If you work in the fast food industry, do you know your rights?

The myfuture e-newsletter provided the following three important tips for young people who work full-time or part-time in the fast food industry.

- Talk to your employer to find out your job description, minimum wage and mode of employment (full-time, part-time, or casual).
- Visit the Fair Work website at http://www.fairwork.gov.au/Pages/default.aspx to learn more about your work rights and responsibilities.
- Make sure your pay is correct – use the Fair Work website to check this.

Jobs for school leavers through group training organisations

The following group training organisations can provide school leavers with information about apprenticeship and traineeship vacancies for a range of industries in Queensland.

- MRAEL http://www.mrael.com.au

For information about other group training organisations that operate in Queensland, visit the Group Training Australia website at http://www.grouptraining.com.au/.
Tips for writing a resume for the Construction Industry

The October 2015 edition of Construction Skills Queensland’s (CSQ) digital magazine, *On Site: From toolbox to inbox*, has an article on tips for writing a resume for employment in the Construction Industry. The following is a summary of the top tips that are applicable to school leavers.

- The resume should be written in a clear, readable format. It should include your employment history (including work experience), education, achievements (even those unrelated to the construction industry), certificates and contact details.
- When listing your work experience, mention the project you worked on, the tasks you participated in and the tools you used.
- Job seekers are expected to provide an up-to-date resume that is tailored for each job application. Have a few versions of your resume to submit for the different jobs you may apply for.

Students interested in the Construction Industry might like to read other articles in *On Site: From toolbox to inbox*. The magazine can be downloaded from the homepage of the CSQ website at [http://www.csq.org.au/](http://www.csq.org.au/).
Defence Information Sessions in November

The following information sessions will be held at Defence Force Recruiting, Level 13, 295 Ann Street, Brisbane CBD. To RSVP, call 13 19 01 or email cptqld@dfr.com.au.

**Australian Defence Force (ADF) Careers Information Session** – This session will introduce you to the more than 250 jobs available with the ADF. It will be held at 6 pm on Wednesday 4 November 2015.

**Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) Information Session** – Information about studying and living at ADFA will be the focus of this session. It will be held at 6 pm on Monday 16 November 2015.

**Australian Defence Force (ADF) Trade Careers Information Session** - The ADF is now recruiting for a wide range of trade and apprenticeship positions for the Navy, Army and Air Force. This session will provide information about these positions and give students and parents an opportunity to have their questions answered. It will be held at 6 pm on Wednesday 18 November 2015.
Facelift for myfuture

The myfuture website at [http://myfuture.edu.au/](http://myfuture.edu.au/) has had a facelift and navigation within the site has changed. To enter the site you must register if you are a new member and then log in. The log in leads directly to the My Career Profile exploration tool where you can complete a number of questionnaires to develop a profile and come up with occupations you may be interested in. If you don’t wish to develop a profile, click on the horizontal lines in the top right-hand corner of the screen to see the contents of the site. These include:

- **Bullseyes** – These are the posters that list the jobs related to various subjects studied at school. You can click on jobs you are interested in for more information about the jobs.
- **Occupations** – This is where you can do a search for information about jobs you are interested in. It also has lists of Top trending, Skill shortage and Emerging jobs.
- **Courses** – Here you can search for higher education (e.g. university) and Vocational Education and Training courses. This section also has lists of top trending courses.
- **Industries** – This section provides general information about various industries. You can also access information about jobs in the industries.
- **Companies** – This has information about selected companies and the jobs they offer. There isn’t much in this section currently.
- **Career insight** – There are many short articles in this section that relate to career exploration and jobs. For example one of the articles is ‘Supercharge your job search activities’. This section is well worth a look.
- **Contact us** – You can email a question to the myfuture staff from this section.
- **Account details** – This contains the information you have provided to myfuture.
- **Log out**.
Airline Academy of Australia

Airline Academy of Australia is a private training organisation located at Archerfield Airport, Brisbane. It offers training programs for pilots, aircraft maintenance engineers and flight attendants. A VET FEE-HELP pilot diploma is also available at the academy. For more information about these courses and where they can lead, see http://www.airlineacademy.com.au/.

Australian Institute of Creative Design (AICD) Holiday Courses 2015

AICD will offer a range of short courses during the coming school holiday period at its Gold Coast and Brisbane campuses. Course topics include interior design, visual arts, fashion design, photography, styling and make-up. Read about the courses at http://www.aicdedu.com.au/holiday-courses.php.

Australis College

This college, located in Spring Hill, Brisbane, offers accredited diploma and certificate courses in the following fields of study:

- Business and Management
- Financial services
- Natural health
- Beauty services
- Counselling and Community services

The college offers flexible study options and VET FEE-HELP is available for eligible students. Visit the college website at http://www.australiscollege.edu.au/.

Basair Aviation College Career Information Seminar

Basair Aviation College specialises in training students to become commercial pilots. In Brisbane the college is located at Archerfield Airport. If you want to know what it is like to fly a plane, the Archerfield Airport Campus offers a one hour Trial Instructional Flight for $220.00. Basair is approved to offer VET FEE-HELP to eligible students studying its diploma courses. For more information about the college, visit http://www.basair.com.au/.

Careers Australia
This organisation has nine Queensland campuses located at Bowen Hills, Burleigh, Caboolture, Fortitude Valley, Nerang, Salisbury, Southport, Toowoomba and Townsville. It offers a large number of courses including accredited diploma and certificate level courses in fields such as business, management, health, community services, hospitality and retail. VET FEE-HELP is available for eligible students undertaking approved courses. Flexible study options are available. Find out more at http://www.careersaustralia.edu.au/.

**Christian Heritage College (CHC) LAUNCH program**

CHC is a Christian college of higher education. It offers accredited courses in Business, Education, Humanities, Social Sciences and Ministries. It is located at Carindale, Brisbane. The LAUNCH program provides secondary students with an opportunity to study up to two CHC subjects in Years 11 and 12. Successful completion of a CHC subject may provide automatic admission to a degree course at CHC on completion of Year 12. Applications for this program close on 6 February 2016. Find out more at http://chc.edu.au/index.php/future-students/launch-program/.

**College of Australian Training (CAT)**

CAT provides nationally recognised training (including diploma and certificate III programs) in hospitality, hairdressing, beauty, business, retail, tourism and customer contact at campuses in Cairns, Gold Coast, Ipswich, Townsville and the Sunshine Coast. Courses are available full-time and online. Government funding and scholarships are available. Visit http://www.cat.edu.au/ for details.

**Japan-Related Career Seminar**

The Australia Japan Society Queensland Inc. invites anyone interested in Japan-related courses and careers to this seminar to be held from 6 – 8 pm on Thursday 5 November 2015 at Griffith University’s Queensland College of Art, South Bank. Visit http://www.austjpnsoc.asn.au/japan-related-career-seminar/ for details.

**Jazz Music Institute (JMI) Summer Jazz Clinics**

JMI, located at Bowen Hills, Brisbane offers accredited degree, diploma and certificate courses in jazz performance. Between the 18 and 21 January 2016, the institute will run its Summer Jazz Clinics. The clinics are open to all ages and abilities. The key areas of focus will include:

- Jazz theory and harmony
- Small ensemble performance
- Improvisation techniques.

For more information and to register to attend, visit http://www.jazz.qld.edu.au/jazz-clinics/.
JMC holiday workshops

JMC will hold introductory workshops for high school students in Brisbane on the following topics in January 2016 during the school holidays:

- Audio, Music and Business Entertainment Management Workshop
- Film and Television Workshop
- Animation and Game Workshop
- Motion Capture Workshop
- Auto Desk Maya and Mudbox
- Pro tools Workshop
- Ableton Workshop.

For details of, and registration for these workshops, go to the JMC website at http://www.jmcacademy.edu.au/ and click on ‘Brisbane High School Workshops January 2016’.

NIDA summer courses in Brisbane


Pathways for graduates of B Exercise and Nutrition Sciences (Honours) at the University of Queensland (UQ)

This three-year degree can be a pathway to postgraduate studies in dietetics, physiotherapy, medicine, clinical exercise physiology and sports coaching. The UQ School of Human Movement and Nutrition Studies lists the following advantages of using the B Exercise and Nutrition Sciences (Honours) as a pathway to medicine:

- Graduate ahead of the pack with a solid understanding of exercise and nutrition for preventative health and maintenance of good health.
- The subjects studied in the degree provide a good preparation for Gamsat.
- The degree is a three-year program meaning you could complete your undergraduate degree and Doctor of Medicine in as little as seven years.

Find out more about this degree at www.hms.uq.edu.au/future-students/undergraduate-study/bachelor-of-exercise-nutrition-sciences/.

Sarina Russo Institute

This private college, with training centres in Brisbane, the Gold Coast and the Sunshine Coast, offers accredited certificate and diploma courses in business and management. It also offers a range of short courses, including Coffee Making and
Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA). VET FEE-HELP is available for eligible students. For further information, visit http://www.sri.edu.au/.

**Selected events and due dates for November 2015**

(Note: Due dates for selected scholarships are listed in the ‘Financial assistance/Scholarships’ section of this news bulletin.)

5 - Study Options Evening at University of Southern Queensland, Springfield campus http://www.usq.edu.au/news-events/events/2015/11/usq-study-options-evening-springfield-november

11 - Rock School at Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University Gold Coast Campus application due date http://www.griffith.edu.au/music/popular-music/high-school-and-community-programs/rock-school

11 - RSL Youth Development Program applications close http://RSLyouth.com.au


12 - University of Queensland Online Fair for International Students and their families http://future-students.uq.edu.au/uq-online-fair


18 - QCAA Early release of Queensland Core Skills Test results into student Learning Accounts https://studentconnect.qcaa.qld.edu.au/

18 - Aviation Australia Aeroskills Information Session http://www.aviationaustralia.aero/aeroskills-information-sessions/

18 - Bond with Bond https://bond.edu.au/future-students/study-bond/see-yourself/bond-bond

18 - Cres8 at TAFE Queensland Brisbane, South Bank campus http://go.tafe-qld.net/cre8

18 - Australian College of Applied Psychology information evening http://www.acap.edu.au/


22 - Queensland University of Technology Elite Athlete Entry Program application due date [https://www.qut.edu.au/study/applying/undergraduate-applications/special-entry-programs/elite-athletes-elite-athletes-entry-program](https://www.qut.edu.au/study/applying/undergraduate-applications/special-entry-programs/elite-athletes-elite-athletes-entry-program)


26 - QTAC Early Offer Round for some courses [http://www.qtac.edu.au](http://www.qtac.edu.au)


30 - Due date to submit documentation to QTAC for the January 2016 offer round [http://www.qtac.edu.au](http://www.qtac.edu.au)


**Snippets from the University of Queensland (UQ)**

**The UQ Toolkit** – This is a collection of helpful web pages for UQ students, especially new students. It includes:

- Dictionary of UQ terminology - this can help you understand the language of university study
- Key dates - lists important dates for the current year
- MyAdviser - provides information on the processes you are likely to encounter when studying at UQ
- UQ Answers - has a section for future students to ask questions about studying at UQ


Spring School Master Class Programs at TAFE Queensland Brisbane

The following programs, at a cost of $20 each, will be offered on Saturday 7 November 2015 at the South Bank campus:

- Acting and performance
- Fashion – Develop your portfolio
- Music
- Game studies symposium
- Visual arts.

The programs are for Year 12 students, although a wait list will be taken for Year 11 students. To reserve a place contact Peta Wlodarczyk on telephone (07) 3244 5684 or email innovations.brisbane@tafe.qld.edu.au.

Summer school hairdressing course

The Brisbane School of Hairdressing and the Gold Coast School of Hairdressing offer a summer school program for students interested in trying out a career in hairdressing. The program will be offered on 19, 20 and 21 January 2016. For details see http://www.brishair.com.au/courses/summer-schoolwinter-school/.

University of Melbourne Online Course Information Day 2015

This event is an opportunity for interstate students to get personalised advice about the undergraduate courses, pathways to graduate study, scholarships and special entry schemes that are available to them at the University of Melbourne. It will be held from 11 am – 9 pm on Thursday 17 December 2015. To register, visit http://futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/info/school-students/interstate-and-nz. This website has useful information for interstate students planning to study in Melbourne.

University of Queensland’s (UQ) Community Access Program

The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Community Access Program provides an opportunity for members of the community to access individual subjects without undertaking a whole degree or applying through QTAC. To apply you need to be at least 18 years or have completed Year 12. You could explore this program as an alternative pathway to university. Visit http://www.hass.uq.edu.au/community-access-program for more information.

Updates from the Queensland University of Technology (QUT)
Events showcasing the skills of QUT’s creative industry final year students – The following events may be of interest to secondary students considering study in the creative industry field:


**QUT scholarships** – Applications for many of these scholarships close in November. Visit [https://www.qut.edu.au/study/undergraduate-study/undergraduate-scholarships](https://www.qut.edu.au/study/undergraduate-study/undergraduate-scholarships) for details.


**Apply for special entry programs for bonus OPs/ranks and possible scholarships** - These schemes include EAS, the Oodgeroo Unit Centralised Assessment and Selection Program for Indigenous students, the Elite athlete entry program and the Entry bonus scheme. Visit [https://www.qut.edu.au/study/undergraduate-study/do-you-advise-school-students/news-and-events/news?news-id=91481](https://www.qut.edu.au/study/undergraduate-study/do-you-advise-school-students/news-and-events/news?news-id=91481) for details.

**Options for international students who don’t receive the OP for their first preference** – If you are in this position, visit the website at [https://www.qut.edu.au/international/applying/year-12](https://www.qut.edu.au/international/applying/year-12) for the options available to you.


**Use QILT to compare institutions and their courses**

Finding it difficult to made final decisions about the institution you want to attend? The QILT (Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching) website can help you compare study experience and employment outcomes data from Australian higher
education institutions to select the institution with all the qualities you want. Access the website at http://www.qilt.edu.au/.

**Youth online**

The Queensland Government has developed this web page for young people. It provides links to a range of information and services, covering topics such as education, life skills, work and career, health, family support, sport and recreation programs. The site includes a section on helpful apps for young people, a Social Media Wall and links to support services. The web page is located at http://www.qld.gov.au/youth/.
2016 Aspiring Teacher Grants

These grants provide financial support of $1,500 for up to 25 high-achieving secondary students commencing an initial teacher education program in Queensland in 2016. Applications are now open and will close on 11 December 2015. For eligibility criteria and the application process, visit http://education.qld.gov.au/hr/recruitment/teaching/aspiring-teacher-grants.html.

Adam Scott Foundation Sports Business Scholarship

The Adam Scott Foundation in partnership with Griffith University sponsors this scholarship. The Foundation would like to support a student who has overcome adversities in life and is passionate about business and sport. The scholarship will cover the student contribution charges (i.e. HECS). Applicants must apply and gain entry to Griffith’s B Business (Sports Management) programs. Visit http://www.griffith.edu.au/scholarships/categories/sports-scholarships/adam-scott-foundation-scholarship for more information and to access the online application form. Applications close on 26 January 2016.

ADG Engineering Bursary

This bursary is worth $1000. It will be awarded to commencing female students in the B Engineering at the Griffith University’s Gold Coast campus. Applications close on Friday 26 February 2016. Visit www.griffith.edu.au/scholarships/categories/griffith-sciences/adg-engineers-aust-pty-ltd-bursary for details.

Australasian College of Natural Therapies (ACNT) Scholarship

ACNT offers higher education courses in Naturopathy, Nutritional Medicine, Western Herbal Medicine and Health Science. It is offering a scholarship for studies commencing in 2016. The scholarship will cover one year of tuition fees for degrees or one trimester of tuition fees for diploma courses. Apply online at http://www.acnt.edu.au/student-centre/scholarship-info by 17 January 2016.

Australian Catholic University (ACU) scholarship applications now open

Browse the ACU scholarships at http://www.acu.edu.au/study_at_acu/courses/scholarships_and_financial_support/Sc
Dream Big Engineering Scholarship Program for Year 12 girls

Each year, Calibre Consulting offers the Dream Big engineering scholarships for Year 12 girls to encourage more women to enter the engineering field. Applications are now open and will close in January 2016 (or as vacancies are filled). See http://www.calibreconsulting.co/dreambig for more information.

Horizon Scholarship

The Horizon Scholarship is offered to students entering their first year of university in a degree relating to agriculture. It offers $5000 per year, mentoring partnerships, professional development workshops and more. Applications for the 2016 scholarship program are now open and will close on 19 February 2016. Go to http://www.rirdc.gov.au/research-programs/rural-people-issues/horizon-scholarship for details.

JMC scholarships

JMC Academy is a private college with a campus in South Brisbane. It offers accredited diplomas and degrees in the following fields of study:

- Audio engineering and sound production
- Film and television production
- Animation
- Contemporary music and performance
- Game development
- Digital design
- Songwriting
- Entertainment business management.

JMC will offer up to eight Academic Undergraduate Scholarships for study commencing in 2016. Applications close on the 18 December 2015. For details, see the JMC website at http://www.jmcacademy.edu.au/apply/domestic-students/scholarships.

Maple-Brown Family Charitable Foundation Scholarship for Indigenous Students

This scholarship is available to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander high school leavers to study at the University of New South Wales in management and commerce. The total value of the scholarship is $50,000. Visit https://scholarships.online.unsw.edu.au/scholarship/sc_al_search_detail.display_scholarship_details?p_schedule_id=2314&p_scholarship_specific_id=697 for more information about this scholarship. The application due date is 30 November 2015.
Miscellaneous scholarships at the University of Queensland (UQ)


**Pearl Duncan Teaching Scholarships for Indigenous students**

The purpose of these scholarships is to assist aspiring teachers of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage to complete an approved pre-service teacher education program. The scholarships are valued at up to $20,000 each and include the offer of permanent employment in a Queensland state school. Applications close on 11 December 2015. See [http://education.qld.gov.au/hr/recruitment/teaching/indigenous/index.html](http://education.qld.gov.au/hr/recruitment/teaching/indigenous/index.html) for details and to download an application.

**Selected scholarship application due dates for November 2015**


20 - QUT Vice-Chancellor’s Scholarships application due date
https://www.qut.edu.au/study/fees-and-scholarships

20 - QUT Westpac Young Technologists Scholarship application due date

20 - QUT Women in Engineering Scholarship application due date
https://www.qut.edu.au/study/fees-and-scholarships

20 - Women in Information Technology (Go for IT gURL) Merit Scholarship application due date
https://www.qut.edu.au/study/fees-and-scholarships

20 - QUT’s new Real World Scholarship for international students applications close

20 - UQ School of Economics Undergraduate Scholarships for Year 12 students (Domestic Australian, Onshore International and Indigenous) application due date

30 - Endeavour College of Natural Health Scholarships applications close
http://www.endeavour.edu.au/scholarships

30 - The Central Highlands Cotton Growers and Irrigators Association and Cotton Australia scholarship applications close
http://www.rtq.edu.au/information_for_students/Pages/Scholarships.aspx

30 - Auswide Bank Scholarship application due date

Selected scholarships at James Cook University (JCU)

QCoal Foundation Scholarship – This scholarship is for rural and remote students commencing studies in geology or science at JCU in 2016. The scholarship is worth $10,000 for up to three years. Applications close on 31 January 2016. See
https://www.jcu.edu.au/scholarships@jcu/search/qcoal-foundation-scholarship.

JCU Access Fund – There are three different awards under this fund which is for full-time students in their first calendar year of study experiencing financial hardship. There are three application due dates – Early Offer Round on 27 November 2015; Round 1 on 26 February 2016; and Round 2 on 29 July 2016. See
https://www.jcu.edu.au/scholarships@jcu/search/jcu-access-fund.

Townsville Bulletin Scholarship in Medicine – This scholarship is open to first year B Medicine, B Surgery students who reside in the area bounded by Innisfall in the North, Bowen in the South and Mount Isa in the West. It is valued at $5,000. Applications close on 15 December 2015. See
Other scholarships for commencing JCU students can be found at
The benefits of taking a gap year

The following list of benefits is adapted from a myfuture newsletter. The benefits include:

- If you’re unsure about your future direction, having the time to be clear on what you want to do can be valuable. This could lead you to being more focused when going back to study later on.
- Using the time during a gap year to get some work experience or gain skills can stand you in good stead in your future studies and career.
- Volunteering during a gap year can be very satisfying and not only offers new skills and diverse experiences but also can look good on your resume and add to your employability.
- Many people taking a gap year travel interstate or overseas in order to volunteer or seek work experience. If this is an option you want to pursue, remember to stay safe. The Australian Government's Smartraveller advisory service at http://www.smartraveller.gov.au/ contains valuable advice and information on staying safe overseas.

Taking a gap year is not for everyone, and in order to get the most out of the experience you need to plan your time well. It is one option among many, but offers many benefits.
Careers with Code: Game changing jobs of the future magazine

This magazine is for students in Years 9 – 12 who are interested in careers that combine computer science with their skills, interests and passions. The magazine is packed with case studies and information about pathways and courses. It can be downloaded for free from the Careers with Code website at http://careerswithcode.com.au/read-it-here/.

Good news for ‘future-proofed’ occupations

The following item is adapted from an article published on the News.com.au website on 12 October 2015.

Hays, a worldwide recruiting company, has predicted that architects, professional practice accountants and salespeople are among occupations that have the potential to look forward to job opportunities well into the future. Other ‘future-proofed’ occupations include financial planners, marketers, healthcare workers, lawyers in the corporate/banking/finance field and insurance professionals. Hays’s managing director for Australia and New Zealand suggests that these occupations:

“don’t need to ‘future-proof’ themselves as they already have the technical skills and experience employers will continue to need in future years. Provided they keep their skills up-to-date, remain connected to their industry through social media, networking and their recruiter, and are digitally literate, professionals in these areas will experience ongoing career success.”

You can read the entire article at http://www.news.com.au/finance/work/careers (scroll down to ‘The jobs that are future-proof’).

Interested in working in the community care and disability sector?

This sector is one of the largest in Australia. It provides a range of services aimed at improving the quality of life for people with support needs, including those who:

- are elderly, frail or infirm
- have physical or intellectual disabilities
- have mental health issues.

The sector employs people from a broad range of occupations, from project managers to community care assistants. Do the Career Quiz on the Care Careers website at
http://www.carecareers.com.au/ to find jobs within the sector that suit your personality and work goals.

What jobs are there in the timber industry?

The Growing Careers website at http://www.growingcareers.com.au/home provides information about a large range of jobs associated with the forestry and wood products industry. Use the ‘Find a career’ section on the website to learn about over 50 jobs associated with the timber industry. Other features of the website include case studies and videos.

What’s the difference between a psychologist and a psychiatrist?

Both of these occupations are trained to provide treatments for mental health problems. However, the type of treatments they deliver and the methods of diagnosis they use are very different. Their training pathways are also different. The My Health Career website provides the following information about the differences:

**Psychologist**

- Complete a B Arts or B Science (or a B Psychology) at a university with Honours in psychology, which generally includes substantial practical experience in a clinic to help people with everyday problems such as stress and relationship difficulties.
- Completing a clinical Masters or a Doctorate to become clinical psychologists in which they have additional experience in a hospital or community mental health service environment and enables them to specialise in treating people with a mental illness.
- Total training generally takes six to eight years, during which they will receive extensive training in psychotherapy and research methodology.

**Psychiatrist**

- Complete a medical degree at university which covers human anatomy, biochemistry and physiology, function of the body’s organs, including the central nervous system and the effects of all drugs.
- Undertake specialist training in psychiatry focusing on psychiatric and psychological treatments and social and other health impacts in addition to their biological knowledge.
- Total training generally takes a minimum of twelve years.

Aviation Australia Information Sessions

Aviation Australia offers training for those wishing to be Aircraft Maintenance Engineers or Cabin Crew. Information sessions will be held from 6.30 – 8.30 pm on Wednesday 18 November 2015. For details and to register, visit:


Information Session at Shillington College


Queensland School of Film and Television (QSFT) Open Day

The QSFT open day will be held from 10 am – 12 noon on Saturday 14 November 2015 at the QSFT campus at 22 Warwick Street, Annerley. It will feature industry speakers, career pathways, program information and a tour of the school. To RSVP, call (07) 3392 7788 or email marketing@qsft.qld.edu.au.
QTAC application reminders

- Have you put important dates in your phone or diary? Important QTAC application, offer round dates and response dates are listed on page 4 of the QTAC Guide. For example, it is important to know when Year 12 results are released and when OP ineligible ranks are available so you can review your QTAC preferences before 6 January 2016 (the last date to make changes for the major offer round on 14 January 2016).

- Do you have all QTAC documents and numbers in a safe place? Put your QTAC Guide, a copy of your QTAC preferences, QTAC password, QTAC reference number, LUI, and Learning Account PIN together in a place where you can find them. If you are going overseas during the Christmas holidays, you should take all of these items with you.

- Do you have a Tax File Number? You will need this to apply for Commonwealth Government HELP loans (e.g. HECS, VET FEE-HELP) when you enrol at a university, TAFE or college after you receive an offer of a course place.

QTAC FAQs

I didn’t apply for the Educational Access Scheme (EAS) when I applied to QTAC. Can I apply now? Yes. You can print the relevant EAS cover sheets from the QTAC website at http://www.qtac.edu.au/applications/application-resources/assistance-schemes/educational-access-scheme and return them to QTAC with the required supporting documentation attached. This must be done by 30 November 2015 for the major offer round on 14 January 2016.

Will I get a letter in the mail from QTAC with my offer on it? - No. QTAC will notify you by email if you receive an offer. You need to log on to your application for details of your offer.

What do I have to do when I receive an offer? - You must respond to QTAC by the due date. If you do not respond by the due date, your offer will lapse and your application will become inactive. Resources to explain how to respond include:

- ‘Responding to your offer’ on p. 45 in the QTAC Guide
Once you have accepted an offer of a course place, you need to complete the enrolment requirements of the institution that has given you the offer.

**What should I do if I don’t get an offer?** - If you are not offered a place in any of your course preferences in the major offer round, contact QTAC (by phone and email) to find out why you did not get an offer and what you should do next. Reasons for not receiving an offer may include:

- Quota restrictions (that is, your OP/rank did not meet the cut-off)
- Failure to satisfy minimum entry requirements (e.g. prerequisites, audition)
- Failure to pay QTAC processing charges
- Preferencing your courses incorrectly (e.g. putting semester two courses before semester one courses; not including a ‘good’ foot-in-the-door option)
- Applying after the due date for the offer round
- Not responding to an earlier offer.

If you were ineligible for the courses you applied for, you can change your preferences for consideration in any subsequent offer round if further offers are made. QTAC usually publishes remaining course vacancies on its website after an offer round.

**University information sessions after you receive your Year 12 results**

Most universities hold information sessions in December for students who have received their Year 12 results and are reviewing their QTAC preferences and/or deciding on their future direction. The following are examples of these sessions in 2015.


**Queensland University of Technology** - Real Decisions at the Gardens Point campus from 9 am – 1 pm on Tuesday 22 December 2015 and Real Decisions at the Caboolture campus from 2 – 5 pm on Tuesday 22 December 2015 [https://www.qut.edu.au/study/events](https://www.qut.edu.au/study/events).


Online study/learning resources from the universities

All universities provide study skill assistance for their students. This assistance can be in the form of workshops or online resources. The following are a selection of university online study resources, some of which will be helpful for Year 12 students:

- AIRport (Academic Interactive Resources Portal) is an e-learning resource for preparing for university study developed by the University of Melbourne. It can be accessed at https://airport.unimelb.edu.au/.
- Study Smarter online resources can be found on the James Cook University’s current student website at https://www.jcu.edu.au/students/support/study-smarter.
- Griffith University’s Study Smart website at http://app.griffith.edu.au/study-smart/ provides study skill strategies to help you succeed at university.
- QUT’s Study Smart tutorial at http://studysmart.library.qut.edu.au/ provides study skills for completing assignments.
- Online Learning Workshops can be found on the University of Queensland’s website at http://www.uq.edu.au/student-services/learning/online-workshops.

Parents, are you feeling the pressure too? Here’s how to help your child cope with exam stress

This is the title of a recent article from The Conversation. The following is a precis of the guidelines for parents provided in the article.

- Explain to your children that it is a normal reaction to feel stressed when we engage in something that is challenging. Support them by asking them how they feel, listen and encourage, but help them to see challenge as a good thing.
- Your children may feel that their whole life is a failure if they don’t succeed in the exam as well as they would like to. They need to know there is not one perfect plan but there are multiple pathways to success and that failure is an event that provides us with choices; it is not who we are.
- When a young person is stressed they will go over and over a problem in their mind. This can make the problem even bigger. Actually doing something enjoyable or working through the problem they are thinking about is the best distraction for worrying thoughts.
- Everyone learns differently. Work out the most effective environment for your child. Do they like to be alone or study with friends? They may be a visual learner and use lots of pictures, or a verbal learner and need to talk through
ideas. Also study can be more effective when you space it out over time. So take a three-hour study session and add a five-minute break every 30 minutes to improve your productivity.

Read the entire article at https://theconversation.com/au/education.
'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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