

Options

CAREER INFORMATION

CAREER INFORMATION BULLETIN

Edition 2

06/02/2024 to 19/02/2024



The banner features a dark teal background on the left with the word 'Announcements' in white. On the right, there is a photograph of a silver microphone in the foreground, with a blurred crowd of people in the background.

Announcements

Something to think about

“A person who never made a mistake never tried anything new” - Albert Einstein

Apprenticeships & Traineeships



Advice and Support

Check out the Australian Apprenticeship website for advice and support and everything you need to know to become an apprentice. Click [here](#) to find out more about how to contact an Australian Apprenticeship Support Network provider and how to find a Group Training Organisation (GTO).

Match your skills to jobs

Most people don't stay in the same job until they retire. You are likely to have several different jobs over your working life. Working out which jobs suit your skills and interests is a good way to find a career that is right for you.

When choosing a job or career, besides thinking about what skills you have, you should also consider:

- your areas of interest—what do you do in your spare time?
- your goals for the future—where do you want to be in 10 years?
- what's important to you—more time with family or a higher salary?
- if you are prepared to move or travel for work
- tasks you're good at
- what qualifications you might need.

There are many online tools that allow you to check which jobs are a good match for various skills and qualifications. Check out the Queensland Government's [website](#) where they have links to:

- [myfuture website](#)
- [Your Career](#)
- [Queensland Skills Gateway](#)
- [Recognition of prior learning \(RPL\)](#).
- [Find a course](#)
- [Industry job trends and statistics](#)

Pre-apprenticeship courses

Pre-apprenticeship training is an entry-level certificate. You will do theory and practical training at TAFE and hands-on work experience in your chosen industry. Pre-apprenticeship training will enable you to find out about a trade for up to 6 months before you commit to a full apprenticeship. Some pre-apprenticeship courses are offered within the [TAFE at School](#) Program. Click [here](#) to find out about:

- What are the benefits?
- What job can I get?
- What if I don't know what I want to do?
- Available courses (including courses throughout Queensland)

Queensland Government's apprenticeship and traineeship update information

Queensland Government's Department of Employment, Small Business and Training has up to date information on:

- [About apprenticeships and traineeships](#) - Learn the basics and key details on getting started, roles, responsibilities, wages, entitlements and costs
- [School-based apprenticeships and traineeships](#) - Everything you need to know - how they work, getting started, requirements, roles, wages, financial help and completion
- [For apprentices and trainees](#) - Find support services and advice, financial help, how to make changes to your training contract, forms and replacement records
- [Support services](#) - Support and advice during all stages of training, including financial, disability, learning and cancelled apprenticeships and traineeships
- [Information sheets, forms, policies and procedures](#) - Links to forms, policies, procedures and content previously held in information sheets for the Queensland apprenticeship/traineeship system

Search for training courses

You can search for a range of Vocational Education and Training study options and information based on your career interest. Your Career has a training provider search engine where you can search courses by:

- Keyword
- Location
- Provider
- Industry
- Course type
- Features

Each course outlines:

- Estimated duration
- Estimated fees and available financial support
- Employment or in further study options outcomes
- Apprenticeship and traineeship qualification

Click [here](#) and start your search.

What does that' term' mean?

National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) has put together a glossary of VET terms some of which are:

- Accelerated training - A period of intensive vocational training or retraining which enables individuals to obtain the necessary qualifications in a much shorter period than usual in order to enter an occupation at the required level.
- Acceleration - Progression through an education or training program at a faster rate than usual.
- Access and equity - Also called: Equity: A policy or set of strategies that ensures that vocational education and training (VET) is responsive to the needs of all members of the community.
- Access course - A preparatory, pre-vocational or bridging course which prepares a student for further study or training. Access courses are offered particularly for immigrants, overseas students and adults who are seeking to re-enter the workforce.
- Accredited course - A nationally recognised course accredited by vocational education and training (VET) regulators and developed to meet training needs not addressed by existing training packages. The course results in a statement of attainment outcome. The title of an accredited course commences with the words 'Course in'. (Sourced from: NCVER's *Terms and definitions*)

White Card for work experience on a construction site

The Workplace Health and Safety Act requires all employees and work experience students on a building site to hold a White Card or [General Construction Induction card](#). You must successfully complete a Building and Construction General Safety Induction course to gain this card. Most courses are delivered online. Some training organisations have a discount price for school students. Some of the organisations that offer the course are [Blue Dog Training](#) (online course) and [Tafe Queensland](#) (various locations and study options).

You can do an Internet search to find other registered training organisations that offer the General Construction Induction training, (Unit of competency - CPCCWHS1001 Prepare to work safely in the construction industry). For more information visit the Queensland Work Safe [website](#). Queensland White Cards are accepted throughout Australia.

Why consider an apprenticeship or traineeship?

Apprenticeships and traineeships provide an important employment pathway for young people making a great stepping stone into a career. Youth Central has outlined some of the benefits of becoming an apprentice or trainee. Click [here](#) to find out more about the advantages such as:

- You get paid to study
- It's flexible
- You'll get great training
- You've got the same rights as all workers
- You can enter competitions and win awards
- Links



Australian Defence Force Information Sessions

Stay informed about important upcoming Queensland and National ADF events and information sessions by visiting the Defence Jobs [website](#). View the specific event's information link for more details including location, times and to book your ticket/s. Further information about these events can be accessed on the ADF [Facebook](#) site. Upcoming events:

- 06/02/2024 [Cairns: ADFA Careers Information Session](#)
- [Charters Towers: Parents and Teachers Information Session](#)
- [Gold Coast: Army Reserve Information Session](#)
- 07/01/2024 [Ingham: Parents and Teachers Information Session](#)
- [Townsville: ADFA Careers Information Session](#)
- [Maroochydore: Army Reserve Information Session](#)
- [Toowoomba: Defence Careers Information Session](#)
- [Brisbane: Defence Careers Information Session](#)
- 12/02/2024 [Bowen: Parents & Teachers Information Session](#)
- [Murgon: Indigenous Pathways Information Session](#)
- 13/02/2024 [Cairns: A Night in the Army Reserve](#)
- [Gold Coast: Gap Year Information Session](#)
- [Brisbane: Army Reserve Information Session](#)
- [Kingaroy: Defence Careers Information Session](#)
- [Proserpine: Parents and Teachers Information Session](#)
- 14/02/2024 [Mackay: Parents and Teachers Information Session](#)
- 19/02/2024 [Townsville: Army Reserve Information Session](#)

What it's like to join the ADF

There are several resources on the website that can increase your understanding of life in the Defence Forces. For example:

- Discover what [Life in the ADF](#) is like by exploring their website which provides information on jobs, lifestyle and benefits, joining the ADF and information for students
- Join the [Australian Defence Force Cadets](#), where you will develop leadership, team building and survival skills
- Explore the [Training](#) opportunities available in the ADF, including [Sailor Training and Officer Training in the Navy](#), [soldier training in the Army](#), [Army officer training](#), [Airman/Airwoman Training and Officer Training in the Air force](#) and [Reserves](#)
- Consider Defence Force [Work Experience](#) which gives you a unique experience into the wide variety of careers available in the ADF
- Visit [Submariners](#) to experience working and living under water
- [Discover ADFA](#) by taking an interactive journey inside the Australian Defence Force Academy
- Check out [Your Future is Up?](#) for Air Force experiences
- Connect with the ADF on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), [X](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#) for current activities



Career Exploration

Casual jobs - advantages and disadvantages

Think a casual or short-term job isn't a 'real' job or that it doesn't count towards your career? Think again! Having a casual job or other short-term work can give you an edge when you apply for jobs in the future. Having a casual job can help you develop job/workplace skills, help you develop management skills, build your confidence and communication, provide some life balance and give you some pocket money! The Job Jumpstart has an interesting [article](#) that looks at the benefits of having a casual job and tips on how to get one.

Don't underestimate yourself!

It is very easy to fall into the trap of thinking that your school results/marks will determine what job/s you get throughout life. Well, the good news is, no they don't ... unless you let them, by the way you think about yourself!!!! It's easy to stereotype yourself into careers, jobs and pathways 'for life' all based around your school results. The fantastic thing is, your school results are the tool to get you on your first pathway out of school only. Once you are on your way, many opportunities will appear that will allow you to move forward in any number of directions. You only need to look out for them and act on them. Click [here](#) to read some new research on the stereotypes formed at a young age, their long-term impacts.

Good Careers Guide 2024

The 2024 editions of [The Good Careers Guide](#) and [The Good Universities Guide](#) have been released. The e-book versions are free to download. A [combined flip book](#) is also available to purchase, featuring in-demand emerging careers such as machine learning engineer and technical program manager.

Have you considered a job in Agriculture?

Do you enjoy hands on work or do you prefer the tech side of things? Whatever it is, Agriculture may have the job for you! Click [here](#) to learn more about the diverse range of career opportunities and programs on offer in the Agriculture industry.

Help to guide your career choices

The Australian Government's Department of Employment and Workplace Relations has a guide to help you explore and work through your career choices. Click [here](#) to find useful information and resources to help you make an informed decision about your current or future career including:

- Help to make a decision on your current and future career
- Your education identifier
- Understand the Australian Labour Market
- The National Careers Institute
- Explore your future

Is university really the best career pathway for you?

Research from the University of Newcastle finds that young people are facing increasing pressure to attend university even if it's not required for their desired career, which can compound their mental ill-health. Click [here](#) and read the ABC News' article about the research. Always remember, research your pathway options throughout your Senior years. University may not be the best pathway for you to achieve your career dreams, so don't fall into the trap of locking yourself into the uni pathway option for all the wrong reasons.

So what do Ambulance Officers and Paramedics actually do?

Ambulance Officers and Paramedics provide emergency health care for people who are injured, sick or infirm. They provide patient transport to hospital and between hospitals, as required. Work is at the location of accidents, emergencies and requests for medical assistance. Suits those with an interest in the wellbeing of others who want to help with minor medical issues through to serious injuries and traffic accidents.

Click [here](#) to find out more about:

- An overview
- How to become an Ambulance Officer and Paramedic
- Short courses available
- Skills employers are looking for

The 2024 School Leavers' Guide

The 2024 School Leavers' Guide - Career options and information is now out. Click [here](#) to find out how to use the guide which will provide you with information to help you plan your next big step beyond the school gates! The content is divided into the following sections:

- Career and further study exploration – find resources to help you consider employment and further study options.
- Subsidised training and incentives – search for subsidised training and financial assistance.
- Industry specific career exploration – learn about the variety of opportunities across major Queensland job sectors.

- Preparing to be job ready – find practical tips and information about what it means to be ‘job ready’ from an employer’s viewpoint.
- Assistance with finding a job – explore useful sites to help you search for and secure employment.
- Support for young people: mental health and disability support - links to a range of services and programs designed to assist you with mental illness or disability.
- Support for Year 13 Indigenous Youth – find out about the Youth Employment Program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- Support for young people with cancer – read practical, real examples of overcoming the challenges faced by young people to engage with school, study and work, during and after cancer treatment.
- Support for young people living out of home - check out a range of apps and resources, including financial budgeting tools to successfully transition to independence.

Where to next?

Visit the [CareersEvent.com](https://www.careers.com.au) website and check out the [Welcome to Your Seminar Hub](#). You can click on a category that best suits your dream career, select from a series of video seminars and downloadable information from Universities, Colleges and more. It will help with your research! Categories include:

- Information technology
- Creative Arts
- Science
- Defence
- Tourism and Travel
- Universities
- Health
- Skills-based
- Teaching
- Student Accommodation
- Application process
- Private Colleges

Why consider going a VET subject at school

VET (Vocational Education and Training) refers to education and training that provides the practical skills and knowledge you need to:

- join the workforce for the first time
- gain an apprenticeship or traineeship
- enter tertiary study

A VET course is a great way to fast track your career or education in fields like:

- business studies
- health services
- mining services
- manufacturing
- agriculture

- tourism
- hospitality

Click [here](#) to read more about:

- VET qualifications are generally at one of the following levels
- Is VET for me?
- Job seekers
- Find a VET course
- Related links

myfuture website

[myfuture](#) is free and you sign-up at your first visit to the site. You will enter a username and password for access for future visits. The site contains information on courses, occupations, industries and institutions. On the site you can find:

- [My career profile](#) - Complete activities to identify interests, values and skills and view suggested occupations to explore career pathways (you have to register first but it's free).
- [Career bullseyes](#) - Find out what career pathways are related to school learning areas.
- [Occupations](#) - Explore over 350 occupations describing tasks, skill levels and current labour market information (you have to register first but it's free).
- [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 (you have to register first but it's free).
- [Job seeker resources](#) - Discover resume and cover letter templates and other resources to help you find and gain a job.
- [Career stories](#) - Learn tips and tricks by reading real-life career stories about personal experiences.
- [User guide videos](#) - View short videos that demonstrate key sections of the website to learn how to get the most out of myfuture.

Please note: You may have to register to be able to access some of the above links.



2025 Year 12 QTAC Guide Competition

QTAC are running a competition for Queensland Year 12 students to design the front cover of the QTAC Guide with their interpretation of the concept, "Choose the Future." The winner will have their artwork published on the front cover of the QTAC Guide. Entries close Sunday, 10 March 2024 so click [here](#) for competition details and entry information.

Bond University's National High School Mooting Competition

The Faculty of Law at Bond University conducts one of Australia's oldest high school mooting competitions. The Faculty is excited to announce that the National High School Mooting Competition will be held in 2024. If you are interested, talk to your Guidance Officer/School Counsellor who can contact Bond for more details. Click [here](#) to find out more information.

Qld Assoc of Mathematics Teachers Problem Solving Competition

The 2024 Problem Solving Competition is open to all secondary school students in Queensland. Registration must be completed by a teacher. Member school entry free is \$5 per student. Non-member school entry fee is \$5 per student plus a single \$10 administration fee for non-member schools. Click [here](#) for more information about the competition. The competition will run on Friday, 26 April and you will need to register by 24th April to allow for exam preparation. If interested, talk to your Maths teacher or Guidance Officer/Career Counsellor.

Very Short Film Festival

This festival has a dedicated junior category for high and primary school students can enter a 2 - 5 minute film captured using a camera or phone. You can enter as an individual or group. There is no specific theme so you can focus on any topic or genre. Prizes include mentorship from industry experts, cash awards, and all-expenses-covered flights and accommodation to attend the festival premiere in Tasmania. Entries close on 7 April and click [here](#) for more information and entry details.

Disabilities



Disability pilot program will see big companies give people a path forwards

Coles and Target Group is amongst some of the nation's biggest companies to sign up for a \$3.3 million federal government careers pathway pilot program. Click [here](#) to watch a video discussing disability career pathways particularly in management.

Resources for students with disabilities

The [Australian Human Rights Commission](#) website may be of assistance to students with disabilities. It provides information on the rights of people with a disability. Information you can find includes:

- [Australian Network on Disability website](#) provides information for employers, however it does contain resources like case studies, information for job seekers with disability
- [Disability support for apprentices and trainees](#) - Queensland Government - types of adjustments, disability support, training organisations, Australian Apprenticeship Support Network (AASN) provider help
- [Job Access](#) provides free information and advice about the employment of people with a disability
- [Centacare](#) supports students with a disability to plan and prepare for life after school
- [Steps Employment Solutions](#) support the recruitment of people with injury, illness and disability
- [Queensland Government Department of Employment Small Business and Training](#)

Employment, Job and Labour Market Info



ABS Labour Force Data - December 2023

The Australian Bureau of Statistics have released the [Labour Force Data for December 2023](#):

- Unemployment rate remained at 3.8%
- Employment increased to 14,246,000
- Underemployment rate remained at 6.5%
- Participation rate remained at 67%
- Employment to population ratio decreased to 64.4%
- Monthly hours worked decreased to 1,928 million

Australian Skills Classification - find out about that job you're interested in

The Australian Government Jobs and Skills Australia website will help you to define the skills that underpin jobs in Australia including the one/s that you are interested in. The Classification identifies three types of skills for every occupation: specialist tasks, technology tools and core competencies. You can explore the data by skills cluster or by occupation. Visit their [website](#) for more information about the skills clusters and occupations including:

- Core competency level required
- Cluster families used by occupation
- Occupational specialisations
- A summary of specific occupational tasks including time spent on the task and transferability of the skill

Cool Jobs

Jobs in Science can be cool! Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths offer some of the coolest jobs on and off the planet. Click [here](#) to find out about some inspiring stories of successful experts who use STEM in their daily jobs including:

- Astrophysics
- Data Management
- Environmental Social Science
- Quantum Materials
- Marine Parasitology
- Creative Technology
- Aquatic Ecology

- Information Communication Technology (ICT) Entrepreneur
- Biomedical Electronic Engineering

Expert reveals top occupations impacted by the introduction of AI

Despite the concerns, there's hope AI can help create jobs and spark a new field of employment. Click [here](#) to watch the ABC New's 6-minute video and hear about jobs being lost through AI and how this AI trend can be better managed.

Find out from others - Message to my teenage self

Click [here](#) to watch Liv from LinkedIn¹ as she explains how her teenage skills have actually led her to a job that she really likes and finds rewarding. Never underestimate your natural skills and talents.

Information media and telecommunications Industry

The information media and telecommunications industry covers a wide variety of activities within both the public sector and the private sector. These activities range from newspaper, book and software publishing to motion picture production and distribution, sound recording and music publishing, to internet publishing, broadcasting and service provision, and library and related information services. Click here to read more about this industry including:

- Employment opportunities
- Industry highlight - Digital Media
- Prospects
- Top employing occupations in the information media and telecommunications industry
- Industry associations

Minimum working age

How old do you need to be to start work? If you answered 14 and 9 months you'd be like many Australians. You would also be wrong. According to the SDA union, the 14 and 9 month myth appears to have come from a time when that was the minimum age a young person could leave their schooling to formally join the workforce full-time. In Queensland the minimum working age is 13 except for jobs like delivery work (for which they must be at least 11 years old). Click [here](#) to read more of the ABC News article.

Seven workplace trends to watch in 2024

What can we expect from the constantly evolving world of work this year? Larissa Ham from New Daily, asked three experts to peer into their crystal balls. Click [here](#) to read their insights around:

- AI will help redefine productivity

- Knowledge workers more likely to unionise, strike
- Companies will have to lift their game on psychosocial hazards
- Technology might also be crafting our jobs
- More of us will be working multiple jobs
- More part-time jobs will be created
- It may not be quite so much of a candidate's market

Some facts about Gen Alpha

Gen Alpha were/will be born between 2010 and 2025. Click [here](#) to see the research that McCrindle Research has about:

- Future size and economic footprint
- Population and workforce percentage
- Technology - coming in and going out
- Milestones
- New jobs
- Comparison across the generations

Specific occupational information - Health and construction

Great career decisions are made when you do your research. Check out the following links:

Careers in Health

- [Undergraduate options in Health](#)
- [First Nations Peoples health workforce](#)
- [Queensland Health](#)
- [My Health Career](#) (can take up to 15 seconds to load)

Construction Industry

- [Construct My Career](#)
- [CSQ](#)
- [Construction Placements](#)

What Gen Z are looking for as they enter the world of work

The world students are preparing for is changing and so too, are the students themselves. Generation Z, born between 1997-2012, have an entrepreneurial mindset, are looking to work with flexibility and are ready to embrace the new world of work – which is a good thing considering the average school leaver could have 18 jobs across six careers over their working life. Click [here](#) to read more about McCrindle Research article including:

- Gen Z feel the tension between letting earnings and passion drive their career decisions.
- Just 14% of students are looking for traditional employment.
- Hybrid workplaces are the way of the future.

- Flexibility is the key opportunity for students today.
- Students are positive about the future and ready to embrace it.

What are your rights as a casual employee?

There are several different types of employment arrangements under Australia's workplace laws. One of the most common types that students work under is casual employment. Casual jobs are defined as jobs that usually:

- are short-term or temporary
- involve irregular hours
- aren't guaranteed to be ongoing
- provide extra hourly rate as they don't provide paid holiday leave or sick leave.

Generally speaking, casual employees are employed on an hourly, daily or weekly basis without any commitment – from the employee or the employer – that the job is permanent or guaranteed. Click [here](#) to find out more about:

- Casual loading
- Minimum conditions for casual workers
- Flexibility vs. security in casual work
- Superannuation guarantee

What do employers want?

The Business Council of Australia (BCA) is an industry association of CEOs from over 100 of Australia's biggest corporations. BCA publishes '*Being Work Ready: A Guide to What Employers Want*', for job seekers. The guide shows key values, behaviours and skills that employers look for. These include:

Values:

- **Accountability** – accepting responsibility for your own actions
- **Honesty** – being trustworthy, fair and sincere
- **Respect** – taking into account other people's feelings, wishes or rights
- **Work ethic** – being diligent and committed to the business

Behaviours:

- **Adaptable** – being open to new ideas and proactively changing the way you work to suit new situations
- **Business-minded** – understanding that every worker is responsible for the success of a business
- **Self-aware** – understand your strengths and recognise the areas in which you can improve
- **Resilient** – bounce back when things don't go as planned

Skills

- **Problem solving** – you are able to find solutions to a range of issues and challenges
- **Technical skills** – these are specific to a role and may require formal qualifications.

This guide can help you get a better understanding of the personal traits and skills, employers look for. You can demonstrate these traits to employers in your job application, during a job interview and on the job. You can find the guide on the [Business Council of Australia](#) website. Check out their [YouTube video](#) *Being Work Ready: A Guide to What Employers Want*. They explain the key concepts in the guide and why work readiness is important to business.

Financial Assistance & Scholarships



HECS-HELP: What you should know now for later

If you are studying at a public funded university or an approved private university or college, you will be offered either a [Commonwealth Supported Place \(CSP\)](#) or a fee-paying place. A CSP is an Australian Government subsidised place. Students with a CSP (called Commonwealth supported students) only pay a 'student contribution' instead of the full cost of their course.

The Australian Government has several financial assistance programs to help you meet the cost of your tertiary education. The [HECS-HELP](#) scheme is one of these programs. They are loan schemes for eligible Commonwealth supported students. Through this scheme, students can defer payment of their student contribution until they are earning a specified amount (called the compulsory repayment threshold). They then repay their loan through the taxation system.

For more information about HECS-HELP, visit the [Australian Taxation Office website](#) or [Study Assist website](#).

VET Student Loans

The [VET Student Loans program](#) offers income contingent loan support to eligible students studying certain diploma level and above vocational education and training qualifications. Click [here](#) to find information on:

- Historical VET loan transfer
- How to access a VET Student Loan
- Approved courses and approved providers
- Debt complaints
- Tuition protection and provider default
- Compliance
- Government Assistance
- Student Enquiries

Students are required to repay the loan through the taxation system when their income reaches the repayment threshold. See the [Study Assist website](#) for threshold information. Eligible courses and approved providers are also available on the Your Career [website](#). They update information on their websites regularly so keep checking.

First Nations Peoples



Interested in a career in Indigenous Health?

There are many types of job opportunities available for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the health sector, from dental assistants to dieticians, from physiotherapists to paramedics, from nurses to neurosurgeons. Some health jobs involve working in hospitals and clinics, while others involve working in private practices or out in the community. Some jobs suit people who like working behind the scenes, while others suit people who love face to face contact with the public. You will find more information on the [Indigenous Health Heroes website](#).

Click the Australian Governments Department of Health links below for more information:

- [About the workforce](#) - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff provide culturally safe services for their communities
- [Our Support](#) - Increase the numbers of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people working in health
- [Jobs and scholarships](#) - The Australian Government helps First Nations students complete their studies and join the health workforce.
- [Initiatives and programs](#) - A list of programs we fund that are relevant to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workforce.

Queensland Government - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Careers and Training

The Queensland Government Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Jobs, training and career support [website](#) has information on:

- Employment programs
- Training programs
- Your rights at work
- Find a job
- Youth Employment program
- Deadly stories



Gap Year Program News

Thinking of taking a Gap year?

Thinking of taking a break from study after Year 12? This is known as a 'Gap Year' as you might be considering:

- Having a rest from study
- Working to earn money for further study, buy a car, travel, etc.
- Taking time to explore your career options
- Concentrating on an activity (e.g. sport, music, art).

There are many things you can do during a gap year:

- Travel
- Work overseas or in Australia
- Do a traineeship or a short course
- Go on an overseas exchange
- Volunteer overseas or in Australia
- Do work experience to check out a possible future job.

Some students organise these activities themselves while others use the services of a gap year organisation. Whichever way you go about it, it is important to start your planning early (Year 11 is a good time to start). The following are some of the gap year organisations you may want to look into:

- [African Conservation Experience](#)
- [Australian Defence Force Gap Year](#)
- [Green Army](#)
- [Interexchange](#)
- [Letz Live](#)
- [Projects Abroad](#)
- [Rotary Youth Exchange](#)
- [EA Ski and Snowboard Training](#)
- [Student Exchange Australia and New Zealand](#)
- [Southern Cross-Cultural Exchange](#)
- [Volunteering Queensland](#)
- [World Education Program Student Exchange](#)
- [Lions Australia Youth Exchange Program](#)

Thoroughly investigate any gap year organisation when researching your options and get your parents in on the research and discussions.

Interstate and International



University of Melbourne study opportunities

Are you thinking of studying interstate? Now is a good time to start your research as you will probably need to put in several Tertiary Admissions applications. Find out more about the opportunities at Melbourne University.

- [Find a course](#)
- [How to Apply](#)
- [Entry Requirements](#)
- [Support services](#)
- [Connect and Engage](#)

You can also [register](#) for Melbourne Uni's updates



Open Days, Expos & Career Markets

Brisbane Careers and Employment expo

Brisbane's annual Careers & Employment Event will be held on 24 and 25 May, 2024 (Friday 24 May 9am - 3pm and Saturday 9am to 4pm). The Expo will host over 130 organisations and employers with career opportunities for all ages including school students, parents, teachers, graduates, job seekers, people looking for courses and workers seeking new training options. The Expo is packed with free advice and you can:

- Talk with over 130 Training Organisations & Employers
- Gain Free Career Advice
- Discover Jobs of the Future
- Experience the Free Career Seminars
- Learn how to write a Winning Resume
- Find your Ideal Role at the Australian Defence Force Display

Click [here](#) for more information.

Private Provider Updates



AFTRS short courses

Learn new skills, develop your craft and get job ready with AFTRS' range of [Short Courses](#) in screen and broadcasting, both on campus and online. Click [here](#) to see a full list of their short courses and see if any fit your study and social timetable!

Australian Film TV and Radio School's (AFTRS) short courses

AFTRS is offering two online courses that you may be interested in. Click on their links for more information and to enrol:

[Intro to Directing](#) starting 20 February

[Brief to Script to Great Video](#) starting 21 February

Endeavour College of Natural Health

Endeavour College of Natural Health focuses on natural health both in Australia and internationally. Endeavour delivers education in the natural health sector and has six campuses and teaching clinics, a robust digital learning environment and highly trained lecturers, tutors and clinical supervisors. If you have a passion for natural health, you can begin your studies with a single subject. Click [here](#) to read about the organisation including:

- Course Guide
- Scholarships
- Student benefits

Griffith College

Griffith College offers undergraduate diploma programs that, on successful completion, provide guaranteed [pathways to degree programs at Griffith University](#). The College is located at the Mt Gravatt and Gold Coast campuses. Click [here](#) to find out about the following Diploma courses:

- Business (DBUS)
- Criminology and Criminal Justice (DJ)
- Design (DDS)

- Educational Studies (DES)
- Engineering (DE)
- Health Care (DHC)
- Health Sciences (DHS)
- Information Technology (DI)
- International Tourism and Hotel Management (DITHM)
- Science (DS)
- Social and Psychological Science (DSP)

Other study options include:

- Foundation (FP)
- Associate Degree in Business

International College of Hotel Management (ICHM)

[ICHM](#), has a new state of the art, purpose built ICHM campus in the heart of Adelaide's CBD. It was the first Swiss Hotel Association institution outside of Europe. As a student, you can choose to finish your studies after completing the Bachelor of Business (Hospitality Management) or, go on to complete the more advanced Bachelor of International Hotel Management (Swiss Hotel Association). The second degree provides you with additional international management studies aimed at giving you a competitive industry advantage. Some of the courses they offer are:

- [Bachelor of Business \(Hospitality Management\)](#)
- [Undergraduate Certificate of Hotel, Tourism and Hospitality Operations](#)
- [Bachelor of Business](#)
- [Bachelor of Business \(Entrepreneurship\)](#)
- [Bachelor of Business \(Marketing\)](#)

New York Film Academy (NYFA) online open house

Teens and Kids Programs: [NYFA](#) will be holding a Live Online Open House session for NYFA's Youth Programs (for ages 10 – 17) where they will share more information about their youth programs, locations, application and enrollment processes and much more. You can also submit questions during the open house to be answered live. Click [here](#) to register.

Adult programs: [NYFA](#) will be holding an Online Open House where you will have the opportunity to learn about their programs, admissions requirements, financial aid and scholarships for graduates, undergraduates, conservatory and adult short term workshops. During the presentation, NYFA's admissions team will be available to answer any questions that you may have. Click [here](#) to register.

Project, Leadership and Entrepreneur Opportunities



Digital skills mini crash courses

[Grandshake](#) have developed bite-sized tech courses from AI and Cyber Security to No-Code Coding. These mini crash courses bridge your digital aspirations with the opportunities of tomorrow. Check out the courses below to see if they are for you.

- [AI Simplified like never before](#)
- [Digital Media Landscape](#)
- [Create Apps Without Coding](#)
- [Cybersecurity for All](#)
- [Your No-Fuss Digital Management Journey](#)
- [No-Sweat Digital Marketing](#)

Join the YMCA Queensland Youth Parliament

Anyone aged 15-25 with a passion for change can nominate for Queensland Youth Parliament. They will teach you all you need to know about parliamentary debate, Bill writing, working with the media and more! Like the real Queensland Parliament, however, they can only select so many Youth Members; so applying on time is essential. Click [here](#) for more information, key 2024 timeframes and application link.



2024 Offer Rounds summary

QTAC is in the process of finalising the December and January offer rounds for the start of 2024. In the 21 December offer round, 10,717 Queensland Year 12 students received an offer and in the 15 January offer round saw 9,066 Queensland Year 12 students receiving an offer. QTAC reports that the most popular fields of study for applicants so far this year are Health and Society and Culture.

Study Skills and Wellbeing



Managing your stress levels is doable!

Some things to think about when managing your stress levels as the school year ramps up are:

1. Try not to be perfect - it's impossible
2. Focus on what you are good at - there are plenty of things
3. Look for humour when things are going haywire
4. When you feel tired, have a nap - your mind will be much clearer
5. When you feel down, have a warm bath with bubbles and essential oils, such as orange and lavender. A shower also works when you have the essential oils in the bathroom
6. Try relaxation techniques such as meditation, deep breathing and listening to music
7. Exercise is a great way to relieve stress - even going for a walk or a quick jog helps
8. Have some time out for a little while, like watching something mindless on TV
9. Try not to feel too guilty
10. Don't be too hard on yourself - not everything is your fault
11. Work on sleeping 7 to 8 hours a night
12. Work on eating healthy foods but allow yourself some treats from time to time

Starting new habits or disciplines

Tim Elmore from Growing Leaders has put together his thoughts on starting a new year with a positive attitude and good habits. Click [here](#) and read more about:

- When it comes to living by our values, the issue is not prioritizing your schedule but rather scheduling your priorities
- Each year begin a few new positive habits
- Check your motives at least once a week
- Accountability - it's essential

TAFE at School Program and Courses

If you're a year 10, 11 or 12 student you may be able to complete a TAFE Queensland qualification while you're still at school. Choose from a variety of Certificate I to Certificate III courses from a range of study areas from hospitality to horticulture, early childhood education to engineering and everything in between. Successfully completing a TAFE at School course gives you a nationally-recognised qualification, QCE credit points and direct entry into any TAFE Queensland diploma course. Speak with your VET coordinator or teacher to get started. Click [here](#) for more information including:

- TAFE at School
- How it works
- Pathway to a trade qualification
- About TAFE at school courses
- Trade Taster Programs
- What it costs
- How to apply
- TAFE at School guides for
 - North and Far North Queensland
 - Darling Downs and South West
 - Gold Coast
 - Greater Brisbane
 - Sunshine Coast and Wide Bay



Open Universities

[Open Universities Australia](#) offers single subjects and full degrees with full government funding. Open Universities partners with Universities across Australia such as: University of New South Wales (UNSW), La Trobe University, Curtin University, University of New England, Australian Catholic University (ACU) and Griffith University. They deliver over 270 degrees and 1600 subjects in the one place. When you enrol through Open Universities, you become a student of your chosen university and study online with them. It's the same course that's delivered on campus. Some of the subject areas available include:

- [Explore study online](#)
- [Architecture & construction](#)
- [Art & creative design](#)
- [Business & management](#)
- [Community services & care](#)
- [Education & teaching](#)
- [Engineering](#)
- [Health & medical science](#)
- [Humanities & social science](#)
- [IT & computer science](#)
- [Law & justice](#)
- [Media & communication](#)
- [Psychology & mental health](#)
- [Science](#)
- [Search all courses](#)

Preparing for SAT for 2024 entry into USA College?

If you are wanting to study in the USA you will need to sit .SAT. (Scholastic Assessment Test). SAT is different from school exams so, it is best to spend time preparing for and practicing using past test papers. [Crimson](#) and [Khan Academy](#) provide free SAT practice resources. You register and sit the SAT through [The College Board](#). Click [here](#) for more registration details.

Australian Catholic University

Choose your pathway or entry program

There are many ways to get to uni if that is the best pathway to achieve your career dreams. If you want to study at university and want to either increase your chances of getting in or accelerating your studies, pathways and entry programs may help. Pathways are extra qualifications or tests that will help you meet the entry requirements of your chosen course. Click [here](#) to check out ACU pathways including:

- How does it work?
- Entry programs
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders
- Vocational education and training study
- Pathway certificates and diplomas
- International pathways
- Didn't get the ATAR / OP / rank?
- Student cohort

Reputation and ranking

You see how ACU measures up in university rankings, research quality, graduate outcomes, subject strengths and more by clicking [here](#) including:

- A globally ranked university including:
 - 2% of all universities worldwide
 - in the top 40 for young universities
 - Subject rankings
- Research excellence
- Subject rankings
- Jobready graduates
- Courses

Bond University

Health Experience Day

Discover what it's like to manage the care of real patients from start to finish through Bond's Health Experience Day. This free event is your opportunity to talk with clinical doctors, physiotherapists, dietitians, occupational therapists, biomedical and exercise scientists and other allied health professionals. You will gain a deeper understanding of the different career options available in the health sciences. The experience days will be held on 27 April and 8 June with two sessions per day. Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Life at Bond

Bond is not like other universities. It isn't just about what you learn, it is how you learn it, who you learn it with and the mentors you learn it from. You will become part of a network of friends and colleagues. Click [here](#) to find out more about:

- All the support you need
- Discover life on campus
- Take a walk through campus
- Personal Open Day
- Explore Australia's favourite classroom
- Your home away from home
- Discover more about life at Bond

Year 12 Extension Program

The Year 12 Extension Program offers students benefits designed to enrich their high school experience and prepare them for university. As well as providing small-group access to our industry-leading academics, the chance to better prepare for final exams, and unique learning opportunities in new and challenging areas, the Extension Program tangibly supports students on their journey to Bond University through the following initiatives:

- Upon successful completion of the program, students will receive an early offer into their chosen degree, subject to meeting the academic entry requirements.
- Top performing students from the days will be awarded one of ten part-fee scholarships exclusive to the Year 12 Extension Program, offering 25% and 50% reductions in tuition fees for an undergraduate degree at Bond University*. (*Excludes Medical Program)
- There are also bursaries valued at \$5,000 available to participating schools who contribute four or more students to the program, and to individual students who receive a high distinction in the program. Bursaries will be credited towards university tuition fees.

Click [here](#) for more information and upcoming dates.

Griffith University

Griffith Sports College

[Griffith Sports College](#) plays a vital role in fostering students who are also elite athletes, helping them devote time to training and competition while they complete their tertiary studies. As part of the Elite Athlete Friendly University Network, the Sports College integrates sporting and academic aspirations. Through dedicated assistance from Griffith Sports College, over 550 student athletes successfully balance the high demands of elite sport and university life each year through:

- Direct admission
- Consideration for program admission flexibility
- Personalised degree advice and course planning

- Timetabling assistance and class flexibility
- Assessment and exam flexibility
- Opportunity to study with other institutions
- Access to on-campus sporting facilities and gym
- Funding for specific sporting events
- Access and special rates for physiotherapy and sports science services
- Tutoring assistance may be available

Queensland University of Technology

2024 selection rank thresholds

Researching options for after school? One key piece of information is the current course selection thresholds so that you know what you are aiming for at the end of Year 12. Course thresholds can change from year to year, so the current thresholds are only a guide for when you apply to QUT (or other universities for that matter). Click [here](#) to view QUT's 2024 course thresholds.

Engineer Your Future

On Saturday 23 March 2024, 8am to 4pm, QUT are partnering with The Engineering Link Group, Engineers Australia and The Queensland Government to highlight possible career paths in Engineering. This will be a hands-on engineering experience day for Years 9 to 12 students that will showcase engineering as it really is, exciting, challenging and world changing. Click [here](#) to find out more and to register.

QUT increases digital accessibility for students

QUT has established a university-wide agreement with Read&Write, a literacy support tool for reading, writing assignments and doing online research. Students can now access Read&Write support on QUT-owned or personal devices, without having to meet with a Disability Adviser to request a license.

Student stories

The right university for you is the one where you feel a part of the community doing a course you like and making friends. Click [here](#) to find out what past and present students feel about their time at QUT.

Southern Cross University

All about Southern Cross University

Southern Cross University offers a vibrant teaching, learning, research and cultural environment to help you realise your goals. Their degree and research courses are relevant for today, but they have their sights firmly on meeting the needs of future employment. Click [here](#) to find out more about Southern Cross University's:

- Courses
- Ratings
- Campuses
- Scholarships

The University of Queensland

UQ Science Ambassador Program

Like Science? As a UQ Science Ambassador, you will raise the profile of science at your school by championing science and delivering events, including National Science Week activities and encouraging other senior science students to share their experiences with students in all years. You need to be nominated by a teacher, so if you are interested, talk with your Guidance Officer or School Counsellor. Nominations close on 1 March. Click [here](#) for more information including the nomination link.

What is Economics?

Click [here](#) and find information on:

- But seriously, what is economics
- Myth busting
- Why UQ
- Programs and dual programs
- Developing Indigenous economics
- Consider a scholarship
- Equity and social enterprise
- Environment and wellbeing
- Health
- Finance
- Politics and public policy

Year 11 Engineering, Design and Computing High School Ambassador Program

Are you in Year 11? The Ambassador Program provides an opportunity to deepen your knowledge and raise the profile of engineering, design, or computing within your classrooms. You can develop your leadership abilities and communication skills. It will provide a chance for you to connect with like-minded students across Queensland and Northern NSW. You must be nominated by a teacher and demonstrate an interest in

engineering, design, architecture or computing. Nominations close on 1 March so if you are interested, speak with your Guidance Officer or School Counsellor. Click [here](#) for more information and nomination link.

Young ChangeMakers

Young ChangeMakers is a four-day experience that allows Year 11 students to immerse themselves in university life, connect with academics and industry and develop leadership and critical thinking skills. Although applications don't open until May, you can register your interest and receive program updates [here](#).

Torrens University Australia

Advantages of studying at Torrens

[Torrens University](#) has campuses across four states and some of the advantages of studying at Torrens Uni are:

- An ATAR is no longer an entry requirement
- Small class sizes
- Your own personal Success Coach to help you navigate university life
- A focus on practical, hands-on learning so you graduate job ready
- Industry experts as lecturers
- No exams (assessment and project-based learning)
- Flexible learning modes to suit your style: on campus, online classes or a blend of both
- Work-integrated learning program providing internships for students
- Scholarships

University of Southern Queensland

My Brilliant Career Profiler

My Brilliant Career Profiler is a fun questionnaire that identifies your personality and matches it with USC courses you might enjoy. You can find it on the [USC website](#).

Study at USQ

It's never too early to start researching your options after school. If you are thinking about Uni you might want to visit the USQ [website](#) and read about the benefits of studying at USQ. There is information about:

- Study areas and degrees
- ATAR explained

- USQ early offer
- Head Start

Scholarships

University of the Sunshine Coast

Career Directory

The [Career Directory](#) can be of help when you know the career you want but don't know what USC course you can do to get there. Check it out as you don't know what you will find out!

Parent Lounge

The Parent Lounge [webpage](#) has heaps of resources that parents can use to support their children as they transition to university study including:

- Information for parents
- Pathways to study
- Courses and programs
- Fees
- Scholarships
- Parent resources
- Accommodation and transport
- Getting a Headstart

Upcoming Events



Date	Event
05/02/2024 to 05/03/2024	Townsville University experience
06/02/2024	2024 Australian Geographic Nature Photographer of the Year competition closes
06/02/2024	ADF: Cairns: ADFA Careers Information Session
06/02/2024	ADF: Charters Towers: Parents and Teachers Information Session
06/02/2024	ADF: Gold Coast: Army Reserve Information Session
07/02/2024	ADF: Brisbane: Defence Careers Information Session
07/02/2024	ADF: Ingham: Parents and Teachers Information Session
07/02/2024	ADF: Maroochydore: Army Reserve Information Session
07/02/2024	ADF: Toowoomba: Defence Careers Information Session
07/02/2024	ADF: Townsville: ADFA Careers Information Session
12/02/2024	ADF: Bowen: Parents & Teachers Information Session
12/02/2024	ADF: Murgon: Indigenous Pathways Information Session
13/02/2024	ADF: Brisbane: Army Reserve Information Session
13/02/2024	ADF: Cairns: A Night in the Army Reserve
13/02/2024	ADF: Gold Coast: Gap Year Information Session
13/02/2024	ADF: Kingaroy: Defence Careers Information Session
13/02/2024	ADF: Proserpine: Parents and Teachers Information Session
14/02/2024	ADF: Mackay: Parents and Teachers Information Session
19/02/2024	ADF: Townsville: Army Reserve Information Session
19/02/2024	Start Uni Now (SUN) Semester 1 applications close
20/02/2024	ADF: Gold Coast: Defence Careers Information Session
20/02/2024	ADF: Maroochydore: Defence Careers Information Session
20/02/2024	ADF: Toowoomba: Army Reserve Information Session

21/02/2024	ADF: Cairns: Defence Careers Information Session
21/02/2024	ADF: Mt Isa: Defence Careers Information Session
22/02/2024	ADF: Defence University Sponsorship Information Session and Virtual session
26/02/2024	ADF: Maroochydore: ADFA Careers Information Session
27/02/2024	ADF: Bundaberg: Parents and Teachers Information Session
27/02/2024	ADF: Toowoomba: ADFA Careers Information Session
27/02/2024	QUT BlueShift competition registrations close
27/02/2024	QUT's BlueShift Business competition registrations close
28/02/2024	ADF: Brisbane: ADFA Careers Information Session
28/02/2024	ADF: Hervey Bay: Parents and Teachers Information Session
28/02/2024	ADF: Townsville: Defence Careers Information Session
29/02/2024	ADF: Brisbane: ADFA Careers Information Session
01/03/2024	2025 Year 12 QTAC Guide Competition closes
01/03/2024	Rockhampton University Experience
01/03/2024	The Rubbish Film Festival entries close
01/03/2024	The Very Short Film Festival entries close
01/03/2024	UQ Engineering, Design and Computing High School Ambassador Program applications close
01/03/2024	UQ Science Ambassador Program nominations close
01/03/2024	UQ's Engineering, Design and Computing High School Ambassador Program nominations close
05/03/2024	ADF: Brisbane: Army Reserve Information Session
05/03/2024	ADF: Brisbane: Army Reserve Information Session
05/03/2024	ADF: Rockhampton: A Night in the Army Reserves
05/03/2024	ADF: Townsville: Army Reserve Information Session
05/03/2024	ADF: Townsville: Army Reserve Information Session
05/03/2024	UCAT ANZ testing bookings opens
06/03/2024	ADF: Maroochydore: Defence Careers Information Session
06/03/2024	UniSC Headstart Information evening
07/03/2024	Gladstone University Experience
07/03/2024	UniSC Headstart Information evening
12/03/2024	ADF: Gold Coast: ADFA Careers Information Session

12/03/2024	ADF: Mackay: A Night in the Army Reserve
12/03/2024	ADF: Maroochydore: Army Reserve Information Session
12/03/2024	ADF: Toowoomba: A Night in the Army Reserves
12/03/2024	QUT advice night webinar
13/03/2024	ADF: Cairns: Gap Year Information Session
13/03/2024	ADF: Townsville: Defence Careers Information Session
13/03/2024	Griffith Uni Pathways to Medicine Information session
14/03/2024	ADF: Brisbane: Gap Year Information Session
14/03/2024	Cairns University Experience
15/03/2024	Bundaberg University Experience
16/03/2024	ADF: Loganlea: Army Reserve Open Day
18/03/2024	ADF: Health Careers Information Session
18/03/2024	ADF: Roma: Defence Careers Information Session
19/03/2024	ADF: Brisbane: Defence Careers Information Session
19/03/2024	ADF: Cairns: Army Reserve Information Session
19/03/2024	ADF: Charleville: Defence Careers Information Session
19/03/2024	ADF: Mackay: Defence Careers Information Session
19/03/2024	ADF: Maroochydore: Gap Year Information Session
19/03/2024	Griffith Uni Pathways to Medicine information session Gold Coast
20/03/2024	ADF: Engineering Careers Information Session
20/03/2024	ADF: St George: Defence Careers Information Session
20/03/2024	ADF: Toowoomba: Gap Year Information Session
20/03/2024	ADF: Townsville: Air Force Careers Information Session
20/03/2024 to 22/03/2024	World Science Festival Brisbane
21/03/2024	ADF: Clermont: Defence Careers Information Session
21/03/2024	ADF: Dalby: Defence Careers Information Session
21/03/2024	Griffith Uni Online Pathway to Medicine Info session
21/03/2024	Mackay University Experience
22/03/2024	ADF: Townsville: RAAF Base Townsville Community Day
22/03/2024	Peter Doherty Awards for Excellence in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Education

23/03/2024	ADF: Southport: Army Reserve Open Day
23/03/2024	QUT Engineer Your Future experience day
25/03/2024	IM2C International Mathematical Modeling challenge
25/03/2024	QUT Future You Summit applications open
25/03/2024	Regional Medical pathway info session - Rockhampton
26/03/2024	ADF: Air Force Careers Information Session Online and in person
26/03/2024	ADF: Maroochydore: Air Force Careers Information Session
26/03/2024	ADF: Warwick: A Night in the Army Reserves
26/03/2024	START QUT webinar
27/03/2024	ADF: Cairns: Defence Careers Information Session
27/03/2024	ADF: Gold Coast: Defence Careers Information Session
27/03/2024	ADF: Townsville: Gap Year Information Session
27/03/2024	Regional medical pathway info session - Bundaberg