Table of Contents

Apprenticeships and Employment ................................................................. 4
Apprenticeships with Aurizon ................................................................. 4
Automotive, technical and parts apprenticeships ........................................ 4
How do I find a VET course in Queensland? ............................................ 4
Jobactive – the new Australian employment service .................................... 4
My Skills has a new look .............................................................................. 5
What do I need to know when I start a job? .............................................. 6
Australian Defence Force ........................................................................... 7
Australian Defence Force (ADF) Information Sessions ............................. 7
Career Exploration ....................................................................................... 8
Explore occupations related to the subjects you like studying .................. 8
Competitions ............................................................................................... 9
A competition to look out for in 2016 ....................................................... 9
Buy Smart Competition ............................................................................. 9
Haywire ...................................................................................................... 9
The Australian Innovation Challenge .......................................................... 9
Win a set of Beats by Dr Dre headphones ................................................. 9
Course and Institution Updates .................................................................... 11
2015 Game On Symposium (#GO423): What If….. .................................... 11
Blue Mountains International Hotel Management School information evening in Brisbane .............................................................. 11
Free writing workshop at CQUniversity (CQU) ........................................ 11
Interested in being a police officer? Attend a seminar ............................... 11
Mary McConnel School of Early Childhood.............................................. 11
News from the University of Queensland (UQ) ........................................ 12
News from the University of Southern Queensland (USQ) ......................... 12
Open Universities Australia (OUA) .......................................................... 13
Queensland Writer’s Centre (QWC) Youth Program ................................. 13
Selected career and course events from 28 July to 13 August 2015 .......... 13
Socialise with James Cook University (JCU) ............................................ 15
TASTE is coming: Apply early! ................................................................. 15
Updates from the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) ................. 16
Financial Assistance and Scholarships ....................................................... 17
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016 Science and Engineering scholarships at Queensland University of</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology (QUT) for Year 12 students</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants for young women</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low Income Health Care Card</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice-Chancellor</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gap Year Program News</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selected upcoming gap year program information events</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YFU Student Exchange</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational Information</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 things to ask a health professional</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emerging occupations</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I want to be a pilot but I’m not sure I’m suited for the job</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICT for girls</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Days, Expos and Career Markets</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aviation Careers Expo</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Griffith University Open Day</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDP Brisbane International Students Expo</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JMC Academy Brisbane Open Day</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAE Qantm Open day at the Brisbane Campus</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selected interstate tertiary institution open days</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunshine Coast Imaginarium – including the USC Open Day</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Townsville Careers Expo</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Queensland (UQ) Open Days</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upcoming University open days</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QTAC and Tertiary Entry</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QTAC’s Educational Access Scheme (EAS)</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Skills</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The laws of learning</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Apprenticeships with Aurizon

Aurizon Holdings provides rail and road-based freight services across Australia. The company offers apprenticeships in the following areas:

- Electrical Tradesperson
- Telecommunications Tradesperson
- Heavy Fabrication (Boilermaker)
- Mechanical and Diesel Fitter and/or Turner
- Vehicle Builder/Vehicle Trimmer
- Vehicle Finisher.

For more information and to download a brochure, go to http://www.aurizon.com.au/careers.

Automotive, technical and parts apprenticeships

Students can apply for automotive apprenticeships with major vehicle manufacturers across Australia through Vantage Automotive Pty Ltd. Visit http://www.vantageautomotive.com/ and click on ‘Apprenticeship Programs’ for more information.

How do I find a VET course in Queensland?

One source of this information is the Queensland Skills Gateway website at http://www.skillsgateway.training.qld.gov.au/. Use the training course search function on the site – enter the field of work (e.g. carpentry), the level of the course (e.g. Certificate II) and the industry (e.g. Construction). While the focus of this website is vocational education and training (VET), it does include an occupational search function that has information on a broader range of occupations. Also included are a course provider search function and links to useful topics such as:

- Financial assistance and loans available
- Getting started as an apprentice or trainee
- Find out more about career pathways.

Jobactive – the new Australian employment service
On 1 July 2015 Jobactive replaced the previous national employment program, Job Services Australia. There are five key Jobactive services available.

- **Jobactive providers** - assist job seekers to find and keep a job.
- **Work for the Dole Coordinators** - source suitable Work for the Dole activities with not-for-profit organisations such as local councils, schools, community organisations and government agencies.
- **Enterprise Incentive Scheme** - helps eligible job seekers to start and run their own small business with support.
- **Harvest Labour Services** - gather vacancies from growers, provide eligible job seekers with information and supply harvest workers to horticultural producers in regions where there is a need for harvest workers.
- **National Harvest Labour Information Service** - coordinates information about harvest opportunities across Australia.

What do the changes mean for job seekers? Job seekers will need to:

- Undertake 20 job searches each month (Jobactive providers can tailor this requirement to the jobseeker’s individual needs)
- Agree to a Job Plan that outlines how they will improve their work readiness and follow through on commitments
- Complete Work for the Dole or another approved activity (such as part-time work or volunteering) for 25 hours per week for six months of each year they are unemployed if they are under 30 years of age or 15 hours if they are aged 30 to 59.


**My Skills has a new look**

This website at [http://www.myskills.gov.au/](http://www.myskills.gov.au/) provides a national directory of vocational education and training (VET) providers and courses. New features on the site include:

- A location identifier to help you search your area for the nearest training organisations
- Industry sector pathway searches
- Skills shortages information to let you know where VET courses lead to jobs in demand
- Student outcomes information for 230 of the most popular courses
- Career pathways information for many courses, to see how courses relate to occupations within an career stream
- A VET FEE-HELP calculator to help you understand your loan obligations if you choose to access financial assistance for your training
- Identification of training providers sanctioned for wrong doing
- Course and training provider comparison tools.
What do I need to know when I start a job?

The Fair Work Ombudsman website at http://www.fairwork.gov.au/find-help-for/young-workers-and-students has a ‘Guide for young workers’ which can be downloaded from the site. The Guide covers topics such as employment conditions, employment awards and agreements, pay rates and much more. Also, the site has a ‘Guide to starting a new job’ and a ‘Starting a new job’ online learning course.
Australian Defence Force (ADF) Information Sessions

Joining the ADF is not just a career decision, it is also a lifestyle decision. Consequently it is important to do your research. Attending an information session lets you explore your options and talk to people already in the ADF. Consider attending one of the following sessions:

- 29 July 2015 - Submariners information session in Brisbane [https://www.facebook.com/events/927067904005672/](https://www.facebook.com/events/927067904005672/)
- 29 July 2015 – Army Reserve information session in Townsville [https://www.facebook.com/events/733812150074096/](https://www.facebook.com/events/733812150074096/)
- 29 July 2015 - Navy Careers Information Session in Cairns [https://www.facebook.com/events/966855073366819/](https://www.facebook.com/events/966855073366819/)
- 30 July 2015 - Defence Careers information session in Rockhampton [https://www.facebook.com/events/1185283614831306/](https://www.facebook.com/events/1185283614831306/)
- 30 July 2015 - Defence Careers information session at Maroochydore [https://www.facebook.com/events/401542813382212/](https://www.facebook.com/events/401542813382212/)
Explore occupations related to the subjects you like studying

The Bullseye posters (you have probably seen these around your school) use a bullseye shape to display occupations related to senior school subjects for four education and training levels. The four levels are explained below each bullseye. Go to the myfuture website at http://myfuture.edu.au/tools-and-resources/learning-tools-for-secondary-students and click on ‘Bullseye posters – explore occupations by school subject’. The list of occupations allows you to access more information by clicking on the occupations you are interested in. This way you can develop a job ideas list. You can research further by talking to people in the jobs and, if possible, doing work observation or work experience to narrow down the occupations on your job ideas list.
Competitions

A competition to look out for in 2016

The STUFFit Student Film Festival competition is organised by a committee of dedicated and committed students from St. John’s College, Nambour. It is a high school student film competition. There are nine categories and applications usually close in July each year. The competition culminates in a festival. While it is too late to apply this year, you can still attend the festival to be held on Saturday 17 October 2015 at the Birch Carol and Coyle Cinema Complex in Maroochydore. Find out more at http://www.stuffitfilmfest.com/index.html and consider participating in 2016.

Buy Smart Competition

Try your hand at creating an innovative way to present a consumer issue to an audience of your choice by entering this competition. It is open to Queensland students in Years 4 – 12. You can enter individually or in a group of up to six. The closing date is 18 September 2015. Find out more at http://www.qld.gov.au/buysmartcomp.

Haywire

If you’re aged 16 - 22 and live outside the big cities, you can enter a story about your life and the issues affecting your community in the Heywire competition. Entries close 16 September 2015. Winners of this competition are invited to take part in the annual Heywire Regional Youth Summit in Canberra. Find out more at http://www.abc.net.au/heywire/competition/.

The Australian Innovation Challenge

This year the Challenge has a Young Innovators category, open to anyone under the age of 21 years. If you have a great idea that could help Australia grasp opportunities or steel us against future economic or environmental shocks, you should enter this challenge. Find out more at http://www.theaustralian.com.au/innovationchallenge.

Win a set of Beats by Dr Dre headphones

All you have to do is upload a creative photo of the University of Queensland’s 2016 Health Guide (see http://health.uq.edu.au/undergraduate) to Instagram with #uqhealthhero and #uqhealth. Make sure you follow and tag @uq_health. The most creative picture wins. Entries close on 30 August 2015. Read the terms and conditions.
2015 Game On Symposium (#GO423): What If....

This is the ultimate gamer’s symposium. It will be held on Saturday 8 and Sunday 9 August 2015 at The Cube, Science and Engineering Centre at the Queensland University of Technology’s Gardens Point campus. The first day is a day of panels and talks and the second day is for workshops and a games’ exhibition. ‘Girls make games’, a workshop for girls is included in the program. To download the program and a flyer and to register for this event, visit http://www.igdabrisbane.org/go423/2015-go423-symposium/. This is a free event.

Blue Mountains International Hotel Management School information evening in Brisbane

The Blue Mountains International Hotel Management School has campuses in Leura and Sydney, NSW. It offers internationally recognised undergraduate business degrees in International Hotel and Resort Management, International Event Management and International Restaurant and Catering Management. The School will hold an information evening from 6 pm on Friday 31 July 2015 at Sofitel Brisbane Central, 249 Turbot Street, Brisbane. Drinks and canapés will be served and students will have a chance to go on a hotel tour. To RSVP ring Josh Wood on 0407 141 146 or email josh.wood@bluemountains.edu.au.

Free writing workshop at CQUniversity (CQU)

Budding writers (story, journal and music) are invited to attend this workshop hosted by the Idiom 23 literary magazine. It will be held on Saturday 15 August 2015 at CQU Rockhampton North. Registrations can be made at https://idiom23-cquniversity.submittable.com/submit/44244.

Interested in being a police officer? Attend a seminar

Find out about police entry pathways, entry requirements and career options in the Queensland Police Service at a recruitment seminar. In July and August 2015, seminars will be held in Brisbane, Coomera, Maroochydore and Townsville. Visit http://www.policerecruit.qld.gov.au/seminars/default.htm for details and to book for a session.

Mary McConnel School of Early Childhood
This new school is located at Shafston College, Kangaroo Point, Brisbane. It offers a Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care. VET FEE-HELP is available for eligible students. Interested students can contact the school to arrange a tour of the campus. Find out more at http://www.mmsec.edu.au/.

News from the University of Queensland (UQ)

Experience a day in the life of a UQ Pharmacy student – Attend the Pharmacy Experience Day to be held on Sunday 23 August 2015 at the Pharmacy Australia Centre of Excellence (PACE), Woolloongabba, Brisbane. Visit http://www.uq.edu.au/pharmacy/begin-your-career for more information and to register.

Engineering and Technology Careers Evening – This event is for students considering a future career in engineering and/or information technology. It will be held from 5 – 8 pm on Thursday 27 August 2015. For more information and to register to attend go to http://www.eait.uq.edu.au/careers-evening.

UQ Link Program – This program helps financially disadvantaged students to study at UQ. Successful applicants can be awarded a UQ Link Scholarship valued at $3,000 per year (up to three years), 5 bonus ranks and other support. Students apply for this program through QTAC’s Educational Access Scheme (EAS). See http://scholarships.uq.edu.au/scholarship/uq-link-program for details.

UQ’s Integrated Pathology Learning Centre – This centre, located in the Health Sciences Building at Herston, is an interactive pathology museum. Health science students at UQ use it as part of their studies. Take a virtual tour of the centre at http://vimeo.com/40189044.

International students – International students studying Year 12 in Australia should apply for UQ courses through QTAC (except for IB students, who apply directly to UQ). Find out more about the application and offer process at http://www.uq.edu.au/international-students/.

News from the University of Southern Queensland (USQ)

Creative Arts auditions – Within the B Creative Arts at USQ there are five areas of specialisation (Film, Television and Radio, Music, Theatre and Visual Arts). Applicants for the Music, Theatre and Visual Arts specialisations are required to contact USQ for audition and/or interview information. You should also visit the Auditions and Interviews webpage at http://www.usq.edu.au/study/apply/audition. This webpage has links to audition and interview/portfolio tips. Note that these specialisations have a fixed closing date of 4 December 2015.

Open Days – The open day website at http://www.usq.edu.au/openday provides information about the 2015 open day programs at USQ campuses. Check out and register for the USQ Open Day Competition on the open day website. Open day dates are:
• 2 August - Fraser Coast campus  
• 9 August – Ipswich campus  
• 16 August - Toowoomba Campus  
• 23 August - Springfield campus


**Open Universities Australia (OUA)**

OUA offers online higher education courses. Through OUA, students can:

- Study online, so they have flexibility about when and where they study
- Choose from a large range of undergraduate courses
- Select individual undergraduate units instead of a whole course
- Study with Australian universities e.g. Monash, Griffith, Macquarie, Curtin, RMIT, University of New England, Swinburne University of Technology, University of South Australia, Australian Catholic University and many more
- Graduate with the same qualification as an on-campus student
- Access online support services.


**Queensland Writer’s Centre (QWC) Youth Program**

QWC’s Youth Program is for young writers between 12 – 19 years of age. They provide an opportunity to learn new skills and techniques. QWC is currently offering the following programs. Details of the programs are available at [http://www.qwc.asn.au/events/youth-program/](http://www.qwc.asn.au/events/youth-program/).

- **Core Skills Masterclass** – This program is for writers in Years 11 and 12. It is designed to help them develop high quality ideas in an exam situation to give them an edge on the QCS Test and to improve their writing skills.
- **Love It, Write It: Harnessing fanfiction** – This program is for writers aged 12 – 17 years to develop their storytelling skills.

**Selected career and course events from 28 July to 13 August 2015**

**July**

29 - UMAT test date [http://umat.acer.edu.au](http://umat.acer.edu.au)  
30 - University of Southern Queensland, Toowoomba campus Years 7 – 10 Careers Day  
30 - Kingaroy Careers Expo at the Kingaroy State High School

31 - Bond University scholarship applications for Australian Year 12 students due [http://bond.edu.au/study-at-bond/scholarships/important-dates/index.htm](http://bond.edu.au/study-at-bond/scholarships/important-dates/index.htm)

**August**

1 - APM College of Business and Communication Open Day


2 - University of Queensland MusicFest 2015

2 - University of Queensland Open Day at St Lucia campus
   [http://youruq.com/openday](http://youruq.com/openday)

2 - University of Southern Queensland Open Day at Fraser Coast campus
   [http://www.usq.edu.au/study/open-day](http://www.usq.edu.au/study/open-day)


3-9 - National Student Volunteer Week

4 - QTAC online applications open [http://www.qtac.edu.au](http://www.qtac.edu.au)

4 - QUT Power of Engineering for Year 9 and 10 students

5 - Queensland University of Technology (QUT) Kelvin Grove campus - Pathways to Art [http://www.artmuseum.qut.edu.au/schools/career-study.jsp](http://www.artmuseum.qut.edu.au/schools/career-study.jsp)

7 - Bond University’s September 2015 Student for a Semester Program application due date http://bond.edu.au/future-students/study-bond/see-yourself/student-semester

7 - TAFE Gold Coast - Ashmore Trades Training Centre Open Day http://tafegoldcoast.edu.au/about-us/events/#.VaDA8bWFe-U

9 - University of the Sunshine Coast, Sippy Down campus Open Day http://www.usc.edu.au/connect/events/2015/august/sunshine-coast-imaginariurn-including-open-day

9 - University of Southern Queensland Open Day at Ipswich campus http://www.usq.edu.au/study/open-day

9 - Griffith University Open Day at Nathan and Southbank campuses http://www.griffith.edu.au/open-day

9 - CQUniversity Open Day at Bundaberg campus http://www.cqu.edu.au/calendar

10 - Australian Catholic University Early Achievers’ Program applications open http://www.acu.edu.au/study_at_acu/alternative_entry/early_entry

10 - Townsville Careers Expo http://www.careersevent.com/townsville/

11 - Bowen Future Skills Career Expo at the Fitness Gym and Trade Training Centre, Bowen State High School

11 - Western Downs Career Expo at the Chinchilla Cultural Centre

12 - Mackay Careers Expo at the Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre

12 - Maranoa Careers Expo at Roma

13 - Moranbah Careers Expo at Moranbah State High School

13 - St George Careers Expo at the Skill Centre, St George

Socialise with James Cook University (JCU)

Students interested in courses at JCU can keep in touch with the latest JCU news through Twitter, Facebook and YouTube. Visit http://www-public.jcu.edu.au/social/ for more information.

TASTE is coming: Apply early!

The Agricultural Skills and Technology Experience (TASTE) is a four-day program for high school students aged 15 and over who are considering a career in agriculture,
horticulture, conservation and land management. The program will be run in the September/October school holidays. The program dates are:

- 20-24 September 2015: Narayen (Emerald Agricultural College property via Mundubbera) - cattle and horses emphasis
- 27 September-1 October 2015: Longreach Pastoral College - The Longreach Pastoral College Experience including sheep, cattle and horses
- 27 September–1 October 2015: Emerald Agricultural College - The Emerald Agricultural College Experience including cropping, cattle and horses.

TASTE is a very popular program, so apply early. For more information and to download the ‘Experience TASTE’ brochure, visit [http://www.qatc.edu.au/Learn%20with%20us/Pages/TASTE.aspx](http://www.qatc.edu.au/Learn%20with%20us/Pages/TASTE.aspx).

**Updates from the Queensland University of Technology (QUT)**

**Considering a double degree?** – Visit the QUT website at [https://www.qut.edu.au/study/undergraduate-study/double-degrees](https://www.qut.edu.au/study/undergraduate-study/double-degrees) to read about the advantages of undertaking a double degree and how it works. There is also information on how to apply for double degrees and a list of double degree programs at QUT.

**Moving to Brisbane to study?** – The QUT website at [https://www.qut.edu.au/study/undergraduate-study/moving-to-brisbane-to-study](https://www.qut.edu.au/study/undergraduate-study/moving-to-brisbane-to-study) provides essential information for students moving to Brisbane to study at QUT.

**Career opportunities in science and maths** – When it comes to careers, Science is more than labs and research and Maths graduates have more opportunities than teaching. Read about a broader range of career opportunities for these study areas on the QUT website at:


**Caboolture Open Day** – Check out the courses offered and the campus at Caboolture on Sunday 16 August 2015. Find out more at [https://www.qut.edu.au/study/events/caboolture-campus-open-day](https://www.qut.edu.au/study/events/caboolture-campus-open-day).

**Q-Step** – This scheme is for students from a low-income background. Successful applicants can receive up to three OP bonus points (or six ranks) as well as a financial scholarship. Applications for Q-Step are through QTAC’s Educational Access Scheme – financial hardship category. Visit [https://www.qut.edu.au/study/applying/undergraduate-applications/special-entry-programs](https://www.qut.edu.au/study/applying/undergraduate-applications/special-entry-programs) for more information about this scheme and other special entry schemes.
Financial Assistance & Scholarships

2016 Science and Engineering scholarships at Queensland University of Technology (QUT) for Year 12 students

Students applying for courses within the Science and Engineering Faculty at QUT can apply for a number of scholarships. These include:

Dean’s Scholars Program – When you apply for a QUT Vice-Chancellor’s Scholarship you may also be eligible for this program. Successful applicants have access to a range of programs including professional and leadership development and mentoring. Applications for the Vice-Chancellor’s Scholarships close on 20 November 2015.

Westpac Young Technologists Scholarship – Recipients of this scholarship have access to the Westpac Alumni Program, mentoring, internship opportunities and other events and activities. Applications close on 20 November 2015.

Indigenous scholarships and support - Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander students commencing a degree can apply for the Undergraduate Indigenous Scholarship. If you gain entry through the Centralised Assessment Selection Program (see https://www.qut.edu.au/about/oodgeroo) your fees will be covered for science and maths preparatory bridging courses. Application dates are not currently available for 2016.

Women in Engineering Scholarship – There are 10 of these scholarships for females applying for the B Engineering. Recipients of these scholarships are expected to play a leading role in QUT’s Women in Engineering Program. Applications close on 20 November 2015.

Women in Information Technology (Go for IT gURL) Merit Scholarship – Up to six of these scholarships are available to Year 12 students with an OP 1 – 5 who gain entry to an undergraduate information technology degree. Applications close on 20 November 2015.

Visit https://www.qut.edu.au/science-engineering/courses-and-study/ (click on Scholarships, bursaries and development programs) for more information about these scholarships.

Grants for young women

Layne Beachley and her Aim for the Stars Foundation invites Australian females aged 12 years of age and above who need funding to achieve goals in their sporting,
academic, community, business, environmental or cultural pursuits to apply for a 2015 grant. The application due date is 13 November 2015. Find out more at http://www.aimforthestars.com.au/.

**Low Income Health Care Card**

Students may be eligible for this card if they are on a low income and meet the Low Income Health Care Card income test (this card is not subject to an assets test). Find out more at http://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/services/centrelink/low-income-health-care-card.

**Vice-Chancellor**

In 2016 USQ will offer forty of these scholarships to high achieving students who receive a principal’s recommendation for 2016. The scholarship is worth a maximum of $12,000. Applications close on Friday 28 August 2015. Details can be found at http://www.usq.edu.au/scholarships/usq/vice-chancellors-principals-recommendation.
Gap Year Program News

Selected upcoming gap year program information events


YFU Student Exchange

This program arranges for young people, 15 – 18 years of age, to travel and study in a broad range of overseas countries from two months to 12 months. Students live with a volunteer host family, attend a local school and have the support of the YFU network. Visit the YFU website at [http://www.yfu.com.au/](http://www.yfu.com.au/) for details of the program.
Occupational Information

10 things to ask a health professional

When seeking information about health science occupations, it is important to talk to people who are already in the job. These conversations can be very valuable, especially if you prepare questions in advance. The following questions are suggestions from the My Health Career website at https://www.myhealthcareer.com.au/career-university/what-to-ask-a-health-professional.

- What aspects of the career do you like the most or find to be the most rewarding?
- What aspects of the career do you dislike the most or find to be the most challenging?
- What aspects of the profession do students/graduates find to be the most challenging as they are going through the course or entering the workforce?
- What are the differences between how the average person perceives the profession and what you actually do on a day-to-day basis?
- What are the characteristics or personal attributes of a successful practitioner in your profession?
- Please outline a standard case and an unusual case you have come across.
- How much money could a new graduate, experienced practitioner or business owner expect to make?
- What are the different branches or areas of specialization in the profession?
- Has the profession changed over the time of your involvement?
- Looking forwards, where are the opportunities and threats in the profession?

Emerging occupations

According to the Committee for Economic Development of Australia (CEDA), “more than five million jobs, almost 40 per cent of Australian jobs that exist today, have a moderate to high likelihood of disappearing in the next 10 to 15 years due to technological advancements” (see http://www.ceda.com.au/research-and-policy/policy-priorities/workforce for the full report). Consequently identifying new and emerging occupational areas is important to ensure that we can gain the skills and knowledge that will help us be employable in the future. The myfuture website cites the following sectors as presenting new occupational opportunities.

- Digital Marketing – data analytics is providing the opportunity to measure performance effectively and closely track return on investment.
- Cyber Security – cyber security is driving the growing need for consistent, organisation-wide responses to digital business risk.
- Healthcare – positions in outpatient care centres and home health-care agencies are growing quickly. Along with disease management expertise, these roles will have a sophisticated understanding of the data and analytics tools available as well as business priorities across the spectrum of healthcare providers.
- Retail – the retail industry is borrowing ideas from the startup world and investing in new initiatives that identify growth opportunities across digital media and technology. For example, some businesses are using insights obtained from customer behaviour analytics to create highly-targeted engagement and marketing strategies.
- Manufacturing – industrial processes are more technology focused, and factory workers will need new skills to operate lasers, sophisticated control tools and robotics equipment.
- Information Technology – evolving consumer and business needs require effective strategies for mobile and digital platforms.


**I want to be a pilot but I’m not sure I’m suited for the job**


**ICT for girls**

A good resource for female students interested in ICT is the Dot Diva website at [http://www.dotdiva.org/](http://www.dotdiva.org/). This site profiles women who have made a difference through computing.
Aviation Careers Expo

The 2015 Aviation Careers Expo will be held from 10 am – 4 pm on Saturday 22 August at Aviation Australia’s training facilities in the Brisbane International Airport Precinct. This is the event to attend if you are interested in an aviation career. There will be training demonstrations, seminars and a static aircraft display. You will have an opportunity to take a ride in a B737 and F/A-18 Super Hornet Simulator, to watch aircraft evacuations and to learn about aviation careers in the commercial and Defence sectors. Check out the Expo’s Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/CareerInAviation) and Twitter (https://twitter.com/Career_Aviation) pages for updates. Visit http://bit.ly/1AKf0Yb to register your attendance.

Griffith University Open Day

Griffith will hold its Open Day at the Nathan and South Bank campuses on 9 August 2015. On the open day website at http://www.griffith.edu.au/open-day you can register for updates for a chance to win an Apple watch or a $500 STA travel voucher. You can also download a program and app and start planning your day. Included on the site are tips to help you get the most out of the open day.

IDP Brisbane International Students Expo

This event will be held from 11 am – 5 pm on Friday 7 August 2015 at the Hilton Brisbane Hotel. It will give international students a chance to talk to representatives of education institutions from around Australia. Visit https://www.idp.com/australia/studyabroad/events/2015/08/brisbaneaugust2015expo to pre-register to receive free Ekka tickets and a student pack on the Expo day. At the expo you will go into the lucky draw for a chance to win a MacBook.

JMC Academy Brisbane Open Day

JMC Academy offers accredited diploma and degree courses in music, audio, animation, game design, film and television production, audio engineering and sound production, contemporary music and performance, and entertainment business management. FEE-HELP is available for degree courses for eligible students. JMC will hold an open day on Saturday 8 August 2015 at its South Brisbane campus. Go to http://www.jmcacademy.edu.au/events/open-days/register-for-our-next-open-day-2015 to register your attendance and to find out more about this institution.
SAE Qantm Open day at the Brisbane Campus


Selected interstate tertiary institution open days

If you are thinking of applying for university studies interstate, you will need to begin your research as soon as possible. Information you should seek, includes:

- Location of the institution (does it have more than one campus?)
- Courses offered, entry prerequisites, previous ATAR cut-offs (go to the Year 12 Comparison Table at [http://www.uac.edu.au/documents/undergraduate/year12-conversion.pdf](http://www.uac.edu.au/documents/undergraduate/year12-conversion.pdf) to see a comparison between ATARs and OPs)
- Cost of accommodation and when to apply
- Travel costs
- Support for interstate students
- Scholarships and other financial support programs and schemes
- Application process (do you use a tertiary admissions centre or apply directly?)
- Application due dates
- Overseas exchange programs
- Employment programs (e.g. traineeships, work experience).

You can obtain much of this information from the websites of the institutions. Attending an open day would also be useful. The following are a selection of 2015 interstate open days:

- **Australian Maritime College, Tasmania**: Sunday 30 August [http://www.amc.edu.au/openday](http://www.amc.edu.au/openday) (Queensland students can apply through QTAC for courses at this institution)
- **Australian National University, Canberra**: Saturday 29 August [http://www.anu.edu.au/study/events/anu-open-day-2015](http://www.anu.edu.au/study/events/anu-open-day-2015)
- **Monash University, Victoria**: 2 and 3 August [http://www.monash.edu/openday](http://www.monash.edu/openday)
- **The University of Melbourne**: Sunday 16 August [https://openday.unimelb.edu.au/](https://openday.unimelb.edu.au/)
- **The University of Sydney**: Saturday 29 August [http://sydney.edu.au/open_day/index.shtml](http://sydney.edu.au/open_day/index.shtml)
- **University of New South Wales**: Saturday 5 September [http://www.futurestudents.unsw.edu.au/open-day](http://www.futurestudents.unsw.edu.au/open-day)
- **University of Tasmania**: Sunday 30 August [http://www.utas.edu.au/open-day](http://www.utas.edu.au/open-day)
Sunshine Coast Imaginarium – including the USC Open Day

This event will be held from 10 am – 2 pm on Sunday 9 August 2015 at the University of the Sunshine Coast’s (USC) Sippy Downs campus. In addition to gathering information about courses, attending seminars about USC programs and talking to lecturers and current students, you can also participate in Imaginarium’s Adventure program, get social by entering the ‘Imagine Me Here’ competition and enjoy the entertainment and a world of food. Find out more at http://www.usc.edu.au/imaginarium.

Townsville Careers Expo

This event will be held on Monday 10 August 2015 with sessions from 10 am – 1.30 pm and 4 – 7 pm. It will be held at the Townsville RSL Stadium. Check out the exhibitors, seminars, CCIQ Job Shop and 2015 Apple watch competition on the website at http://www.careerevent.com/townsville/.

University of Queensland (UQ) Open Days

UQ will hold its 2015 open days on the following dates:

- Sunday 2 August – St Lucia campus
- Sunday 16 August – Gatton campus

The open day website at http://future-students.uq.edu.au/open-day has all the tools you need to plan your day. You can even download the UQ Open Day app which has the full program of information sessions and activities at each campus, a search function for activities you wish to attend and maps to help you navigate the campuses. By registering to attend a UQ Open Day you will go into the draw to win one of five $500 Visa Prepaid Gift Cards.

Upcoming University open days

August

- 2 - University of Queensland, St Lucia campus http://future-students.uq.edu.au/open-day
- 2 - University of Southern Queensland, Fraser Coast campus http://www.usq.edu.au/openday
- 9 - University of Southern Queensland, Ipswich campus http://www.usq.edu.au/openday
- 9 - Griffith University, Southbank and Nathan campuses http://www.griffith.edu.au/open-day
9 - University of the Sunshine Coast, Sippy Downs campus
http://www.usc.edu.au/imaginarium

9 – CQUniversity, Bundaberg campus http://www.cqu.edu.au/calendar

15 - CQUniversity, Mackay campus http://www.cqu.edu.au/calendar

16 - University of Queensland, Gatton campus http://future-students.uq.edu.au/open-day

16 - University of Southern Queensland, Toowoomba campus
http://www.usq.edu.au/openday

16 - Queensland University of Technology, Caboolture campus
https://www.qut.edu.au/study/events

20 - CQUniversity, Brisbane campus http://www.cqu.edu.au/calendar

20 - CQUniversity, Noosa campus http://www.cqu.edu.au/calendar


23 - CQUniversity, Rockhampton campus http://www.cqu.edu.au/calendar

23 - University of Southern Queensland, Springfield campus
http://www.usq.edu.au/openday

23 - James Cook University Cairns Campus http://www.jcu.edu.au/openday/

29 - CQUniversity, Cairns campus http://www.cqu.edu.au/calendar

29 - CQUniversity, Townsville campus http://www.cqu.edu.au/calendar

30 - James Cook University, Townsville campus http://www.jcu.edu.au/openday/

September

6 - CQUniversity, Gladstone campus https://www.cqu.edu.au/calendar
QTAC’s Educational Access Scheme (EAS)

If you believe you have faced disadvantage, beyond your control, during your preparation for tertiary study over the last couple of years, you can apply for EAS. There are five EAS categories you can apply under. These are:

- Financial hardship
- Home environment and responsibilities
- English language difficulty
- Personal illness and disability
- Educational disruption.

If you are eligible for EAS, you may receive bonus OPs or Ranks to improve your chances of gaining a course offer. If you are eligible for the Financial Hardship category, you may also receive financial assistance from the institution you gain entry to.

You apply for EAS on your QTAC online application. At the completion of the application, you download cover sheets for the EAS category or categories you have applied for. You complete the cover sheet and attach the required documentation. If you are applying for the Educational Disruption, Personal Illness and Disability or English Language Difficulty categories, your school is required to complete a section of the cover sheet. Return the completed documents to QTAC.

The due date for all documentation for the January 2016 offer round is 30 November 2015. However, QTAC recommends you send it earlier so they can contact you or your school if they need more information.

For more information about EAS and the five categories, visit [http://www.qtac.edu.au/applications/application-resources/assistance-schemes/educational-access-scheme](http://www.qtac.edu.au/applications/application-resources/assistance-schemes/educational-access-scheme).
The laws of learning

The following laws of learning are oldies but goodies.

- **Primacy** – We tend to remember material that is presented first or early in the lesson.
- **Recency** – Work completed most recently is often best remembered.
- **Frequency** – The more often material is presented or revised the more likely it is to be remembered.
- **Vividness** – Material that is presented in interesting, attention-getting ways is more likely to be remembered.

This information is adapted from *Study Smart*, Department of Education, Queensland.
'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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