INFORMATION BULLETIN - EDITION 5

Queensland

31/03/2015 to 10/04/2015
Press F9 to update table of contents.
Five steps to employment

The following steps are adapted from *How to Find Work – In the 21\textsuperscript{st} Century* by Ron McGowan. They were written for university graduates, but could be helpful for graduating Year 12 students.

1. **Review your online presence** - Most employers today check out applicants on the Internet and social media sites. What they find out about you will either increase your chances of being hired, or eliminate you. Recruiters, employers and hiring managers say that over 30 percent of the applicants they review are rejected because of what they found out about them online with Facebook and YouTube postings as the main sources for rejection.

2. **Don’t rely on advertised positions** - One of the biggest mistakes job seekers make is to focus on advertised positions. The vast majority of employment opportunities today are never advertised and learning how to find them is a process that involves several skills, including developing your social networks and letting them know you are looking for a job.

3. **Focus on small companies** - Most employment opportunities are to be found in small companies, which include self-employed people who have more work than they can handle. Increase your chances of being hired by emphasising that you’re open to part-time, temporary, and contract work.

4. **Learn how to sell yourself** - Many job seekers are very uncomfortable with this area but it’s a skill you must develop. The good news is anyone can learn how to do it. You’ll be pleasantly surprised at how effectively you can sell yourself once you understand what you have to offer an employer.

5. **Create a LinkedIn Account** - Learn as much as you can about LinkedIn before you do this. Spend as much time creating your LinkedIn account as you would creating your resume and make sure the information on both of them is consistent since recruiters, employers and hiring managers will be looking at both of them. Keep your account up to date as you gain more experience and pick up new skills.

**Interested in an apprenticeship or traineeship but not sure what types are available?**
The Australian Apprenticeships Pathways website has a search function that you can use to explore apprenticeships and traineeships in 18 industry groups. Go to http://www.aapathways.com.au/Search/Industry, click on ‘Qld’ and select an industry group. Select an area of interest and then a job title. From here you can read a description of the job, a summary of the training required and links to helpful contacts.

**Steps to becoming an apprentice**

The Australian Apprenticeships website lists a three step process to become an apprentice – Preparation and research, Job hunting and Sign up. Read all about these steps at http://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au/want-apprenticeship/steps-become-apprentice.

**What might a driver’s licence have to do with getting an apprenticeship?**

In some trade areas employers are more likely to take on an apprentice who has a driver’s licence. This is especially true in the construction industry where there are multiple and changing worksites. Depending on parents and/or public transport to get to the worksite may not be practical or even possible.

Students interested in an apprenticeship, especially in the construction industry, need to consider getting their licence when they become eligible because they need their learners for 12 months before they can do their driver’s test. Visit the Department of Transport and Main Roads website at http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/licensing/getting-a-licence.aspx to find out more about obtaining a driver’s licence.

**Where are the jobs?**

Accurately predicting where jobs will be in the future is a bit like looking into a crystal ball as there are so many variables (known and unknown) that affect future job prospects (e.g. the global economic crises in 2007/08 was not widely predicted). Nevertheless, it is important to have some understanding of where the jobs might be in the future when exploring your career options.

The ‘2015 Industry Employment Projections Report’ is a good place to start. The following is a brief overview of this report. To read the whole report, visit the Labour Market Information Portal at http://lmip.gov.au/default.aspx?LMIP/EmploymentProjections.

The Commonwealth Department of Employment projects employment to grow by 10% over the five years to November 2019. Employment is projected to grow in 17 of the 19 broad industries, with declines in employment projected for Manufacturing and Mining. The following four industries are projected to provide more than half of the employment growth over the five years to November 2019.

- Health Care and Social Assistance (increase by 258,000)
- Education and Training (increase by 142,700)
• Construction (increase by 137,900).
• Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (increase by 136,600)
Air Force Flight Camp for Girls

The Air Force is offering girls aged between 15 and 18 years the opportunity to experience Air Force aviation careers by attending this camp. The camp will be held from 12 – 15 May 2015 at RAAF Base Amberley. For more information and to apply, visit the Defence Work Experience Program website at http://www.defence.gov.au/workexperience/ and click on ‘Placements’ and ‘Qld’ and scroll down to ‘RAAF Amberley Flight Camp (Female only)’. The closing date for applications is 27 April 2015.

Australian Defence Force (ADF) Engineering Careers Information Session

Engineers in the Navy, Army and Air Force are employed in technical leadership roles that include Maintenance Engineering, Project Management and Design Engineering in a range of Engineering Professions such as Aeronautical, Armament, Avionics, Electrical, Electronics, Marine, Mechanical, Software and Weapons Fields. Find out more about this career in the ADF at an information session to be held at 6 pm on 31 March 2015 at Defence Force Recruiting, East Tower, Level 11, 410 Ann Street, Brisbane City. To RSVP please contact Alayna Bullock on 07 3016 2425 or email abullock@dfr.com.au.

Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA)

Are you interested in:

- receiving a salary while you study a university degree
- not having a HECS-HELP debt
- gaining your degree and military leadership training at the same time
- accessing free healthcare and subsidised accommodation
- obtaining a guaranteed job at the end of your course?

Then you are invited to explore the opportunities at ADFA. Course offerings include arts, business, engineering, information technology, science and technology studied at ADFA through the University of New South Wales. Discover more about ADFA through an interactive video at http://www.defencejobs.gov.au/education/adfa/discover-adfa/.

Ideally, students interested in entering ADFA begin their application in Year 11 when they turn 16½ years of age, as the application process is lengthy. Consequently,
current Year 12 students considering ADFA should begin their application ASAP. To do this, call 1319 01 or use the online application at http://www.defencejobs.gov.au/ (click on ‘Apply Now’ in the top right corner).
Jobs related to school subjects

An early step in career exploration is to develop a list of job ideas. One way to begin this process is to think about the school subjects you most enjoy. You can then use a resource called the ‘Bullseye Posters’ to find jobs that are related to these subjects. There are over 30 Bullseye Posters. Each poster clusters jobs into four levels depending on the qualifications required. Access the Bullseye Posters from:

- myfuture website at [http://www.myfuture.edu.au/](http://www.myfuture.edu.au/) - click on ‘Tools and Resources’ and ‘Learning tools for secondary students’ – on this site there are links to information about the jobs for each subject

Websites for career profiles

Exploring your career options can include learning about the career pathways of other people. The following websites give job profiles of people in a range of career areas:

- Ace Day Jobs at [http://www.abc.net.au/acedayjobs/](http://www.abc.net.au/acedayjobs/) contains a collection of videos of people in a diverse range of jobs explaining what they do and the path they took to get there
- aLife at [http://www.alife.net.au/](http://www.alife.net.au/) (click on ‘Profile search’) provides a set of profiles of people in different careers

Competitions

Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards


Junior Authors Short Story Writing Contest

Do you dream of being a writer? If so, this international competition can get you started. The competition is open to young writers 9 - 21 years of age from any country. Your story can be about anything you like with a maximum length of 1000 words. See http://laurathomascommunications.com/juniorauthorscontest/ for more information. The contest opens on 1 April 2015 and closes on 30 June 2015.

Queensland Regional Titration Competition

The aim of this competition is to challenge and encourage students who enjoy chemistry. Entrants compete in teams of three from Years 10 – 12. Applications are through your school. For details, see http://www.raci.org.au/branches/qld-schools/titration-competition. Talk to your science teacher if you are interested in participating in this competition.

Wool4Skool Student Design Competition

Want to work in the fashion industry? Fancy yourself as a designer? If so, you are invited to enter the Wool4Skool student design competition. The competition is open to Year 7 – 11 students. This year’s theme is ‘Live Life, Love Wool’. The challenge is to design an original outfit made from Australian merino wool that you would take on an overseas winter adventure. Interested? Find out more at http://www.wool4skool.com/. Registrations close on 31 May 2015.
Applying for health science/veterinary courses at James Cook University (JCU)

The following courses offered by JCU for Year 12 applicants require a QTAC application as well as a direct application to JCU.

- B Medicine/B Surgery
- B Dental Surgery
- B Veterinary Science
- B Physiotherapy

These JCU courses have a rural, remote, tropical and Indigenous communities focus. Consequently, an important requirement of the JCU application is to demonstrate interest, experience and/or exposure to rural and/or remote locations. Applicants living in metropolitan areas will find this challenging. You will need to think about how you can obtain the experience this year. Some ideas are:

- work-experience during the holidays with a rural practitioner
- attend FEAST and/or TASTE (for vet science)
- interview practitioners who have worked in rural/remote areas
- research the challenges for practitioners in rural/remote areas
- learn about Northern Australia
- find out as much as you can about the content of the JCU courses (from brochures, the JCU website, career expos, TSXPO, open days).

You can view last year’s (2015) JCU application at [http://www-public.jcu.edu.au/courses/course_info/index.htm?userText=72010- &mainContent=detail#.UzX9QKiSxbd](http://www-public.jcu.edu.au/courses/course_info/index.htm?userText=72010- &mainContent=detail#.UzX9QKiSxbd). The applications website is usually updated in July for the following year. The due date for applying to QTAC is 30 September 2015. The date for submitting the JCU application form to JCU is normally the same as the QTAC due date (this date will be confirmed in the QTAC Guide). You can access the prerequisites for these courses from the JCU website at [http://www-public.jcu.edu.au/courses/health/index.htm](http://www-public.jcu.edu.au/courses/health/index.htm).

Blue Mountains International Hotel Management School (BMIHMS)

BMIHMS, located in New South Wales, offers undergraduate business degrees in International Hotel and Resort Management, International Event Management and
International Restaurant and Catering Management. FEE-HELP is available for eligible students.

BMIHMS is currently accepting applications for its April Career Focus Day Program which will run from 20 – 22 April 2015. This three-day residential program provides potential students with an opportunity to experience the learning environment at BMIHMS and develop their understanding of career options within the hospitality industry. Students interested in attending this program should contact Josh Wood on 0407 141 146. Josh will be in Brisbane from 10 – 12 June 2015 to talk to interested students. Phone 0407 141 146 to book an appointment with Josh. Visit the BMIHMS website at http://www.bluemountains.edu.au/.

**Charlton Brown – School holidays Junior Nanny Program**

Charlton Brown, located in Fortitude Valley, Brisbane, offers accredited courses in:

- early childhood education and care
- home and community care
- disability care
- aged care
- outside school hour’s care
- community services work.

The institute is offering high school students the opportunity to get a taste of what it is like to be a Nanny through its Junior Nanny Award course to be held during the Easter school holidays from 14 – 17 April 2015. Interested students should contact Charlton Brown on telephone (07) 3216 0288. For more information about Charlton Brown and its courses, visit http://www.charltonbrown.com.au/.

**Events at the University of Southern Queensland (USQ)**

**Student Experience Day** – USQ invites Year 11 and 12 students to this event which will be held on 1 May 2015 at the Springfield campus. Participants will be given an opportunity to be a university student for a day. RSVPs are required by 24 April 2015. Find out details and download a booklet at http://www.usq.edu.au/news-events/events/2015/05/usq-student-experience-day-springfield.

**Study Options Evening** – Find out about university study and the courses and facilities available at USQ. This event will be held from 5 – 7 pm on Thursday 16 April 2015 at the Springfield campus. For details and to RSVP, visit http://www.usq.edu.au/news-events/events/2015/04/usq-study-options-evening-springfield.

**Queensland School of Beauty - School holiday make up course**
The Queensland School of Beauty, located in Toowong, Brisbane, offers accredited courses in Nail Technology, Retail Make-Up and Skin Care, Beauty Services and Beauty Therapy. The school will offer a Design and Apply Make-up course from Monday 13 to Friday 17 April 2015. Interested students should contact the school on telephone (07) 3371 2055 or email info@qsb.com.au. For more information about the school and its courses, visit http://www.qsb.com.au.

Selected course and career events in April 2015

1 - Bond University scholarship applications for Australian Year 12 students open http://bond.edu.au/study-at-bond/scholarships/important-dates/index.htm

8 - UQ Robotics Holiday Workshops for students in Years 7-2 - Introduction to Robotics http://www.eait.uq.edu.au/robotics-ict

8 - Elsie Byth Bursary for Year 12 female students applications close http://ncwq.org.au/bursaries

8 - NCWQ Bursary for a young woman from a refugee background applications close http://ncwq.org.au/bursaries


9 - Interstate Student and Family Day at the University of Melbourne http://futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/explore/events/victoria_and_interstate/victoria

10 - Bond University Student for a Semester applications close for the May 2015 semester http://www.bond.edu.au/student-for-a-semester


16 - University of Southern Queensland (USQ) Study Options Evening at the Springfield campus http://www.usq.edu.au/news-events/events/2015/04/usq-study-options-evening-springfield

18 – New York Film Academy Australia Gold Coast Open House https://www.nyfa.edu.au/nyfa-events/

Short courses at the Queensland College of Art (QCA), Griffith University

QCA, located at South Bank, offers a range of short courses in the creative field throughout the year. Most of these are offered on weekends and evenings. Upcoming courses in June and July 2015 include:

- Introduction to Adobe Photoshop
- Advanced Pre-Press
- Introduction to InDesign.

For details about these courses, see the Creative Short Courses web page at http://qcashortcourses.com.au/courses/.

University pathways through TAFE Qld

The following are pathways to university study that you can build into your QTAC application as a safety net in case you don’t gain entry to your preferred university courses.

**Upgrading** - Successful completion of any diploma, advanced diploma or associate degree at TAFE may improve your tertiary entry score when applying through QTAC for entry to university degree programs. For example, a completed diploma at pass level will receive a QTAC selection rank of 82, which was comparable to OP 9 in 2014.

**Credit transfer agreements with universities** - You complete a diploma, advanced diploma or associate degree at TAFE and apply through QTAC for a related degree course at a university with which TAFE has a formal credit transfer agreement. This means you receive credit from your TAFE course towards your degree course.

**Dual awards** - You apply through QTAC for a dual TAFE/university qualification. Once you have completed your TAFE qualification you commence your university degree studies without reapplying through QTAC.

Visit http://tafeqld.edu.au/study-with-us/school-students/university-paths/#VRO3mY5j6-U for more information about these pathways.

Updates and reminders from the University of Queensland (UQ)

**Auditions for the 2016 Bachelor of Music Program** - The UQ School of Music invites applications from everyone who is interested in auditioning for a place in the Bachelor of Music program commencing Semester one 2016. There is no cost to audition. Application forms can be downloaded from http://www.uq.edu.au/music/2016-
Auditions. Applications close Monday 17 August 2015. For more information about the application process, see http://www.uq.edu.au/music/content/forms/2016-bmus-audition-information.pdf.

Register now for FEAST – Students in Years 10 – 12 are invited to attend the FEAST (Future Experiences in Agriculture, Science and Technology) residential camp being held at the UQ Gatton campus from 28 June - 2 July 2015. Students will experience hands-on workshops, attend seminars and immerse themselves in agricultural, scientific and technological career options. Registrations are filling up fast and will close on 24 April 2015. See http://www.science.uq.edu.au/feast for details and to register.

Geography and Environment Day – Individual students and school groups (Years 10 – 12) are invited to register for this event to be held at UQ on 24 July 2015. Participants will learn about the careers related to geography, planning and environmental management. See http://www.gpem.uq.edu.au/geography-day for details and to register.

Register now for Experience Science 2015 - Experience Science is a free event which provides students in Years 10 - 12 the opportunity to discover what studying science is like at UQ and how science is applied in industry and everyday life. It will be held at the UQ St Lucia campus. Students can register through their school or individually to attend on one of these dates – 16, 17, 21 or 22 July 2015. Find out more at http://www.science.uq.edu.au/expsci.

2016 National Youth Science Forum - Are you in Year 11 and studying science? Online expressions of interest to attend the National Youth Science Forum 2016 are now open. NYSF is the only program in Australia that offers current Year 11 students the chance to test-drive a wide range of universities and careers in the sciences. Student applications need to be endorsed by a local Rotary Club as part of the application process. Visit http://www.nysf.edu.au/ for details. Expressions of interest close on 31 May 2015.

Want to know what it feels like to fly a Boeing 737 aircraft?

Airline Academy of Australia offers accredited pilot training and aircraft maintenance engineering training. It has campuses at Archerfield Airport, Brisbane and at Brisbane West Wellcamp Airport, Toowoomba. The Academy is offering the following Flight Simulator packages during the Easter school holidays (7 – 19 April 2015):

- 30 minute package $115 (normally $195)
- 60 minute package $215 (normally $295)
- 30 minute Simulator PLUS take the controls of a real light aircraft in a 30 minute Trial Introductory Flight (TIF) $210 (normally $295)

The packages are available for students and their parents. For information about these packages and to book a place, phone 3722 3200 or email...
enquiries@airlineacademy.com.au. For more information about the Academy visit the website at http://www.airlineacademy.com.au/.

Year 10 Subject Selection for STEM Careers at QUT

At this event Year 10 students will find out about the Year 11 and 12 subjects that will prepare them for successful studies at the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) in Science, IT, Engineering, Mathematics, and Health and Education. The event will be held on the evening of 30 April 2015 at the Gardens Point campus. Visit https://www.qut.edu.au/study/undergraduate-study/do-you-advise-school-students/resources-for-schools/stem-for-schools/events/event?news-id=86804 for details.
Bond University scholarships open on 1 April 2015

Bond’s scholarship program offers a large number of full fee and part fee scholarships as well as cash bursaries. Most scholarships can be used for any single or combined program (with the exception of B Medicine/B Surgery). More information about the scholarships available this year can be found at [http://www.bond.edu.au/scholarships](http://www.bond.edu.au/scholarships). Scholarship applications for Year 12s must be lodged online using the Bond University application form. Applications close on 31 July 2015.

What is FEE-HELP?

The following information is subject to possible changes in the future due to proposed changes to the higher education system from 1 January 2016. For information about these changes and how they will affect you, visit [http://www.studyassist.gov.au](http://www.studyassist.gov.au) and [http://www.highered.gov.au/#homepage-video](http://www.highered.gov.au/#homepage-video).

FEE-HELP is an Australian Government study loan scheme similar to HECS-HELP. It is designed to assist eligible full-fee paying Australian students to pay all or part of their tuition fees at approved institutions for qualifications at Associate Degree and above.

Eligible students can borrow up to the FEE-HELP limit to pay their tuition fees. For 2015, the FEE-HELP limit is $122,162 for students undertaking medicine, dentistry and veterinary science courses and $97,728 for all other students. Currently, this limit is a lifetime limit for both the FEE-HELP and VET FEE-HELP loan schemes. Currently, a 25% loan fee is imposed on the FEE-HELP scheme.

As with HECS-HELP, repayments of the FEE-HELP loan are made through the taxation system once the student’s repayment income is above the compulsory repayment threshold. The compulsory repayment threshold for the 2014–15 income year is $53,345. For further information, including eligibility requirements, see [http://studyassist.gov.au/sites/studyassist/helppayingmyfees/fee-help/](http://studyassist.gov.au/sites/studyassist/helppayingmyfees/fee-help/).

What is HECS-HELP?

The following information is subject to possible changes in the future due to proposed changes to the higher education system from 1 January 2016. For information about these changes and how they will affect you, visit [http://www.studyassist.gov.au](http://www.studyassist.gov.au) and [http://www.highered.gov.au/#homepage-video](http://www.highered.gov.au/#homepage-video).
In Australia eligible students can apply for Commonwealth Supported Places (CSP) at public universities and at some private higher education providers in national priority areas (e.g. nursing and education). A CSP is an Australian Government subsidised place. This means that the Australian Government pays part of the cost of the course and the student pays an amount called a ‘student contribution’. The amount of the student contribution varies according to the course being studied.

HECS-HELP (Higher Education Loans Program) is an Australian Government study loan program to help students pay their student contribution. To be eligible for HECS-HELP students must:

- be studying in a CSP
- be an Australian citizen or holder of a permanent humanitarian visa
- enrol with the institution by the census date
- submit a Request for Commonwealth support and HECS-HELP form by the census date to the institution (a Tax File Number is required to do this).

Students repay their HECS-HELP loan through the taxation system once their income is above the compulsory repayment threshold, even if they are still studying. The compulsory repayment threshold is adjusted each year. For the 2014-15 income year, it is $53,345. There is no interest currently charged on HECS-HELP loans. However the debt is subjected to changes in the Consumer Price Index.


**What is VET FEE-HELP?**

The following information is subject to possible changes in the future due to proposed changes to the higher education system from 1 January 2016. For information about these changes and how they will affect you, visit [http://www.studyassist.gov.au](http://www.studyassist.gov.au) and [http://www.highered.gov.au/#homepage-video](http://www.highered.gov.au/#homepage-video).

VET FEE-HELP is an Australian Government study loan scheme available to eligible students studying higher-level vocational education and training (VET) full-fee or subsidised qualifications at Diploma, Advanced Diploma, Vocational Graduate Certificate or Vocational Graduate Diploma level and for a limited number of Certificate IV qualifications. The institution at which the student is studying must be approved to offer VET FEE-HELP to students.

The maximum amount students can borrow is the same as for FEE-HELP. A 20% loan fee applies for full-fee VET courses. A loan fee is not imposed on subsidised VET courses. Repayment for this loan scheme is the same as for HECS-HELP and FEE-HELP. Read more at [http://studyassist.gov.au/sites/studyassist/helppayingmyfees/vet-fee-help/pages/vet-fee-help](http://studyassist.gov.au/sites/studyassist/helppayingmyfees/vet-fee-help/pages/vet-fee-help).
Gap Year Program News

Gap year program information sessions and due dates for April 2015

- 9 - LetzLive’s UK Gap Year applications close for 2016 placements [http://www.letzlive.org/#!uk-gap-year/c1nax](http://www.letzlive.org/#!uk-gap-year/c1nax)

International Student Volunteers (ISV)

ISV offers a range of volunteer travel programs for students wishing to volunteer abroad. You can volunteer to work with children or animals, communities or endangered habitats. For more information, see [http://www.isvolunteers.org/](http://www.isvolunteers.org/).

Work as an au pair in the USA during your gap year

You can work for a year caring for children in a host family in the US through Cultural Care Au Pair. This agency organises your placement and supports you during the year. For details and case studies, visit [http://www.culturalcare.com.au/](http://www.culturalcare.com.au/).
Careers in hospitality and tourism


Careers in local government

Local councils provide many of the services we use in our day-to-day lives. These include roads and parks and community services (e.g. libraries, child care and many others). There are over 500 local councils across Australia. Occupations in demand by councils include engineering, building surveying, town planning, IT, trade areas, accounting, emergency management, customer service and environmental health.

To provide information on local councils and the occupations they employ, Government Skills Australia has developed an interactive local government careers website at http://localgovernmentcareers.com.au/. The site allows you to click on an area of interest to access a list of job titles and related qualifications used by local councils. The resources section has a downloadable local government career map poster and links to related websites. There is also a useful ‘How to Search’ section to help you make the most of the website.

Chemistry careers

The Royal Australian Chemical Institute website at http://www.raci.org.au/ has a section on Career planning (click on ‘Jobs & Careers) which contains profiles of people who use chemistry in their careers. The profiles include an inorganic chemist who is also a violinist, a lecturer in medicinal chemistry who was once in the Navy and a chemist who is also an aviator.

Creative careers

The myfuture website at http://www.myfuture.edu.au/explore-careers/occupation-showcase/creative-careers has videos featuring a number of creative industry jobs. Included are animator, photographer, fashion designer, film director, TV presenter and more. The videos provide information about the job and suggestions for gaining entry.

Pathways to medical specialisations and other health career resources
The My Health Career website at https://www.myhealthcareer.com.au/become-a-doctor has infographics and other information on pathways to ten different medical specialisations. The ‘Videos’ section of the website has interviews with practitioners involved in dentistry, dietetics, medicine, nursing, optometry, occupational therapy, pharmacy, psychology, physiotherapy and podiatry. Explore more of the resources on this website at https://www.myhealthcareer.com.au/ and subscribe to a regular health careers newsletter.

Queensland Police Recruiting seminars

If you are interested in exploring the career opportunities within the Queensland Police Service, you can attend a seminar. Seminars will be held in Townsville, Brisbane, Bundaberg, Edmonton and Currumbin during April 2015. Visit http://www.policerecruit.qld.gov.au/seminars/ for dates and bookings.
Australian National College of Beauty (ANCB) Open House

ANCB is a registered training college that offers a Diploma of Beauty Therapy. It has a campus in Fortitude Valley, Brisbane. The college invites interested students to its Open House from 5 – 7 pm on Wednesday 15 April 2015. This is an opportunity to explore the ANCB campus and the course offered. Visit http://www.ancb.edu.au/events/openhouse-brisbane-415 to register your attendance.

CATC Design School Open House

CATC Design School offers accredited diploma level courses in Graphic Design, Interior Design and Photo Imaging. VET FEE-HELP is available to eligible students. The school will hold its Open House from 5 – 7 pm on Wednesday 15 April 2015 at its Brisbane campus in Fortitude Valley. Registrations are required. Visit http://www.catc.edu.au/events.

Design College of Australia Information Night

This college offers accredited Diploma and Advanced Diploma level courses in Visual Communication with majors in Graphic Design and Photography. An information evening will be held from 6.30 – 8 pm on Wednesday 8 April 2015 at the college’s Fortitude Valley, Brisbane campus. Come along to learn more about the college and its courses. To register your attendance, visit http://www.designcollege.com.au/.

New York Film Academy (NYFA) Australia Gold Coast Open House

NYFA invites students interested in filmmaking or acting to its open house from 12 – 2 pm on Saturday 18 April 2015. Students under 18 years of age must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. NYFA is located at the Village Roadshow Studios, Entertainment Road, Oxenford, Gold Coast. RSVP at https://www.nyfa.edu.au/nyfa-events/.

Sae Qantm Brisbane Campus Information Night

Sae Qantm offers courses in Animation, Audio, Design, Film, Games and Web and Mobile. FEE-HELP and VET FEE-HELP are available for eligible students. The college will hold an information night from 6 – 8 pm on 16 April 2015 at its Brisbane campus at
Important QTAC application and offer dates for your diary

2015

- Mid-June - QTAC Guides are distributed to schools
- 4 August - Online applications open on the QTAC website at [http://www.qtac.edu.au](http://www.qtac.edu.au)
- 30 September - On-time application due date – applications after this date incur a substantial late fee. Also the final date for some courses with fixed closing dates
- 26 November - Early offer round for some courses
- 30 November - Due date to submit documentation for the January offer round (including documentation for Educational Access Scheme applications)
- 9 December - Final date to apply for the January offer round
- 10 December - Major offer round for some creative and performing arts courses. Also an early offer round for some courses
- 18 December - Year 12 results mailed from the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority

2016

- 6 January - Final date to change or add preferences for the January offer round
- 14 January - Major offer round for most Semester 1, 2016 courses
- 4 February - Subsequent offer round for most Semester 1, 2016 courses
- 11-25 February - Top-up offers for any remaining vacancies

The cost of applying to QTAC for entry in 2016 for Year 12 students will be $36. A late fee of $134 will apply after the on-time application due date (i.e. from the 1 October 2015). Applicants can change their course preferences on three occasions for free. Further changes will incur a fee of $36.

QTAC snippets from the 2014/15 application and offer period

- There were 54,444 applications to QTAC for entry into courses in Semester 1, 2015. Of this number 86.4% received an offer.
- 26,361 of the total applications for Semester 1, 2015 were from Queensland OP eligible Year 12 students. Of this number 96% received an offer of a course place.
3,310 of the total applications for Semester 1, 2015 were from Queensland OP ineligible Year 12 students. Of this number 93% received an offer of a course place.

The most popular course preferences for Year 12 QTAC applicants for entry in Semester 1, 2015 were in health, society and culture (this includes arts, law, social sciences) and management and commerce.

Approximately 4,435 Year 12 applicants, who received an offer, deferred their offer (deferment is usually for one year and gives the student guaranteed entry into the course in the following year).

Year 12 students who are not eligible for an OP can apply for tertiary courses through QTAC

Free app to help you manage the stress of Years 11 and 12

Senior studies can be stressful at times, especially around exam time and assignment due dates (which seem to coincide!). Having stress management strategies you can call on when needed is essential, not just for this year but also for your future success and happiness in studies and living. The Smiling Mind app is a tool that could get you started on learning useful strategies. This app is free for use online or as a smartphone app. It is a modern meditation for young people that guides the user through a series of exercises. Visit the Smiling Mind website at http://smilingmind.com.au/ for more information.

What’s your personal study style?

Is it Visual, Aural or Kinaesthetic? While there is no concrete research evidence that indicates learners have only one learning style, it is useful to identify and understand your preferred style. The ‘What degree? Which university?’ website can help you discover your style at http://www.whatdegreewhichuniversity.com/Survival-Guide/Surviving-Highschool/What-s-your-personal-study-style.aspx.
'The above information has been gathered from a range of sources including publicly available websites, institutional and organisational newsletters, student and career advisers and guidance officers. Every effort has been made to ensure the information provided is accurate and up-to-date at the time of publication.'

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