CAREERS NEWSLETTER 25 AUGUST, 2026

INVITATION TO JOIN JOB JUMP

We warmly encourage all **parents and students** to register for **Job Jump**, an excellent careers platform that supports young people as they explore future pathways.

Job Jump provides:
Up-to-date information on tertiary study options, ATARs, apprenticeships, and TAFE pathways.
Tools to create a resume, helping students present their strengths professionally.
Customised news alerts so families stay informed about important deadlines and opportunities.

Both parents and students can benefit from clear guidance and timely updates as they plan— whether that's choosing senior subjects, exploring university courses, or considering vocational training.

To register, simply visit:
https://www.jobjump.com.au/register and visit Careers 2026 on Canvas to access sign up details.

We hope you find Job Jump a valuable resource in supporting informed and confident career decision-making.

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

Events

This Week's Events

Study law at Sydney – Webinar for Future Students

Organisation: University of Sydney
Location: Online
Date: August 27, 2026
Join us ahead of Open Day to explore what it's like to study Law at the University of Sydney.
Our law degrees equip you for a rewarding and intellectually challenging career in legal practice, combined with expertise in an additional discipline of your choice.
In this webinar, we'll take you through the student experience and outline the pathways to studying law at Sydney, including our undergraduate combined law degrees, transfer options, and the Juris Doctor.
You'll have the opportunity to ask questions during a live Q&A with our specialist team, helping you make the most of Open Day.
Find out more

Say Yes to the Trades Expo

Organisation: Superior Training Centre
Location: Entertainment Park, Bankstown Aerodrome
Date: August 27, 2026
Say Yes to the Trades Expo is a trade-focused event designed for high school students who are curious about hands-on careers and the opportunities available in Australia's growing trade industries. The event brings together training providers, employers, and industry professionals to give students a practical introduction to careers in trades such as electrical, air conditioning and refrigeration, and metal fabrication.
Students attending the event can explore different career pathways, speak directly with employers and industry representatives, and gain a better understanding of what it's like to work in a skilled trade. Exhibitors will showcase tools, equipment, and technologies used in the industry, helping students see how these careers operate in the real world.
In addition to learning about training and employment opportunities, attendees will also be able to enjoy the entertainment facilities at the venue, making the day both informative and fun. The event is designed to inspire students, answer questions about entering the trades, and help them take their first steps toward a practical and rewarding career.
If you're considering a future in the trades or simply want to explore your options, Say Yes to the Trades is the perfect place to start.
Find out more

ADF Trade Careers Virtual Information Session

Organisation: Australian Defence Force
Location: Online
Date: August 27, 2026
Apply your existing trade skills or receive world-class training in order to work with formidable military assets and enjoy the many benefits of a career in the Australian Defence Force.
To find out more about available trade roles, come along to an info session and speak with current

serving personnel.
It is highly recommended you book as soon as possible to avoid missing out as places are strictly limited!
Find out more

Sydney West Careers & Employment Expo 2026

Organisation: Kym Jones Exhibitions
Location: Sydney Showground
Date: August 28 to August 29, 2025
The Sydney West Careers & Employment Expo will be at the Sydney Showground - Hall 4. The Expo will showcase over 80 organisations and employers with career opportunities for all ages. Entry is free.
The event is for school students, parents, teachers, graduates, job seekers, people looking for courses, and workers seeking new opportunities.
The Expo is packed with free advice, where you can:

- Talk with over 80 training organisations and employers
- Gain free career advice
- Discover jobs of the future
- Talk with leading organisations about training and apprenticeships
- Experience the free career seminars
- Learn how to write a winning resume

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

NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Notre Dame Open Day 2026, Sydney

Organisation: University of Notre Dame Australia
Location: University of Notre Dame, Sydney Campus
Date: August 29, 2026
Notre Dame's Open Day is your chance to explore what university life is all about! You'll discover study options, career pathways and our student support services. Plus, you'll experience an exciting program filled with activities for future students.
Whether you're in Year 10, 11 or 12, or a graduate thinking about postgrad study, our Open Day is open to everyone – including pathways and international students, who can chat with our dedicated team. Learn about scholarships and financial assistance to make your journey affordable.
Find out more

University of Newcastle Open Day 2026, Central Coast

Organisation: University of Newcastle
Location: University of Newcastle, Ourimbah & Gosford Campuses
Date: August 29, 2026
Open Day is packed with everything you need to know about going to the University of Newcastle. Participate in degree presentations, info sessions and tours of the campus.
Enjoy a hands-on experience with our program activations, and ask our student ambassadors questions about uni life.
Find out more

UTS Open Day 2026

Organisation: University of Technology Sydney
Location: University of Technology Sydney, City Campus
Date: August 29, 2026
Discover UTS. What you can expect at Open Day:

- Ask questions about admissions, pathways and study options
- Attend course information sessions
- Speak with academics and current students
- Explore labs and learning spaces
- Learn about scholarships, accommodation and support services
- Join guided campus and facility tours
- Discover clubs, societies and student communities

Find out more

University of Sydney Open Day 2026

Organisation: University of Sydney
Location: University of Sydney, Camperdown Campus
Date: August 29, 2026
Join us at the University of Sydney Open Day. Experience our vibrant student life on campus, hear from academics and current students and discover what makes us different.
Find out more

Torrens University Open Day 2026, Sydney

Organisation: Torrens University Australia
Location: Torrens University, Surry Hills Campus
Date: August 29, 2026
Come and meet our academics and Future Student Advisors, who will be able to answer all your questions about early entry, scholarships, entry pathways and our world-class facilities. Explore our campus and see firsthand how exciting studying in Sydney can be.

- Talk to our academics and Future Student Advisors about choosing courses, scholarships and the application process.
- Embark on a guided tour of our campus facilities and get a feel of our recreational spaces, teaching spaces and more.
- Meet our current students and find out what their experiences studying at Torrens University is like.

Find out more

CSU Open Day 2026, Orange

Organisation: Charles Sturt University
Location: Charles Sturt University, Orange Campus
Date: August 30, 2026
Discover what uni life is like! Whether you're in high school, looking to upskill, want to change careers, or are a parent, teacher or carer – there's something for everyone.

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

- Enjoy live entertainment, giveaways, competitions and free food!

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

Avondale Lake Macquarie Open Day 2026

Organisation: Avondale University
Location: Avondale University, Lake Macquarie Campus
Date: August 30, 2026
Find out why Avondale University is ranks #1 in NSW for overall experience, learner engagement, student support, skills development and teaching quality
What to expect:

- Imagine being a student at Avondale University with interactive campus tours of our state of the art facilities and onsite accommodation
- Chat to current students about community, social life, sport and clubs
- Learn all about our courses and how to apply from our awesome staff who are here to help you reach your dreams
- Live entertainment, giveaways and of course free food!

Find out more

Study law at Sydney – Webinar for Future Students

Organisation: University of Sydney
Location: Online
Date: September 1, 2026
Still wondering what it's like to study Law at the University of Sydney? Bring along your questions to our specialist team who will be available to answer your questions via live Q&A. Our law degrees equip you for a rewarding and intellectually challenging career in legal practice, combined with expertise in an additional discipline of your choice. In this webinar, we'll take you through the student experience and outline the pathways to studying law at Sydney, including our undergraduate combined law degrees, transfer options, and the Juris Doctor.
You'll have the opportunity to ask questions during a live Q&A with our specialist team, helping you make the most of Open Day.
Find out more

UOW Regional Open Evenings – Bega Valley

Organisation: University of Wollongong
Location: UOW Bega Valley Campus
Date: September 1 to August 1, 2026
Regional Open Evenings are taking place at our Bega Valley, Eurobodalla, and Shoalhaven campuses on Tuesday, 1 September from 3:30-6:30pm. Register and attend for information on study in 2027.
Find out more

UOW Regional Open Evenings – Eurobodalla

Organisation: University of Wollongong
Location: UOW Eurobodalla Campus
Date: September 1 to August 1, 2026
Regional Open Evenings are taking place at our Bega Valley, Eurobodalla, and Shoalhaven campuses on Tuesday, 1 September from 3:30-6:30pm. Register and attend for information on study in 2027.
Find out more

UOW Regional Open Evenings – Shoalhaven

Organisation: University of Wollongong
Location: UOW Shoalhaven Campus
Date: September 1 to August 1, 2026
Regional Open Evenings are taking place at our Bega Valley, Eurobodalla, and Shoalhaven campuses on Tuesday, 1 September from 3:30-6:30pm. Register and attend for information on study in 2027.
Find out more

Fab Lab Intro to Making Module: 2D Design and Laser Cutting for ages 14+

Organisation: Lake Mac Arts and Culture
Location: Lake Mac Libraries Fab Lab
Date: September 1 to September 8, 2026
Master the art of 2D design and laser cutting to create custom projects with precision and creativity! Join us for the Intro to Making Module: 2D Design and Laser Cutting, where you'll explore the fundamentals of digital design and fabrication. Over two hands-on Tuesday evening sessions, you'll learn how to create vector-based designs using Inkscape and use a laser cutter to bring them to life. From engraving to precise cuts, discover the potential of laser cutting for personal projects, prototyping, and creative applications.
Find out more

Torrens University Virtual Open Day 2026

Organisation: Torrens University Australia
Location: Online
Date: September 1 to September 2, 2026
Ready for the next step on your career journey? Join us online as our academics talk you through the courses on offer and how you can get the most out of studying with us. Learn about scholarships, study pathways, our industry partnerships with global brands and what sets us apart from other universities.

- Business, Education, Health, Hospitality, Technology and Higher Degrees by Research: Tuesday 1 September - 6pm - 7pm (AEST)
- Design: Wednesday 2 September - 6pm - 7pm (AEST)

Find out more

Monash Information Evening – Webinar

Organisation: Monash University
Location: Online
Date: September 1, 2026
Choosing a university is a big decision.
Join our Monash webinar to have your questions answered and get the key details you need to plan your next step.
You'll discover what it's like to study at Monash, and hear about our courses, accommodation, scholarships, support services and campus life. You'll also gain insights about moving to Monash and settling in.
This session is ideal if you're:

- Considering moving from interstate, or
- From regional or rural Victoria, or
- Live in Melbourne and are keen to know more about Monash.

Register now to secure your place.
Find out more

Admission to medicine at Sydney

Organisation: University of Sydney
Location: Online
Date: September 2, 2026
Join us to learn about admission requirements, application dates and timelines, and the assessment process. We'll share details of the options available, whether you're applying to commence your studies after high-school, or after completing a bachelor's degree. Through a live Q&A with our admission specialists, you'll gain valuable insights into the application process, better understand the options available to you, and ask your questions to help you plan your next steps with confidence.
Find out more

Study medicine at Sydney

Organisation: University of Sydney
Location: Online
Date: September 2, 2026
Join us to discover what it's like to study medicine at the University of Sydney and learn how we prepare future doctors to make a meaningful impact in Australia and around the world.
Through a live Q&A with our specialist team, you'll gain valuable insights into your study options and ask any questions you may have as you consider your future in medicine.
Find out more

Avondale Sydney Nursing Open Day 2026

Organisation: Avondale University
Location: Avondale University, Sydney Campus
Date: September 2, 2026
Find out why our Nursing degree is ranked #1 in Australia for overall experience by Good Universities Guide in 2026 and why we are the #1 University for graduate employment.
What to expect:

- Experience interactive campus tours of our state of the art facilities
- Chat to current students about community, social life, sport and clubs
- Learn all about our courses and how to apply from our awesome staff who are here to help you reach your dreams
- Live entertainment, giveaways and of course free food!

Find out more

Study biomedical engineering at Sydney – Webinar for Future Students

Organisation: University of Sydney
Location: Online
Date: September 2, 2026
Discover how biomedical engineers improve lives by designing technologies and explore how to make a real-world difference.
Find out more

UTS Elite Athlete Program Information Evening

Organisation: University of Technology Sydney
Location: UTS Moore Park Campus, Level 5
Date: September 3, 2026
Learn about the UTS Elite Athlete Program, meet current athletes, and explore your sporting pathway. UTS EAP supports students competing at elite and emerging levels of sport while undertaking university study. Through scholarships and tailored support, the program helps student-

athletes manage the demands of both high-performance sport and academic life.
Each year, we support more than 300 athletes across 45+ sports, from state and national representatives through to world champions and Olympians!

What to Expect:

- On the night, you'll have the opportunity to:
- Ask questions about eligibility, applications and pathways into the program
- Learn about the scholarships, support services and opportunities available through the UTS EAP
- Meet current UTS student-athletes and hear about their experiences balancing sport and study
- Connect with representatives from UTS's high-performance sporting clubs

Find out more

Collarts Open Day 2026, Online

Organisation: Australian College of the Arts
Location: Online
Date: September 3, 2026
At Collarts, Open Day is designed to help you understand what it's really like to study online, explore our learning experience, meet the people who will support you, and discover how flexible online study can fit around your life while keeping you connected to a creative community.
We invite you to come and experience life at Collarts: from our passion for creativity, close community, industry opportunities, expert faculty, and more.
Here are some of the experiences you can take part in during Open Day.

- Take a guided walkthrough of the Collarts Online learning environment and see how your study experience comes together. You'll gain a clear understanding of how online study works and what to expect as a student.
- Connect with academics, Online Learning Tutors and Student Success Advisors. These sessions provide an opportunity to ask questions about courses, study options, career outcomes and student support. You will learn more about the people who will guide and support you throughout your studies.
- See examples of learning activities, projects and creative work from across our disciplines. See how students apply their learning through authentic industry-focused projects and gain insight into the types of experiences that form part of a Collarts online study.
- Hear directly from current students and graduates about their experiences studying online. Learn how they balanced study with work and life commitments, built creative networks, developed their skills and progressed towards their career goals.
- Discover how Collarts Online helps students stay connected throughout their studies. Learn about study groups, live sessions, student communities, one-on-one support and the range of services available to help you succeed from your first week through to graduation.

Find out more

Crafting & Coding Animatronics for ages 13-18

Organisation: Woollahra Municipal Council
Location: Paddington Library
Date: September 3, 2026
Code and craft moving creations in this hands-on animatronics workshop.
Using VEX IQ systems and cardboard, participants will begin by coding existing animatronics to move, then design and build their own moving feature, such as limbs, eyes, eyelids, ears or a mouth, and program it to respond to sensory input.
As the workshop uses VEX IQ motors and sensors, participants will not be able to take home the

electronic components of their creations.
All experience levels are welcome. Bookings are essential as places are limited.
Find out more

Rural Health Pathways Showcase for High School Students, Teachers & Parents

Organisation: Rural Doctors Network
Location: ICC Darling Harbour
Date: September 3, 2026
Discover your path in health – wherever you're from to wherever you're going.
Open to Careers Advisers, teachers, parents, and students in Years 9–12 interested in exploring careers in allied health, medicine, nursing, midwifery, pharmacy, paramedicine, Aboriginal health, caring, and more.
Connect with universities, training providers, peak bodies and health employers to explore study pathways and career opportunities. Meet health students, graduates and professionals, take part in hands-on activities, and gain real insights into a wide range of health careers.
The event includes an interactive expo, hands-on workshops and the popular Chat Corner, all running simultaneously. To fully experience all aspects of the event you attend for the entire scheduled time, rotating through allocated sessions.
Find out more

FUTURE EVENTS

National Art School Open Day 2026

Organisation: National Art School
Location: National Art School
Date: September 5, 2026
The National Art School is Australia's leading independent fine art school, with a hands-on studio-based teaching model that has delivered a rich tradition of art practice and world-renowned alumni for over 100 years. On the frontier of arts education, NAS provides a progressive and holistic approach to study, and we invite the public to join us on Open Day to share in our creative community.
Discover what life is like for students at the National Art School by participating in studio demonstrations, meeting with academic staff, visiting the NAS Gallery and student exhibition spaces across campus.
Find out more

ACU Open Day 2026, North Sydney

Organisation: Australian Catholic University
Location: Australian Catholic University, North Sydney Campus
Date: September 5, 2026
Open Day gives you the opportunity to ask our teaching staff any questions you might have about your dream course, the application process, pathway options, entry schemes and more.
Chat to current students and discover the facilities your new campus has to offer. And sit in on information sessions from each of the faculties to find out more about the courses you're interested in.
Find out more

UNSW Open Day 2026

Organisation: University of New South Wales

Location: University of New South Wales, Kensington Campus
Date: September 5, 2026
Open Day is an opportunity for future students, family, alumni and community members to explore everything a university has to offer, so they can make an informed decision about their future. Whether you're starting uni soon, considering postgraduate studies or just curious, UNSW Open Day is a chance to discover UNSW and find out everything the University has to offer. At UNSW Open Day, we'll help you find your unique path to uni, and you'll discover the progress you could make as one of Australia's most employable graduates.
There will be more than 200 sessions available to help you explore your study options, tour our buzzing campuses, enjoy the free food – you'll get expert advice and have fun while you're at it.
Find out more

Massey University International Online Open Day

Organisation: Massey University
Location: Online
Date: September 5, 2026
Join us in New Zealand. Each year, more than 5,000 international students from over 100 countries find a warm welcome at Te Kunenga ki Pūrehuroa Massey University.
During the event, you'll hear from our academics, current students and support staff as they share insights into studying at Massey and answer some of the most common questions from future international students.
During the event, we'll cover topics including:

- Courses and qualifications available including graduate outcomes
- Our campuses in New Zealand and accommodation options
- What makes Massey unique
- Student life in New Zealand
- Student support services including careers
- Admission and enrolment support
- Fees and funding

You'll also have the opportunity to connect with Massey staff and ask questions about your study options, helping you choose the qualification that's right for your interests and career goals.
Whether you're just starting to explore university or have applied already, you'll leave with a better understanding of what studying at Massey is like and the next steps to begin your journey.
We can't wait to welcome you to Massey University's 2026 International Online Open Day.
Find out more

ACU Year 12 HSC Revision Webinars

Organisation: Australian Catholic University
Location: Online
Date: September 7 to September 10, 2026
Worried about your Year 12 exams? You're not alone.
Join our free online webinars from 7 - 10 September 2026. They are live, expert-led sessions designed to help you walk into your exams feeling prepared.
Can't attend live? Register anyway – recordings are available to registered attendees for one week after each webinar.
Find out more

Western Sydney Apprenticeship/Traineeship & Jobs Expo 2026

Organisation: Brett Carter Events
Location: Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre

Date: September 8, 2026
Our Apprenticeship/Traineeship & Jobs Expos are held annually and have grown to a status where they are widely accepted as the premier events of their kind in NSW. The timing of the expos is a hit with families as they allow parents to attend with their children and have those all-important career chats with industry experts.
The Expos provide our career/job seekers, business and industry, education providers and employers with the opportunities to all come together under the one roof where exhibitors also get the chance to collect resumes and promote their organisation for upcoming recruitment drives.
Find out more

Exploring oral health at Sydney – Webinar for Future Students
Organisation: University of Sydney
Location: Online
Date: September 9, 2026
Discover the University of Sydney's Bachelor of Oral Health and the rewarding careers it leads to. Learn about course structure, entry pathways, and professional outcomes. Explore a first-in-Australia initiative supporting Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander students to pursue careers in oral health.
Find out more

Ag Vision 2026
Organisation: Grow Our Own (GOO)
Location: Yanco Agricultural High School
Date: September 9, 2026
Ag Vision Yanco 2026 aims to promote agricultural careers to 500 Year 9-11 students from 30+ schools in the Riverina-Murray region.
40 hands on workshops highlighting various topics in agriculture will be delivered by local industry representatives, of which students can pre-register for 5 different sessions.
Find out more

Macquarie Incubator & Young Wisdom Student Startup Bootcamp for Years 9-10
Organisation: Macquarie University
Location: Macquarie University, Wallumattagal Campus
Date: September 11, 2026
We're thrilled to invite a group of your students and an accompanying staff member to our multi award-winning incubator for a full-day of entrepreneurial skills and confidence-building alongside peers from a range of Sydney schools.
In thought-provoking discussions and workshops, students and educators will gain an understanding of the skills, people, and resources leveraged by innovators and entrepreneurs to effect positive, sustainable change in the world.
Participants will build entrepreneurial skills and self-efficacy through: empathising with one another, identifying problems worth solving, designing solutions worth testing, and persuasively pitching new ideas - all on the same day!
Please note: *Only teachers/school staff should register for this event (we don't need you to provide student details or have them register themselves)*
Find out more

Macquarie [EX]plore Science Extension Conference
Organisation: Macquarie University
Location: Macquarie University, Wallumattagal Campus
Date: September 14, 2026

Macquarie University is hosting a full-day conference showcasing the research of Year 12 HSC Science Extension students Monday 14 September.
Designed as an authentic research experience, the event brings together school students, undergraduates and PhD researchers to share a passion for science through presentations, posters, networking opportunities and Faculty of Science lab tours. Prizes will be awarded for outstanding presentations.
Year 12 students can register independently and will present their work at the conference (applications close 21 August), while Year 10 and 11 students must be registered by a teacher.
Find out more

Prepare for the future of work with Sydney's Bachelor of Arts – Webinar for Future Students

Organisation: University of Sydney
Location: Online
Date: September 16, 2026
Discover how the Bachelor of Arts at the University of Sydney can set you up for success. Learn how this flexible degree equips you with the critical thinking, creativity and communication skills needed to thrive in a rapidly changing workforce. Explore your interests, build in-demand capabilities, and prepare for a future full of opportunities in arts and social sciences.
Find out more

CDW Studios Online Information Session

Organisation: CDW Studios
Location: Online
Date: September 16, 2026
Discover our industry-recognised pathway into the entertainment design industry!
This free online session is designed for anyone interested in building a creative career in the entertainment design industry, becoming a professional artist for games, movies, animation and VFX.
Find out more

SCU Future Leaders Workshop, Northern Rivers

Organisation: Southern Cross University
Location: Southern Cross University, Lismore Campus
Date: September 17, 2026
Join us for Future Leaders, a free full-day workshop facilitated by world record-breaking pilot and leadership development speaker, Lachie Smart. With engaging content, practical activities, and a supportive environment, the event aims to inspire students to unlock their potential, lead with confidence, and make a positive impact in their schools and communities.
This event is for Year 11 and 12 students; specifically student representatives, aspiring school leaders and anyone wanting to enhance their confidence and resilience in leadership.

- Explore our campus and experience our state-of-the-art campus facilities.
- Through interactive activities, develop strategic plans and acquire essential leadership skills.
- Meet current Southern Cross University students and network with us throughout the day.
- Enjoy a catered morning tea and lunch on us.

School staff can register online through the university's event page by filling out the registration form, indicating the number of students attending from your school and selecting the desired campus.
Find out more

Macquarie Incubator & Young Wisdom Student Startup Bootcamp for Years 9-10

Organisation: Macquarie University
Location: Macquarie University, Wallumattagal Campus
Date: September 18, 2026

We're thrilled to invite a group of your students and an accompanying staff member to our multi award-winning incubator for a full-day of entrepreneurial skills and confidence-building alongside peers from a range of Sydney schools.

In thought-provoking discussions and workshops, students and educators will gain an understanding of the skills, people, and resources leveraged by innovators and entrepreneurs to effect positive, sustainable change in the world.

Participants will build entrepreneurial skills and self-efficacy through: empathising with one another, identifying problems worth solving, designing solutions worth testing, and persuasively pitching new ideas - all on the same day!

Please note: *Only teachers/school staff should register for this event (we don't need you to provide student details or have them register themselves)*

Find out more

Sydney Design School Open Day

Organisation: Sydney Design School
Location: Sydney Design School
Date: September 19, 2026

Step inside our world of design and get to know us. Explore our studios, check out amazing student work, meet the inspiring team, get creative making a mood board.

Find out more

UNSW Aviation Open Day 2026

Organisation: University of New South Wales
Location: UNSW Aviation Flying Operations Unit, Bankstown Airport
Date: September 19, 2026

Are you passionate about flying or curious about a career in aviation? Join UNSW for an unforgettable experience at their Aviation Open Day, held at the state-of-the-art Bankstown Airport flight training facility.

What to expect:

- Explore the fleet of Diamond DA-40 and Piper Seminole PA44 aircraft up close
- Experience cutting-edge flight simulators
- Chat with expert instructors and current students
- Tour the facilities and get a feel for life at UNSW Aviation
- Ask anything - UNSW is here to help you navigate your aviation journey

Whether you're dreaming of becoming a pilot or just want to learn more about aviation, this is your chance to get inspired and informed.

Find out more

Astronomy Open Night by Macquarie University

Organisation: Macquarie University
Location: Macquarie University, Wallumattagal Campus
Date: September 19, 2026

Sydney's most spectacular night of science and stargazing returns this September. Whether you're a lifelong astronomy enthusiast or simply curious about the universe, Astronomy Open Night offers an unforgettable evening for all ages.

Discover exciting new highlights, including The Big Cosmic Q&A, where you can put your questions to

our experts, and So You Like Science – What Now?, a special session for students planning their next steps after high school. You can also explore our new experimental short film festival, Stories Across Worlds, featuring works from the Archival Futures Collective. Register ASAP as tickets sell out fast!
Find out more

Coding With Care: The Power of Compassion in the Classroom – Discover Lecture Series with Macquarie

Organisation: Macquarie University
Location: Macquarie University, Wallumattagal Campus
Date: September 22, 2026
When people think about programming, compassion is not one of the first words that comes to mind. Yet for Lecturer Charanya Ramakrishnan, it has become the most powerful tool in her teaching practices.
Charanya will share how she has integrated care and empathy into introductory computing units, a space often defined by logic and precision rather than human connection. By embedding a deeper level of care and empathy into her practice, Charanya creates classrooms where students feel supported, valued, and confident to take risks.
This talk will explore how small, intentional changes can significantly impact not only student success but also the establishment of a culture of trust and belonging within classrooms.
This event is part of Macquarie's Discover Lecture Series*, monthly talks suitable for ages 10 and up that offer inspiring insights and a glimpse into the technological advancements shaping our future.*
Find out more

Discover Sport & Exercise at UTS

Organisation: University of Technology Sydney
Location: University of Technology Sydney, Moore Park Campus
Date: September 22, 2026
Join us for an exclusive evening at the UTS Moore Park campus and discover where a degree in sport and exercise can take you.
Hear from leading academics and current students, explore exciting study pathways and career opportunities, and experience the cutting-edge facilities shaping the next generation of sport professionals.
Whether you're interested in performance, health, or the science behind sport, this is your chance to see what's possible. Places are limited, so secure your spot early.
Find out more

WSU Free Online HSC Study Sessions for Year 12 Students

Organisation: Western Sydney University
Location: Online
Date: September 28 to October 7, 2026
From Monday 28th September to Wednesday 7th October 2026, Western Sydney University will be offering a range of online study sessions to assist Year 12 students in their preparations for the HSC. These will be delivered by highly qualified senior teachers with 22 free sessions across 14 key HSC subject areas, with sessions that included content analysis, tips and strategies, and a detailed exploration of key syllabus and curriculum areas.
Students will have the opportunity to sit a practice exam and deconstruction, with feedback and advice from experts.
Find out more

AIM Music Theatre Audition Workshop, Sydney

Organisation: Australian Institute of Music
Location: Australian Institute of Music, Sydney Campus
Date: September 29 to September 30, 2026
If the stage is where you're headed, this is how you get there.
AIM's Sydney Music Theatre Audition Workshop is an immersive two-day experience for high school students who are serious about turning their passion into a career.
Working directly with the industry professionals who teach our Bachelor of Music Theatre, you'll build your skills, refine your repertoire, and walk away with the confidence and feedback you need to nail your audition.
Find out more

Discover Security: Cyber Security Experience Day for High school girls (Years 7- 8) in Sydney 2026

Organisation: Australian Women in Security Network
Location: Westpac Sydney
Date: September 29, 2026
Ever wondered who keeps the internet safe?
Who stops hackers in their tracks? Who protects your data? Who's behind the scenes keeping the digital world running?
IT COULD BE YOU!
Whether you are a total beginner or just curious about how the digital world really works, this is your chance to find out. Spend a day at Westpac Sydney, get hands-on with real cyber security challenges, and hear from the people actually doing this for a living. This experience day is designed to immerse high school girls in the world of cybersecurity through a mix of interactive workshops, hands-on activities, and career insights.
Focus on foundational cybersecurity concepts through engaging and interactive workshops.
The day will also feature talks from cybersecurity professionals, offering students insights into potential career paths and helping them make informed decisions about their futures in this dynamic field.
Find out more

Create for a Day at SAE Sydney

Organisation: SAE University College
Location: SAE University College, Sydney Campus
Date: October 3, 2026
This October school holidays, SAE University College Sydney is opening its doors for Create for a Day: a one-day, hands-on experience where you'll step into the studio, lab or production space and start creating.
Choose from:

- Animation
- Audio
- Computer Science
- Design
- Film
- Games
- Songwriting & Electronic Music Production
- VFX

Create for a Day lets you skip the textbooks and jump straight into building, recording, designing, coding or filming, all guided by lecturers who work in the industry.
By the end of the day, you'll walk away with your own finished project and a certificate of

participation, plus a clearer idea of what studying at SAE is really like and where your skills could take you in the future.
Open to students in Years 10-12 and young creatives up to age 21.
Find out more

HSC Workshop: Visual Arts Induction, Marrickville

Organisation: Inner West Council Libraries
Location: Marrickville Library and Pavilion
Date: October 18, 2026
An essential presentation for students in Year 11 beginning the HSC Visual Arts Course in Term 4. Visual Arts teachers are also welcome!
This session unpacks the dual role students will play as both artist and critic, offering a clear understanding of what lies ahead - from developing the HSC Body of Work to preparing for the HSC Written Exam, with practical advice on how to navigate course content, Case Studies, time management in preparing for school-based assessments and external exams. This induction equips students with tools to start strong and stay on track throughout the HSC Visual Arts journey.
Visual Arts teachers are welcome to attend and bring a group of students or come along for their own professional development.
BYO pens, highlighters, clipboard, notebook and water bottle. A workbook will be provided.
Find out more

SCU Future Leaders Workshop, Coffs Harbour

Organisation: Southern Cross University
Location: Southern Cross University, Coffs Harbour Campus
Date: October 21, 2026
Join us for Future Leaders, a free full-day workshop facilitated by world record-breaking pilot and leadership development speaker, Lachie Smart. With engaging content, practical activities, and a supportive environment, the event aims to inspire students to unlock their potential, lead with confidence, and make a positive impact in their schools and communities.
This event is for Year 11 and 12 students; specifically student representatives, aspiring school leaders and anyone wanting to enhance their confidence and resilience in leadership.

- Explore our campus and experience our state-of-the-art campus facilities.
- Through interactive activities, develop strategic plans and acquire essential leadership skills.
- Meet current Southern Cross University students and network with us throughout the day.
- Enjoy a catered morning tea and lunch on us.

School staff can register online through the university's event page by filling out the registration form, indicating the number of students attending from your school and selecting the desired campus.
Find out more

Yr 12 & Beyond with ADHD – Webinar for Year 12 Students and Parents

Organisation: ADHD Webinars
Location: Online
Date: October 29, 2026
Designed to help Year 12 students and parents navigate the transition to tertiary study or employment with practical ADHD management strategies. It offers actionable guidance on post-school options, strengths and interests, accommodations, and setting up tailored support systems.
Find out more

Griffith Employment + Career Expo 2026

Organisation: Griffith Business Chamber
Location: Griffith Regional Sports Centre
Date: October 30, 2026

Discover a range of career and education opportunities at the Griffith Business Chamber Careers and Employment Expo.

Want to explore a new industry, switch careers, or find a job?

Bring your resume, apply for jobs, get helpful tips from the experts and connect with local businesses and training providers!

There'll be a jobs board available on the day as well as short presentations about what local employers are looking for, further education opportunities, resume & interview tips, apprenticeship advice and more!

Find out more

Procrastination & ADHD – Webinar for Year 10, 11, 12 Students and Parents

Organisation: ADHD Webinars
Location: Online
Date: November 5, 2026

A practical session focusing on why ADHD brains procrastinate and how students in Years 10–12 can overcome executive dysfunction. Attendees will learn evidence-based study tools, time-management hacks, and task-initiation techniques.

Find out more

Beginner Shakuhachi Workshop for ages 16+

Organisation: University of Sydney
Location: Sydney Conservatorium of Music
Date: November 7, 2026

If you've always wanted to try the shakuhachi, now's your chance!

Shakuhachi Master Bronwyn Kirkpatrick will present this workshop and demonstration introducing shakuhachi, the traditional Japanese bamboo flute.

The demonstration/workshop is open to anyone 16 years of age and over and no prior musical experience is necessary.

It will interest students who feel drawn to Asian music and philosophies and people who want to find out more about the shakuhachi and its tradition. It may also be of particular interest to flute and recorder students who are exploring contemporary techniques on their instruments, as many of these techniques are similar to traditional shakuhachi techniques.

The demonstration will include the history of the shakuhachi and performances of different styles of music, from Zen Buddhist to contemporary. There will also be plenty of opportunity to try it out for yourselves! In the workshop, we will work on making sound and improving tone. We will learn to read basic Japanese notation and to play some simple Japanese folk songs.

Find out more

Camden Careers and Jobs Expo

Organisation: Camden Council
Location: Camden Civic Centre
Date: November 19, 2026

This free event brings together job seekers, exhibitors, students, and industry leaders for a day packed with opportunities. Whether you're launching your career, switching industries, or looking to advance your skills, this is the event you don’t want to miss!

- For Job Seekers: Discover a wide range of job opportunities, connect with employers, and explore career paths that could change your future.
- For Exhibitors: This is your chance to showcase your business, engage with potential candidates, and promote your training programs to an eager audience.
- For Students/Schools: Explore endless career pathways, network with employers, and find out about study and training options to kickstart your journey post school.

There is no cost to exhibit or for schools to bring students; however, registration is required.
Find out more

Year 11 & Beyond with ADHD – Starting Strong in the Senior Years

Organisation: ADHD Webinars
Location: Online
Date: November 26, 2026
Focuses on setting senior students up for success as they enter their final school year and look ahead to future pathways. This webinar for parents, senior high school students and career practitioners covers strategies for managing workload stress, building independence, and planning post-school transitions.
Find out more

Scholarships

AFTRS Constellation Creatives Scholarship

Organisation: Australian Film Television and Radio School
Location: Australia, New Zealand
Value: $15,000 AUD
Open Date: June 29, 2026
Close Date: October 21, 2026
Find out more

UON Shaping Futures Scholarship for Early Entry

Organisation: University of Newcastle
Location: Australia
Value: $5,000 AUD
Close Date: November 12, 2026
Find out more

Chances for Children Non-Tertiary Scholarship for students to participate in sport or music at state or national level

Organisation: Chances for Children Foundation
Location: New South Wales, Victoria
Value: Varies
Open Date: August 17, 2026
Close Date: October 26, 2026
Find out more

UNSW Pamela JA Wallis Women in Business Scholarship

Organisation: University of New South Wales
Location: New South Wales
Value: $5,000 AUD

Open Date: July 27, 2026
Close Date: September 30, 2026
Find out more

Chances for Children Tertiary Scholarship
Organisation: Chances for Children Foundation
Location: New South Wales, Victoria
Value: Varies
Open Date: August 17, 2026
Close Date: October 26, 2026
Find out more

UNSW Sir Rupert Myers Science & Engineering Scholarship
Organisation: University of New South Wales
Location: New South Wales
Value: $5,000 AUD
Open Date: July 16, 2026
Close Date: September 30, 2026
Find out more

FSG Geotechnics and Foundations Indigenous Scholarship at SCU
Organisation: Southern Cross University
Location: Gold Coast, Lismore
Value: $15,000 AUD
Close Date: February 14, 2027
Find out more

Competitions

The 2026 OutStanding LGBTQIA+ Short Story (750 words or less) Competition for 16+
Organisation: Outstanding Stories
Location: Australia, New Zealand
Value: Up to $1,000 AUD
Close Date: August 30, 2026
Find out more

RANZCOG Liam and Frankie Davison Award
Organisation: The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG)
Location: Australia, New Zealand
Value: $1,000 NZD or AUD
Close Date: August 31, 2026
Find out more

UniSQ The Bruce Dawe National Poetry Prize 2026
Organisation: University of Southern Queensland
Location: Australia
Value: Up to $3,000 AUD
Close Date: September 22, 2026

Find out more

Moonhack 2026 Coding Competition for ages 7-15
Organisation: Code Club Australia
Location: All
Value: Up to $1,435 AUD
Close Date: No closing date
Find out more

ARTEFFECT 2026 Summer Art Competition for High School Students
Organisation: ARTEFFECT
Location: All
Value: Up to $3,000 USD
Close Date: September 15, 2026
Find out more

Caritas School Art Competition 2026
Organisation: Caritas Australia
Location: Australia
Value: Up to $300 AUD
Close Date: September 18, 2026
Find out more

Blue Ocean Student Entrepreneur Competition
Organisation: Blue Ocean
Location: All
Value: Up to US$1,000
Close Date: February 21, 2027
Find out more

Experiences

National Art School Spring Weekend Workshops
Organisation: National Art School
Location: National Art School
Date: September 19, 2026
Find out more

Weekly Posts

UNIVERSITY, VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

Everything you need to know about stackable qualifications
A stackable qualification is built from smaller qualifications or units of study that combine over time to count towards something larger. Rather than enrolling in one long course and completing it as a single block, a student finishes a smaller qualification first, then may continue on to the next level using the credit already earned.
A Certificate II, for example, is a real qualification a student can list on a job application or use to meet entry requirements, whether or not they ever continue on to a Certificate III. If they do continue, the units of competency they've already completed may be recognised by the next course through a process called credit transfer. This applies unit by unit, and the student needs to provide

formal evidence, such as a certificate, statement of attainment, or transcript, before the credit is granted. Once it is, that unit doesn't need to be studied or assessed again.
This is different from a standalone qualification, which is designed and delivered as one complete course with a single outcome at the end.

Why stackable qualifications exist
Stackable qualifications exist because not every student wants, or needs, to commit to a long course from the outset. Some want to test out an area of study before deciding how far to take it. Others want to start working sooner and add further qualifications later, once they have a clearer sense of direction.
Building a qualification up in stages also limits what's lost if a student changes direction partway through. A smaller qualification completed along the way remains valid on its own, and depending on the receiving course's credit arrangements, some or all of the units involved may still be recognised later, even outside the original pathway.

How stacking works in practice
Stacking looks different depending on the type of course and institution involved. The two most common examples are vocational qualifications and university study.

A vocational pathway
Vocational qualifications, often called VET courses, are structured in levels, from Certificate I through to Advanced Diploma. Each level is made up of units of competency, which are the individual skills or topics a student is assessed on, and each of these units belongs to a specific training package linked to an industry area. Every unit of competency is listed on the National Training Register, along with the qualification and training package it belongs to.
A student might complete a Certificate II in Business, then move on to a Certificate III in Business. Because both qualifications draw from the same training package, many of the units completed at Certificate II level are listed as core or elective requirements in the Certificate III. Where a student continues with the same training provider, records already held usually mean this happens without a separate application, though moving to a different provider still requires the formal evidence described earlier. This same process could continue through a Certificate IV in Business and into a Diploma of Business, provided each step stays within the same or a closely aligned training package. Moving into a training package outside this area, such as switching from business into hospitality, would usually mean starting that pathway from scratch, since the units wouldn't match up in the same way. A student can check this directly by searching the qualification on the National Training Register, which lists which units are treated as equivalent.

A university pathway
University stacking usually works through micro-credentials, short, individually assessed units of study smaller than a full subject. These are set out under the government's national micro-credentials framework, which allows them to count towards a larger qualification. Some universities combine a small number of undergraduate-level micro-credentials into an undergraduate certificate, a recognised qualification in its own right.
From there, further stacking into a diploma or bachelor degree depends on whether the university offering the next qualification has an articulation arrangement in place, a defined pathway that lets a student progress from a completed qualification into another with admission or credit already agreed. Where no articulation arrangement exists, a student may still be able to apply for recognition of prior learning, where a qualified assessor evaluates their existing skills and knowledge against the course requirements. This may result in partial or full credit, though it isn't guaranteed to match what an articulation arrangement would provide.

This means university stacking depends heavily on which institution is involved and what arrangements it has in place, rather than working the same way across every provider.

What to check before relying on it

Before assuming a smaller qualification will count towards something bigger later, it's worth checking a few specific things directly with the course provider or the institution offering the next step. Your Career, the government's course directory, is a useful starting point for comparing course details. From there, check:

- Whether the course leads to a formal qualification or statement of attainment, not just a certificate of completion
- Whether a specific, named qualification is listed as the next step in the pathway
- Whether a credit transfer or articulation arrangement is documented between the two courses
- Whether recognition of prior learning is available as a backup option if no formal arrangement exists
- Whether the units involved can be checked directly on the National Training Register

If none of this is confirmed, the course may still be worthwhile on its own, but the pathway beyond it shouldn't be assumed.

Things that catch students out

A few assumptions cause problems for students relying on stacking:

- Assuming all units from one course automatically carry over into an unrelated course or training package
- Assuming a microcredential or short course from one provider will be recognised by a different provider without a documented arrangement
- Assuming a smaller qualification alone is enough to meet a job requirement that specifically calls for the full, completed qualification

Checking these details early, before enrolling, avoids planning around a pathway that may not actually apply.

The same test applies either way

The mechanics differ between a VET pathway and a university pathway. VET stacking runs on units of competency and training packages, while university stacking runs on microcredentials and articulation arrangements. In both cases, the same underlying test decides whether stacking will work: has the credit been documented by the provider or institution on the receiving end, through credit transfer, recognition of prior learning, or an articulation arrangement.

If you want to explore more about study pathways and qualification options, we have plenty of other blogs and resources for you to check out.

STUDY TIPS

Smart ways to use AI for schoolwork

By now, you've probably typed a question into an AI chatbot at least once. Maybe you asked it to explain a tricky maths problem, or help you plan an essay. It's fast, it's free, and it always has an answer ready. Yes AI can be a useful helper with your schoolwork and could do the work for you, but hold your horses and have a read of this article before you use it for your next assignment. Things aren't always black and white, including using AI.

Where AI can actually help

Used well, AI is more like a study buddy than a genius who does your homework while you scroll or

keep on gaming. It's good at explaining a concept in a different way when your textbook isn't making sense. It can help you plan the structure of an essay, suggest revision questions, or turn your messy notes into a tidy summary. If you're stuck on how to start a piece of writing, asking AI for a few different opening lines can shake loose your own ideas.
It's also handy outside school. You could use it to help draft an email to a coach or employer, get feedback on your CV, or explore a job you're curious about and what it involves day to day. Used this way, it's a tool that speeds up the boring bits so you have more time and energy for the parts that need real thought.

Why you still have to do the heavy lifting
Each of the examples above only work if you're still driving your studies. If AI writes your whole essay, including planning your whole argument, and picking your whole conclusion, you haven't learned anything. You've just handed in a hodgepodge of someone (or something) else's thinking with your name on it. That's not going to serve you well in exams or down the track.
Forming an argument means deciding what you believe, based on evidence that you've found, read, and understood yourself. That's a skill, and skills can only grow through practice. If AI does all of your research for you, you're skipping the tasks that build your ability to think for yourself. The rule of thumb is simple, you should still be doing the lion's share of the work. AI can support your process, but it shouldn't replace it.
Teachers can usually spot AI-generated work anyway, it tends to sound very generic, missing your voice, and your reasoning. Not mention that as AI evolves, the AI detection software used to spot it is also developing, you'll never know if you're ahead of that curve at any one time, so it's probably safer just to do your own homework.

The risks of leaning on AI too much
First of all, AI chatbots can get facts wrong with total confidence. Sometimes inventing statistics, misquoting sources, stating something false as if it were obvious truth, or just jumbling things up and using them out of context. Which is understandable since it's only using information you've provided along with what it can sift from the internet of things. If you copy everything straight into your work without checking all of the facts and the sources (using reliable platforms, databases, and networks if you're not using direct research papers themselves); then you're just passing on someone else's mistake as your own.
As we mentioned earlier, relying on AI to think for you now, means you're not building the skills you'll need later. Exams don't let you use it. University assignments are increasingly designed to spot over-reliance on it. And in most jobs, employers want your judgement and ideas, not a paraphrased chatbot answer. The habits you build now, good or bad, could stick - so why not start using AI intelligently now to give your studies a boost while still building important human skills like critical thinking, problem-solving, emotional intelligence, and ethical judgment.

Using it the right way
You don't need to avoid AI altogether. In fact its important that you keep learning about it and how to use it to enhance your human abilities. As Jensen Huang CEO of NVIDIA said "You won't lose your job to AI—you'll 'lose your job to somebody who uses AI".
Used properly, it could take some of the grunt work out of studying, strengthen your understanding of topics , and help you formulate your ideas more clearly. Learn to use good habits, like always checking facts, statistics, and sources yourself before using them. If it gives you a fact that sounds surprising, you should definitely look it up elsewhere before you trust it. Form your own views or hypothesis first, then use AI to test or refine it. Most importantly use your own voice in everything you write.

Keep building the skills that matter
Learning how to research properly, argue your point, and check your sources are skills that will serve you long after you've left school, in almost any career you choose. If you'd like more ideas on how to build these kinds of skills for study and beyond, head over to our Human Skills or Study Tips pages for more suggestions.

JOBS & CAREERS

Quantum science for students: what it actually is

The word "quantum" comes up in movies, marketing, and casual conversation far more often than any clear explanation of what it actually means. It's a well-established field of physics, and understanding the basics doesn't need any advanced maths or background knowledge beyond what you've already got.

The basic idea
Quantum science studies how matter and energy behave at extremely small scales, at the level of atoms and the particles that make them up. At this scale, the rules that describe how a ball rolls or a car accelerates stop applying, and a different set of rules takes over.

Just how small we're talking about
An atom is roughly a hundred thousand times narrower than a strand of human hair. Quantum science studies particles smaller again, including electrons, which exist within atoms. At this scale, direct observation with the naked eye or a standard microscope isn't possible, so behaviour is instead measured through specialised equipment and inferred using mathematical models built from decades of experimental data.

Where the confusion comes from
Quantum science shows up constantly in movies, video games, and marketing, usually attached to ideas like instant teleportation, parallel universes, or objects existing in two places at once. Most of this borrows the word "quantum" for its reputation rather than reflecting the actual science. Quantum behaviour follows a different set of rules to the physics visible in daily life, largely because it only becomes measurable at a scale no one interacts with directly. That gap between what's observable and what's real gives fiction plenty of room to exaggerate. Real quantum science is grounded in decades of experiments and evidence, and it's already responsible for technology you use every day, like the chips inside your phone and computer.

The two ideas behind most of it
Two concepts come up again and again when people talk about quantum science: superposition and entanglement.
Superposition means a particle can exist in more than one state at once, rather than being locked into a single definite state the way everyday objects are. Think of a coin spinning in the air. While it's spinning, it isn't simply heads or tails, it's a mix of both possibilities until it lands and you check it. Particles behave a bit like that spinning coin until they're measured. Entanglement happens when two particles become linked in a way that means the state of one instantly affects the state of the other, even if they're far apart, without any signal passing between them in the usual sense. It's still an active area of research today.

Where quantum science shows up in the real world
Quantum science already underpins plenty of technology you might not realise counts as "quantum." The chips inside your phone and computer rely on quantum physics to work, since the

behaviour of electrons in tiny transistors follows quantum rules rather than classical ones. Precision sensors used in navigation and medical imaging, like MRI machines, also depend on quantum effects to measure things with a level of accuracy classical technology can't match.
Beyond what's already in use, quantum computing is one of the most talked-about applications, using superposition and entanglement to process certain types of problems in ways traditional computers can't. Secure communication is another growing area, using entanglement to detect if a message has been intercepted, which could make future data significantly harder to access without permission.

Why this field is growing right now
Quantum science has moved from mostly theoretical research to real-world application over the past couple of decades, which is part of why it comes up more often now than it would have a few years ago. Governments and companies are investing heavily in the field, particularly in computing, sensing, and secure communication, since the potential impact across industries like medicine, finance, and defence is considerable.
It's still an emerging field, which means a lot of what's possible hasn't been figured out yet, rather than being an area where the groundwork is already fully established.

How it connects to what you're already learning
You don't need to already understand quantum physics to start building toward it. Senior physics covers the classical physics that quantum science builds on and eventually departs from, and maths subjects that cover probability and complex numbers give you tools that show up again in quantum theory later on.
If you're curious about where physics and maths subjects could take you, our subject selection hub breaks down how different combinations connect to future pathways.

5 niche careers in nanotechnology

A single strand of DNA is about 2 nanometres wide, roughly 40,000 times thinner than a human hair. Nanotechnology works at that scale, engineering materials and devices atom by atom, and it already shapes things like sunscreen, medical treatments, phone screens, and the batteries in your devices. Here's a look at five careers worth considering.

Nanotechnology Research Assistant/Technician
Nanotechnology Research Assistants and Technicians support the hands-on side of nanotechnology research, preparing samples, running experiments, and recording results under the guidance of senior scientists. Precise, detail-focused work matters here, since even a small error in measurement or contamination can affect an entire experiment.
It's often the most accessible entry point into the field, since positions can be reached through a laboratory-based qualification rather than a full science degree. Many technicians build on this foundation over time, moving into more advanced roles as their experience and study level grows.

Nanomaterials Engineer
Nanomaterials Engineers design and test new materials engineered at the nanoscale, adjusting the way atoms and molecules are arranged to create materials that are stronger, lighter, or more conductive than their traditional counterparts. Their work feeds into industries like construction, electronics, and manufacturing, wherever a small change in material properties can make a big difference to performance.
A science or engineering degree with a materials or chemistry focus is the usual pathway in. Nanomaterials Engineers often specialise further as they build experience in a particular industry.

Nanomedicine Researcher
Nanomedicine Researchers develop nanoscale tools for medicine, including drug delivery systems designed to target specific cells in the body and diagnostic tools that can detect disease earlier than traditional methods. The work sits at the intersection of biology, chemistry, and engineering.
It's demanding, and usually means years of study and research experience before you're leading your own projects. If you're interested in both science and healthcare, it's one of the more direct ways to combine the two.

Nanomaterials Safety Officer
Nanomaterials Safety Officers assess and manage the risks involved in working with and manufacturing nanomaterials, since particles this small can behave differently in the body and the environment compared to their larger-scale counterparts. The role includes testing exposure levels, setting handling procedures, and making sure a workplace meets safety standards.
A science background is generally expected, often combined with further training in occupational health and safety. It suits you if you care about the practical, real-world side of new technology.

Nanotechnology Process Engineer
Nanotechnology Process Engineers take nanomaterials and processes that have been proven in a lab and work out how to scale them up for industrial manufacturing, without losing the properties that made them useful in the first place. It's a role that blends science with problem-solving and logistics, since manufacturing at scale introduces challenges that don't show up in small lab batches.
An engineering degree is the typical starting point, and experience in a manufacturing or production environment is highly valued alongside it.

What you'd need to get started
There's no single pathway into nanotechnology, since these five roles range from a laboratory-based qualification through to a full science or engineering degree. What they share is a foundation in the physical sciences, so senior subjects in chemistry, physics, or maths give you a solid base regardless of which direction you end up taking.
Beyond subject choice, a few things matter across all five roles:

- A high level of attention to detail, since small errors matter more at this scale
- Comfort following precise procedures and safety protocols
- Curiosity about how materials and systems behave, not just what they do
- The patience to work on problems that can take months or years to solve

None of these roles require you to have it all figured out before you start. Lab-based positions can be a practical way to build experience and work out whether the field suits you, before committing to further study in a specific direction.
If you're interested in exploring more careers, head to our jobs and careers page for more.

APPRENTICESHIPS & TRAINEESHIPS, VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

Do you need to be good at maths to do a STEM apprenticeship?

If you've wondered whether your maths is actually good enough for a STEM apprenticeship, or whether you need to work on it before you'd stand a chance, the honest answer depends on which kind of role you're picturing. Trade-based STEM apprenticeships, like becoming an Electrician or a Refrigeration Mechanic, generally need less maths than you'd expect. Some technical and engineering-focused STEM pathways need considerably more.

What counts as a STEM apprenticeship
STEM apprenticeships (roles built around science, technology, engineering, or maths) show up in

more places than most students expect. Electricians work with circuits and wiring systems, while Refrigeration Mechanics keep cooling and climate control systems running properly. Automotive Technicians diagnose and repair vehicles that rely on increasingly computerised systems, and Engineering Technicians support design and construction work on-site. In a lab setting, Laboratory Technicians prepare samples and run tests, and IT Technicians set up, maintain, and troubleshoot technology systems for a business.
None of these roles need a university degree to get started. They combine paid, on-the-job training with structured study towards a nationally recognised qualification, so you're building practical skills in a real workplace from early on.

Where the bar actually sits
An Electrician's maths covers load calculations, voltages, and measurements, usually assessed at around a Year 10 standard. A Refrigeration Mechanic works with pressure and temperature calculations, and an Automotive Technician reads diagnostic data and works with ratios and tolerances. All of this maths applies to real, high-stakes problems, but it stays at a level most students have already covered by the end of Year 10.
Some STEM-related roles need considerably more. An Electrical Engineer or Mechanical Engineer works through calculus and advanced mathematical modelling, which is why those degrees usually expect a higher level senior maths subject before you're even accepted.

How your maths already measures up
You can usually get a sense of this without any formal test. If you're comfortable working with fractions, decimals, and percentages, converting between units, and reading measurements accurately, you're already at the level most trade-based STEM apprenticeships expect. These are things you're probably already doing without noticing, like adjusting a recipe, working out change, or reading a tape measure. If you want a clearer answer, some apprenticeship providers offer short numeracy quizzes you can try before you apply, so you're not just guessing.
If you're picturing something like engineering instead, it's worth being honest with yourself about how comfortable you are with more abstract, multi-step problem solving, since that's closer to what those degrees actually demand.

If you think you need to build it up
If you've realised your maths isn't quite where you'd like it to be, that doesn't need to close any doors. Free numeracy check-ins are available if you're applying for an apprenticeship, giving you a clearer picture of what to expect. Once you're in an apprenticeship, training providers and government-funded foundation skills programs also offer extra support, including tutoring and additional numeracy sessions, so you're not left to work it out alone.
Employers are generally looking for someone willing to learn and apply themselves, not someone who already has every skill locked in from day one.

Building it up in the meantime
There are a few low-key ways to keep building your numeracy, whatever your current level. Practising applied problems, like working out measurements, ratios, or unit conversions, builds the exact kind of maths these roles use day to day. Paying attention to how maths shows up in everyday situations, from cooking to budgeting to sport, keeps those skills fresh without it feeling like study. The more you practise using numbers this way, the more natural it becomes.

The takeaway
Most STEM apprenticeships need a level of maths you've probably already got. If you're aiming higher, at something like engineering, the maths climbs with it, and it's worth knowing that early

rather than finding out once you've applied.
If you're curious about other apprenticeship and career pathways, we've got plenty more to explore.

STUDY, VOLUNTEERING

Should you get involved in citizen science as a student

You don't need a lab coat or a science degree to contribute to real research. Citizen science lets everyday people, including students, collect data that scientists use in their work, and there are plenty of ways to get involved without any prior experience.

What counts as citizen science

Citizen science is any project where members of the public help collect or process data for actual scientific research. It might mean photographing a plant you found on a walk, reporting an animal sighting through an app, or classifying images from a telescope on your laptop. The data gets fed into projects run by universities, museums, and research organisations, and used the same way any other scientific data would be.
What makes it different from a school science experiment is that the research is ongoing and run by actual scientists, with your contribution becoming part of a live dataset rather than a one-off assignment.

Why it's worth doing as a student

Getting involved gives you a look at how science actually works outside a classroom, collecting and reporting data the way researchers do, often using the same apps and platforms professionals rely on. It's also flexible. Most projects can be done in short bursts, a ten-minute bird count or a few minutes classifying images online, so it fits around school rather than competing with it.
It can also strengthen future applications, whether for further study or work, since it shows initiative and a willingness to contribute to something beyond your own immediate interests. More than anything, it's a way to turn curiosity about the world around you into something useful.

Examples you can get involved with

Citizen science covers a wide range of topics, but most projects fall into a few broad types.

Spot-and-report apps

These projects ask you to report a specific type of sighting through an app, usually with a photo. FrogID has you record a frog call to help track frog populations around the country. Redmap asks divers, fishers, and beachgoers to log marine species turning up in unusual places along the coast, which helps researchers track how ocean conditions are shifting. FeralScan collects sightings of feral animals to support control and conservation efforts. TurtleSAT and WomSAT work the same way for freshwater turtles and wombats, including signs of mange in wombat populations, both valuable indicators for researchers monitoring the health of local wildlife.

General biodiversity logging

Rather than tracking one species, these projects let you log anything you come across. iNaturalist lets you photograph and upload sightings of plants, animals, or fungi, and the community helps identify what you've found, building a picture of biodiversity across the country over time. The Aussie Backyard Bird Count runs for one week each year and asks people to spend twenty minutes recording the birds they see in their local area, contributing to one of the largest wildlife surveys in the country.

From-home projects

Not every project needs you outdoors. Zooniverse hosts dozens of projects you can join entirely from a laptop, from classifying galaxy shapes captured by telescopes to identifying animals in wildlife camera trap footage. DigiVol lets you help digitise museum collections and historical records, transcribing old documents or entering specimen data that would otherwise take researchers years to process by hand.

How it benefits the wider community

The data collected through these projects feeds directly into research. Researchers rely on citizen science because some questions, like whether a wombat population is affected by mange in a particular region, or whether a fish species is turning up further south than it used to, need far more eyes and locations than any research team could cover alone. A single sighting might not seem like much, but thousands of them, submitted from all over the country, build a picture that helps track environmental change, support conservation decisions, and sometimes even lead to new discoveries.

Species range shifts recorded through projects like Redmap, for example, have fed directly into research on how climate change is affecting Australian marine life. Data from apps like FrogID and WomSAT has been used to monitor the impact of habitat loss and disease on native species. Your individual contribution becomes part of something much bigger than a single sighting.

Common hesitations

A lot of people hold off on getting involved because they're worried about identifying something incorrectly. Most projects are built around this exact concern. Apps like iNaturalist and FrogID use both community input and expert review to confirm identifications, so a wrong guess gets corrected before it's used rather than counted as bad data. Zooniverse projects usually have multiple people classify the same image, and the results are cross-checked against each other before anything gets counted. Having a go and letting the system catch mistakes is exactly how these platforms are designed to work.

The other common hesitation is thinking a single sighting or classification is too small to matter. Citizen science is built around exactly that kind of small, individual contribution. No single data point needs to carry the weight of a discovery on its own, it just needs to be one accurate entry among thousands. That's a much lower bar than most people assume when they first look into it.

Getting started

The easiest way in is to pick one project that actually interests you, rather than trying to do all of them at once. If you like being outdoors, a spot-and-report app is a good place to start. If you'd rather contribute from your room, Zooniverse or DigiVol are worth a look. Download the app or create an account, have a look at how the data collection works, and start small. There's no minimum commitment, and most people who stick with it started with a single sighting or a few minutes spent classifying images.

Citizen science won't replace a formal science education, but it's a solid way to engage with actual research while you're still at school, and it might just introduce you to a field you hadn't considered before.

If you're curious about where an interest like this could take you, have a look through our study section for more.

JOB SPOTLIGHTS

How to become a Property Developer

Property Developers identify opportunities, secure land and financing, and coordinate the teams needed to turn a site into something new. They manage the full process from initial concept through

to completion, working across planning, design, construction, and finance to bring a development from idea to reality.
If you're drawn to complex projects with many moving parts, comfortable working with ambiguity, and interested in how the built environment takes shape, this career sits at the intersection of business, construction, and planning.

What skills do I need as a Property Developer?

- Strategic & commercial thinking
- Strong negotiator
- Project coordination
- Financial literacy
- Effective communicator
- Risk awareness
- Relationship builder
- Detail-oriented mindset

What do Property Developers do?

Before a project breaks ground, you're doing a significant amount of groundwork. You'll research potential sites, assess their development potential, and evaluate whether a project stacks up financially. This involves analysing planning controls, commissioning feasibility studies, and securing the financing needed to move forward. Getting this stage right is critical, and it requires you to draw on input from planners, financiers, and legal advisers before a single decision is made.
Once a project is underway, your role shifts to coordination. You'll manage relationships with architects, engineers, planners, construction teams, and local authorities, making sure each part of the process connects to the next. You're not necessarily doing the technical work yourself, but you need enough understanding of each discipline to ask the right questions, spot problems early, and keep everyone aligned on the shared outcome. Decisions come at you from multiple directions, and your job is to keep the project on track without losing sight of the budget or timeline.
Periodically you'll navigate planning approvals, respond to community feedback, and manage variations when something doesn't go to plan. Some developers focus on residential projects, others on commercial or mixed-use developments, and some work on large-scale urban renewal. As your experience grows, you may take on larger and more complex projects, or move into development management roles within larger organisations.

What kind of lifestyle could I expect?

Property Developers work for development companies, construction firms, real estate groups, and government agencies involved in housing and urban renewal. Some work in-house for large organisations managing their own development pipelines, while others work for smaller boutique developers or eventually establish their own businesses. The role can also exist within local and state government, where development is driven by public infrastructure and housing needs rather than private investment.
Hours are typically above average, particularly during active project phases when approvals, construction milestones, or settlements create concentrated periods of pressure. The work is largely office-based, though you'll regularly visit sites and attend meetings with councils, consultants, and contractors. Some flexibility is possible depending on the employer, but the pace of the work means it rarely fits a rigid nine-to-five pattern.
Salaries are above average, though income in this field can vary considerably. Many developers, particularly those running their own projects, earn based on the success of individual developments rather than a fixed salary. This means income can be variable, with the potential for significantly higher earnings as experience and track record grow. The property development sector is tied to

broader economic conditions, including interest rates and housing demand, which can affect project viability and employment at different points in the cycle.

How to become a Property Developer

- **Build relevant knowledge through study:** A degree in property economics, urban planning, construction management, business, or a related field gives you a strong foundation. These programs build your understanding of feasibility, finance, and the planning and construction processes that underpin development work.
- **Gain experience in a related field:** Most people enter property development after working in an adjacent role first. Construction, real estate, planning, and project management are all common starting points. This experience builds the practical knowledge of how projects actually run, which is hard to develop from study alone.
- **Develop your financial and commercial literacy:** Understanding how development finance works, including concepts like feasibility modelling, cash flow, and return on investment, is central to the role. Look for opportunities to build this knowledge through your studies, workplace experience, or professional development.
- **Build your professional network:** Property development runs on relationships. Connections with planners, architects, financiers, builders, and real estate agents all become relevant as you progress. Starting to build those connections early, through work experience, industry events, and professional associations, puts you in a stronger position when you're ready to take on more responsibility.

From here, you could move into development management roles overseeing larger project portfolios, take on senior positions within major development or construction companies, or build experience across enough disciplines to pursue your own projects over time.

What can I do right now?

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

- Follow property and construction news to build your understanding of how the development market works, including how planning decisions, interest rates, and housing demand shape what gets built and where
- Look for work experience with real estate agencies, property management firms, or construction companies to get a ground-level view of how projects and transactions work in practice
- Focus on building strong foundations in maths and business subjects, as financial literacy and analytical thinking are central to development work at every level

Find out more about alternative careers on our Job Spotlights page.

Created by Study Work Grow in 2026
Web: studyworkgrow.com
Email: schools@studyworkgrow.com
Phone: +61 7 4039 3862