



INFORMATION BULLETIN - EDITION 6

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Apprenticeships & Traineeships

Apprenticeships through Group Training Organisations

Registering with a Group Training Organisation (GTO) is one strategy to try when looking for an apprenticeship. GTOs employ apprentices and trainees and place them with a host business until the apprenticeship or traineeship has been completed. For more information about GTOs, visit the Group Training Australia website at <http://www.grouptraining.com.au/>. This site includes a list of GTOs and their contact information.

Girls Try'a Trade 2016

Through this program, Years 10 – 12 girls interested in trades, have an opportunity to try four trades in one day. The program will be held:

- Wednesday 8 June 2016, from 9 am – 2 pm, at TAFE Queensland SkillsTech Acacia Ridge Training Centre, 247 Bradman Street, Acacia Ridge
- Thursday 9 June 2016, from 9 am – 2 pm, at TAFE Queensland SkillsTech Bracken Ridge Training Centre, 157 Norris Road, Bracken Ridge.

Students interested in this program should contact their school VET coordinator or Guidance Officer/Counsellor as nominations are usually made through your school. Nominations close at 5 pm on Friday 20 May 2016. For more information, contact Robyn Fraser on telephone (07) 3244 0305 or email robyn.fraser@tafe.qld.edu.au.

What is the Australian Apprenticeship Support Network?

The Australian Apprenticeship Support Network providers offer advice and support services to employers and apprentices. To find out more about the services offered, visit <http://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au/australian-apprenticeship-support-network>. You can also access your closest Network provider from this site.

The banner features a dark blue background with a glowing, intricate pattern of light blue and white lines, resembling a network or a stylized map. The text 'AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE' is centered in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE

Upcoming ADF information sessions

3 May - Health Careers Information Session at Defence Force Recruiting Brisbane, Level 13, 295 Ann Street. To book your spot, email your details to CPTQLD@dfr.com.au.

4 May - Defence Careers Information Session at Defence Force Recruiting Brisbane, Level 13, 295 Ann Street. The session will start at 6 pm. To book your spot, email your details to CPTQLD@dfr.com.au.

4 May - Defence Careers Information Session at Mooloolaba Yacht Club, 123 Parkyn Parade, Mooloolaba, Sunshine Coast. The session will start at 6 pm. To book your spot, email your details to defencejobsmaroochydore@dfr.com.au.

4 May - ADF Officer and Graduates Opportunities Evening at Victoria Park Golf Complex, 223 Herston Road, Herston, Brisbane. The session will start at 6.30 pm. To book your spot, email your details to: CPTQLD@dfr.com.au.

9 May - Defence Careers Information Session at Defence Force Recruiting Gold Coast, 14 Edgewater Court, Robina. The session will start at 6 pm. To book your spot, email your details to cptgoldcoast@dfr.com.au.

For details about these events, visit

<https://www.facebook.com/DefenceJobsAustralia/events/>.



Do you have an idea for a business but don't know where to start?

Visit the Enterprise Network for Young Australians (ENYA) website at <http://enya.org.au/>. ENYA is a not-for-profit organisation run by young people for young enterprising people who are eager to start their own business. The ENYA site has a range of resources, including a step-by-step process for starting your business.

New features on the myfuture website

The myfuture website at <http://myfuture.edu.au/> has added some new features. Note that you may have to 'Sign up' for free if this is the first time you have been on this website.

Entrepreneurship quiz – This quiz has been added to the My career profile. It contains ten brief questions which address your readiness to undertake entrepreneurship. At the end of the quiz you are given a short summary with recommendations for your next steps.

New articles by industry experts - A number of new articles have been published in the 'Career insight' section of the myfuture website. The new articles include:

- Entrepreneurship
- Leadership
- Work Integrated Learning.

Want to know more about making better career decisions?

The *myfuture* website has a resource called 'The Adventures of You' executive function guide. Executive functions are the mental skills needed to make decisions. These include planning, reasoning, prioritising, problem solving, task flexibility, execution and monitoring actions. 'The Adventures of You' site includes three animated videos that will help you understand these skills. It is located at <http://myfuture.edu.au/career-insight/the-adventures-of-you>.

Competitions

Screen It 2016

Fancy yourself as a filmmaker or video game creator? This is the competition for you. Screen It is Australia's national moving image competition for school-aged students. This year the theme of the competition is 'Mystery'. Entries for 2016 open on 1 August and close on 19 September. For details and a look at last year's winners, visit <http://www.acmi.net.au/screenit.aspx>. Talk to a teacher or your school Guidance Officer/Counsellor about entering this competition.

Young Australian Art Awards

Students from primary and secondary schools are invited to participate in this competition. There are five art categories: Indigenous, Drawing, Painting, Computer Art and Photography. There are three age groups: Junior (Prep to Year 4), Middle (Year 5 to Year 8), Senior (Year 9 to Year 12). To enter your artwork, you will need to obtain a digital image of your piece of work and submit this image online through the website at <http://www.ozkids.com.au/#about>. Entries close on 7 October 2016.



Courses in agriculture

Marcus Oldham College is a private tertiary institution in Geelong, Victoria. It offers FEE-HELP approved tertiary courses agriculture, agribusiness and equine. The College is offering scholarships for students commencing their studies in 2017. For more information about the College and its scholarships, visit <http://www.marcusoldham.vic.edu.au/index.htm>.

CQUniversity (CQU) Mid-Year Online Chat Session

This is an opportunity to ask questions about CQU courses and outcomes. It will be held from 3 pm – 6 pm on 10 May 2016. Find out more at https://www.cqu.edu.au/calendar/event-items/information-session/mid-year-online-chat-session?SQ_CALENDAR_DATE=2016-05-10.

Engineering at James Cook University (JCU)

The four-year B Engineering (Honours) at JCU commences with a common first year, then offers a choice of the following specialisations in second year:

- Chemical Engineering
- Civil Engineering
- Electrical and Electronic Engineering
- Electronic Systems and Internet of Things
- Mechanical Engineering.

JCU was the first Australian university to establish the Electronic Systems and Internet of Things specialisation. This specialisation combines the study of electrical engineering, wireless communication, software engineering and industrial design. Not all specialisations are available at both the Townsville and Cairns campuses. Prerequisites for the B Engineering are English and Maths B. Cut-offs in the QTAC major offer round in January 2016 were OP 12/Rank 74. For more information, visit <https://www.jcu.edu.au/courses-and-study/study-areas/engineering-planning>.

Experience Days in May 2016 at Bond University

Bond invites Year 11 and 12 students to the following experience days. Each event will provide participants with information about the courses offered at Bond and the

graduate opportunities available. Details are available at <https://bond.edu.au/future-students/study-bond/see-yourself/experience-days>.

- 11 May – Business and Commerce
- 12 May International Relations
- 12 May – Hotel and Tourism
- 12 May – Actuarial Science
- 21 May – Biomedical Science and Medicine
- 21 May - Law
- 26 May – Communication, Film and Interactive Media

Help for high school students on the University of Southern Queensland (USQ) website

The 'I am a high school student' webpage at <http://www.usq.edu.au/study/high-school-students> can help you:

- explore your career options (with the Career Explorer)
- decide on what to study (view the A to Z of study)
- book a USQ campus tour (check out the accommodation)
- participate in USQ programs (Heard Start, Chang Makers, Experience Days).

Interior decorating workshop

Tahn Scoon, an interior stylist, consultant and author, is offering one-day decorating workshops. See <http://www.tahnscoon.com.au/workshops/> for details.

James Cook University (JCU) Information Sessions

These information sessions will help you explore your study and career options. They will be held:

- 5 – 7 pm Wednesday 11 May 2016 at the JCU Townsville campus – register to attend this session at <https://www.jcu.edu.au/events/may-2016/townsville-information-session>
- 5 – 7 pm Wednesday 8 June 2016 at the JCU Cairns campus – register to attend this session at <https://www.jcu.edu.au/events/june-2016/cairns-information-session>.

New course at TAFE Queensland SkillsTech under the VET in Schools program

SkillsTech will be offering the Certificate II in Surveying and Spatial Information Services at its Acacia Ridge (Thursdays) and Bracken Ridge (Friday) Training Centres in Semester two (11 July – 31 October 2016). Students must be in Year 11 or 12 and it is highly recommended that they are undertaking a minimum of Maths A at school. An interest and aptitude for science, particularly physics, would also be beneficial.

The Spatial Sciences relate to where things are located. They are about measuring and representing the world around us. They encompass everything from satellite and surveying technology that collects data about our world, to GPS systems that tell us where we are, to mapping systems like Google Earth that turn this data into something useful and to the analysis of the information for some good.

Nominations for this course close on 3 June 2016. If you are interested in this course, talk to your VET coordinator or Guidance Officer/Counsellor. You can also contact the TAFE at School team on 3244 0376 or email schools.skillstech@tafe.qld.edu.au.

News from the Queensland University of Technology (QUT)

#SPATIALREALWORLD 2016 for Year 10 students – This event, focusing on the spatial industry, will be held from 9.30 am – 2.30 pm on Wednesday 8 June 2016 at QUT Gardens Point campus. Students will have an opportunity to interact with digital geographical tools, see a UAV in action and learn how spatial technologies are helping to change our world. Talk to your Guidance Officer/Counsellor if you are interested in attending, as registration is through your school. Find out more at <https://www.qut.edu.au/study/undergraduate-study/do-you-advise-school-students/news-and-events/news?news-id=103458>.

B Fine Arts (Technical Production) – From 2017, this course will change to entry by OP/rank only, replacing the previous additional entry requirement (interview).

Common cut-off date - The cut-off date for applications to QUT for all creative industry courses with additional entry requirements is 9 September 2016. More information will be available in July.

QUT bridging courses – Need to meet assumed knowledge or prerequisite subjects for QUT courses (e.g. B Engineering, B Education)? Registrations are now open for QUT's Semester two bridging courses in Chemistry (attend evening classes), Physics (study online) and Maths B (attend evening classes). Find out more at <https://www.qut.edu.au/study/short-courses-and-professional-development/science-and-mathematics>. These courses may meet the prerequisites for other institutions. Check this out with the relevant institution.

Need help developing a fashion portfolio? 'Fashion Illustration for Beginners' is a short course that is held in May, June and November over two consecutive Saturdays at QUT's Creative Industries Precinct in Kelvin Grove. Applications for the May course close on 30 April 2016. Visit <https://www.qut.edu.au/study/short-courses-and-professional-development/short-courses/fashion-illustration-for-beginners> for details.

Career pathways for early childhood education graduates – In addition to teaching in traditional early childhood education and care contexts such as kindergarten, the preparatory year and Years one to three in primary schools, these graduates have a number of other employment options. Read about these options at <https://www.qut.edu.au/education/about/news/news?news-id=103415>.

Open Day program brochure – QUT will hold its Brisbane open day on Sunday 31 July 2016 at the Gardens Point campus. You can check out the program at <https://www.qut.edu.au/study/undergraduate-study/brochures> (scroll down to the ‘Open Day program’).

Queensland Engineering Link Projects (ELP) open for registrations

ELPs are two-day workshops for Year 11 and 12 students. They provide an opportunity for students to test their interest in engineering through hands-on, problem-solving activities and access to people already working in the engineering field. The following ELPs to be held during the 2016 June/July school holidays are now open for registration:

- 27 – 28 June - Central Queensland Engineering Link Project – CQU Rockhampton
- 7 – 8 July South - Queensland Engineering Link Project – QUT Brisbane
- 18 – 19 July North - Queensland Engineering Link Project – JCU Townsville
- 21 – 22 July Far North - Queensland Engineering Link Project – JCU Cairns.

Visit <http://telg.com.au/register/> for more information and to register. Places fill fast for these events, so get in early.

School holiday acting workshops for teenagers

The Brisbane Arts Theatre, located at Petrie Terrace, Brisbane, is a self-funded performing arts community. It produces high quality theatre through the year. The training arm of the Arts Theatre (The College of Theatre Practice) offers a number of accredited courses. The Brisbane Arts Theatre is investigating the potential of launching school holiday workshops for teenagers. The two-week holiday program will be led by industry professionals, offering high school students an opportunity to develop their performance skills. The program will cost \$400 per student and run Monday to Friday from 10 am – 2 pm. If you are interested in attending the program, visit <http://artstheatre.com.au/teenworkshops> to submit your details.

Snippets from the University of Queensland (UQ)

Auditions for the 2017 B Music (Honours) Program - The UQ School of Music invites applications from everyone who is interested in auditioning for a place in the B Music (Honours) program commencing Semester one 2017. There is no cost to audition. Application forms can be downloaded from <https://music.uq.edu.au/auditions>. Applications close on 15 August 2016.

Careers that Shape the World – This event to be held on Tuesday 12 July 2016 is open to Year 10 – 12 students. It provides an excellent opportunity to explore your future career and course options. Workshops cover the fields of business, economics, tourism, law, engineering, architecture, information technology, health, humanities, social science, education, arts and science. The program can be accessed at

<http://www.uq.edu.au/shapeyourworld/>. Online registrations open shortly. This is a very popular program, so it is important to monitor when registrations open.

Concurrent Diplomas at UQ - UQ students can study diplomas in Music Performance, Languages or Global Issues at the same time they are undertaking their undergraduate degree. See <http://www.uq.edu.au/uqadvantage/concurrent-diplomas> for details.

2016 Economics Schools Day - On Thursday 14 July 2016, the UQ School of Economics and QETA will host an event for Year 11 and Year 12 students interested in studying economics at UQ. This day gives senior high school students a taste of life as a B Economics student. Interested schools should register through the QETA website at <http://www.qeta.com.au/page-1425246>.

Study medicine in Samoa

The Oceania University of Medicine, located in Apia, Samoa offers a four-year (graduate entry) B Medicine/B Surgery, graduates of which are eligible to sit for licensing exams in Australia. Applicants are required to have successfully completed an undergraduate degree (any field of study). They may also be required to sit for GAMSAT. For information about the course, visit <http://www.oceaniamed.org/>.

Updates from Griffith University

Queensland Conservatorium auditions – Audition applications will open in June and close on 15 August 2016. The auditions will be held from 26 – 30 September 2016. The website at <https://www.griffith.edu.au/music/queensland-conservatorium/programs-courses/music-audition> will be updated for 2017 applications shortly.

Twilight Seminars – These seminars will provide parents and students an opportunity to experience the Griffith campuses while listening to industry leaders from a range of disciplines and roles about trends in their industry and their tips for success. The seminars will be held from 6 – 8 pm on:

- 10 May at the Nathan campus <http://app.griffith.edu.au/events/event/46040>
- 11 May at the Logan campus
- 12 May at the Gold Coast campus
<http://app.griffith.edu.au/events/event/46060>.

Year 12 Subject Bonus Scheme – This scheme has been expanded to include 21 Year 12 subjects. You do not need to apply separately for this scheme as it is automatically applied when you apply through QTAC. Programs excluded from this scheme are B Medical Science (MD Provisional Entry for School-Leavers) and B Oral Health in Dental Science. Visit <https://www.griffith.edu.au/future-students/high-school-students/bonus-entry-options> for details.

Griffith OP 1 – 6/Rank 89+ Guarantee Scheme – Through this scheme, applicants can gain a guaranteed place in most Griffith degrees, whatever the published cut-off.

Prerequisites and additional entry requirements still apply. You do not need to apply separately for this scheme as it is automatically applied when you apply through QTAC. Exceptions to this scheme include medical science, dental science, physiotherapy, midwifery, nutrition, paramedicine and Queensland Conservatorium courses. Find out more at <https://www.griffith.edu.au/future-students/op-1-to-6-guarantee>.

Regional preference scheme - If you're a local, you may be eligible for a bonus of one OP band or two ranks when you apply for degrees at the Gold Coast and Logan Campuses. See <https://www.griffith.edu.au/future-students/high-school-students/priority-access> for details.

Maximum bonus points – The maximum bonus points that a student can receive under all schemes is capped at 10.

A new job trend – Hybrid Jobs

So, what exactly is a hybrid job? A hybrid job appears to be a mix of traditional jobs. According to a number of writers, in an age of big data, having tech skills is important, but insufficient. More companies are requiring a mix of technology and people skills. For example, the IT professional may be required to be a sales representative and the marketer needs to know programming languages to manipulate big data. Other examples of hybrid jobs are forensic technologist, digital storyteller and marketing automation manager. This raises the question of whether students should be looking at studying dual degrees that give them a broader range of skills. If you would like to explore this topic further, read the following articles:

- Why 2016 is the year of the hybrid job
<http://www.fastcompany.com/3057619/the-future-of-work/why-2016-is-the-year-of-the-hybrid-job>
- Hybrid Jobs: Advantages and challenges
http://www.hr.com/en/topleaders/all_articles/hybrid-jobs-advantages-and-challenges_i6c3wicu.html
- The new job trend: Hybrid Jobs <http://www.bentley.edu/prepared/new-job-trend-hybrid-jobs>.

The worst and best jobs in the world for 2016

The CareerCast team ranked 200 professions according to their working environment, average salary and potential income, employment outlook and a variety of stress factors to determine which jobs are the most and least attractive to have. What they found is that the 10 best jobs of 2016 are:

- Data Scientist
- Statistician
- Information Security Analyst
- Audiologist
- Diagnostic Medical Sonographer
- Mathematician
- Software Engineer
- Computer Systems Analyst
- Speech Pathologist
- Actuary

The 10 worst jobs of 2016 are:

- Newspaper Reporter
- Logger
- Broadcaster
- Disk Jockey
- Enlisted Military Personnel
- Pest Control Worker
- Retail Sales Person
- Advertising Sales Person
- Taxi Driver
- Fire Fighter

Read more about the CareerCast research at <http://www.careercast.com/jobs-rated/jobs-rated-report-2016-ranking-200-jobs>.

Financial Assistance & Scholarships



John Eales Rugby Excellence Scholarship at Bond University

This scholarship provides an opportunity for an outstanding young rugby union star to be mentored on and off the field. Applications for this scholarship open on 1 April and will close on 31 July 2016. Visit <https://bond.edu.au/scholarship/john-eales-rugby-excellence-scholarship> for more information.



Gap Year Program News

Australians Abroad

This organisation provides international exchange opportunities. Program options include language courses and volunteer programs in countries in Africa, Asia/Pacific, Europe, North America and Latin America. For more information, visit <http://www.australiansabroad.com.au/>.

Gap Year program updates

Southern Cross Cultural Exchange will hold the following information sessions in Queensland. More information is available at <http://www.scce.com.au/programs/information-sessions/#QLD>.

- Tuesday 26 April 2016, from 7 – 9 pm, at Ruth Fairfax House, Spring Hill, Brisbane
- Tuesday 3 May 2016, from 7 – 9 pm, at the Southport Community Centre on the Gold Coast
- Thursday 5 May 2016 in Cairns – contact SCCE for further information about times and venue
- Tuesday 10 May 2016, from 7 – 9 pm, at Ruth Fairfax House, Spring Hill, Brisbane
- Wednesday 11 May 2016, from 7 – 9 pm, at the Kawana Community Hall, Buddina, Sunshine Coast.

World Education Program Student Exchange (WEP) will hold information sessions at the Fulton Trotter Lounge, Spring Hill, Brisbane from 7 – 8.30 pm on Wednesday 27 April and Wednesday 18 May 2016. Visit <https://wep.org.au/lets-talk/sessions/#queensland> for more information.

Applications for the 2017 **Lattitude Global Volunteering** program are now open. Visit <http://www.lattitude.org.au/> for more information.

Rustic Pathways

Rustic Pathways has a range of programs of interest to students looking for something different at the end of Year 12. The programs offered include rustic tours, gap programs, and school leaver experiences (e.g. alternative schoolies experiences). Visit <http://www.rusticpathways.com.au/> to find out more.



National Volunteer Week (NVW): 9 – 15 May 2016

Did you know that research shows volunteers live happier and healthier lives? The National Volunteer Week theme of Give Happy, Live Happy reflects these findings. This year, Volunteering Australia is encouraging all of us to volunteer in whatever capacity we can. According to NSW Volunteering, through volunteering, you will:

- gain new skills and knowledge
- boost your own job and career prospects
- enjoy a sense of achievement and fulfilment
- develop personally and boost self esteem
- enjoy better physical and mental health
- connect to and better understand your community
- meet new people and make new friends.

Keep track of NVW events on the website at <http://www.volunteeringaustralia.org/nvw/>.

Occupational Information



A Day in the Life of a Chartered Accountant

The Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand website at <http://www.charteredaccountants.com.au/Students/Working-as-a-Chartered-Accountant/A-Day-in-the-Life> has video clips of eight accountants in different positions with different organisations. The videos will give you a good idea of what it is like to work as an accountant.

Careers and VET qualifications in the community services and health industry

The Community Services and Health Industry Skills Council has produced a directory of careers that require a VET qualification. Jobs listed in the directory include Aged Care, Allied Health Assistant, Anaesthetic Technology, Massage, Mortuary Theatre Practice, Reflexology, Western Herbal Medicine and many more. See <http://www.cshisc.com.au/discover/industries-a-z-directory/?atoz=w> for the full list.

Careers in the Printing Industry

Jobs in this industry include graphic design, printing, multi-media and screen-printing. For more information about these jobs and pathways for gaining entry to them, see the Future Print website at http://www.futureprint.org.au/careers_start.aspx.

How do you build a diplomatic or international development career?

‘The Conversation’ recently published an edited version of a speech Gareth Evans, Chancellor of the Australian National University, gave to launch the University of Melbourne Young Diplomats Society. He noted that to get these types of jobs, you need skills, experience and luck. The following is a summary of the required skills he mentioned in the speech.

- Good results in a challenging university degree, or combination of degrees (the discipline doesn’t really matter). Employers are looking for a strong underlying intellectual capacity and the ability to apply this to new situations.
- It’s important to be able to demonstrate an interest and knowledge of international relations. The way you acquire the knowledge is to read (e.g. The Economist, The Conversation).
- At least one foreign language, or a demonstrated aptitude to learn quickly, is a prerequisite for any significant international relations job these days.

- Few skills matter more for a would-be diplomat than the ability to write well and, above all, accurately. Good oral communication and advocacy skills are also extremely helpful in foreign policy related jobs.
- Good social skills.
- The capacity to get things done. To have a good sense of process and the ability to get people working together to deliver particular outcomes.

Read the full article at <https://theconversation.com/the-world-at-your-feet-how-to-build-a-career-in-foreign-relations-57794>.

Want to work with animals? Six ways to get a job on the wild side

Most animal jobs are competitive. To gain entry to these occupations, you need to have a plan. A recent article in the Australian edition of 'The Guardian' offers six strategies to help you gain a job in this field. The following is a summary of the strategies.

Volunteer – Begin by volunteering at a local kennel, animal charity (e.g. RSPCA, Animal Rescue Qld.) or zoo/animal attraction (e.g. Australia Zoo, Sea World, Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary). This will give you an understanding of the day-to-day tasks of the work. Volunteering is also a good way of showing that you are committed and willing to go the extra mile.

Make the most of your volunteering – Document it. Make opportunities to learn new skills that could help you in the future. Talk to people working in the field to find out how they got their jobs and about the options out there.

Get qualified - Find out the qualifications, work experience and other things that employers, education and training providers require.

Don't limit yourself - Keep an open mind. You may find something en route to your original goal that you had never thought of and love.

Don't forget your people skills - Any employment within the animal-based industry will require clear communication skills and the ability to work in a team.

Persevere - You need perseverance if you really want to work in a specific job. It may take longer than you want, but the job satisfaction and rewards are worth it.

You can read the full article at

http://www.theguardian.com/careers/2015/nov/23/want-to-work-with-animals-six-ways-to-get-a-job-on-the-wild-side?CMP=new_1194&CMP.

Open Days, Expos & Career Markets



Gold Coast Careers Expo

The 2016 expo will be held on Thursday 5 May, from 9 am – 7 pm, at RACV Royal Pines Resort Convention Centre, Benowa. You can expect to see training and education institutions, a dedicated employment precinct, and an interactive hair and beauty space. Visit the expo website at <http://www.studygoldcoast.org.au/gold-coast-careers-and-employment-festival/gold-coast-careers-expo/>.

STEMed Festival

This is a one-day festival of education for the future. It will be held at the RNA Showgrounds from 10 am – 3.30 pm on Sunday 29 May 2016. There will be exhibits on all facets of STEM, interactive workshops for parents and students and sessions on STEM topics such as 3D printing, Startups, Social Media, Robotics, Coding, Drones and much more. Visit the festival website at <http://www.stemedfest.com/> for program information and to get tickets.

University of New England (UNE) Open Day

This event will be held at the UNE Armidale campus on Friday 6 May 2016. It gives you the chance to explore the UNE campus and find out everything you need to know about studying at university. The program on the day will include information sessions, individual course advice, tours of the academic campus and colleges, live demonstrations, free food and activities. Visit <http://www.une.edu.au/study/study-options/landing/open-day> for more information and to download an Open Day program.

Overseas Studies

USA and UK Study Abroad Information Seminar

This seminar, to be presented by Crimson Education, is for students interested in applying for undergraduate degrees at top universities in the US and UK. It will be held from 2.30 – 5 pm on Sunday 29 May 2016 at the University of Queensland.

Presentations will include speakers who have just gained admission or are currently studying at some of the most prestigious universities around the world including Harvard University, Yale University, Princeton University, University of Pennsylvania, Cambridge University and a Robertson Scholar from Duke University. For more information about this event, contact Crimson Education on email info@crimsonconsulting.org. Visit the Crimson Education website at <http://au.crimsonconsulting.org/> for more information about this organisation.



QTAC & Tertiary Entry

Start university while still at school

The following universities in Queensland offer programs that enable high achieving students in Years 11 and/or 12 to have a university experience through studying a university subject. The subjects may be free and may provide credit towards a university degree at the end of Year 12 and/or guarantee entry to a degree at the end of Year 12. Successful completion of a university subject will contribute credit towards your Queensland Certificate of Education and may give you bonus points towards your university application when you apply through QTAC. Entry to these programs must have the support of your school and your parents.

Bond University has a Student for a Semester program for academically capable students in Years 11 and 12 who live on the Gold Coast, Brisbane and Northern New South Wales. Applications for the September Semester open on 15 July and close on 5 August 2016. Visit <http://www.bond.edu.au/student-for-a-semester> for details of the program and an online application.

CQUniversity has a Start Uni Now (SUN) program for students in Years 11 and 12. Applications for Term two (11 July – 7 October) will close on 24 June 2016. See <https://www.cqu.edu.au/courses-and-programs/study-areas/work-and-study-preparation/sun> for more information.

The **Griffith University** Early Start to Tertiary Study (GUESTS) program is offered to students in Year 12. Applications for Semester two (commencing in July) close on 30 May 2016. See <http://www.griffith.edu.au/pathways/guests-program> for more information.

The **Queensland University of Technology's** (QUT) Start QUT Program is offered to students in Year 12. The application due date for Semester two (18 July – 28 October) is 13 May 2016. See <https://www.qut.edu.au/study/high-school-programs/start-qut> for more information.

The **University of Queensland** offers an Enhanced Studies Program (ESP) for Year 12 students. Applications close in the year previous to commencing the program (usually in October). See <http://www.uq.edu.au/esp/> for more information

The **University of Southern Queensland** (USQ) has a Head Start Program for students in Years 10 - 12. This program is offered on-campus at USQ's Toowoomba, Springfield and Ipswich Campuses, or via distance education. Applications for Semester two (11

July – 21 October 2016) close on 20 June 2016. See <http://www.usq.edu.au/study/high-school-students/head-start> for more information.

The **University of the Sunshine Coast** has a Headstart Program for students in Years 11 and 12. Applications for Semester two close on 27 May 2016. See <http://www.usc.edu.au/learn/courses-and-programs/headstart-program-year-11-and-12-students> for more information.

Universities often hold information sessions to inform students and their parents about these programs. Find out about these sessions on the websites listed above.

UMAT practice exam

The My Health Career website at <https://www.myhealthcareer.com.au/medicine/medentry-UMAT-preparation> has an article on UMAT presented by MedEntry. The article includes a link to a UMAT practice exam which includes the exam questions, answers and fully worked solutions.

UMAT reminders

Students applying for medicine and other health science courses may be required to sit for the Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admission Test (UMAT) as part of the application process. You register to sit for the test on the UMAT website at <https://umat.acer.edu.au/>. On time registrations close at 5 pm on 3 June 2016. Late registrations are accepted up to 5 pm on 17 June 2016 (a late fee \$65 applies). The test date is 27 July 2016. Results will be available in late September 2016. Some important points are:

- It is essential that you read the entire UMAT 2016 Information Booklet and complete the UMAT Registration Tutorial before you register for UMAT 2016. Both resources are available on the UMAT website.
- UMAT scores can be used for admission only in the year following the test (do not register for UMAT 2016 unless you are planning to apply for a course commencing in 2017)
- You can only register to sit for UMAT 2016 if you have already completed or plan to complete Year 12 in 2016 (Year 11 students or students in the first year of a two-year Year 12 cannot sit for UMAT 2016).

Year 12 students – time is passing

This year is passing rapidly. There are less than four months left until the QTAC online application is activated (2 August 2016). You need to begin serious planning for 2017 if you have not already started. If you haven't a clue where to start or aren't aware of your options, make an appointment with your school Guidance Officer/Counsellor ASAP. Starting this term, you will have many opportunities to explore your options. For example:

- 27 – 28 May 2016 - Brisbane Careers and Employment Expo at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre. See <http://careersemploymentexpo.com.au/brisbane/>. Also, careers expos will be held in regional centres throughout Queensland (see <http://www.qtac.edu.au/courses---institutions/open-days-expos>).
- From May to August most of the institutions have open days at which you can obtain information about courses and check out the campuses. See <http://www.qtac.edu.au/courses---institutions/open-days-expos> for a list of dates.
- You will receive the *QTAC Guide* in June. This booklet contains information about courses and application processes.
- 16 – 17 July 2016- Tertiary Studies Expo (TSXPO) at the RNA showgrounds. Interstate universities will be represented at this expo. See <http://www.careersevent.com/tsxpo/>.
- From 2 August 2016 you can access a range of up-to-date information about the 2016/17 QTAC application and offer processes and the courses offered from the QTAC website at <http://www.qtac.edu.au/>.

Take advantage of all these opportunities to plan your immediate future. If you intend to apply to QTAC for entry to tertiary courses in 2017, you need to submit your application by 30 September 2016 to avoid a hefty late fee.



Staying motivated

With the pressure of assignments, exams, social events (who should I take to the formal?), and career and course decision making, it is easy to lose sight of the goals you set yourself for your senior studies. The following suggestions for regaining your drive and motivation are adapted from the Chartered Accountants website at <http://www.charteredaccountants.com.au/Students/Study-resources/Staying-motivated>.

One step at a time - Getting motivated again takes a little time. So, just pick a small task, and address that. Break big projects and assignments into smaller ones, and tackle just one, then another - before you know it, you're starting to feel like you're achieving something, and that will boost your confidence.

Be realistic - Lack of motivation can sometimes happen when you doubt your ability to achieve your goals and projects. Maybe you're demanding too much of yourself. Look at what you've got on your plate: is it realistic? If not, try and reduce the workload by talking to teachers, guidance officers/counsellors and parents. They're human too!

Take a break - Sometimes, all you need to motivate yourself again is to take a break. Go for a walk, catch up with friends, treat yourself to a movie or a meal. It's amazing how walking away from the immediate issues can help you see them with fresh eyes when you get back to them.

Reward yourself - Go on, have a treat! You may think you're not doing so well, so think about what you have already achieved, and reward yourself for that.

Remember the dream - If you're losing motivation, you're probably caught up with the day-to-day detail. Just remind yourself why you're doing this - to live a comfortable, successful, independent life. Now picture what that will be like. Feeling better?

Ask for help - If you're not clear on an assignment, ask your teacher or a fellow student. Just discussing the issues may make it clearer and kick start your energy.

Read a biography - Many of the famous, successful people we admire faced difficulties and failure in their lives. A biography will put your current challenges in context, and allow you to see you're not alone.

Phone a friend - One of the oldest ideas in the book, but it really does help to talk with someone who can give you a positive point of view regarding how you are feeling. Talk to someone who is empathetic NOT sympathetic.

If you need more inspiration, view 'The secret behind staying motivated' on the University of Southern Queensland's website at <http://www.usq.edu.au/socialhub/study-online/2016/01/secret-staying-motivated>.



Questions from Year 12 students

Q. - How do I apply to university for next year?

A. - You apply through QTAC for most Queensland tertiary courses. Applications to tertiary institutions in other states are through tertiary admissions centres similar to QTAC (see <http://www.qtac.edu.au/applications/apply-here/applying-interstate> for information about interstate applications). You apply directly to all other institutions.

Q. - What is QTAC?

A. - The Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) is a public, not-for-profit company that manages the application and offer processes for a number of universities, TAFE institutes and some private colleges in Queensland (three interstate institutions are also included). QTAC does not make the rules about entry to courses. The institutions make the rules and QTAC administers these rules.

Q. - How many courses can I apply for through QTAC?

A. - You can apply for up to six courses from any of the institutions that use QTAC. You receive only one offer (if you meet the prerequisites and have a competitive OP or Rank) at any given offer round.

Q. - When will I receive my QTAC application form?

A. - The QTAC application is an online application. It will be activated on 2 August 2016 on the QTAC website at <http://www.qtac.edu.au/>. The 'on-time' due date for applications is 30 September 2016. After this date a hefty late fee is applied.

Q. - How are applicants selected for courses through QTAC?

A. - There are usually more applicants than available places for many of the courses. Selection is based on meeting minimum entry requirements (prerequisite subjects, folio, audition, etc.) and on merit (OP or Rank). Once minimum entry requirements are met, applicants compete on the basis of merit for competitive courses.

Q.-What is the difference between undergraduate and postgraduate courses?

A. - The term 'undergraduate' is normally applied to diploma, advanced diploma, associate degree and bachelor degree courses. 'Postgraduate' usually applies to courses you can study after completing a bachelor degree, e.g. graduate certificate, graduate diploma, masters and doctorate.

Youth Enrichment Activities

Young Leaders July Program at Trinity College, the University of Melbourne

Interested in a residential experience at the University of Melbourne with other young people eager to experience university and develop their academic and personal skills? Check out the Young Leaders July Program at Trinity College. Applications are now open and will close on 23 May 2016. Scholarships are available. Find out more at <http://www.trinity.unimelb.edu.au/learning/trinity-institute/young-leaders/young-leaders-july-program.html>.

'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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