BVs0XVtMJoR1YzaHxfSO5Tyu-2B39tKIp3YOuS8c-2BbYi9):

* Unemployment rate remained at 3.8%
* Employment increased to 14,259,000
* Underemployment rate remained at 6.4%
* Participation rate remained at 67.1%
* Employment to population ratio remained at 64.6%
* Monthly hours worked decreased to 1,941 million

Cool Jobs: Astrophusics

Many people dream about our universe, but QUT’s Dr Michael Cowley gets to study its secrets! For Michael, studying science has allowed him to travel the world, using telescopes from all corners of the globe. Click [here](https://youtu.be/qBez9SKPJxs) to find out about Michael's cool job.

Has working from home thrown the gen Zs out with the water cooler?

The decline of the daily commute has been good for most but entering the workforce without ever working in an office can be challenging. In 2022 the US employment site Indeed [surveyed 1,001 18 to 41-year-olds](https://www.indeed.com/career-advice/finding-a-job/gen-z-millennial-workforce) about changing workplace attitudes. They found:

* 82% of gen Z respondents had “never worked in an in-person office environment full-time”
* 92% said “they are missing out on traditional workplace experiences”
* 85% worried they were disadvantaged in “learning professional ‘soft skills’ due to never working in a more traditional full-time role”.

Click [here](https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2023/jun/19/has-working-from-home-thrown-the-gen-zs-out-with-the-water-cooler) to read more about the' working from home' trend here in Australia.

Health Care and Social Assistance - interested?

The health care and social assistance industry is Australia’s largest and fastest growing industry. It delivers medical and care services and includes the work of aged and disabled carers, childcare workers, doctors, nurses, allied health professionals and more. Click [here](https://www.yourcareer.gov.au/industries/q/health-care-and-social-assistance) to find out more about this industry and jobs.

Renewable energy: discovering new opportunities

Click [here](https://myfuture.edu.au/career-stories/details/renewable-energy--discovering-new-opportunities) to read about Benjamin Mynott, a project origination manager with Windlab one of Australia’s leading renewable energy developers. He will answer the following questions:

* What is your current occupation?
* What interested you in this occupation in the first place?
* What subjects did you study in secondary school? What did you like about them? How did they (if at all) influence your chosen pathway?
* What education and training did you take after school?
* What advice would you give to others considering pursuing this career?

The future is clean. Consider a career in clean energy

Want to be a part of Australia’s transformation to a Net Zero Economy? Make a difference by pursuing a career in the clean energy sector. The shift towards renewable energy will create new and rewarding jobs across Australia, with career opportunities expected to be available in both regional and metropolitan locations. Click [here](https://www.yourcareer.gov.au/resources/clean-energy) to learn more about the clean energy sector.

Financial Assistance and Scholarships



Managing your money - the quicker the better!

Whether you have a job or receive an allowance, understanding how to manage your money can help you survive and thrive. The Queensland Government has tips and useful advice to help get control of your money and achieve your goals. Click [here](https://www.qld.gov.au/youth/life-skills/money-management#banking) to find out about:

* Money management
* Banking
* Budgeting
* Credit and debt
* Financial counselling
* First job
* Getting a car
* Getting a pet
* Insurance
* Investing
* Mobile phone deals and plans
* Moving out of home
* Online transactions
* Saving
* Scams
* Study costs
* Superannuation
* Tax and tax file number

Scholarships research

Universities, TAFE Queensland, private education providers, the Commonwealth and Queensland governments, some professional associations and industry groups offer scholarships. Common categories include:

* Sporting scholarships
* Equity scholarships for low-income students, students with disability, women and First Nations peoples
* Scholarships for specific fields of study
* Financial hardship scholarships
* Campus scholarships
* International student scholarships
* Academic scholarships.

A scholarship can help with course fees, textbooks, accommodation costs, transport and living expenses. No matter what your further education and training goals, it’s worth finding out what’s available. You can get scholarship information from:

* Scholarship pages on University, TAFE Queensland and other education institute websites by clicking on their search tab and type in Scholarships (keep in mind they are often updated throughout the year)
* [Study Assist website](https://www.studyassist.gov.au/)
* [The Good Universities Guide](https://www.gooduniversitiesguide.com.au/scholarships)
* Your school Guidance Officer/Counsellor.

Scholarship information for the following year is generally available from Term 2.

First Nations People



Indigenous Careers with the Australian Government Development Program

The Indigenous Careers [website](https://www.apsc.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/indigenous-careers) connects Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with Australian Government Jobs career development opportunities and networks. The website contains a range of useful information and links including:

* [APSjobs](https://www.apsjobs.gov.au/s/job-search?positionInitiative=Identified%20Indigenous%20Position;Affirmative%20Measure%20vacancy%20%E2%80%93%20Aboriginal%20and%20Torres%20Strait%20Islander%20applicants;Graduate%20Program&offset=15&offsetIsLimit=false) - search the latest jobs
* [Indigenous Graduate Pathway](https://www.apsc.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/indigenous-careers/indigenous-graduate-pathway) - A rewarding career in the Australian Public Service for recent Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander tertiary graduates.
* [Traineeships and Apprenticeships](https://www.apsc.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/indigenous-careers/traineeships-and-apprenticeships) - Traineeship or Apprenticeship programs available across the Australian Public Service
* [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Networks](https://www.apsc.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/indigenous-careers/aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-networks) - APS wide networks that support progressing the employment and retention of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees across the across the service

QUT Indigenous Australian Accommodation Program

The Indigenous Australian Accommodation Program (IAAP) is a twelve-month transition support program available to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students who are relocating from regional, remote or interstate to QUT for their first year of study. Click [here](https://www.qut.edu.au/study/student-life/living-in-brisbane/accommodation-in-brisbane/QUT-Indigenous-Australian-Accommodation-Program) to read about subsidised accommodation and more.

Gap Year Program News



A gap year option

The National Farmers Federation provides Gap Year programs in Australian Agriculture. Click [here](https://emarketing-au.s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/58429/nBsBR2yOcwVAbttarR9GrrcK5ff5BzRefX_WvqH9Bj8/3632465.pdf) to find out about the benefits of taking a gap year and working on the land. It may be a great option for you!

Gap year research

Is a gap year one of your options after Year 12? CERIC has put together an interesting article on the benefits of a gap year. They suggest that a gap year:

* Supports foundational skills development through any combination of working, volunteering, travelling and project work
* Is an experiential learning and career development opportunity.

With a Canadian context, the [article](https://ceric.ca/2022/10/taking-a-gap-year-could-be-the-antidote-to-students-experience-deficit/?utm_source=CERIC+Subscriptions&utm_campaign=d0eed2fdc7-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_05_25_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_1d052da7c8-d0eed2fdc7-457855329) is also relevant in the Australian context.

Holiday Programs and Short Courses



Brisbane Arts Theatre short courses

The independent [Brisbane Arts Theatre](https://www.artstheatre.com.au/) is offering a range of 2024 weekend student workshops. Training is available for students from 8 to 18 years and with various skill levels. Visit their website to register and for up-to-date event details, including:

* [Performing Arts Workshops](https://www.artstheatre.com.au/courses/performing-arts-workshop/) from 11.30am to 1.30pm on Saturdays during school term time
* [Teen Creative](https://www.artstheatre.com.au/courses/teen-creative/) from 9am to 11am on Saturdays during school term time

Feast 2024

FEAST (Future Experiences in Agriculture, Science and Technology) is a four-day residential program for high school students to investigate rewarding science careers in the agriculture, animal, plant and food industries. It is open to students in Years 11 and 12 and is held at the UQ Gatton campus from 30 June to 3 July. Registration opens on 26 January. Click [here](https://science.uq.edu.au/event/feast) for more information.

Open Days, Expos and Career Markets



2024 Sunshine Coast Daily Careers Expo

The 2024 Sunshine Coast Daily Careers Expowill be held on Tuesday 16 July. The expo offers a wealth of information including:

* Access the latest careers, course study and employment options.
* Advice on enrollment procedures.
* Talk to local and national employers.
* Opportunity to talk to admissions staff.
* Meet with interstate and overseas exhibitors.
* Info on bursaries, scholarships and application procedures.
* Compare courses from different providers.
* Students' services, GAP and exchange programs.

Click [here](https://www.careersevent.com/event/sunshine-coast-event/visitors/) for more information and venue location.

2024 TSXPO Tertiary Studies Expo

The 2024 Tertiary Studies Expo (TSXPO) will be held on Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 July 2024 from 10am - 4pm at the Brisbane Showgrounds, Bowen Hills. Find out about your options for your transition from school to study or employment. Click [here](https://www.careersevent.com/event/brisbane-careers-event/) to find out the following information and go prepared to get the most out of your visit:

* Visitors
* Exhibitor Directory
* Seminars
* Downloads
* Getting Here
* Competitions

Private Provider Updates



NIDA courses in Brisbane

NIDA Open are offering [short courses](https://www.open.nida.edu.au/courses/what/acting?near=brisbane/4101/10) in Brisbane. Open classes in Brisbane include:

* [Courses for children](https://www.open.nida.edu.au/courses/Demographic/Children)
* [Courses for young people](https://www.open.nida.edu.au/courses/Demographic/Young+People)
* [Courses for adults](https://www.open.nida.edu.au/courses/Demographic/Adults)

Project, Leadership and Entrepreneur Opportunities



Sail on the Young Endeavour in 2024

[Young Endeavour](https://youngendeavour.gov.au/) offers 16 - 23 year olds' the opportunity to embark on an 11-day journey learning not only how to sail a square-rigged tall ship but how to lead, support others and work together as a team. A crew of nine specially trained Royal Australian Navy Staff Crew are also on board. A voyage in *Young Endeavour* is fun but you will be required to be an active member of the crew and contribute to the voyage. Click [here](https://youngendeavour.gov.au/before-you-apply/voyages) to find out more information along with the application process. You can also subscribe to their [newsletter](https://sibforms.com/serve/MUIEAFTRLh9y6ORS4aXaB792kccO_sAldNqM42rt132Qc5d_xQbSTHVDzs5Hw2pB4wsQu1FCiq_4xpElBHOAqmEeUTZvyNQxdxKon8uRFcHFyyQB9mhcJORgHNgP9z52-GXL3F74cLtCWuh32hcbmAVwW0giNSQH8C6XnJFLlTqDY0Jkwza95pV-zZRaAcFMYeNsmxeS32H_vUfD) to be the first to hear about new voyage dates.

World Science Festival Brisbane (WSFB)

World Science Festival Brisbane and Queensland programming for schools will be held from 20 - 22 March 2024. It is designed to engage students in stimulating and inspiring experiences that showcase careers in STEM, including discussions with scientists, hands-on activities and exciting science shows. Check out the full program [here](https://www.worldsciencefestival.com.au/2024-school-program).

You can also engage with the wonders of science through their curated program of livestreamed and pre-recorded, digital conversations, plus podcasts, online resources and more! Click [here](https://www.worldsciencefestival.com.au/online) for more information.

QTAC and Tertiary Entry



How to apply to uni in 2024

In Queensland, you apply for most tertiary courses through the [Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre](http://www.qtac.edu.au/) (QTAC). QTAC calculates the ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank) for all eligible students and processes QTAC applications on behalf of Queensland universities, some interstate universities, TAFE Queensland and some private colleges.

In July, QTAC will distribute the 2025 *QTAC Guide* or you can access it online. The Guide contains information about the application and offer process as well as over 1,600 courses on offer through QTAC in 2025. You should double check the Guide's information on the QTAC and particular institutions' websites.

Applications open online in early August and close in December for most offer rounds. You can apply for up to six courses across different institutions, however you will only receive one course offer. QTAC makes offers to students from November through to February. You can change your course preferences (for most courses) but this must be done within the specified QTAC guidelines/timeframe set out in the QTAC book and on their website.

Connect with QTAC on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/qtacinfo), [X](https://twitter.com/intent/follow?original_referer=http%3A%2F%2Fqtac.staging.elcomcms.com%2Fabout-qtac%2Fpublications&screen_name=QTACinfo&tw_p=followbutton&xd_token=470c55faad3e64), [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/qtacinfo/) and [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPzJJX4d44WjCKQF_22Jr5A) for important news updates.

You can apply directly to Queensland education institutions not associated with QTAC. Queensland students can apply for interstate courses through interstate tertiary admissions centres (the exception is Tasmania where you apply directly to the University of Tasmania). To find out more about universities in Australia and the courses they offer, you can visit:

* [Course Seeker](https://www.courseseeker.edu.au/)
* [QILT](http://www.qilt.edu.au/)
* [The Good Universities Guide](http://www.gooduniversitiesguide.com.au/)
* [Rate your Uni](http://www.rate-my-uni.com/)

Study Skills and Wellbeing



Attitude - the power of a positive attitude

As the new year starts it is a good time to put in place some positive measures so that you start well. Below are four things to think about that may assist you to start with a winning attitude:

* Empathy will take you a long way - understand where other people (especially your teachers) are coming from and meet them halfway. It's the start of the new year for everyone.
* In today's world, your attitude is as important as your aptitude - although grades are important, your attitude will make a great deal of difference to your success and happiness.
* You must trade being fragile for being agile - being adaptable and pliable will see you managing whatever comes your way at school, at home, in the world. Resilience is the key.
* You are strong enough to flourish, not flounder - don't believe the messages, particularly from social media channels, which tell you that life is awful, because it isn't. It just needs you to have a ‘can do’ attitude, a bit of positive thinking and to back yourself to do the hard yards.
* Effectively managing all the things in your life - school, study, family, work, sport, social life etc will take a lot of stress off your shoulders and you will achieve much better personal and educational outcomes.

Enjoy 2024 everyone!

Be in a 'good space'

Start your new year well so you can continue with a positive approach to end up in the space you want to be in. Create a good space for yourself by:

* Eating well, sleeping well and enjoying life
* Managing your time well
* Making a study plan and sticking to it
* Making time for family, friends and especially YOURSELF
* Making sure you have some fun
* Keeping things in perspective as there are many ways to get to where you want to go
* Being resilient and staying positive even when things don't quite ‘go right’

Start 2024 well!

Start your year well! This is the perfect time to polish your study skills. The following checklist will help get you started:

* **Learning environment:**find a place to study without distractions. It should be somewhere quiet, without TV/Online media, loud distracting music, social media or mobile
* **Focus and structure:**consider studying the hard subjects first when you’re most alert and focused
* **Time management:**have a specific time of the day for studying and make it the same time every day if possible. Let friends and family know your allocated daily study time so you're not disturbed.
* **Concentration and breaks:**work out how long you can concentrate before you lose focus. Keep track of your ideal concentration time and take 5 to 10 minutes breaks when you’re approaching your limit
* **Preparation:**ensure you have everything you need close by (e.g. books, notes, pens, pads, charged devices, good net connection etc.)
* **Healthy Eating:**avoid eating a large meal before studying, as it can make you drowsy
* **Get started:**start studying when you say you will. Delaying the start will only make the task harder
* **One thing at a time**: multitasking may sound smart, but it means you’re not giving each task your full attention
* **Get in early:**never study too close to going to sleep. Give yourself at least half an hour of relaxation before turning in. Sleep is essential to achieving your best.

Start the year as you plan to finish - organised, committed and balanced.

Universities



The Good Universities Guide 2024 Rankings

The Good Universities Guide 2024 [rankings](https://www.gooduniversitiesguide.com.au/education-blogs/rankings-ratings/Top-universities-in-Queensland-2024) have been updated with the latest student experience ratings. Rankings are available in a number of areas, including:

* Undergraduate best universities by ratings 2024
* Undergraduate best overall experience by field of study
* Postgraduate top universities by ratings 2024

Australian Catholic University

2024 campus and virtual tours

Book an ACU's guided tour or try out their virtual tour and check out their facilities and discuss your study ideas with ACU staff. Guided tours typically last 30 to 60 minutes. Registrations are essential. Click [here](https://www.acu.edu.au/student-life/experience-uni-before-you-start/explore-your-local-campus/campus-tours) to find tour days or to access their virtual tour.

A new course at ACU

ACU have introduced the [Bachelor of Human Rights](https://www.acu.edu.au/course/bachelor-of-human-rights) that you may want to research to see if it is right for you.

Central Queensland University

CQU YouTube site

CQU has videos on it's CQU You Tube [site](https://www.youtube.com/user/CQUni/videos) with information on it's locations and courses. They are brief and will give you a good overview of CQU and what it offers.

CQUniversity locations

CQU has 10  Queensland campuses including [Brisbane](https://www.cqu.edu.au/about-us/locations/brisbane),  [Bundaberg](https://www.cqu.edu.au/about-us/locations/bundaberg), [Cairns](https://www.cqu.edu.au/about-us/locations/cairns), [Emerald](https://www.cqu.edu.au/about-us/locations/emerald), [Gladstone,](https://www.cqu.edu.au/about-us/locations/gladstone) [Mackay City](https://www.cqu.edu.au/about-us/locations/mackay/city), [Mackay Ooralea](https://www.cqu.edu.au/about-us/locations/mackay/ooralea), [Rockhampton](https://www.cqu.edu.au/about-us/locations/rockhampton), [Townsville](https://www.cqu.edu.au/about-us/locations/townsville) and [regional university centre partners](https://www.cqu.edu.au/about-us/locations/regional-university-centre-partners). Visit the [Locations webpage](https://www.cqu.edu.au/about-us/locations) for more information about these, interstate and overseas campuses/centres.

Range of courses

CQU offers [apprenticeships and traineeships](https://www.cqu.edu.au/industry-and-partnerships/apprenticeships-and-traineeships), [TAFE courses](https://www.cqu.edu.au/study/tafe) and university programs. Visit the home page of the CQU [website](https://www.cqu.edu.au/) for links to the fields of study available. Modes of study include on-campus, full-time, part-time and distance education depending on the course.

[Pathway Courses](https://www.cqu.edu.au/courses/pathway-courses) are pathways into degrees at CQU. These include certificate and diploma vocational courses and the [Skills for Tertiary Education Preparatory Studies (STEPS)](https://www.cqu.edu.au/courses/skills-for-tertiary-education-preparatory-studies-steps).

Start Uni Now (SUN)

SUN enables students completing Year 10 or who are in Years 11 and 12 to study CQU subjects while still at school. The application closing date for Semester 1 is 19 February 2024. You may be eligible for direct entry into a degree program at the end of Year 12 if you pass at least one SUN subject from a degree program. Visit the SUN [website](https://www.cqu.edu.au/courses/study-information/work-and-study-preparation/sun) to see if SUN is for you, semester dates and application closing dates for Semesters 1, 2 and 3, 2024.

Griffith University

What's on offer at Griffith

Start your exploration of Griffith University on the [Study at Griffith webpage](https://www.griffith.edu.au/study?pathway=hss). Learn about Griffith campuses and courses, university life and much more including:

* Find your degree
* Choose your pathway
* You may also like …
* Scholarships
* Choose Griffith
* Download a study guide
* Life at Griffith/accommodation

James Cook University

Campus tours

You are welcome to visit the JCU campuses. To book a [campus tour](https://experience.jcu.edu.au/campus-tours), complete the registration form and they'll be in contact with you to confirm. You can take a virtual tour of [Cairns](https://youtu.be/Gm-9PMlVQ74) and [Townsville](https://youtu.be/Dw2IIp8bytA) campuses with the [interactive maps](https://maps.jcu.edu.au/) to help you navigate your way around the campuses. You can also access [accommodation options](https://www.jcu.edu.au/accommodation) available.

Why JCU?

JCU is one of the world’s leading institutions focusing on the tropics. It offers many course options with campuses in Cairns and Townsville and smaller campuses in Brisbane (which offers courses to international students), Mackay, Mount Isa, Thursday Island and Singapore. Courses prepare students for issues facing northern Australia and the tropics. Check out the JCU [homepage](https://www.jcu.edu.au/) to see courses and visit the Campuses [page](https://www.jcu.edu.au/about-jcu/campuses) for more information about their locations.

Queensland University of Technology

Accommodation service

The QUT accommodation service provides students with information and advice on finding and securing accommodation. [QUT Accommodation Service](https://www.qut.edu.au/study/student-life/living-in-brisbane) has a list of accommodation providers and a self-help rental guide to help you plan and prepare for a rental journey.  [QUT Studystays website](https://qut.studystays.com.au/) has a large collection of accommodation options and includes all the major commercial accommodation providers in Brisbane. To find out more, visit QUT's [Living in Brisbane](https://www.qut.edu.au/study/student-life/living-in-brisbane) webpage or email [accommodation@qut.edu.au](mailto:accommodation@qut.edu.au).

Guaranteed course offers

If you are researching options for after school, a valuable piece of information to assist you will be QUT's guarantee course offers thresholds so that you know what you are aiming for. If you receive an ATAR or selection rank equal to or higher than the offer guarantee, you are guaranteed a place in the course regardless of the final threshold determined each January. Once you receive your ATAR or know your selection rank you can check your eligibility for a QUT course before offers are made. Click [here](https://www.qut.edu.au/study/applying/guaranteed-course-offers) for more information.

Science 360

Interested in studying science at QUT? You can experience QUT through their 360° world. Interact with their online environments and hear from students who've undertaken a QUT degree. [Experience 360 degrees of QUT](https://www.qut.edu.au/about/campuses-and-facilities/science-360-experience).

Thinking about study options at QUT?

As a Year 12 student, it's not too early for you to begin exploring your tertiary options for 2024. The QUT website section for high school students will help you start your exploration of the options available at QUT. You can find out about:

* [Undergraduate applying: a step-by-step guide](https://www.qut.edu.au/study/applying/undergraduate-guide)
* [Scholarships](https://www.qut.edu.au/study/fees-and-scholarships/scholarships)
* [Year 12 Early Offer scheme](https://www.qut.edu.au/study/applying/year-12-early-offer-scheme)
* [Advanced standing (credit)](https://www.qut.edu.au/study/applying/advanced-standing)
* [Adjustment schemes](https://www.qut.edu.au/study/applying/adjustment-schemes)
* [Support for students](https://www.qut.edu.au/study/student-life/support)
* [Uni social life](https://www.qut.edu.au/study/student-life/uni-social-life)

The University of Queensland

2024 Science Ambassador Program

[UQ Science Ambassadors](https://science.uq.edu.au/community/high-schools/uq-science-ambassador-program) champion science at your school by developing and delivering events, including National Science Week activities and encouraging other senior science students to share their experiences with students in all years. Each year, ambassadors summarise their activities and achievements in a written or video report. An academic panel judges entries to award prizes for the:

* Best Ambassador Schools
* Best New Ambassador Schools
* Best Ambassadors
* Best Ambassador Teachers
* Best Ambassador Scientific Technician (new category).

Interested? Speak to your Guidance Officer/School Counsellor or Science teacher as you need to be nominated by your school. Nominate [here](https://app4.vision6.com.au/em/forms/subscribe.php?db=531622&s=188164&a=23336&k=qC6R7QGMiEXM4Skeinpjq1lLQ_Dke4_XNgQOcIFDUpk).

Thinking about UQ after school?

Access the [Future Students](https://future-students.uq.edu.au/) page on UQ’s website to start your exploration of courses available at UQ. Find out about pathways to UQ and the activities you can participate in as a high school student.

Torrens University Australia

Enrolments open for Semester 1 2024

The next trimester at [Torrens University Australia](https://www.torrens.edu.au/?gclid=CjwKCAiAxJSPBhAoEiwAeO_fP0jF3EJM8cjqxIFqoqWlKfGWQnryTlwBDx36MNzNF7v9N80178pvZxoCovIQAvD_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds) commences on 14 February and applications are still open. They offer courses in:

* [Design](https://www.torrens.edu.au/courses/design)
* [Health](https://www.torrens.edu.au/courses/health)
* [Business](https://www.torrens.edu.au/courses/business)
* [Hospitality](https://www.torrens.edu.au/courses/hospitality)
* [Technology](https://www.torrens.edu.au/courses/technology)
* [Education](https://www.torrens.edu.au/courses/education)

University of Southern Queensland

Head Start at the University of Southern Queensland

USQ’s [Head Start program](https://www.usq.edu.au/study/school-leaver/programs/head-start) gives Years 10, 11 and 12 students an opportunity to study a university subject while still at school. Successful completion of certain subjects could lead to guaranteed entry and academic credit into related degrees at USQ. Click [here](https://www.unisq.edu.au/study/information-for/high-school-students/head-start/dates) for Key dates including the closing date.  Applications for Semester 1, 2024 have closed, however you could contact the university for more information.

University of the Sunshine Coast

Uni pathways

There are many ways to get started at uni. If you didn't get the results you wanted or needed at the end of Year 12, USC offers a range of study options that can help you build your skills and confidence. The [Tertiary Preparation Pathway](https://www.usc.edu.au/study/courses-and-programs/tertiary-preparation-pathway-tpp), program is a bridging course to help you brush up on your study skills and gain entry to a degree. Click [here](https://www.usc.edu.au/study/courses-and-programs/uni-pathways) for more information.

Upcoming Events



|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Event** |
| 23/01/2024 | ADF: Toowoomba: New Year New Career Information Session |
| 24/01/2024 | ADF: Army Careers Information Session - online and in person |
| 24/01/2024 | ADF: Brisbane: New Year New Career Information Session |
| 26/01/2024 | FEAST registrations open |
| 26/01/2024 | UQ Macoun Family Scholarship in Finance applications close |
| 30/01/2024 | ADF: Gold Coast: New Year New Career Information Session |
| 30/01/2024 | ADF: Toowoomba: Army Careers Information Session |
| 31/01/2024 | 2024 St Kilda Film Festival entries close |
| 31/01/2024 | ADF: Brisbane: Army Careers Information Session |
| 31/01/2024 | ADF: Townsville: Army Careers Information Session |
| 05/02/2024 | ADF: Ayr: Parents and Teachers Information Session |
| 06/02/2024 | 2024 Australian Geographic Nature Photographer of the Year competition closes |
| 19/02/2024 | Start Uni Now (SUN) Semester 1 applications close |
| 27/02/2024 | QUT BlueShift competition registrations close |
| 27/02/2024 | QUT's BlueShift Business competition registrations close |