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Australia wide skill shortages

The following are national skill shortages as of 30 June 2015.

• Quantity Surveyor
• Audiologist
• Construction Estimator
• Stone Mason
• Glazier
• Solid Plasterer
• Roof Tiler
• Wall and Floor Tiler
• Electrical Lines Worker
• Baker
• Pastry Cook
• Butcher and Small Goods Maker
• Arborist
• Hairdresser


Helpful websites for apprenticeships and traineeships

• Australian Apprenticeships http://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au/
• Australian Apprenticeships Pathways http://www.aapathways.com.au/Home
• Apprenticeships Info http://apprenticeshipsinfo.qld.gov.au/
Job skills you will need in 2020

According to the World Economic Forum, in five years from now over one-third of skills that are considered important in today’s workforce will have changed. According to a new Forum report, ‘The Future of Jobs’, the following skills will be in demand (the list is in order of priority):

- Complex Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Creativity
- People Management
- Coordinating with Others
- Emotional Intelligence
- Judgement and Decision Making
- Service Orientation
- Negotiation
- Cognitive Flexibility


Skill shortages in Queensland

Something to consider when exploring future jobs is employment prospects i.e. what are your chances of getting a job when you finish your education/training. One step in this process is to explore the skill shortage areas in Queensland.

The latest Queensland skill shortage information (assessed 2014-2015) from the Commonwealth Department of Employment (see http://docs.employment.gov.au/documents/skill-shortage-list-queensland) includes the following jobs:

State-wide shortages

- Surveyor
- Sonographer
- Motor Mechanic (General)
- Sheetmetal Trades Worker
- Metal Machinist (First Class)
- Cabinetmaker
Metropolitan shortages

- Plumbers

Regional shortages

- Child Care Centre Manager
- Special Education Teachers
- Medical Diagnostic Radiographer
- Optometrist
- Midwife
- Registered Nurse
- Civil Engineering Draftspersons and Technicians
- Diesel Mechanic
- Motorcycle Mechanic
- Welder (First Class)
- Vehicle Painter
- Bricklayer
- Electrician (General)
- Panelbeater

What is an apprenticeship or traineeship?

Apprenticeships and traineeships combine structured training (e.g. through TAFE or another Registered Training Organisation) with practical experience working for an employer. You are paid for your work and when you complete your training you receive a nationally accredited qualification.

The term ‘apprenticeship’ is used for skilled trade areas such as electrical, plumbing, carpentry, cabinet-making, automotive, etc. ‘Traineeship’ is used for vocational areas such as office administration, information technology, tourism, hospitality, beauty therapy, etc.

Apprenticeships and traineeships can be full-time, part-time or school-based. A school-based apprenticeship or traineeship allows you to start your training while you are still at school. It will contribute credit towards your Queensland Certificate of Education. You can find out about school-based apprenticeships and traineeships at http://apprenticeshipsinfo.qld.gov.au/school-based/index.html.

There are over 500 jobs that offer apprenticeships and traineeships. Read about the different types of apprenticeships and traineeships from the Queensland Training Information Service website at http://qtis.training.qld.gov.au/ (click on ‘Apprenticeships’ or ‘Traineeships’ from the left hand menu).
Australian Defence Force (ADF) GAP Year

Want a gap year with a difference? Consider joining the Australian Defence Force (Army, Navy or Air Force) for a year. This is an excellent way of trying out a Defence job. The ADF Gap Year program applications for 2017 will open in March 2016. You can register your interest in the program on the website at http://www.defencejobs.gov.au/education/GapYear/.

Australian Defence Force (ADF) Work Experience

Thinking of applying for the ADF when you finish school? As joining the ADF is a lifestyle decision not just an occupational decision, it is essential that you explore this career option thoroughly. One way to do this is through work experience. Visit the Defence Work Experience Program website at http://www.defence.gov.au/workexperience/ and look for work experience options in Queensland. Applications are available on the site. You should discuss your interest in an ADF work experience program with your school guidance counsellor/officer before submitting an application.

Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) Education Award

This award is presented annually to Year 12 students in recognition of leadership potential and academic and sporting achievements displayed during Year 11. The award includes a tablet device (or similar) and certificate for you, along with a plaque for your school. There are up to 50 awards available on behalf of the Navy, Army and Air Force which will be presented to suitable applicants who have applied for entry to ADFA. Visit http://www.defencejobs.gov.au/education/adfa/howToApply/educationAward.aspx for details and to apply. Applications close on 28 February 2016.

Australian Defence Force Information Sessions

The following information sessions will be held in Queensland during February 2016:

- 15 – Gap Year Info Session on the Gold Coast
- 16 – Trade Careers Info Session in Brisbane
- 17 – Gap Year Info Session in Brisbane
- 17 – Australian Defence Force Academy Info Session in Townsville
- 17 – Defence Careers Info Session in Ipswich
• 23 – Army Reserve Info Session at Enoggera
• 24 - Australian Defence Force Academy Info Session in Brisbane
• 24 – Defence Careers Info Session in Hervey Bay
• 24 - Australian Defence Force Academy Info Session in Cairns
• 25 - Defence Careers Info Session in Rockhampton
• 25 - Defence Careers Info Session in Bundaberg
• 25 – Health Careers Info Session in Brisbane
• 29 - Australian Defence Force Academy Info Session on the Gold Coast.

Visit https://www.facebook.com/DefenceJobsAustralia/events for details about these sessions.
Making career decisions

In Years 10 and 11 you are expected to begin the process of exploring what you might like to do in the future. Year 12 students are required to make decisions about what they are going to do next year.

What is career decision-making?

- Career decision-making isn’t magic.
- It is a process during which you develop some job ideas, research them and prioritise them.
- It is a complex process. Many factors must be considered (e.g. your interests, values, abilities). There are also many influences on the decision (e.g. what your parents and friends think, availability of jobs, education pathways).
- You are not making lifelong decisions. You are deciding on your first step after completing secondary school.

How do I develop job ideas?

- You probably already have some ideas (don’t discount those ‘dream’ ideas!).
- You can develop more ideas by doing a questionnaire – examples of these:
  
  myfuture [http://www.myfuture.edu.au/](http://www.myfuture.edu.au/) (‘Sign-up’ the first time you use this website)


  Career Quest [http://www.careers.govt.nz/tools/](http://www.careers.govt.nz/tools/) - this is a New Zealand site that has a career quiz


- Your guidance officer/counsellor can help you develop your job ideas list.
- Remember to write down your job ideas – these are just ‘ideas’ at this stage, not decisions.

How do I explore my job ideas?
• Use your research skills.
• Read about the jobs on your job ideas list – do a search on the myfuture website or use the Job Guide at http://www.jobguide.thegoodguides.com.au/.
• Talk to people already in the jobs (go prepared with questions).
• Try the job – see your guidance officer/counsellor about doing work experience.

By this time, you should be able to narrow down your job ideas list to two or three jobs that you can put in priority order, starting with the job you would most like. Your next step is to plan to achieve your career goal.

As you can see, career decision-making requires some effort. But you are worth it!
International Poetry Competition

Budding poets, 11 – 21 years of age, are invited to enter this competition. All subjects and all forms of poetry are welcome. The contest closes at midnight on 31 March 2016 (Pacific Time). For more information and to access the online entry form, visit http://laurathomascommunications.com/junior-authors-poetry-contest/.

JMC Academy DJ Competition

This competition is for aspiring DJs aged 13 – 17 years. Entrants are required to upload an original DJ mix to the competition website and get their friends to vote for their mix. Any mix that gets over 200 votes automatically qualifies for the final voting round. The winner will be announced at the Good Life Festival to be held on 19 February 2016 at the Brisbane Showgrounds. Check out the awesome prizes on the competition website at http://goodlifefest.com.au/good-life-dj-comp-is-back/.

Sunflower Competition

Registrations for the 2016 University of Queensland Sunflower Competition are open. The competition is for Year 8 – 12 students and involves documenting the growth of sunflowers and associated group activities. Visit http://www.uq.edu.au/agriculture/sunflower-competition for details about the competition. Participants need to register by 12 February 2016 to receive an information pack and seed kit. Seeds need to be planted by 23 February with the Weigh-In-Day on 17 May 2016.
CQUniversity (CQU) snippets


Dream Big Project – This project is holding a ‘Dream Big Event’ to promote engineering to Year 10 – 12 girls at CQU Rockhampton, Gladstone, Bundaberg and Mackay campuses on the 26 February 2016. The event is free and lunch is provided. Registrations close on 23 February. Visit the Dream Big Project’s website at http://www.dreambigengineerbig.com/ (click on ‘Dream Big Event’) for more information and to register.

Shoot for the Stars with CQU – View the video on the home page of the CQU website at http://www.cqu.edu.au/ to discover the range of TAFE and university courses you can study at CQU.

‘Arts After Hours’ at Noosa campus – Interested in the Arts? You are invited to this program which will be held on the second Monday of each month. The program includes the Noosa Guitar Orchestra, the Noosa Writing Circle and Art Workshops. Visit http://www.cqunoosaevents.net/ for details.

Events at the University of the Sunshine Coast (USC)

Fraser Coast campus – USC has formally taken over this campus. Visit http://www.usc.edu.au/learn/the-usc-experience/study-locations/study-at-fraser-coast for the courses and other programs offered at this campus.

Year 12 Leadership Days – These events are for Year 12 student leaders (prefects, school captains, house captains, sport captains, etc.) to develop their leadership skills. They will be held on:

- Tuesday 8 March 2016 – Fraser Coast campus
- Thursday 10 March 2016 – Sippy Downs campus
- Monday 14 March 2016 – Gympie campus

Details and registration can be found at http://www.usc.edu.au/connect/schools-and-parents/on-campus/year-12-leadership-days.

Griffith College
Griffith College (previously the Queensland Institute of Business and Technology – QIBT) offers undergraduate diploma programs that, on successful completion, provide guaranteed pathways to degree programs at Griffith University. The fields of study offered include biosciences, commerce, criminology and criminal justice, design, engineering, health sciences, hotel management, IT, media and communications. The college is located at the Mt Gravatt and Gold Coast campuses. Find out about the courses offered at https://www.griffith.edu.au/college.

James Cook University (JCU)

JCU has six campuses in Northern Australia, with its largest campuses in Townsville and Cairns (other campuses are at Thursday Island, Brisbane, Mackay and Mt Isa). Visit the JCU website at http://www.jcu.edu.au/ to explore the range of courses offered in areas such as Humanities, Science, Business, Health Science (including medicine, dentistry and nursing), Education, Engineering, Laws, Veterinary Science and Sports and Exercise Science. Prospective students and their parents are welcome to visit the campuses. Bookings can be made at http://www.jcu.edu.au/highschools/tours/index.htm.

Learn what engineers do at an Engineering Link Project

The Engineering Link Group, together with host universities, invite students in Years 10 – 12 (depending on location) who are interested in learning more about engineering to participate in one of the Engineering Link Projects (ELP) to be run in Queensland this year. Visit http://telg.com.au/programs/elp/ for more information about ELP. The dates and venues for the 2016 ELPs are:

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

As the events are confirmed, you will be able to register to attend at http://telg.com.au/register/.

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As the events are confirmed, you will be able to register to attend at http://telg.com.au/register/.

News from Griffith University

**GriffithBUSINESS Ambassadors Program** – This program is for capable students in Years 10 and 11 who are currently studying a business subject to become Business Ambassadors. Ambassadors meet three times a year to participate in workshops on nominated topics. The first workshops for 2016 are:

- Wednesday 2 March at the Nathan Campus - Topic: An insight into Sport Management
- Wednesday 9 March at the Gold Coast Campus - Topic: Get Rich Slow
- Thursday 10 March at the Logan Campus- Topic: Social Media and Marketing.

If you are interested in being a Business Ambassador for your school, talk to your business teacher as you need to be nominated by your school. More information and registration at https://www.griffith.edu.au/business-government/griffith-business-school/high-school-community-programs/griffithbusiness.

**Tertiary Preparation Workshop for music students** – This workshop can help you prepare for the theoretical and practical requirements of the audition process. It will be on 27 June – 1 July 2016 at the Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University, South Bank. For more information and to register, visit https://www.griffith.edu.au/music/open-conservatorium/tertiary-preparation-workshop.

**Webpage for high school students** – Go to https://www.griffith.edu.au/future-students/high-school-students to learn about Griffith campuses and courses, university life and much more.

**Help for elite athletes** - If you are an elite athlete thinking of applying for courses at Griffith next year, you need to explore the assistance you can get from the Griffith Sports College. You will receive support to balance your academic and sporting commitments. You may also be considered for rank bonus points. For more information, visit http://www.griffith.edu.au/griffith-sports-college.

**GUESTS Program for Semester two** – GUESTS (Griffith University Early Start to Tertiary Study) gives senior students an opportunity to try a university subject and experience university life. Year 12 students applying for the Semester two intake must submit their application by 30 May 2016. Year 11 students may also apply for Semester two in some study areas. See https://www.griffith.edu.au/pathways/guests-program for details.
Could you survive on Mars? – Join a mission on the Science on the Go website at http://scienceonthego.griffith.edu.au/. While on this site, you can explore the other activities and events available.

NIDA courses in Brisbane


Notes from Bond University

Structure and name change for medical program – Bond’s medical program is now composed of two sequential degrees - the Bachelor of Medical Studies and the Doctor of Medicine. Students are required to complete both degrees for registration as a medical practitioner. Both degrees are awarded at the completion of Year five. Find out more at https://bond.edu.au/program/medical-program. Note that UMAT was not required as a prerequisite for the medical program for entry in 2016.

Experience Days at Bond – These events provide Year 11 and 12 students with the opportunity to experience what life is like at Bond both inside and outside of the classroom while exploring a specific study area. The Semester one 2016 Experience Days are:

- 8 April – Criminology Day
- 28 April – Sports and Health Sciences Day
- 11 May – Business and Commerce Day
- 12 May - Hotel and Tourism Management Day
- 12 May - Actuarial Science Day
- 12 May - International Relations Day
- 21 May - Law Experience Day
- 21 May – Biomedical Science and Medicine Day
- 26 May - Communications, Film and Digital Media Day
- 15 June – Architecture Day
- 16 June – Psychology Day
- 22 June – Environments, Planning and Urban Design Day

For more information and to register, visit https://bond.edu.au/future-students/study-bond/see-yourself/experience-days. You can download the Experience Day booklet on this site.

Student for a Semester – Want to be a Bondy for a semester? Through this program Year 11 and 12 students can enrol in a Bond subject and experience what university study and life is like. Applications for the 2016 May semester open on 18 March and close on 8 April. Visit https://bond.edu.au/future-students/study-bond/see-yourself/student-semester for more information and to download a flyer.
Oxford and Cambridge Summer Academy

This program is for students aged 14 – 19 years who are interested in a short study experience at Oxford or Cambridge Universities in the United Kingdom. Several sessions of the program are offered during July and August in 2016. Find out more at http://oxfordcambridgesummeracademy.com/.

Thinking about studying at the University of Melbourne in the future?

The University of Melbourne has a Future Students website at http://futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/. You can find information about courses, how to apply and upcoming events. This site has a section specifically for interstate students (click on ‘Information for’). You can subscribe to receive the monthly MyMelbourne newsletter from this site.

University of Southern Queensland (USQ) events

Indigenous Connections events – These events are for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high school students to encourage them to complete their secondary education and aspire to go on to further study. They will be held on:

- 9 March 2016 at the Springfield campus
- 17 March 2016 at the Toowoomba campus.

See http://www.usq.edu.au/study/high-school-students/advising-school-leavers/events/indigenous-connections for more information and to register to attend.

Change Makers Inspire Forums – These forums provide an opportunity for young people to learn about change and to work with other high school students to create change in the community. They will be held on:

- 3 March 2016 at the Toowoomba campus
- 4 March 2016 at the Springfield campus.

See http://www.usq.edu.au/study/high-school-students/change-makers/inspire for more information and to register to attend.

Study Options Evening at Springfield – This event on 10 February 2016 is an opportunity to ask questions about USQ courses and university life. Visit http://www.usq.edu.au/news-events/events/2016/02/usq-study-options-spf for more information.

Updates from the Queensland University of Technology (QUT)

Applications are open for QUT’s 2016 High School Research Internships - Students in Years 11 and 12 can apply to undertake a week-long work placement during the Easter holidays working with QUT (Queensland University of Technology) scientists. To be eligible for the program, students must be studying and receiving a VHA in a science

**START QUT** – High achieving Year 12 students can study a university subject and experience university life through this program. Applications for Semester two 2016 open on 1 March and close on 13 May. Find out more at https://www.qut.edu.au/study/high-school-programs/start-qut.

**What you need to know about studying Law** – Visit the Law Faculty website at https://www.qut.edu.au/law/courses-and-study/undergraduate-courses/studying-law-the-basics to find the answers to the most frequently asked questions about studying Law at QUT.

**Prerequisite subjects for Education degrees** – Unlike most courses at QUT, Education courses have prerequisites for entry in 2017. Students who wish to apply for these courses but don’t meet the prerequisites have an option to gain them through bridging courses. See https://www.qut.edu.au/study/applying/undergraduate-applications/prerequisite-subjects for a list of the prerequisites and information about bridging courses at QUT.

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

**2016 UQ Science Ambassador Program** – Through this program, science teachers nominate up to four current Year 11 students to interact with UQ and assist science teachers to raise the profile of science in your school. If you are in Year 11 and are interested in being a part of this program, talk to your science teacher and visit the website at http://www.science.uq.edu.au/science-ambassadors. Applications close on 21 March 2016.

**FEAST in 2016** - Interested in agriculture, animals, vet science, food or the environment? Consider attending FEAST (Future Experiences in Agriculture, Science and Technology). FEAST is a five-day residential program held at the UQ Gatton Campus for students in Years 10 – 12 (preference is given to Year 11 and 12 students). In 2016, it will be held from 26 - 30 June (during the school holidays). Registrations open online on 1 March and close on 24 April. At this time, you can submit an expression of interest on the website at http://www.science.uq.edu.au/feast.

**Chat live with UQ** – International students interested in finding out more about studying at UQ, can chat live with UQ staff from anywhere in the world on 17 February 2016 from 8 am – 1 pm (ET). Visit http://future-students.uq.edu.au/live-chat for details.

**Experience Science 2016** - If you are in Years 10 – 12, the Experience Science 2016 program at the St Lucia campus provides an opportunity to find out what it is like to study science at UQ and how science is applied in industry and everyday life. The event will be held in July. Contact your Science teacher or guidance officer/counsellor
if you are interested in attending this program as registrations are usually made through your school. You can read more about the program at http://www.science.uq.edu.au/expsci. On this site you can join the mailing list to be notified when registrations open.

**Architecture Workshops** - Senior high school students are invited to a hands-on workshop held at the Queensland State Library on Thursday 10 March 2016. Students will have the opportunity to work through the design minds process (inquire, ideate and implement). For information, contact Helen Burdon on phone 3365 2382 or email h.burdon@uq.edu.au. More information will be made available soon through an email directly to schools.

**Taste of Languages** – From 12 – 19 February 2016, the School of Languages and Cultures at UQ will offer a series of interactive sessions for students and their teachers in specific languages - Chinese, French, Spanish, Korean, Japanese and German. Interested students should talk to their language teacher or guidance officer/counsellor about attending as registrations are through your school. See http://www.languages-cultures.uq.edu.au for more information. Registrations close on 8 February 2016.
ANU Scholarship Roadshow

During February and March 2016, Australian National University (ANU) representatives are travelling across Australia to present the ANU Scholarship Roadshow, featuring the Tuckwell Scholarship. The Roadshow events for Queensland are:

- Brisbane on 24 February from 5.30 – 8 pm at the Brisbane City Hall
- Townsville on 25 February from 11.30 am – 1 pm at the Museum of Tropical Queensland
- Online on 3 March.

*Students and parents are invited to attend these events. Register to attend at [http://tuckwell.anu.edu.au/tuckwell-roadshows/](http://tuckwell.anu.edu.au/tuckwell-roadshows/). If you would like to ask any questions before the roadshow, email student.recruitment@anu.edu.au.*

Did you know there are thousands of scholarships on offer each year in Queensland?

Universities, TAFE Queensland, private education providers, the Commonwealth and Queensland governments, some professional associations and industry groups offer scholarships. Common categories include:

- sporting scholarships
- equity scholarships for women and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders
- scholarships for specific fields of study
- financial hardship scholarships
- campus scholarships
- field of study scholarships
- international student scholarships
- academic scholarships.

A scholarship can help with course fees, textbooks, accommodation costs, transport and living expenses. No matter what your further education and training goals, it’s worth finding out what’s available. You can get scholarship information from:

- Scholarship sections on university, TAFE Queensland and other education institute websites
• Talk to your school guidance officer/counsellor for specific information about scholarships.

Scholarship information is generally available on university websites from mid-year. With the exception of Bond University, Queensland university scholarship application due dates usually occur from October to December each year. The application due date for Bond University scholarships is 31 July each year for Australian Year 12 students. Applications for this university open in April.

**New Zealand Special Category Visa holders access to HELP loans**

The Australian Government has passed legislation to provide Higher Education Loan Program (HELP) loans to New Zealand citizens who are Special Category Visa (SCV) holders and meet specific criteria. These criteria relate to long-term residency requirements:

- first entered Australia at least 10 years ago, as a dependent child aged under 18 years of age
- have been ordinarily resident in Australia for the previous 10 years (that is, you have been physically present in Australia for at least eight out of the past 10 years) and 18 months out of the last two years at the time of application for the loan, and
- are otherwise eligible for the loan.


**The Tuckwell Scholarship**

This generous scholarship ($21,700 each year – this is the 2016 rate) is available for students applying to study at the Australian National University in Canberra. Applications for 2017 will open on 29 February 2016. Visit http://tuckwell.anu.edu.au/ for information about the selection criteria and the three-stage application process.
Gap Year Program News

Gap Year Program updates

- Lattitude Global Volunteering - 2017 applications are now open and will close on 17 June 2016. Information nights will commence in March [http://www.lattitude.org.au/].

What is a Gap Year?

Some students choose to have a break from formal study the year following the completion of Year 12. Over the last few years this has become known as a ‘Gap Year’. You might decide to take a gap year to:

- have a rest from study
- work to earn money for further study, buy a car, travel, etc.
- take time to explore career options
- concentrate on a particular activity (e.g. sport, music, art).

There are many activities you can participate in during a gap year, including:

- travelling
- working overseas or in Australia
- doing a traineeship or a short course
- going on an overseas exchange
- volunteering overseas or in Australia
• doing work experience to check out a possible future job.

Some students organise these activities themselves while others use the services of a gap year organisation. Examples of these organisations include:

• Global Vision International [http://gvifoundations.co.uk/](http://gvifoundations.co.uk/)
• Rotary Youth Exchange [http://rotaryyouthexchange.org.au](http://rotaryyouthexchange.org.au)
• Ski Internship Courses [http://www.easkiandsnowboard.com/](http://www.easkiandsnowboard.com/)
• Tutors Worldwide [http://www.tutorsworldwide.org/](http://www.tutorsworldwide.org/)

Always thoroughly investigate any gap year organisation you are considering. Get your parents involved in this process. Start your research early to avoid missing out.
How do you become a qualified psychologist in Australia?

To practice as a psychologist in Australia you must be registered with the Psychology Board of Australia (http://www.psychologyboard.gov.au/). To be eligible for general registration you are required to complete a minimum of six years of education and training. This can be achieved via a number of pathways, each of which requires as the first step:

- A three-year accredited undergraduate degree in psychology plus an accredited fourth year (honours or post graduate diploma), or
- A four year accredited undergraduate degree in psychology.

Courses are accredited by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council and approved by the Psychology Board of Australia (PsyBA). See a list of accredited Queensland courses at http://www.psychologycouncil.org.au/course-search/australia/qld (also, this page has a useful diagram of the pathways to becoming a registered psychologist).

The second step is to complete one of the following:

- An accredited masters or doctoral degree
- An accredited graduate diploma in professional psychology plus one year of a PsyBA-approved supervised experience
- A two-year PsyBA-approved internship.

In addition to the completion of one of these pathways, the Board may require the passing of the National Psychology Examination prior to accepting an application for general registration (see http://www.psychologyboard.gov.au/Registration/National-psychology-exam.aspx).

The following are useful resources:

- ‘How to become a psychologist in Australia’ by psychologist Dan Martin https://www.myhealthcareer.com.au/psychology/become-a-psychologist
APM College of Business and Communication Open House

APM’s Brisbane campus will hold this event between the 8 and 18 February 2016. Information about times and registration can be found at http://www.apm.edu.au/about-apm/upcoming-events/open-house-brisbane. APM offers diploma and degree courses in Business and Management, Event Management, Marketing and Public Relations that can be studied online or on campus at Bowen Terrace, Fortitude Valley, Brisbane.

Career and tertiary expos in Queensland in 2016

Career and tertiary expos are a great resource for exploring career and course options. At these events you can talk to representatives from universities, TAFE, private colleges, employers, and industry groups. These events are held throughout Queensland, usually during the first half of the year. The following are a selection of the events for 2016.

- 16 and 17 July - Tertiary Studies Expo (TSXPO) http://www.careersevent.com/
- 19 July - Sunshine Coast Daily Careers Expo http://www.careersevent.com/sunshinecoast/
New York Film Academy Open House

New York Film Academy located on the Gold Coast offers tertiary level courses in film making and acting. Short term and evening courses are available also. The academy will hold an open house on Saturday 20 February 2016 from 20 – 2 pm. Students under 18 years must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. Visit https://www.nyfa.edu.au/nyfa-events/ for details.

Study Brisbane City Welcome Festival for international students

Brisbane City welcomes international students at this festival to be held from 1 - 6 pm on Saturday 27 February 2016 at the South Bank Cultural Forecourt. In addition to live music and entertainment, the event will have over 50 exhibitors, including education institutions, transport providers, banks, agents, community groups, tourism and leisure operators and student accommodation providers to help new students get settled into the city. Find out more at http://www.studybrisbane.com.au/festival.

University Open Days in Queensland in 2016

It is essential to attend an open day event at the university (or universities) you wish to apply to for studies next year. The open day gives you an opportunity to talk to lecturers and current students about the courses you are interested in. You can also check out the campus, the support services offered and social and cultural activities available. Most open days occur in July and August each year. This bulletin will inform you of open days as they arise.

World Science Festival Brisbane

Do you wonder what science is all about? This is the festival where you find out through interesting and entertaining workshops, films, comedy, street science and much more. The festival will take place between 9 and 13 March 2016 at various venues in Brisbane. View the program on the festival website at http://www.worldsciencefestival.com.au/.
I’m in Year 12. I want to go to uni in 2017. How do I apply?

In Queensland you apply for most tertiary courses through the Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC). QTAC is a non-government, not-for-profit organisation. It processes applications on behalf of Queensland universities, some interstate universities, TAFE Queensland and some private colleges.

In June each year, QTAC distributes the QTAC Guide to all Year 12 students in Queensland. This book contains information about the application and offer process and the courses offered through QTAC.

The online application opens in early August and the ‘on-time’ application due date is at the end of September. There are several offer rounds from November to February, with the major offer round in mid-January. While Year 12 students apply in September, they have until early January to change their course preferences (for most courses) for the major offer round in January.

Through QTAC you can apply for up to six courses at different institutions. However, you only receive one course in any given offer round. Connect with QTAC on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube at http://www.qtac.edu.au/ for important news and information.

You apply directly to Queensland education institutions that do not use the services of QTAC. Queensland students can apply for interstate courses through interstate tertiary admissions centres (the exception is Tasmania where you apply directly to the University of Tasmania). To find out more about universities in Australia and the courses they offer, visit:

- QILT http://www.qilt.edu.au/

Preparing for the Undergraduate Medicine and Health Science Admissions Test (UMAT)

While you can’t study specific content for UMAT, it is important to prepare for the test. The UMAT website offers preparation strategies at https://umat.acer.edu.au/prepare/preparation-strategy. The most effective preparation is to practice sitting for the test. You can purchase practice tests from the UMAT website at https://umat.acer.edu.au/prepare/preparation-materials.
A number of organisations offer preparatory courses for students who plan to sit for UMAT. These include:


Note the following from the UMAT 2016 Information Booklet:

‘Neither the UMAT Office nor the UMAT Consortium universities recommend or endorse any particular texts or preparation courses. Nor do they support any commercially available preparation courses or have any association with commercial courses’ (see page 8).

However, some students find these preparatory programs helpful in preparing them for the test and helping them gain confidence in sitting for the test. It is recommended that students talk to other students who have undertaken these preparatory programs previously before registering for a course.

**Undergraduate Medicine and Health Science Admissions Test (UMAT)**

Some institutions require that students applying for medicine and other health science courses sit for UMAT as part of the application process. Students need to register to sit for UMAT by 3 June 2016 on the UMAT website at [https://umat.acer.edu.au/](https://umat.acer.edu.au/). The exam will be held on 27 July 2016 and the results will be released in early September 2016. You can download a UMAT 2016 Information Booklet from the UMAT website. You will need a UMAT score for admission to the following courses in Australia and New Zealand:

- The University of New South Wales - Medicine, Optometry
- The University of Newcastle/University of New England - Joint Medical Program
- Western Sydney University - Medicine
- Charles Darwin University - Clinical Sciences
- The University of Queensland - Medicine (provisional entry), Dental Science
- The University of Adelaide - Medicine, Dental Surgery
- Flinders University - Clinical Sciences/Medicine
- University of Tasmania - Medicine
- La Trobe University - Health Sciences in Dentistry/Master of Dentistry, Oral Health Science
- Monash University - Medicine
- Curtin University - Medicine
- The University of Western Australia - Medicine (assured entry), Dental Medicine (assured entry)
- The University of Auckland - Medicine
- University of Otago - Medicine, Medical Laboratory Science, Dental Surgery
Note that to be eligible to sit for UMAT students must be in their final year of secondary schooling or higher. Year 11 students are not eligible to sit for UMAT.
Learning to study checklist

It is the start of a new school year. This is the perfect time to polish your study skills. The following checklist will get you started. It is from the Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand website at [http://www.charteredaccountants.com.au/Students/Study-resources](http://www.charteredaccountants.com.au/Students/Study-resources).

- Have a specific place to study without distractions: somewhere quiet, without TV, music, computer or mobile.
- Study the hard subjects first, when you’re most alert and focused.
- Try not to do too much studying at one time: you’ll get tired and overwhelmed.
- Have a specific time of the day for studying, and make it the same time every day.
- Work out how long you can concentrate for before you lose focus. It’s going to be different for everyone, so keep a track of your ideal concentration time. Then take breaks when you’re approaching your limit.
- Have everything you need close by - books, notes, pens, pads, etc. - all within easy reach.
- Avoid eating a large meal before studying, as it will just make you drowsy.
- Let friends and family know your allocated daily study time, and ask them not to disturb you.
- Start studying when you say you will: delaying the start will only make the task harder.
- One thing at a time: multitasking may sound smart, but it means you’re not giving each task your full attention.
- Never study too close to going to sleep.
Youth Enrichment Activities

Join the YMCA Queensland Youth Parliament

Are you interested in community issues? Think you can do a better job than our current politicians? Then you might be interested in joining the YMCA Queensland Youth Parliament (QYP). Nominations for the 2016 program are now open. If you are between 15 and 25 years of age, you are invited to nominate. QYP is a Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority accredited educational program (participation can contribute credit to your Queensland Certificate of Education). The nomination form and details about the program can be accessed at http://www.ymcaqyp.org/.
'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.'