Careers Expos, Open Days and Information Events

It is coming to that time of the year again – where career expos, open days and information events are happening thick and fast.
Students are encouraged to make use of these opportunities and where possible chat to current students, course experts, support staff, admissions experts, and where possible attend workshops and tours.

Here are some questions to consider asking:

Questions to ask course experts
Course experts are academics, course coordinators and lecturers. Basically, they know the details about each course on offer.
Ask them:

- What does the course cover?
- Is study abroad an option and would it count towards the degree?
- How many hours a week will I get face-to-face teaching?
- What's the split between lectures, tutorials and self-directed study?
- What size are tutorial groups?
- How does the subject at this uni compare with the way it is taught at other unis?
- What links does the faculty have with employers?
- Do you build employability skills into the curriculum?
- Are there opportunities for work experience and placements?
- Does this uni help find the placements and are they paid?
- What kind of jobs do graduates get?

Questions to ask support staff
Support staff facilitate a range of great services to help you achieve your study and career goals.
Ask them:

- Who can help me if I'm struggling with my studies or need help?
- What if I have a disability? Is there any support for me?
- Can you tell me about student accommodation options at this campus?
- Are there any options to get help developing my career or finding work?
- I'm an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander – are there any services available for me?

Questions to ask admissions staff
Admission staff know all the ins and outs of applying to uni. They are the people who actually process applications, so they'll be able to give you some great tips.
Ask them:

- What scholarships are on offer?
- Can I get any help with my fees and university costs?
- Can you tell me about admissions pathways to my course, for example adjustment factors or entry schemes?
- Can you tell me what options I have if I don't meet the entry requirements?
- How do I apply to my course, and what are the deadlines?
- Do you have any advice for preparing my application?

Questions to ask current students
Current students know all about life at university, and they'll be able to answer questions about the university experience from a personal perspective.
Ask them:

- What clubs and societies are available?
- How do you find studying at this university?
- What are the best things about being a university student?
- What are the biggest challenges about being a university student?
- How is university different from high school?
- What are your tips for fitting work around study?
- Do you have any advice for me?

Source: Adapted from https://www.openday.acu.edu.au/stories/best-questions-to-ask-on-open-day

Research your university and TAFE course options

Tertiary Admission Centres
State-based Tertiary Admission Centres process course applications on behalf of universities, some TAFE institutes, and some private providers.
You can research courses, prerequisites, selection criteria and ATAR profiles for the 2020 intake.
Courses for the 2021 intake will be updated mid-year but you can use the archived information as a guide.

Websites are listed below

Victoria	www.vtac.edu.au
NSW & ACT	www.uac.edu.au
QLD	www.qtac.edu.au
SA & NT	www.satac.edu.au
Tasmania	www.utas.edu.au
WA	www.tisc.edu.au

Australia wide search
Course Seeker is a fantastic website that enables students to be able to explore courses for each state in the one website.
You can research courses, prerequisites, selection criteria and ATAR profiles for the 2020 intake.
Course information for the 2021 intake will be updated later in the year.
www.courseseeker.edu.au

Vocational Education and Training (VET or sometimes referred to as TAFE)
MySkills is the national directory of vocational education (VET) organisations and courses.
You can search for courses or occupations and use a location search.
You can also browse courses and occupations by industries such as health & community services, manufacturing & engineering, and arts & culture.
www.myskills.gov.au

Changes to Student Contributions towards University Degrees
When Australian students go to university they are eligible for a Commonwealth supported place (CSP), whereby the Australian Government pays some of the university fees and the student pays the rest, this is called the 'student contribution amount'.
Many VET (TAFE) places are also Government supported.
Australian students can also access loan programs to assist with the payment of further education. Students are encouraged to browse Study Assist to familiarise themselves further about the costs of university study.

Commencing in January 2021 *new* student contribution bands and ranges have been introduced:

STUDENT CONTRIBUTION BAND		2021 maximum student contribution amount (per EFTSL)*
Band 4	Law, accounting, administration, economics, commerce, communications, society and culture	$14,500
Band 3	Dentistry, medicine, veterinary science	$11,300
Band 2	Other health, allied health, built environment, computing, engineering, surveying, science, environmental studies, pathology, visual and performing arts, professional pathway psychology, professional pathway social work	$7,950
Band 1	Agriculture, English, mathematics, education, clinical psychology, Indigenous and foreign languages, nursing, statistics	$3,950

*EFTSL - equivalent full-time student load (EFTSL) of a unit, so the standard annual amount the student has to pay.

I have no idea about what you are talking about – glossary of terms
Sometimes the terms and language used in careers and pathways can be so new and obscure to students and parents. So, if in doubt, maybe get the glossary out ☺
Here are some helpful ones:

- Victorian Senior Student terminology - https://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/studentguides/where-to-now/Pages/Glossary.aspx
- Australian Government My Skills Glossary (for VET-related terminology) - https://www.myskills.gov.au/more/help/glossary/
- VTAC (Vic Tertiary Admission Centre) Terms and Definitions - http://www.vtac.edu.au/help/glossary.html
- University terminology - https://www.sydney.edu.au/students/glossary.html

Early Entry Programs
Some universities offer opportunities to gain a guarantee or early conditional offer. UAC has a good summary of these https://www.uac.edu.au/current-applicants/undergraduate-applications-and-offers/early-offer-schemes-for-year-12-students

INSTITUTION	DATE	TIME	CONTACT DETAILS
Australian Catholic University Melbourne Campus Virtual Tour Ballarat Campus Virtual Tour	Sun 8 August Sat 7 & Sun 8 August* Sun 15 August	10am – 2pm 2pm – 4pm 10am – 2pm	1300 275 228 Email: opendayvic@acu.edu.au https://www.acu.edu.au/student-life/experience-uni-before-you-start/open-day ***Online Open Day**
Australian National University Virtual Tour	Sat 14 August	9am – 4pm	https://openday.anu.edu.au/ **- students should register their interest**
Bond University Virtual Tour	Sat 24 July* Sat 7 August***	2pm – 5pm 11am – 3pm	1800 074 074 https://bond.edu.au/open-day ***Online Open Day** ***** On campus event – please register**
Box Hill Institute of TAFE Elgar Campus Lilydale Campus	Various days in August	tbc	1300 269 445 www.boxhill.edu.au
Australian College of Arts (Collarts)	Sat 28 August	tbc	https://www.collarts.edu.au/open-day **On campus and online**
CQUniversity	Sat 14 August	9am – 1pm	13 27 86 https://www.cqu.edu.au/events/event-items/open-day/interactive-virtual-open-day-august
Charles Sturt University Albury-Wodonga	Sun 15 August	10am – 3pm	https://study.csu.edu.au/life/events/open-day
Deakin University & Deakin College All Campuses	Sun 15 August*	9am – 4pm	1800 334 733 https://www.deakin.edu.au/openday ***Online Open Day** (03) 9244 5197 Deakin College
Federation University Virtual Tour	Sun 15 August	10am – 2pm	1800 333 864 https://federation.edu.au/openday
Griffiths University Nathan Campus Virtual Tour Gold Coast Campus Virtual Tour	Sun 8 August	9am – 2pm	1800 677 728 https://www.griffith.edu.au/open-day
Holmesglen Institute All Campuses	Various days*	Various times	1300 639 888 Online bookings are essential www.holmesglen.edu.au/opendays ***Online Open Days**
JMC Academy Virtual Tour	Sat 21 August	10am – 2pm	(03) 9624 2917 https://www.jmcacademy.edu.au/events/open-day-events/melbourne-campus-august21-open-day
La Trobe University & La Trobe College Melbourne Campus Virtual Tour Albury-Wodonga Bendigo Campus Useful info	Sun 8 August Sun 15 August Sun 29 August		1300 135 045 https://www.latrobe.edu.au/openday#experiences (03) 9479 2417 La Trobe College
Monash University & Monash College Peninsula Campus Clayton & Caulfield Campuses Parkville Campus (Pharmacy Focus) Virtual Tours	Sat 7 August*** Sun 8 August*** Sun 15 August***	11am – 2pm 10am – 4pm 10am – 3pm	1800 666 274 www.monash.edu.au/openday *****Numbers will be restricted, and students <u>must</u> register a.s.a.p. to attend** (03) 9903 4788 Monash College
Photography Studies College Virtual Tour	Sun 1 August	10am – 3pm	(03) 9682 3191 http://explore.psc.edu.au/en/open-day-aug-2021
RMIT Virtual Campus Tour Bundoora Campus Brunswick Campus City Campus Bendigo Flight Training Point Cook Flight Training	1-31 August* Sun 1 August*** Sun 8 August*** Sun 8 August*** Sun 15 August*** Sun 22 August***	Various times 10am – 4pm 10am – 4pm 9.30am – 4.30pm 10am – 3pm 10am – 3pm	9925 2260 www.rmit.edu.au/openday ***Online Digital Open Days** *****On-campus event**
SAE Qantm South Melbourne Campus	Sun 8 August	10am – 2pm	1800 723 338 https://sae.edu.au/news-and-events/events/melbourne-campus-open-day-16-august-2020/?date=2020-08-16&id=558
Swinburne University Hawthorn Campus Virtual Tour	From Mon 26 July* Sun 1 August***	10am – 4pm	1300 SWINBURNE http://www.swinburne.edu.au/openday/ ***Online Open Day** *****Year 12's invited on to the Hawthorn Campus. RSVP a.s.a.p.**
Torrens University	Sat 7 August*** Tues 17 August*	10.30am - 1pm On demand	1300 575 803 Register for either event at https://www.torrens.edu.au/about/virtual-open-day ***Online Open Day** *****On campus event**
University of Melbourne Parkville & Southbank Virtual Tour	Sun 15 August***	9am – 5pm	1800 801 662 https://openday.unimelb.edu.au/ *****Numbers will be restricted, and students <u>must</u> register a.s.a.p. to attend**
University New South Wales (UNSW) Canberra Campus (ADFA) Virtual Tour Sydney Campus Virtual Tour	Sat 21 August Sat 4 September	tbc 10am – 4pm	1300 864 679 https://www.defence.gov.au/ADFA/visitingadfa.asp https://www.events.unsw.edu.au/event/unsw-open-day-0
University of Sydney Virtual Tour	Sat 28 August	10am – 4pm	1800 793 864 http://openday.sydney.edu.au/ ***Online Open Day also available**
Victoria University Footscray Park Campus Virtual Tour City Flinders Campus Virtual Tour City Queen Campus Virtual Tour	Sat 21 August	10am – 4pm	1300 842 864 https://www.vu.edu.au/open-day-2021
William Angliss Institute of TAFE	Sat 14 August	10am – 3pm	1300 264 5477 https://www.angliss.edu.au/study-with-us/meet-us/OpenDay/

OPEN DAYS 2021

Getting the most out of an Open Day

Most institutional Open Days are held in late July and August (see over the page for Open Day dates). However, you are more than welcome to contact an institution to arrange a visit any time.

What happens on an Open Day?

On Open Day you can visit an institution when it's at its best. Everyone is there – academics, lecturers, current students, and information officers. More importantly, you can talk with academics, lecturers, and current students about what certain courses are actually like, and what is required to get into them.

Who should attend an Open Day?

Anyone who is considering studying at a tertiary level in the next few years should attend.

Why should you attend an Open Day?

Apart from the opportunity to obtain course information there are many other reasons why attending an Open Day is a good idea:

- You are going to feel more comfortable arriving at a university or TAFE institute on the first day of classes if you have been there before.
- What is really involved in the course or courses you are interested in?
- If you have to move away from home, where are you going to live?
- Will you be happier studying in a large metropolitan institution or a smaller, perhaps rural institution?
- What does the place 'feel' like? Is it a bustling environment with lots of activity or a quieter, more relaxed campus set in landscaped grounds?
- How are you going to get there? Is it close to public transport or should you start saving now for a car?

If you don't know the answers to any of these questions, then you should attend an Open Day!

How to make the best of Open Days

To make your Open Day visits fun and informative, here are some pointers:

- Write down a list of questions you would like to ask about particular courses.
- Be there early. Crowds tend to develop as the day progresses.
- On arrival, get a map from a central point and ask for directions to the relevant faculties or schools.
- Ask questions!
- Don't spend the day collecting printed information only. Use the opportunity to speak directly with academics before applications close.
- Introduce yourself to selection officers if you feel it is appropriate, but don't be pushy.
- Check out the residential colleges, if available. After all, it is you that will be living there.
- Walk around the campus. Have a good look! See what sporting facilities and other services are available.
- Enjoy the visit!

Not everyone can attend every Open Day and various Institutions hold their Open Days on the same date! If you can't attend an Open Day and you are interested in a particular institution, you may visit at other times. If you wish to speak to a particular person, it is essential to make an appointment first.

This information was correct at the time of publication. Students are encouraged to register soon for the online Open Day events so they can receive important updates. Students in Years 10, 11 and 12 are encouraged to participate in a few Open Days. JB TKS

OPEN DAYS 2021

Getting the most out of a Virtual Open Day

Some institutions may hold a Virtual Open Day will be held in late July and August (see over the page for Open Day dates). However, you are more than welcome to contact an institution at any time for advice on courses.

Who should participate in a Virtual Open Day?

Anyone who is considering studying at a tertiary level in the next few years should attend.

Why should you attend an Open Day?

Apart from the opportunity to obtain course information there are many other reasons for participating:

- You are going to feel more comfortable arriving at a university or TAFE institute on the first day of classes if you have done your research and found out more about the institution.
- What is really involved in the course or courses you are interested in?
- If you have to move away from home, where are you going to live?
- Will you be happier studying in a large metropolitan institution or a smaller, perhaps rural institution?
- What does the place 'feel' like? Watch Virtual Tours and try gaining an insight into whether or not it is a bustling environment with lots of activity, or a quieter, more relaxed campus set in landscaped grounds?
- How are you going to get there? Is it close to public transport or should you start saving now for a car?

If you don't know the answers to any of these questions, then you should participate in a Virtual Open Day

How to make the best of Virtual Open Days

To make your Virtual Open Day activity fun and informative, here are some pointers:

- Write down a list of questions you would like to ask about particular courses – if they are not addressed during the virtual event, you can always follow up with the institutions later
- If the event allows Q & A, make sure you ask lots of questions!
- Enjoy the activity!

Not everyone can participate in every Virtual Open Day and various institutions are also holding their Virtual Open Days on the same date, so students are encouraged to register for as many as possible so that even if you miss one, you should receive notifications from the institutions.

This information was correct at the time of publication. Students are encouraged to register soon for the online Open Day events so they can receive important updates. Students in Years 10, 11 and 12 are encouraged to participate in a few Open Days. JB TKS