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Joke for the fortnight

I wanted to be a baker, really kneaded the dough!

Thought for the fortnight

Something to think about - what can a leader really look like? Leaders with influence: (source unknown)

- GIVE when they don't have to
- CARE for others
- GROW continuously
- LIVE authentically
- EMPOWER others
- MANAGE hardship
- SERVE with humility



Apprenticeships and Traineeships - FAQ's

Australian Apprenticeships (often referred to as Apprenticeships or Traineeships) are a great way to earn an income while learning new skills. They are available to anyone of working age, enabling you to combine work with study. There are over 500 different occupations. As an Australian Apprentice you can:

- Earn an income while you study
- Gain hands-on work experience
- Get a nationally recognised qualification that is held in high regard in many overseas countries
- Be debt free (no HECS-HELP or FEE-HELP debt).

You can even begin your Australian Apprenticeship while you're still at school, through an <u>Australian School-based Apprenticeship</u>. Click <u>here</u> for the answers to the following questions:

- What is an Australian Apprenticeship?
- What are the benefits of apprenticeships or traineeships?
- How much does it pay?
- What kind of jobs do apprenticeships and traineeships cover?
- How long does an Australian Apprenticeship take?
- Need more information?
- Find out more

Benefits of an apprenticeship pathway

In today's changing world of work, Australia needs a capable, skilled and adaptive workforce. According to The Good Universities Guide there are <u>five advantages</u> of apprenticeships and traineeships such as:

- You earn while you learn
- You can choose from a wide variety of interests
- Training is flexible
- You will receive a nationally recognised qualification
- You can start them at school

Post school options - Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships offer nationally recognised qualifications and pathways to over 500 occupations across Australia, from traditional trades to new and emerging occupations. You can explore the many options available by clicking on the links below:

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- Learn more about Apprenticeships
 - o Australian Apprenticeships offer a world of possibilities
 - o First year apprentice videos
 - o VET. It's right now video
 - Occupation shortage list
 - Career stories
- Australian Apprenticeships offer a world of opportunities
 - o Find an apprenticeship that suits you
 - o Improve your chances

Queensland Government apprenticeship assistance

The Queensland Government offers support to encourage employers to take on more apprentices. Read more about <u>apprenticeship training</u> and <u>financial help</u> that may be available if you are thinking about starting an apprenticeship.

Starting Employment

The Fair Work Ombudsman has put together information that will help you successfully transition into your job. Click <u>here</u> to find out more about:

- Before starting employment
- Probation
- Types of employees
- Unpaid work



Upcoming Australian Defence Force information sessions

For details about the following events and more information on Army Reserve Information Sessions, visit the Defence Jobs Australia Facebook <u>site</u>. or visit the ADF's Upcoming Events <u>page</u>.

05/11/2025	Maroochydore Defence Careers Information Session
	Toowoomba Defence Careers Information Session
06/11/2025	Brisbane Defence Careers Information Session
	Townsville Defence Careers Information Session
10/11/2025	Army Careers Virtual Information Session
12/11/2025	Gold Coast Defence Careers Information Session
13/11/2025	Submariner Careers Information Session
18/11/2025	Cairns Army Reserve Information Session
	Rockhampton A Night in the Army Reserve



Busting career myths

Success looks different for everyone. *Your Career* has put together a video about common career myths to help you focus on what's right for you. Click <u>here</u> and scroll down to watch the video.

Career exploration or no real plan foe next year

myfuture is a great website to find information to assist you in doing some quality career research especially now as key decisions need to be made for senior schooling or life after school. On the myfuture website, you can find information about:

- My career profile Complete activities to identify interests, values and skills and view suggested occupations to explore career pathways.
- Occupations Explore over 350 occupations describing tasks, skill levels and current labour market information.
- Industries Access important information (including employment prospects) for each industry.
- Career articles Discover practical information to support your career exploration.
- Courses Discover a course for you by viewing current higher education and vocational education and training (VET) courses.
- Career bullseyes Find out what career pathways are related to school subjects that you like.
- Career stories Learn tips and tricks by reading real-life career stories about personal experiences.
- Job Seeker resources Discover resume and cover letter templates and other resources to help you find and gain a job.
- User guide videos View short videos that demonstrate key sections of the website to learn how to get the most out of myfuture.

You have to sign up to the site, but it is free and they only ask for an email address and your postcode.

Parents and guardians guide

Is your young person a school leaver and not sure what to do next? Your Career's Parents and guardians guide summarises the resources and information available to help you explore all the education, training and work options available to your young person. It can also help you start a conversation on what's next with their career. Click here to find out more including:

- Parents and guardians guide
- Information in other languages

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- Information for School Leavers
- Leaving school and not sure what is next?

School to Work Pathways

Discover how myfuture can help you to explore career pathways and make career decisions. Click <u>here</u> to access infographics that will help you find career/work pathways that support your job interests.

Take a gap year - what does that really mean?

Canadians Carol Langlois and Becky Mulholland both career practitioners, share their new vision of 'The Gap Year'. They bring up some interesting points that ae well worth reading about. It is written from a Canadian standpoint but the points discussed are just as relevant for Australian's young people. They discuss:

- The gap year concept is overdue for a cultural reset
- For many families, college is the most expensive decision they'll ever make.
- For many parents, the phrase "gap year" still stirs anxiety
- The value of intentional pauses
- Gap years can foster self-discovery, emotional growth and direction

Click here to read the full article.

Values can help career decision making

Our 'values' shape the career choices we make, but what exactly are values and how can you identify the values that are important to you and that will positively impact your career? Below are some values that may influence your career choices. Ask yourself which of the following values are important to you and are there any you want to add:

- Adventurous: To be adventurous to actively seek, create, or explore novel or stimulating experiences
- Assertiveness: To respectfully stand up for my rights and request what I want
- Authenticness: To be authentic, genuine, real, be true to myself
- Caring: To be caring towards myself, others, the environment
- Challenging: To keep challenging myself to grow, learn, improve
- Cooperative: To be cooperative and collaborative with others
- Creativeness: To be creative or innovative
- Curiousness: To be curious, open-minded and interested; to explore and discover
- Fairness: To be fair to myself and others
- Humourous: To see and appreciate the funny side of life
- Independence: To be self-supportive, and choose my own way of doing things
- Open-mindedness: To see things through or from other's points of view, and weigh evidence fairly
- Power: To strongly influence or wield authority over others, e.g. taking charge, leading, organising
- Respectfulness: To be respectful towards myself or others; to be polite and show positive regard for others

- Self-development: To keep growing, advancing or improving in knowledge, skills, character, or life experience
- Supportiveness: To be supportive, helpful, encouraging and available to myself or others
- Trustfulness: To be trustworthy; to be loyal, faithful, sincere and reliable

Work experience - find the right fit

Doing work experience is one of the best ways to learn a lot about the world of work and the different jobs that will build your skills. If you want work experience that gives you information about how you can build a rewarding career in a particular role, you can:

- **Visit an employer's premises** or work site for a workplace tour. Check with your school or approach an employer directly.
- Attend career talks by employers and workers. Look for industry networking events online or talk to employers at career or jobs expos.
- **Interview an expert.** Talk to someone working in your industry or job of choice to find out about their pathway and what the job is really like.

Click <u>here</u> to find out more.



2026 St Kilda Film Festival- Under the Radar Film Competition

Presented and produced by the City of Port Phillip, the St Kilda Film Festival supports the Australian film industry by showcasing the best short films. A special category of St Kilda Film Festival is the Youth Short Film Category - Under the Radar. This category provides an opportunity for young filmmakers (under the age of 21) to show their work in an internationally recognised film festival. Click here to find out more information including entry details. Applications close on 31 January 2026.

FLiCKERFEST 2026 FlickerUp Competition reminder

FLICKERFEST, Australia's premier international short film festival, will be held at Sydney's famous Bondi Beach in January 2026. The Festival in 2026 will celebrate 35 years of screening the best short films from Australia and around the world in competitions and special showcases. FlickerUp submissions deadline is Wednesday 15 November 2025. Click here for more information and entry details.



Are you a Year 12 student or leaving school?

Leaving school is a big step. When a participant is leaving school, they might need help to build their skills and be ready for work. NDIS has valuable information on their <u>website</u> to support you to make a smooth transition from school into adult life and employment. Click <u>here</u> to find out more about:

- At school and thinking about work?
- Are you a Year 12 student or leaving school?
 - Wanting to get your first job?
 - o Thinking about further study or training after school?
 - O Not yet working but want to work?
 - Volunteering
 - Planning for work
- Finding employment service providers
- NDIS employment assistance and other employment programs

Click here (Scroll down) to find out more.

Help Employment and Training

Help Employment and Training is a disability employment service that provides tailored employment and training solutions to job seekers, students and employers across South East Queensland. Whether it's finding meaningful employment, growing your business or developing and learning new skills, they believe employment changes people's lives. Find out more information including finding an employer here.

Inclusive Employment Australia

Department of Social Services, Inclusive Employment Australia is replacing Employment Disability Services from 1 November. Inclusive Employment Australia is a new specialist disability employment program. It assists people with a disability, injury or health condition to prepare for, find and maintain work and grow their career. Inclusive Employment Australia will help create a more inclusive future. The program places participants at the centre of the service. It will improve and simplify services for people looking for work, as well as for employers and service providers. Click here to find out more information.

Ostara Australia

Ostara Australia is a national not-for-profit organisation that works closely with the Australian Government, member services, communities and employers to provide employment services for those job seekers who are the most disadvantaged in Australia. They work with employers to remove these barriers to meaningful employment. Visit their website to find out more about:

- Developing job readiness
- Upskilling
- Gaining employment
- Support at work



ABS Labour Force Data - September 2025

The following is the ABS Labour Force Data for September 2025. Knowing what the job market looks like gives you more information to help you make great career decisions. In seasonally adjusted terms, in September 2025:

- unemployment rate increased to 4.5%.
- participation rate increased to 67.0%.
- employment increased to 14,640,200.
- employment to population ratio remained at 64.0%.
- underemployment rate increased to 5.9%.
- monthly hours worked increased to 1,987 million.
- full-time employment increased by 8,700 to 10,082,800 people.
- part-time employment increased by 6,300 to 4,557,400 people.

Agriculture and environmental studies careers

There is more to agriculture than just working on the land. While farming is a big part of the industry, careers in agriculture can branch out to food processing, aquaculture and forestry and horticultural operations. Becoming an agricultural or forestry scientist is also a potential career path for those who want to combine research with a passion for the environment, while entrepreneurs may be drawn to the possibilities in agribusiness. This industry also requires workers from areas that you wouldn't immediately correlate with agriculture – think sales executives, logistics experts and product managers. Click here to find out more about:

- Location
- Significant and rewarding job
- Innovation
- · Prediction of growth

Al taking over creative jobs ... really?

You can have a career that uses both the technical and creative parts of your brain! How can this be when we're being told AI is coming for our dream jobs? Well, when it comes to the world of tech and creativity, AI lacks the unique storytelling flair, intuitive design skills, and truly innovative spark that humans can have. Click here to read Careers with STEM's article Want to level up fast? Get creative with your career which includes:

Creative Tech jobs

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- Technology + Creativity + Study
- Technology + Creativity + Jobs
- Further resources

Computer Skills for your resume

Promoting computer skills on your resume can help you show an employer that you're a capable person who can complete tasks with computers efficiently. Developing these skills can help you advance in your career. An article from the Indeed Editorial Team explains what computer skills for a resume are, provides examples of these skills and explains how to develop, use and promote them. Click here to read their article.

Five tips for career development networking

Networking is about building and developing professional relationships that can help you achieve your employment goals. Networking can take many forms. You can:

- join professional associations
- attend formal networking or business events
- build relationships online or through your existing business or social channels.

Having a network of professional contacts can be useful for:

- getting a better understanding of your dream career or industry
- finding future employment opportunities and
- landing a job.

Click here to find more networking tips.

General Clerk - what do they do?

General Clerks perform a range of clerical and administrative tasks including:

- recording, preparing, sorting, classifying and filing information
- sorting, opening and sending mail
- photocopying and faxing documents
- preparing reports of a routine nature
- recording issue of equipment to staff
- receiving letters and telephone messages
- transcribing information onto computers, and proofreading and correcting copy
- may provide customers with information about services
- may perform receptionist duties.

Click here to see if it may be a job for you.

Jobs seekers resources

If you are looking for work during secondary school or beyond and/or considering an apprenticeship, then you can learn how to find opportunities, produce quality applications, prepare for job interviews and more from the myfuture's job seeker resources, tips and templates.

Pathway after school support - Link and Launch

Link and Launch support young people who have completed Year 12 but are not in education, employment. They will help you to navigate your options and choose a pathway that will see you successfully transition to study, training or work. Some options you may consider through the program include:

- free apprenticeships for under 25s
- Fee-Free TAFE
- Skilling Queenslanders for Work programs
- alternative entry to university
- employment
- federal incentives and participation programs like Transition to Work.

Click <u>here</u> to find out more remembering that although based at local schools you don't have to be a past student to use their services.

Work Trials - Insights from employers

Employers use work trials to decide whether someone has the skills to do the job and whether they will fit in with the team. Click <u>here</u> for some insights from employers on what they look for during a work trial, including tips on preparing for one:

- What should I expect during a work trial?
- What do employers look for during work trials?
- How can I use this information?
- Tips for preparing for a work trial
- More resources to help you



ACU Scholarships and fee information

Studying is a big financial commitment. Discover how to understand your university fees, work out if you're eligible for scholarships or financial assistance, and learn what other expenses you may have to pay. Click here to find out more about:

- Domestic student fees
- International student fees
- Other fees and costs
- Scholarships
 - Find a scholarship
 - International scholarships
- Finance your studies
- Payments and refunds

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Uni Scholarship for rural and regional students

2026 applications for scholarships open on 1 December 2025 and close on 30 January 2026. Successful recipients will be notified early in 2026. What you need to know:

- This scholarship is valued at \$6,500
- This Scholarship is for students living in rural and regional Australia.
- Any subject can be studied under this scholarship provided that it is at undergraduate bachelor's degree level in an approved Australian course.
- You must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident.
- Only first-time, first year university students wishing to study full-time in 2026 can apply.
- You can demonstrate your passion and desire to supporting rural communities both now and into the future.
- You can demonstrate community involvement

<u>Click here</u> to find more information including a 'Fast Facts' section.

Griffith University Adam Scott Foundation Sports Business Scholarship

The Adam Scott Foundation Business Scholarship is for students who have overcome adversities in their life, are passionate about business and may also have an interest in sport. The scholarship is for payment of the student contribution charges (CSP/HECS). Visit the <u>website</u> for more information. Applications close on 27 January 2026.

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QUT Adrian Scott Rural Journalism Scholarship

The <u>Adrian Scott Rural Journalism Scholarship</u> supports a student from a regional, rural or remote location to study in a Bachelor of Communication at QUT. This scholarship offers financial assistance to relocate. It is valued at \$8,000 for two years, paid in four instalments to help with your study. Applications open on 1 January 2026 and close 6 March 2026. Visit the QUT <u>website</u> to find out more.

QUT Scholarship info

Whether you identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, you're a budding entrepreneur, are facing financial hardship or you come from a rural or regional area and/or you have outstanding academic, sport and esport, creative or STEM achievements, there may be a scholarship for you. There are even scholarships for specific study areas.

Click <u>here</u> to read more about:

- No application required
- Other scholarships for school leavers
- Discover the right scholarship for you
- Prepare a great application
- Research scholarships

Torrens University faculty scholarships

Are you planning to study Business and Technology, Creative Technology, Design, Education, Health or Hospitality, or study at the Blue Mountains International Hotel School? Torrens University may have a 2026 scholarship for you. If you're motivated, future-focused and keen to fast-track your career, you are encouraged to apply for one of their <u>scholarships</u>. Successful students get up to 20% off their course fees and access to a range of exclusive opportunities.

UniSQ Academic Excellence scholarships

The <u>USQ Academic Excellence Scholarships</u> are automatically awarded to eligible Year 12 Students who put USQ as #1 on their QTAC application for 2025 and achieve the required ATAR. You do not have to put in an application.

UQ Kathy Hirschfeld AM Scholarship Endowment for Women in Engineering

The purpose of this scholarship is to encourage and support first year female students who are currently experiencing financial barriers to undertake studies in engineering at The University of Queensland. The award is valued at \$4,500 for one year. See the website for details. Applications open January 2026 close February 2026.

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UQ key scholarships

Here are a few key scholarships that are currently open and accepting applications. All information about scholarships can be found on UQ's Scholarships <u>website</u>.

2026 Academic Scholarships

Applications close 21 November 2025. Click <u>here</u> for more information.

Schools of Business and Economics Indigenous Student Scholarship

Indigenous students in Economics. Click <u>here</u> for more information. Schools of Business and Economics Indigenous Student Scholarship

Calboonya Legacy Information Technology and Computer Science Scholarship

For students experiencing financial hardship and enrolled in:

- Bachelor of Computer Science
- Bachelor of Computer Science (Honours)
- Bachelor of Information Technology
- Bachelor of Information Technology (Honours)
- Bachelor of Science (Computer Science Major)
- Bachelor of Science (Honours) (Computer Science Major)
- any dual program including the above programs.

Applications open January 2026 close February 2026. Click here for more information.

UQ Residential Scholarship Scheme

The UQ Residential Scholarship scheme offers financial support to help cover accommodation costs at a UQ approved provider. If you are or will be residing at a UQ approved accommodation provider and you are experiencing financial hardship, click here for more information about accommodation options, schemes and application details. The main offer round closes on 3 November.



Pearl Duncan Teaching Scholarship

If you identify as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and are studying or intend to study an undergraduate or postgraduate teacher qualification, the Queensland Government's Pearl Duncan Teaching Scholarship might be right for you. The scholarships are valued at up to \$40,000 and the opportunity to secure permanent employment as a teacher in a Queensland state school after graduation. You must be commencing an undergraduate Teacher Education (ITE) program, such as a Bachelor of Education. Applications close on 12 December 2025. See the website for details.

SAE University College's First Nations Scholarship application closing date extended

SAE's Creative First Nations Scholarship celebrates Indigenous students commencing a full-time Bachelor's degree in Trimester 1, 2026. The scholarship covers the full tuition costs of successful applicants. Applications close on 30 January 2026. Click here-to-successful-applicants.

UQ InspireU Explore Camp

InspireU Explore is a free 5-day residential camp for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high school students focused on building aspirations. If you're in Years 9 to 11 in 2025, you can participate in a wide range of activities at UQ's 2026 camp that will help you get a better idea of what university life is all about. What you'll do at the InspireU Explore camp:

- stay at UQ's amazing St Lucia campus for 5 days (4 nights)
- attend hands-on workshops and campus tours
- visit exciting UQ facilities including labs, colleges and sporting venues
- make long-lasting friendships, have fun and be inspired with staff from the ATSIS Unit.

Click here to find out more and to apply. Applications close on 30 November 2025.



Gap year may be an option

Taking a gap year after school is becoming more popular in Australia and abroad. It's not difficult to see why as employers are on the lookout for well-rounded candidates with 'work ready' skills. Also, many universities and TAFEs are accepting student deferrals for a gap year. Some openly support their many benefits to students. Click here to find out more about Gap years: making them work for you including:

- Volunteer at home
- Travel
- Upskill and get fit while you're at it
- Time out
- Work in any capacity



Compare US colleges and universities

When researching US colleges and universities, you can open an account on the <u>College Board website</u> to save all your college planning activities. The website has a <u>Compare Colleges page</u> where you can compare up to three colleges. It can help you organise your research.

QUT International student information

Finishing high school and starting university is a once in a lifetime experience. If you're an international student finishing Year 12 in Australia, click here to find out how QUT can assist you by providing information about:

- Scholarships
- Adjustment schemes
- ATAR requirements
- Changing your preferences
- Double degrees
- Global opportunities
- Student life
- Workplace experience

World University Rankings 2026

Discover the top universities worldwide with the *Times Higher Education* World University Rankings 2026. This year, they have ranked 2,191 institutions from 115 countries and territories.

University rankings 2026: Highlights

- **Oxford** retains the number one spot for the tenth consecutive year, driven by a strong research environment score
- **Princeton** rises to joint third place, and is the only US university to achieve its best-ever finish this year
- China has five universities in top 40, up from three last year, but top universities remain steady
- Hong Kong occupies a record six spots in the top 200 as a result of improvements in teaching metrics
- India now has the second highest number of ranked universities for the first time, behind only the US

Click <u>here</u> to explore the table and discover the full rankings and how universities around the world are performing this year.
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AMC Training and Consulting: Cert III in Individual Support

<u>AMC Training and Consulting</u> delivers courses for those interested in entering the Caring industry. The online courses they offer are:

- CHC33021 Certificate III in Individual Support Specialising in Ageing
- CHC33021 Certificate III in Individual Support Specialising in Disability

Jazz Music Institute (JMI) 2026 courses and audition information

Entry into JMI's accredited courses is through a successful audition. Click here and complete the JMI audition application form. Only **domestic students** should apply this way and if you are an international student, visit their International Students page for information on how to apply. Once you have submitted your application form, JMI will contact you directly to arrange a time for your audition. There is a \$30 audition fee payable at the time of your audition. Before completing the form, make sure you have looked at the audition requirements for the course/s you are applying for. If you have any queries regarding these audition requirements, please contact JMI for an information session.

SAE University College's Music degree

The music industry of today demands professionals who have a unique blend of creativity, adaptability and business acumen. SAE's new Bachelor of Music degree has been designed to support aspiring musicians and music creators with the modern skills to not only survive but excel in the ever-evolving music landscape. Hear from SAE's Music Course Leader, David Turner who has dived deeper into the degree and its transformative potential to support students' future careers in music. Click here to find out more.



Assistance schemes and Adjustment Factors

The following are the various assistance schemes that can be applied for through QTAC. It is wise to read about each scheme to see if you are eligible to apply. They all have different advantages and you may need to apply for some schemes prior to you receiving an offer. There are several government, institution and private schemes that can provide financial assistance to students:

- Educational Access Scheme (scroll down)
- Financial assistance (scroll down)

Each institution has its own student assistance schemes so it's best to access this information through individual participating University <u>websites</u>. Click <u>here</u> (scroll down) for information about the assistance schemes found on the QTAC website including:

- Special admission schemes
- Empower Your Educational Journey with Assistance Schemes
- Elite Athlete Adjustment Scheme
- Financial Assistance
- Educational Access Scheme (EAS)
- Frequently Asked Questions

Contacting QTAC

If you have any questions or need some assistance from QTAC you can call them on 1300 467 822. Their phone lines are open from 8.45am to 4.30pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and from 9:00am to 4.30pm Wednesday.

Do you have all your QTAC documents and numbers in a safe place?

Including:

- Your 2026 Year 12 Guide
- A copy of your QTAC preferences
- Your QTAC password
- Your QTAC reference number
- Your LUI, Learning Account password and Unique Student Identifier (USI).

If you are going on holidays over Christmas, especially overseas, you should take these with you.

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QCE Achievement Awards certificates go online

The Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) will issue Queensland Certificate of Education, Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement and Achievement Awards Commendation Certificates electronically via student learning accounts. Eligible students will be able to download their certificate on Wednesday 11 December:

- Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement for students who undertook an Individualised Learning Program (QCIA)
- Queensland Certificate of Education for students who meet identified learning outcomes (QCE)
- Certificate of Academic Commendation for students who achieve an A in six or more General and/or General (Extension) subjects.
- Subject Achievement Commendation for students who achieve the highest result in at least one General or General (Extension) subject.

Students can access their learning account in the Student Portal, via the myQCE website.

QTAC FAQs

Q Will I get an offer for all the courses I applied for through QTAC?

A No. You will only receive one offer for your highest eligible preference course that you are competitive for. Therefore, it is essential to order your courses according to your preference, putting the course you most want first and having a 'safety net' course as your 6th option.

Q Will I get a letter in the mail from QTAC with my offer?

A No. If you have an offer, QTAC will notify you by email or SMS. You need to sign into your application on the QTAC website for details of your offer and to respond to your offer. Because there are numerous offer-round dates (see <u>Course offer dates</u>), you must check your emails regularly (including your Junk folder).

Q Is there anything I can do if I don't respond to an offer by the due date?

A Yes. Contact QTAC immediately. QTAC may be able to reinstate your offer.

Q What happens after I have accepted an offer of a course place?

A You enrol at your institution by the due date. Most institutions will have an 'Enrol here' link on the QTAC website. If there's no enrolment link, your university will contact you directly.

Q I have applied for courses that start in Semester One and Semester Two 2026 on my QTAC application. Is this OK?

A Yes, if the Semester One courses are listed before the Semester Two courses. However, a better strategy is to put only Semester One courses on your application in the first instance. After the major offerround for Semester One courses in January 2026, you can put Semester Two courses on your application if you have not received your preferred offer.

Q What should I do if I don't get an offer?

A First check your application on the QTAC website. You may be ineligible for the courses you applied for. This will be indicated on the Preferences page of your application beside each course preference. Reasons for not receiving an offer may include:

- Quota restrictions (that is, your ATAR/rank did not meet the minimum threshold)
- Failure to satisfy minimum entry requirements (prerequisite subjects, audition, etc.)
- Failure to pay QTAC processing/application fee
- Preferencing your courses incorrectly (e.g. putting semester two courses before semester one courses; not including a 'good' pathways option for your 5th and 6th preferences)
- Applying after the due date for the offer-round
- Not submitting required documents
- Not responding to an earlier offer.

If you don't get an offer and none of the above points apply, contact QTAC immediately.

Q What do I have to do when I receive an offer?

A You must respond to QTAC by the due date. You usually have four days to respond. If you don't respond by the due date, your offer will lapse and your application will become inactive. When you respond to your offer, you have two main options:

- Make an outright acceptance, deferment or rejection OR
- Conditionally accept your offer so you can be considered for higher preferences in future offer rounds. If you choose this option, you must go back into your QTAC application and put your preferences back into your application.

See more information about responding on the Application Services page on the QTAC website.

If you were ineligible for the courses you applied for, you can change your course preferences for consideration in any subsequent offer-round if further offers are made. QTAC usually publishes remaining course vacancies on its website after a major offer-round. You can also contact QTAC by phone, email or Facebook for advice.



A suggestion as to what to do if you get a mind blank in an exam

Art of Smart has an article which outlines some strategies that may suit you if you get a memory blank during exams. They say that it happens to the best of us! That's why in the video, Rowan will show you how to deal with a mind blank in an exam so that you can come back into focus and maximise your marks anyway. Click here to read about the steps including (only use these if they assist you):

- Step 1: Acceptance
- Step 2: Meditation
- Step 3: Hydration
- Step 4: Self-Talk
- Step 5: Self-Confirmation
- Step 6: Have a Plan!

De-stress with Mental Stillness

This is the time of the year when our stress levels soar. Unfortunately, stress not only affects mental and physical health but can also impact on exam performance. To help us manage our stress, Generation Next and Sydney University's Department of Psychiatry have developed a free, easy-to-use app. The Mental Stillness App provides simple guided-meditation sequences on video that can be used on demand. It can be downloaded for iPads and there are similar apps on Android devices.

Stress - How well am I managing it?

<u>Healthdirect</u> has put together some key facts on stress. Knowing what to look for and getting on top of your stress can make your life manageable, successful and happy. Click here and read about:

- What is stress?
- How do I know if I'm too stressed?
- What are some common causes of stress?
- How can I manage my stress?
- When should I see my doctor?
- How can I prevent stress?
- What happens if I don't manage my stress?
- Resources and support
- Related information on Australian websites

Top tips for helping your child during an exam period

When you have a teenager in high school, navigating the stress of exams is inevitable. You can be prepared by implementing these helpful exam stress tips for parents. Exam stress can take many shapes and forms for both parents and teenagers. What's important is being able to recognise when your teen is stressed and preventing your own stress from affecting their behaviour. Click <u>here</u> to find out more including:

- Create a quiet study space
- Plan a study timetable
- Discuss realistic expectations
- Devise coping methods for stress
- Make sure they're eating right
- Encourage making sleep a priority
- Exercise
- Reassure



Adult Tertiary Preparation Course

If you don't think you will gain entry to your preferred tertiary course or you need to meet subject prerequisites, consider completing the Certificate IV in Adult Tertiary Preparation. You can learn about this course by visiting the TAFE <u>website</u>.

TAFE Queensland offers more than trade courses

TAFE offer a wide range of qualifications from Certificates to Diplomas, to Degrees, to trade qualifications all across many different industry areas. Click <u>here</u> to read more about the different pathways that TAFE offer.

Unilearn Ready Program

The Unilearn Ready Program can help you get a Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) Selection Rank or complete your Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE). Completing three subjects in 30 weeks, this full-time program is delivered entirely online, allowing you to study at a time and place that suits you. You will need to complete the compulsory core subject Academic Literacy Skills and choose two of the following elective subjects: Biology, Chemistry, Introduction to Economics, Introduction to Mathematics, Senior Mathematics, Senior English or Physics. You can watch this short video to learn more about the Unilearn Ready Program. Click here to find out more about the program and how to apply.



Alternate pathways to Uni

Alternative entry pathways are available for people who:

- don't have the ATAR needed for standard admission
- don't have an ATAR at all.

Ways to get into University without an ATAR include:

- Enrol in a non-degree or bridging course first
- Enrol in an undergraduate Certificate course
- Try Vocational Education and Training n(VET)

Click <u>here</u> to read more about these options and more.

How to decide whether to defer your course

You may be about to start university for the first time. The <u>uni slump</u> doesn't discriminate and can hit any time. Pursuing a tertiary education may be considered the 'norm' but realistically, it's not for everyone all the time and taking time out for yourself or pursuing other goals is perfectly acceptable and should be just as normalised. Click <u>here</u> to read The Switch's article that talks about:

- Is deferring university right for you?
- The Pros of Deferring University
- The Cons of Deferring University
- How to Tell Your Family and Friends You Want to Defer
- So, What's Next After I Defer My University Course?

The Elite Athlete Education Network

The Elite Athlete Education Network (EAEN) supports Australia's elite athletes to achieve academic excellence while also pursuing a sporting career. The value of combining both sport and higher education to achieve greater life success is well recognised across the university and sporting sectors. There are 41 universities across Australia that are part of the EAEN. Each of these universities provides academic support and flexibility to endorsed elite student-athletes. Click here to learn more about:

- Academic support
- EAEN Nominated Contacts

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- Eligible Elite Athletes
- Additional Info and Considerations

Australian Catholic University

Don't have the prerequisites for primary teaching?

The Diploma of Educational Studies is a great pathway if you do not meet the prerequisites (English or Maths) for entry into an education course. You can complete the Diploma in one year and request a transfer into the desired initial Education course and receive full credit (apart from the unit/s that you did not have as a prerequisite/s). You can read more here about the units you would study. This is a direct application to ACU, which means you do not list it as a QTAC preference. Contact ACU for more information.

Entry schemes/Adjustment factors

These schemes can help you improve your chances of gaining entry to ACU courses through the allocation of adjustment factors. You can be allocated a maximum of 12 adjustment factors. You don't have to submit an application for most entry schemes however, some require a direct application to ACU. Read the information carefully to be sure you meet all entry requirements and application processes. The available Adjustment factor categories schemes are:

- Year 12 ACU subject program (max 5 points)
- Elite Athlete and Performers Program (EAPP) (depends on level of competition)
- School relationship program (max 5 points)
- Campus program (max 5 points)
- Regional Schools Program (max 5 points)
- State access and equity schemes (apply through QTAC)

You must apply for the following entry schemes through your QTAC application:

- QTAC's Educational Access Scheme
- ACU's Elite Athlete and Performers Program

Talk with Industry

You can go online and hear from ACU alumni about their professional experiences after completing their studies at ACU. Click <u>here</u> to listen to videos from the following study areas:

- Arts, Education and Teaching
- Business, IT, Law and Human Rights
- Health Sciences
- General Sessions

Central Queensland University

CQUniversity online chat session

If you are thinking about starting a TAFE or university qualification and have a few questions or would like to talk through your study options, join the CQU <u>online chat session</u> from 3 – 6 pm on 20 November 2025. Get to know CQUniversity a little better whether it's in relation to your course of interest, student support services or anything else to do with studying at CQU.

Griffith University

Live chat with Griffith and discover your options.

Whether your ATAR results aren't quite what you'd hoped for or you may have a change of heart after submitting your university application, you can chat with someone at Griffith and talk through your pathway and course options. Between 18 – 23 December 2025, the Griffith team will be online to chat with you about your study options and how to make the most of your results, no matter what they look like. Click here to join their free online sessions this December. Details to come.

One on One Q&A session

You can book a 30-minutes Q&A session to explore your study options, receive personalised application support and get advice on a range of support services available at Griffith. Video call or telephone appointments are available. Click here for more information and booking details.

Sports College applications

If you are competing at a state, national or international level you might be eligible to join the Griffith Sports College. Griffith Sports College supports you by helping you to devote time to training and competition while you complete your tertiary studies at Griffith University. Click here for more information and application details.

Study Griffith's Diploma of Languages part-time with any bachelor degree

Communicating in other languages can be beneficial in almost any career. With Griffith University's Diploma of Languages, you can continue learning a language taken at school or start a new language as a beginner while also studying a degree in another area. You can specialise in one of the following languages:

- Chinese
- Italian
- Japanese

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Spanish

The Diploma is taken part-time on top of your usual studies and completed in two years. Find out more here.

Undergraduate Diploma pathways to Griffith Uni

Griffith University's undergraduate diplomas give you a supported start to your university studies, providing you with a practical pathway to achieving a full bachelor's degree. Click <a href=here for more information and a list of Diplomas and pathways that they offer.

Queensland University of Technology

Bachelor of Engineering (Honours)/Master of Engineering Management

From Semester 1, 2026, QUT will offer the <u>Bachelor of Engineering (Honours)/Master of Engineering Management</u> (QTAC code 409802). With a streamlined study plan that combines a four-year Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) with direct progression into the one-year Master of Engineering Management upon meeting the entry requirements. You will graduate with both advanced technical expertise and essential leadership skills, positioning you for management positions in a rapidly evolving industry.

Bachelor of Justice

QUTs new <u>Bachelor of Justice</u> (QTAC code 417301) is available from Semester 1, 2026, offering majors and new career pathways. You can create a justice degree to match your passions choosing from the majors below:

- criminology and violence prevention
- investigations and intelligence
- policy, politics and social reform

Pathway programs

QUT offers various pathway programs to help you meet entry requirements for QUT courses. There are options for you to improve English language skills, as well as enabling courses and diplomas through QUT College. Learn more about pathways.

QUT Bachelor of Built Environment (Honours) new major

Landscape architects shape the world around us by designing sustainable, inclusive and culturally respectful environments that support communities. At QUT, you will work on real-world projects and can get out into the field on site visits, field trips and study tours. Graduates will contribute to the planning and design of a

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wide range of spaces such as national parks, multi-residential developments, urban parks & playgrounds, transportation corridors, waterways and coasts and post-industrial grounds. Click here to find out moe.

QUT Bachelor of Data Science new majors

Develop, deliver and communicate ethical data science solutions to real-world challenges with QUT's three new Bachelor of Data Science majors:

- Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning: Master core AI and machine learning algorithms and learn to design, train, and deploy intelligent systems that automate decision-making and solve complex problems.
- **Business Data Science**: Use statistical modelling, optimisation, simulation and visualisation to extract insights, identify trends, forecast outcomes and enhance organisational performance.
- Data and Decision Analytics: Combine data science with business strategy to turn insights into business value across operations, marketing, finance and supply chain, while developing strong communication and stakeholder engagement skills.

QUT Design Festival 2025

Join QUT on 12–13 November to explore the creativity and innovation of QUT's design students across fashion, industrial, interaction, and visual communication design. It's a great chance to discover what's possible with a <u>Bachelor of Design</u> at QUT and get inspired by the work of future designers. Come along and be part of it with free tickets available now.

QUT Mathematics Summer School—Deadline Extended!

The QUT Mathematics Summer School for Year 11 students studying Specialist Mathematics (or equivalent) is now accepting applications until Friday 14 November 2025! This four-day, in-person program (19–22 January 2026) at Gardens Point campus gives you the chance to explore real-world applications of mathematics, develop scientific programming skills in Python. Morning tea is provided and limited bursaries are available for regional and remote students. <u>Learn more and apply.</u>

QUT Real Decisions - A Reminder

QUT are hosting 2 <u>Real Decisions</u> online and in person sessions to assist Year 12 as they make their 2026 decisions.

2 December - Application essentials seminar (in person at Gardens Point or online via Zoom) where you will find out more about the QTAC process and how to make your preferences work for you.

10 December - Pathways, finances and uni life webinar on to help you prepare for ATAR release and study in 2026 with tips about pathways to your preferred course, study costs, financial support, scholarships and life as a uni student.

2 & 3 December - you can attend campus tours of Gardens Point and Kelvin Grove or book a 30-minute appointment with QUT HiQ team to talk through your options. <u>Find out more and register.</u>

QUT's Architecture and Civil Engineering double degree

From 2026, the Bachelor of Architectural Design/Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) (Civil) double degree has a reduced course duration of just 5.5 years. This diverse double degree combines studies in architecture and engineering, leading graduates to careers in a range of fields including architecture, project management, property development, construction or civil engineering. QUT is the only university in Queensland which offers this dynamic combination. Click here to find out more.

Support for students

Moving to a new country can be a big change. It is also an exciting opportunity to create your home away from home, meet new people and gain a whole new perspective. You will have access to a range of free services:

- language and learning support, such as writing and assignment feedback, study and presentation skills
- maths, science and IT support, such as developing STEM skills and guidance with assessment items
- career management skills, that enable you to investigate career options while building your employability
- leadership and development, such as attending workshops, conferences and volunteering on campus.

Click here for more information.

Southern Cross University

Heading off to Southern Cross Uni next year?

Going to Uni is a great adventure with many new academic, social and personal experiences on offer. Remember, help is always at hand if you have any questions about your <u>course options</u>, <u>explore Locations</u>, <u>services and support</u>, <u>accommodation</u>, <u>financial support</u> and <u>university life</u>. Year 12 students are welcome to book a personalised <u>campus tour</u> and talk with the staff face-to-face. The <u>Help and Contact Us</u> team members are also available by phone and email to help you every step of the way.

The University of Queensland

ATAR Advice Online Event

Wondering what to do after you get your ATAR? UQ are hosting an ATAR Advice online webinar on 18 December from 4 - 7pm. They'll answer all your ATAR-related questions as well as:

- Live chat one-on-one with UQ Admissions staff.
- Understand your options if your ATAR is higher or lower than expected.
- Get personalised advice on the best pathway to UQ for you.
- Find out how to change your QTAC preferences, and how to respond to an offer.
- Explore our world-class facilities through <u>virtual campus tours</u>.

Click here for more information and to register.

Face-to-face bridging courses for Semester 1, 2026

If you are concerned you won't meet a prerequisite for your desired UQ program, their Face -to-face bridging courses pathway options offered by UQ College may help. These full-time, four-week intensive courses starting on 24 November, help students complete subject prerequisites in time for the January 2026 QTAC offer round. Bursaries and on-campus accommodation are available for eligible students. Click here for more information and to register.

Guarantee your place at UQ in 2026

UQ offers Guaranteed ATAR entry thresholds across most programs in 2026. This means you may be able to secure an early position in a UQ program based on your ATAR. You'll be able to lock in your position for Semester 1, 2026, if you select a UQ program as your first QTAC preference and meet or exceed the guaranteed ATAR threshold. Some things worth noting:

- This guarantee will be assured for offers up to and including the main offer round in January 2026.
- It will also apply to eligible programs you've listed as lower preferences.
- Entry is always subject to you meeting English standards, prerequisites and any other entry requirements for your selected program.
- The guaranteed ATAR threshold includes adjustment factors (additional points added to your selection rank). UQ offers a range of admission schemes that can increase your selection rank based on special circumstances and subject choices.

Click <u>here</u> to see the full list of degrees within this program including dual degrees.

Languages Experience Day

If you are a Year 9 language student you can attend a day of culture and creativity at UQ, exploring language learning through interactive sessions in German, Chinese, Spanish, Japanese, Korean, and French. Click here for more information including:

Experience a day at the St Lucia campus of UQ

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- Hear from world-leading scholars from the School of Languages and Cultures at UQ and discover how languages and linguistics open doors to global careers
- Explore the rich connections between language, culture, linguistics, translation and interpreting and where they can take you in the world
- Participate in fun, interactive and informative sessions and workshops covering: Chinese, French, German, Indonesian, Italian (BULA), Japanese, Korean, Russian, Spanish and Linguistics

If you would like to attend, speak with your Language teacher as they can register you.

Online Maths bridging courses

If you need to fulfil a Maths prerequisite, you can enrol in UQ College's up to 12 months, online bridging courses. These courses are recognised as a Year 12 Maths alternative, helping you to bridge knowledge gaps and meet UQ entry requirements. Click here for more information and enrolment details.

School Opportunity Scheme

UQ's School Opportunity Scheme can boost your ATAR by 2 or 4 selection ranks based on your school's Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage (ICSEA) value. The adjustment aims to enhance the educational opportunities for all students. Click here to find out more including:

- Who is eligible
- Find your school's ICSEA value
- How to apply

The 2026 Tertiary Preparation Program (TPP)

The TPP helps students meet UQ's entry requirements and is an option for those whose schooling was disrupted or who need a Year 12 equivalent pathway. It is delivered over 30 weeks and enables you to learn the core academic skills required for entry into undergraduate study at The University of Queensland. It is delivered face-to-face at UQ St Lucia. Click here for more information and application details including:

- Before you apply
- Eligibility criteria
- FAQ's

University of Southern Queensland

Multidisciplinary Studies - Diploma of University Studies

UniSQ's Diploma of University Studies is open to everyone over the age of 18 years and is a pathway to a university degree program. An overview:

- Gain a strong foundational knowledge of how to study at university with UniSQ's Diploma of Multidisciplinary Studies.
- Learn study management strategies, gain reflective and analytical skills and enhance your communication and writing abilities.
- Benefit from flexible learning and study core courses online so you can balance work and life commitments. You can progress at your own pace by selecting how many courses to study in each of the three study periods throughout the year.
- Sample a study area of interest by choosing one of eight specialisations. Once you have successfully
 completed your study (and provided you meet all the entry requirements) you can transfer directly
 into a UniSQ undergraduate degree to reach your career goals. Your studies can also count as credit
 toward your undergraduate degree.

Upon completion of this diploma, you can graduate with a university qualification or, if eligible, transfer directly into an undergraduate degree to pursue your career goals. These UniSQ degrees include:

- Bachelor of Business
- Bachelor of Construction (Honours)
- Bachelor of Creative Arts and Community Wellbeing
- Bachelor of Film and Screen Production
- Bachelor of Music
- Bachelor of Theatre
- Bachelor of Visual Art
- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Engineering (Honours)
- Bachelor of Engineering Technology
- Associate Degree of Engineering
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Surveying Technology

Click **here** for more information.

You don't have an ATAR but want to go to USQ?

The Accelerated Entry Pathway Program (AEPP) aims to enable school leavers to develop the skills, knowledge and attributes needed to successfully transition from high school to university study. The program provides you with the opportunity to develop the academic literacies required to locate, interpret, analyse and critically evaluate a wide range of information, including quantitative data and to construct and support your own ideas and arguments. This program is online with residential blocks. Click here for more information.

University of the Sunshine Coast

Explore pathways to UniSC webinar

UniSC is hosting an Explore Pathways to UniSC webinar on 12 November from 6 - 7pm. This webinar will set you up with practical insights to navigate the application process, detail the available support services and the many ways you can start studying at UniSC, no matter where you are in your journey. The webinar will cover:

- How to choose the right pathway for your goals
- Understanding the application processes
- Explore the flexible study options available
- What support services exist to help you thrive
- Hear it all from UniSC staff and current students

Click <u>here</u> to find out more and to register.

Worried your child won't get the ATAR they need?

For many High School students, the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) represents their final score after 13 years of School. Whatever the outcome, a student's ATAR represents one pathway to university study. Waiting for the final ATAR score can be nerve wracking. Read the article, <u>Does my ATAR really matter?</u> from USC's Parent Lounge Updates about some suggestions about how you help your child navigate these times.



Date	Event
05/11/2025	ADF: Maroochydore Defence Careers Information Session
05/11/2025	ADF: Toowoomba Defence Careers Information Session
05/11/2025	QUT Careers with STEM webinar
05/11/2025	QUT Careers with STEM webinar
05/11/2025	QUT Year 12 Early Offer close date for uploading supporting documentation to QTAC
06/11/2025	ADF: Brisbane Defence Careers Information Session
06/11/2025	ADF: Townsville Defence Careers Information Session
07/11/2025	QTAC applications close for 21 Nov round offers
10/11/2025	ADF: Army Careers Virtual Information Session
10/11/2025	UQ College bridging course applications close
12/11/2025	ADF: Gold Coast Defence Careers Information Session
12/11/2025	Bone Medical Program Information webinar
12/11/2025 to 13/11/2025	QUT Design Festival 2025
12/11/2025	UniSC Explore Pathways to UniSC webinar
13/11/2025	ADF: Submariner Careers Information Session
14/11/2025	QUT Early Offer first round offers
14/11/2025	QUT Maths Summer School applications close
14/11/2025	QUT Year 12 Early Offer first round offers notified
15/11/2025	FLiCKERFEST 2026 FlickerUp Competition reminder
15/11/2025	Microsoft Traineeship Program - IT Traineeship
17/11/2025	AFTRS Grad Diploma Radion and Podcasting scholarship closes
17/11/2025	GU last day to change early offer preferences in QTAC application
17/11/2025	UQ Enhanced Studies Program (ESP) Sem 1 2026 applications close
18/11/2025	ADF: Cairns Army Reserve Information Session

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18/11/2025	QUT Creative arts and design engagement day
18/11/2025	QUT creative arts and design engagement day
18/11/2025	QUT Year 12 Early Offer final date to rearrange QTAC preferences
21/11/2025	QUT Early Offer released to first round approved applicants through QTAC
21/11/2025	UQ Academic Scholarship applications close
24/11/2025	UQ bridging courses commence
25/11/2025	UQ language experience day
27/11/2025	Queensland Mathematics Summer School applications close
27/11/2025	UQ Qld Maths Summer School applications close
28/11/2025	QUT Yr 12 Early Offer second round offers released by QTAC
30/11/2025	UQ InspireU Explore applications close
02/12/2025	CAS Hawker scholarship applications close
02/12/2025	QUT Application essentials seminar
02/12/2025 to 03/12/2025	QUT Campus tours
02/12/2025	QUT Kelvin Groce and Gardens Point campus tours
02/12/2025	QUT Real Decisions: Application essentials seminar
08/12/2025	Documents needed for inclusion in the 15 January 2026 offer round due
08/12/2025	Documents needed for inclusion in the 23 December offer round due
08/12/2025	Due date for 23 Decround offer applications and supporting documentations
08/12/2025	Due date to apply and submit documents for QTAC 15 January round offer
10/12/2025	QUT Pathways, finances and Uni Life webinar
10/12/2025	QUT Pathways, finances and uni life webinar
16/12/2025	UQ Language enrichment program applications close
18/12/2025	ATAR released through QTAC's ATAR Portal
18/12/2025 to 23/12/2025	Live Griffith Options chat
18/12/2025	Release of IBAS
18/12/2025	Release of the 2025 ATAR results
18/12/2025	UQ ATAR Advice webinar
19/12/2025	Due date to change preferences for 23 December round offer
19/12/2025	QTAC due date to change course preferences for 23 December offer round
23/12/2025	December offer round

