CAREER INFORMATION BULLETIN

INFORMATION BULLETIN - EDITION 5
31/03/2014 to 11/04/2014

www.marash.qld.edu.au/careers
Apprenticeships and Employment
Australian industry employment projections to 2018
Upcoming Job Seeking Skills workshops in Moreton Bay Region
Where are the jobs?
Australian Defence Force
Air Force Flight Camp for Girls
Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA)
Upcoming Defence information sessions
Career Exploration
2014 Job Guide is now available online
How to investigate jobs
Read about jobs
Talk to people
Go and see
Experience
Jobs related to school subjects
Competitions
International NASA Space Apps Challenge
RACI Titration Competition
Wool4Skool Student Design Competition
Course and Institution Updates
ACU Early Achievers’ Program (EAP)
Applying for health science/veterinary courses at James Cook University (JCU)
Australian Agricultural College Corporation (AACC) virtual tours
Course and career events in April
Design College Australia Information Evening
Information nights at Aviation Australia
National Youth Science Forum – applications now open
University of Melbourne degrees 101
University pathways at the Southbank Institute of Technology
Upgrading
Updates from the University of Queensland (UQ)
UMAT cut-offs for medicine and dentistry for 2014 entry
School Holiday Campus Tours
Australian industry employment projections to 2018

The following information is from ‘2014 Employment Projections: Industry employment projections for the five years to November 2018’. It is a brief overview only. To read the whole report, visit the Labour Market Information Portal at http://lmip.gov.au/default.aspx?LMIP/EmploymentProjections.

The Department of Employment projects employment to grow by 838,100 (or 7.2 per cent) over the five years to November 2018. Employment is projected to grow in 16 of the 19 broad industries over the five years to November 2018, with declines in employment projected for Manufacturing, Mining and Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing.

Health Care and Social Assistance is projected to make the largest contribution to employment growth (increasing by 229,400), followed by Education and Training (118,800), Retail Trade (98,200), Professional, Scientific and Technical Services (88,700) and Construction (83,500). Together, these five industries are projected to provide more than two thirds of the employment growth to November 2018.

Upcoming Job Seeking Skills workshops in Moreton Bay Region

The workshops are a joint Queensland University of Technology (QUT) and Moreton Bay Region Libraries community initiative. Career counsellors from QUT will present the workshops. Topics covered will include career planning, exploring the hidden job market, writing resumes and interview skills. Dates and times for the workshops are as follows.

- Strathpine Library - Friday 11 April 2014 from 2 – 4 pm
- Redcliffe Library - Tuesday 22 April 2014 from 2 – 4 pm
- Caboolture Library - Monday 5 May 2014 from 10 am – 12 noon
- North Lakes Library - Friday 23 May 2014 from 2 – 4 pm

Bookings are essential. For more information and to book a place, see http://www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au/general.aspx?id=124258.

Where are the jobs?
Accurately predicting where jobs will be in the future is a bit like looking into a crystal ball. However, there are resources that can help with this activity.

- One way of identifying future opportunities is to look at labour market trends. The Job Outlook website at http://joboutlook.gov.au/ provides this information for over 300 occupations. Do a search for jobs in which you are interested and click on ‘Job Prospects’.
- *Australian Jobs 2013* is another resource, which provides information about the labour market for industries and occupations as well as for states, territories and regions of Australia. This booklet can be downloaded at http://employment.gov.au/australian-jobs-publication.
- Another way of identifying good employment opportunities is to look at skill shortage trends. The Department of Employment website at http://employment.gov.au/skill-shortages contains skill shortage information for each state and territory and by occupation.
- The Graduate Outlook Survey, which is conducted annually by Graduate Careers Australia, examines university graduate recruitment practices and trends. This information can provide insight into where the graduate employment opportunities might be. The 2013 Graduate Outlook Report can be downloaded at http://www.graduatecareers.com.au/research/surveys/graduateoutlooksurvey/.
Air Force Flight Camp for Girls

The Air Force is offering girls aged between 16 and 18 years the opportunity to experience Air Force aviation careers by attending this camp. The camp will be held from 10 – 13 June 2014 at RAAF Base Amberley. For more information and to apply, visit the Defence Work Experience website at http://www.defence.gov.au/workexperience/ and click on ‘Current work experience placements’ and ‘Qld’ and scroll down to ‘Female Flight Camp – RAAF Amberley’. The closing date for applications is 15 May 2014.

Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA)

Are you are interested in:

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

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

Ideally, students interested in entering ADFA begin their application in Year 11 when they turn 16 years of age, as the application process is lengthy. Consequently, current Year 12 students considering ADFA should begin their application ASAP. To do this, call 1319 01 or use the online tool at http://www.defencejobs.gov.au/.

Upcoming Defence information sessions

Defence Force Recruiting Brisbane offers regular information sessions on career opportunities in the Navy, Army and Air Force. The following are upcoming sessions.

- 2 April 2014 - Australian Defence Force Academy Information Session at 6 pm at the Metro Hotel Ipswich, 43 South Street, Ipswich.
- 2 April 2014 - Technical Trades Information Session at 6 pm at the Metro Hotel Ipswich, 43 South Street, Ipswich.
• 8 April 2014 - Women in the Air Force Information Session at 6 pm at Defence Force Recruiting Brisbane, Level 11, 410 Ann Street, Brisbane.

Call 3016 2307 or email strout@dfr.com.au to register your interest in attending one of these sessions. Other Queensland Defence Force Recruiting Centres are located in Cairns, Townsville, Maroochydore, Toowoomba and Coolangatta. Call the Defence Jobs help line on 13 19 01 for details about information sessions at these centres.
2014 Job Guide is now available online

Visit http://www.jobguide.education.gov.au/ to access information on over 500 occupations in the 2014 Job Guide. In addition, the Job Guide contains information on job seeking skills, learning pathways and apprenticeships. There is also a section for parents with useful suggestions on how to support the career development of their children. The Job Guide is particularly useful for students in Years 10 - 12 who are in the process of exploring their future options.

How to investigate jobs

An important part of the career decision-making process is investigating the occupations in which you are interested. There are many sources of career information available. The following are ideas you can use to get you started.

Read about jobs

- myfuture http://www.myfuture.edu.au
- The Bullseye Posters http://www.myfuture.edu.au (do a search for ‘Bullseye Posters’)

Talk to people

- Your parents and relatives can tell you about jobs they have had. Also, as they know you better than most other people, they may be able to help you decide on occupations that suit you.
- Develop your own information ‘network’: family friends, neighbours, sports coaches, friends’ parents, people you work with, etc. These people all have knowledge about the world or work and are generally happy to share information with you.
- People who currently do the job obviously can help. Don’t be too shy to approach these people even if you don’t know them – most don’t mind talking about their own work as long as you are polite, show interest in their work, come prepared with questions, and don’t take up too much of their time.
• Employers can often give you a full picture of how the job you are interested in fits into their organisation as a whole. Ask them about educational requirements, employment opportunities and conditions of work but remember that these aspects of the job may vary between employers.

• Providers of courses should be able to tell you about the occupations their courses prepare you for.

Go and see

• Career markets and expos – these commence in May each year and are held throughout Queensland.
• The Tertiary Study Expo (TSXPO) in Brisbane in July each year.
• University and college open days – university open days usually occur in July and August each year. Private college open days occur throughout the year.
• Work observation or work shadowing – follow a worker around for a day.

Experience

• The only way of knowing for certain if you like a job is to try it. This may be possible through work experience or work sampling organised through your school, or by holiday or part-time jobs.
• Undertaking a vocational education course while you are at school is another way of experiencing the tasks and skills required in a specific occupation or industry.

Jobs related to school subjects

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

You can access the Bullseye Posters on the myfuture website at http://www.myfuture.edu.au/ - click on ‘Tools and Resources’ and ‘Learning tools for secondary students’ (or you can use the search function on the website to find them). You can then select the posters related to your favourite subjects, select jobs from these posters that seem interesting and investigate them further using the links on the ‘list of occupations’ for each poster.

Another way to access the Bullseye Posters is on the Commonwealth Department of Education website at http://education.gov.au/career-development. On this site you
can download a related booklet titled *School subjects you like and what they can lead to.*
Competitions

**International NASA Space Apps Challenge**

This challenge is an international collaboration focused on space exploration that takes place over a 48-hour period in cities around the world (this year Brisbane and the Gold Coast are included – see [https://2014.spaceappschallenge.org/about/](https://2014.spaceappschallenge.org/about/)). The challenge is to solve a problem that relates to both life on Earth and life in space.

The Queensland University of Technology (QUT) will host the Brisbane challenge on its Gardens Point campus on 12 and 13 April 2014. QUT invites participants with all types of skills, including coding, developing, designing, creating ideas and engineering to this free event. For more information and to register, visit [http://www.qut.edu.au/science-engineering/about/events/events?news-id=70155](http://www.qut.edu.au/science-engineering/about/events/events?news-id=70155).

**RACI Titration Competition**

The aim of this competition is to challenge and encourage students who enjoy chemistry. Entrants compete in teams of three from Years 10 – 12. Applications are through your school. The competition commences in May 2014, with the Queensland finals held on 18 October. For details, see [http://www.raci.org.au/branches/qld-schools/titration-competition](http://www.raci.org.au/branches/qld-schools/titration-competition). Talk to your science teacher if you are interested in participating in this competition.

**Wool4Skool Student Design Competition**

Want to work in the fashion industry? Fancy yourself as a designer? If so, you are invited to enter the Wool4Skool student design competition.

The competition is open to Year 7 – 12 students. The challenge is to design an original outfit made from Australian merino wool that has been inspired by the past fifty years of fashion. Interested? Find out more at [http://www.wool4skool.com/](http://www.wool4skool.com/).
Course & Institution Updates

ACU Early Achievers’ Program (EAP)

EAP at the Australian Catholic University (ACU) considers community involvement and leadership potential for selection into ACU courses (not just OPs). You can view examples of community service on the ACU website at http://www.acu.edu.au/study_at_acu/alternate_entry/early_entry. Applications for EAP usually open in August and close in October.

Applying for health science/veterinary courses at James Cook University (JCU)

All of the following courses offered by JCU require a QTAC application as well as a direct application to JCU.

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

These JCU courses have a rural, remote, tropical and Indigenous communities focus. Consequently, an important requirement of the JCU application is to demonstrate experience and/or exposure to rural and/or remote locations. Applicants living in metropolitan areas will find this challenging.

You will need to think about how you can obtain the experience this year. Some ideas are:

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

You can view last year’s JCU application at http://www-public.jcu.edu.au/courses/course_info/index.htm?userText=72010- &mainContent=detail#.UzX9QKiSxbd. The applications website is usually updated in July for the following year. The due date for applying to QTAC is 30 September.
2014. The date for submitting the JCU application form to JCU is normally the same as the QTAC due date (this date will be confirmed in the QTAC Guide). You can access the prerequisites for these courses from the JCU website at http://www-public.jcu.edu.au/courses/health/index.htm.

**Australian Agricultural College Corporation (AACC) virtual tours**

AACC colleges provide accredited courses in primary production in regional areas in Queensland. Training is offered in fields such as beef and cattle, butchery, conservation and land management, equine, horticulture, poultry, sheep and wool, sugar and veterinary nursing. You can take a virtual tour of AACC colleges at Longreach and Emerald from the website at http://www.aacc.edu.au/college-virtual-tours/.

**Course and career events in April**

The following events and due dates have been selected from previous newsletter items.

2    Australian College of Applied Psychology Information Session  
http://www.acap.edu.au/

4-13  National Youth Week http://youthweek.com/

6-10  Agricultural Skills and Technology Experience (TASTE) at Narayen  
http://www.aacc.edu.au/taste/

10    Tutors Worldwide application closing date for 2015 placements  
http://www.tutorsworldwide.org/

13-17 Agricultural Skills and Technology Experience (TASTE) at the Dalby  
Training Centre http://www.aacc.edu.au/taste/

16    Aviation Australia Information Night  
http://www.aviationaustralia.aero/

18    Australian Youth Aerospace Forum Early Bird application due date  

23    Careers that shape the world at the University of Queensland St Lucia  
Campus http://www.uq.edu.au/shapeyourworld/

28    Griffith University South Bank Campus Experience Griffith 2014 program  
http://www.griffith.edu.au

29    Griffith University Mt Gravatt and Nathan Campuses Experience Griffith  
2014 program http://www.griffith.edu.au/
30 Bond University's Student for a Semester program application due date for the May semester [http://www.bond.edu.au/student-for-a-semester](http://www.bond.edu.au/student-for-a-semester)

30 Design College Australia Open Day

**Design College Australia Information Evening**

This college offers an accredited Advanced Diploma in Visual Communication within which students can specialise in graphic design or photo imaging. An information evening will be held starting at 6.30 pm on Wednesday 30 April 2014 at the college’s Brisbane campus. Come along to learn more about the college and its courses. For more information about the event, see [http://www.designcollege.com.au/](http://www.designcollege.com.au/).

**Information nights at Aviation Australia**

Aviation Australia, with campuses in Brisbane and Cairns, provides programs in Aircraft Maintenance Engineering Training and Flight Attendant Training. It will hold an information night for both training programs at its Brisbane campus on 16 April 2014. For more information and to book a place, see [http://www.aviationaustralia.aero/engineering/Open-Nights.php](http://www.aviationaustralia.aero/engineering/Open-Nights.php) and [http://www.aviationaustralia.aero/flightattendant/Open-Night.php](http://www.aviationaustralia.aero/flightattendant/Open-Night.php), depending on the program in which you are interested.

**National Youth Science Forum – applications now open**

Applications are open for the National Youth Science Forum (to be held in January 2015). This program, with sessions in Canberra and Perth, is for Year 11 students who are passionate about science. Expressions of interest are made to your local Rotary Club and will close on 31 May 2014. See [http://www.nysf.edu.au/](http://www.nysf.edu.au/) for information about the program and the application process.

**University of Melbourne degrees 101**

Degree programs at the University of Melbourne are a bit different than those offered at most other universities in Australia. A recent blog helps clarify the flexible pathways of Melbourne degrees. If you are interested in courses at the University of Melbourne, visit the blog at [http://blogs.unimelb.edu.au/mymelb/2014/02/25/melbourne-degrees-101/#more-392](http://blogs.unimelb.edu.au/mymelb/2014/02/25/melbourne-degrees-101/#more-392).

**University pathways at the Southbank Institute of Technology**
In addition to diploma, associate diploma and associate degree level courses, SBIT (soon to become part of TAFE Brisbane Metropolitan Region) provides pathways to further study at university degree level.

Upgrading

Successful completion of any diploma, advanced diploma or associate degree at SBIT may improve your tertiary entry score when applying through QTAC for entry to university degree programs.

Credit transfer agreements with universities

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

Dual awards

You apply through QTAC for a dual SBIT/university qualification. Once you have completed your SBIT qualification you commence your university degree studies without reapplying through QTAC.

University of the Sunshine Coast (USC) at SBIT

USC degrees offered include B Commerce (accounting), B Justice and Legal Studies and B Business (tourism, leisure and event management).

Visit http://www.southbank.edu.au/Future-Students/Pathways-to-University/Pages/default.aspx for more information about these pathways.

Updates from the University of Queensland (UQ)

UMAT cut-offs for medicine and dentistry for 2014 entry

The UMAT cut-off for non-bonded places in UQ’s MBBS (Provisional Entry for School-Leavers) course was 180:66. The UMAT cut-off for bonded places was 169:70 (see http://www.uq.edu.au/study/index.html?page=189905 for further information and explanation about the entry requirements for this course). The UMAT cut-off score for B Dental Science was 171:57.

School Holiday Campus Tours

Students are invited to register for a UQ campus tour during the school holidays. This is a great opportunity to get a closer look at university life, ask questions, talk to

FEAST

Registrations are now open for Future Experiences in Agriculture, Science and Technology (FEAST). This program, which will be held at UQ Gatton from 29 June – 3 July 2014, is for students in Years 11 and 12 interested in science careers in the agriculture, animal and food sectors. Registrations close 9 May. See http://www.science.uq.edu.au/feast.

Geography Day

Individual students and school groups (Years 10 – 12) are invited to register for this event to be held at UQ on 25 July 2014. Participants will learn about the careers related to geography, planning and environmental management. See http://www.gpem.uq.edu.au/geography-day.

Behavioural sciences included in health study areas


Experience Science 2014

If you are in Years 10 – 12, the Experience Science 2014 program at the UQ Gatton and St Lucia campuses in July provides an opportunity to find out what it is like to study science at UQ. School and individual registrations can be made. See http://www.science.uq.edu.au/expsci.
Financial Assistance & Scholarships

What is FEE-HELP?

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

Eligible students can borrow up to the FEE-HELP limit to pay their tuition fees. For 2014, the FEE-HELP limit is $120,002 for students undertaking medicine, dentistry and veterinary science courses and $96,000 for all other students. This limit is a lifetime limit for both the FEE-HELP and VET FEE-HELP loan schemes. A 25% loan fee is imposed on the FEE-HELP scheme.

As with HECS-HELP, repayments of the FEE-HELP loan are made through the taxation system once the student’s taxable income reaches $51,309 (for 2013-14 income year). For further information, including eligibility requirements, see http://studyassist.gov.au/sites/studyassist/helppayingmyfees/fee-help/pages/fee-help-

What is HECS-HELP?

In Australia eligible students can apply for Commonwealth supported places (CSP) at public universities and accredited private institutions. A CSP is an Australian Government subsidised place. This means that the Australian Government pays a substantial amount of the cost of the course and the student pays a smaller amount called a ‘student contribution’. The amount of the student contribution varies according to the course being studied.

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

- be studying in a CSP
- be an Australian citizen or permanent humanitarian visa holder
- enrol with the institution by the census date
- submit a Request for Commonwealth and HECS-HELP form by the census date to the institution (a Tax File Number is required to do this).
Students repay their HECS-HELP loan through the taxation system once their income is above the compulsory repayment threshold, even if they are still studying. The compulsory repayment threshold is adjusted each year. For the 2013-14-income year, it is $51,309. There is no interest charged on HECS-HELP loans. However the debt is subjected to changes in the Consumer Price Index.


**What is VET FEE-HELP?**

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

The amount students can borrow is the same as for FEE-HELP. A 20% loan fee applies for full-fee VET courses. A loan fee is not imposed on partially government funded VET courses. Repayment for this loan scheme is the same as for HECS-HELP and FEE-HELP. Read more at http://studyassist.gov.au/sites/studyassist/helppayingmyfees/vet-fee-help/pages/vet-fee-help.
Gap year program information sessions and due dates for April 2014


**International Student Volunteers (ISV)**

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

**Work as an au pair in the USA during your gap year**
You can work for a year caring for children in a host family in the US through Cultural Care Au Pair. This agency organises your placement and supports you during the year. For details and case studies, visit http://www.culturalcare.com.au/.
Happy National Youth Week!

This week is National Youth Week (4 – 13 April). This year the Queensland Government is partnering with the Queensland Police Citizens Youth Welfare Association (PCYC) for Youth Week celebrations. Visit the PCYC Youth Week website at http://pcyc.org.au/Youth-Week.aspx to find out what is happening near you. Make sure you visit the competition site at http://pcyc.org.au/Youth-Week/Win-iPad-mini.aspx for a chance to win an iPad mini.
Careers in local government

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

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

Emerging occupation videos on myfuture

myfuture ([http://www.myfuture.edu.au](http://www.myfuture.edu.au)) is Australia’s career information and exploration service. On its ‘Explore careers’/‘Occupation showcase’ webpage you can access videos on the following emerging occupations.

- Social media manager
- Community engagement officer
- Online business entrepreneur
- Sustainable design consultant
- Data miner
- Futurist

Free Introduction to Real Estate seminars

These seminars provide information on career and education options available in the Real Estate Industry. Seminars will be held in Brisbane and on the Gold Coast during April 2014. See [http://www.reiq.com/courses-training/free-introduction-to-real-estate](http://www.reiq.com/courses-training/free-introduction-to-real-estate) for details and to make a booking.

Queensland Police Recruiting seminars
If you are interested in exploring the career opportunities within the Queensland Police Service, you can attend a seminar. Seminars will be held in Brisbane, Nerang, Ipswich and Toowoomba during April 2014. Visit
Australian Year 12 Results Comparison Table

As of 2011 all states in Australia, except Queensland, call their Year 12 tertiary entry score an Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR). The ATAR is a number between 0 and 99.95 with increments of 0.05. While Queensland continues to give Year 12 students an OP, the Queensland Studies Authority also calculates an ATAR for OP students. This is used by interstate tertiary admissions centres for tertiary admissions purposes and within Queensland for greater discrimination of applicants for tertiary courses and sometimes to select applicants for scholarships.

A table converting OPs to ATARs can be accessed from the QTAC website at http://www.qtac.edu.au/Applying-CurrentYr12/2013_Year_12_Results_Conversion_Tables.html. A more detailed table can be found on the UAC (University Admissions Centre for NSW) website at http://www.uac.edu.au/documents/undergraduate/year12-conversion.pdf. Both of these tables are based on 2013 Year 12 results so can be used as a guide only. You can learn more about ATARs from the Queensland Studies Authority website at https://studentconnect.qsa.qld.edu.au/12654.html.

Important QTAC application and offer dates for your diary

2014

Mid-June QTAC Guides are distributed to schools.
5 August Online applications open.
30 September On-time application due date – applications after this date incur a substantial late fee. Also the final date for some courses with fixed closing dates
27 November Early offer round for some courses.
11 December Major offer round for some creative and performing arts courses. Also an early offer round for some courses.
19 December Year 12 results mailed from the Queensland Studies Authority.

2015
7 January                      Final date to change QTAC preferences for the January offer round.
15 January                    Major offer round for most Semester 1, 2015 courses.
5 February                    Subsequent offer round for Semester 1, 2015 courses.
12-26 February               Top-up offers for any remaining vacancies
12 March                     Major offer round for Bond University medicine

The cost of applying to QTAC for entry in 2015 for Year 12 students will be $35. A late fee of $130 will apply after the on time application due date (i.e. from the 1 October 2014). Applicants can change their course preferences on three occasions for free. Further changes will incur a fee of $35.

Pros and cons of mid-year entry

Many tertiary courses have Semester 1 and Semester 2 entry. This means students can commence their course at the beginning of the year or mid-year. The following is a list of some of the advantages and disadvantages of applying mid-year.

Advantages

- You can have a longer break from study between finishing Year 12 and starting further study halfway through the following year (like a mini Gap year).
- Mid-year entry allows you to apply again if you don’t get a course for Semester 1.
- Starting mid-year gives you a chance to improve your skills by doing a study preparation course or short lower level course during Semester 1.
- Starting mid-year does not necessarily mean you take longer to graduate as many courses offer catch-up options such as summer schools.

Disadvantages

- Not all courses offer mid-year entry.
- OP/Rank cut-offs are often more competitive mid-year because there are usually fewer places available. For example, the Semester 1, 2013 cut-off for QUT B Nursing was OP 11 while the cut-off for Semester 2 was OP 7. You can access other Semester 2, 2013 cut-offs from the QTAC website at http://www.qtac.edu.au/Courses/CourseHome.html.
- You could regret not starting your study earlier when you see your friends starting their courses in Semester 1.
- You might get out of the study habit.
- You could become bored and end up wasting your time.
A sensible strategy is to apply for Semester 1 courses and defer your study. Read about deferment from a QTAC information sheet accessed at http://www.qtac.edu.au/InfoSheets/Deferment.html. Also, contact the Admissions office of the institution to find out the process to defer for six months instead of a year, which is the usual deferment period.

**QTAC snippets from the 2012/13 application and offer period**

- There were 59,942 applications to QTAC for entry into courses in Semester 1, 2014. Of this number 86% received an offer.
- 25,043 of the total applications for Semester 1, 2014 were from Queensland Year 12 students. Of this number 98% received an offer of a course place (Well done Year 12s!).
- The most popular course preferences for Year 12 QTAC applicants for entry in Semester 1, 2014 were in health, society and culture (this includes arts, law, social sciences) and management and commerce.
- Approximately 3,057 Year 12 applicants, who received an offer, deferred their offer (deferment is usually for one year and gives the student guaranteed entry into the course in the following year).

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

What’s your personal study style?

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

'The Career Information Bulletin can only be distributed and used by members of the school community of the school that has purchased membership to Options Career Information. Options Career Information does not give permission for any member to pass on its resources to any other organisation.'