CAREER INFORMATION BULLETIN

INFORMATION BULLETIN - EDITION 1

Queensland

03/02/2015 to 13/02/2015

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Skill shortages

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

The latest Queensland skill shortage information (assessed 2013-2014) from the Commonwealth Department of Employment (see http://docs.employment.gov.au/documents/skill-shortage-list-queensland) includes the following jobs:

- Surveyor
- Electrical Engineer
- Early Childhood (Pre-primary School) Teacher
- Medical Diagnostic Radiographer
- Sonographer
- Physiotherapist
- Midwife
- Automotive Electrician
- Motor Mechanic
- Motorcycle Mechanic
- Sheetmetal Trades Worker
- Welder
- Metal Machinist
- Panelbeater
- Vehicle Painter
- Bricklayer
- Painting Trades Worker
- Wall and Floor Tiler
- Electrician
- Airconditioning and Refrigeration Mechanic
- Cabinetmaker
- Child Care Worker

Visit the Australian Apprenticeships website at http://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au/national-skills-needs-list for more information about skill shortages in trade areas. Information about employment prospects in specific jobs can be obtained from the following websites:
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, 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 to your Queensland Certificate of Education. 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). Other helpful websites are:

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

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 this work experience program with your school guidance counsellor or career adviser before submitting an application.

Australian Defence Force Education Award

If you are in Year 12, you have up to 28 February 2015 to apply for this award. The award includes a laptop computer and certificate for you, along with a plaque for your school. There are up to 100 awards available. Applicants are judged on academic and sporting achievements and leadership potential. For more information, visit http://www.defencejobs.gov.au/education/adfa/howToApply/educationAward.aspx.
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, explore 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 are:
  - 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 or career adviser 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 or career adviser 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 aren’t you worth it?
UQ Sunflower competition

Registrations for the 2015 University of Queensland Sunflower Competition will close on 10 February 2015. The competition is open to 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 more information and to register.
Australian Institute of Applied Sciences (AIAS)

AIAS is a private college that offers accredited advanced diploma, diploma and certificate courses in natural medicine, beauty, massage, hairdressing, health and fitness. VET FEE-HELP is available for selected courses. You can take a video tour of AIAS’s beauty, natural therapy and massage therapy faculties and clinics, starting from the home page at [http://www.aias.edu.au/](http://www.aias.edu.au/).

CQUniversity (CQU) snippets


**Dream Big Project** – Girls in Years 10 – 12 are invited to attend this event on Wednesday 18 February 2015 at the CQU Rockhampton campus. The event is designed to raise awareness of the career opportunities in engineering. Participants will be involved in hands on projects such as Robot C Programming and 3D Printing. They will have an opportunity to talk to current engineering students and engineers from industry. Visit [http://www.engineersaustralia.org.au/portal/event/dream-big-project](http://www.engineersaustralia.org.au/portal/event/dream-big-project) for more information.

**Explore the CQUniverse** – Discover the range of TAFE and university courses you can study at CQU with the CQUniverse video located on the web home page at [http://www.cqu.edu.au/](http://www.cqu.edu.au/).

Design College Australia short evening courses

This college is located in the Fortitude Valley, Brisbane. It offers an accredited advanced diploma with majors in graphic design and photography and a number of short courses. VET FEE-HELP is available for the advanced diploma course. The following short courses will be held over a number of weeks from 6 pm – 9 pm.

- Web Design starting on 2 March 2015
- Intro to Photoshop starting on 3 March 2015

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. 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.

News from Griffith University

GriffithBUSINESS Year 12 Program in 2015 - This program offers an opportunity for high achieving business secondary students to experience university first hand. Interested students must register no later than 9 February 2015. See http://www.griffith.edu.au/business-government/griffith-business-school/high-school-community-programs/griffithbusiness for more information. Participation in this program must be supported by your school.

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.


Student resources on the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) website

QUT’s ‘Resources for students’ webpage at https://www.qut.edu.au/study/undergraduate-study/do-you-advice-school-students (click on ‘Resources for prospective students’) contains the following resources.

- Explore study options – a short quiz, which matches your skills with courses at QUT.
- Hear from real students – opportunities for you to learn about university life from QUT students.
- Get social – a blog where you can share your thoughts and questions about future pathways.
- Tour our campuses – tour QUT campuses on your computer.
- Start studying now – you can experience study while still at school through QUT’s Start QUT program and/or ‘Pulse on Anatomy’, a short course for those interested in the health sciences.
• **Access library resources** – Year 11 and 12 students can borrow from QUT libraries and access the library databases.

• **Keep up to date** – register to receive news and updates about QUT courses that you are interested in.

**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/](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 updates**

**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:


Those wishing to attend should RSVP in early February 2015.

**Change Makers Forums** – The Change Makers program provides Year 11 and 12 students with the skills to create social change, as well as the chance to apply for funds for social change projects. The forums will be held on:

- 18 February 2015 at the Springfield campus
- 25 February at the Fraser Coast campus
- 26 February at the Toowoomba campus.

See [http://www.usq.edu.au/study/high-school-students/change-makers](http://www.usq.edu.au/study/high-school-students/change-makers) for details.


**Head Start Program** – If you are a high achieving Year 11 or 12 student, you can commence university study while still at school through this program. Applications for Semester 1 close on 9 February 2015. Find out more at [https://www.usq.edu.au/study/high-school-students/head-start/](https://www.usq.edu.au/study/high-school-students/head-start/).
Careers Day – This event enables students in Years 7 – 10 to find out more about options after school. It will be held on 19 March 2015 at the Ipswich campus. See http://www.usq.edu.au/news-events/events/2015/03/usq-careers-day for more information.

Study Options Evenings – USQ will run a number of these information evenings throughout the year. The February 2015 evenings will be held on:

- 5 February at the Springfield campus http://www.usq.edu.au/news-events/events/2015/02/usq-study-options-evening-springfield

Upcoming events at the University of Queensland (UQ)

UQ International Online Fair – This event for international students and their parents will be held on 24 February 2015. UQ staff will be available to answer questions about a range of topics including courses, accommodation, academic and English language pathways, scholarships, etc. Visit http://www.uq.edu.au/international-students/online-fair for details and to register. Another useful resource is the 2015 UQ International Student Guide app (see http://www.uq.edu.au/international-students/study-guide-app).

2015 UQ Science Ambassadors - If you live and dream science you might be interested in becoming a UQ Science Ambassador. Ambassadors become involved in UQ science events and receive science updates from UQ. To be selected, you must be in Year 11 and be nominated by your teacher. Find out about the nomination process at http://science.uq.edu.au/ambassadorform. Still interested? Go see your science teacher. Applications close on 1 March 2015.

FEAST in 2015 - 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. In 2015, it will be held from 28 June – 2 July (during the school holidays). Registrations open online on 1 March. At this time you can submit an expression of interest from the website at http://www.science.uq.edu.au/feast.

Experience Science 2015 - If you are in Years 10 - 12, the Experience Science 2015 program at the UQ Gatton and St Lucia campuses provides an opportunity to find out what it is like to study science at UQ. It will be held in July. Contact your Science teacher or guidance officer 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.

Want to learn a language?
The University of Queensland’s Institute of Modern Languages provides courses for people aged 16 years and older in the following languages:

Arabic, Brazilian Portuguese, Chinese (Cantonese), Chinese (Mandarin), Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, Finnish, Farsi (Persian), Filipino (Tagalog), French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Hindi, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Latin, Norwegian, Polish, Russian, Spanish, Swahili, Swedish, Thai, Tetum, Turkish and Vietnamese.

There are no entry requirements and several types of programs are offered. The enrolment due date for semester one is 23 February 2015. For more information, see http://www.iml.uq.edu.au/.
Did you know there are thousands of scholarships on offer each year in Queensland?

Universities, TAFE institutes, 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 and other education institute websites
- myfuture website at [http://www.myfuture.edu.au](http://www.myfuture.edu.au) – do a search for ‘Scholarships’
- Talk to your school guidance officer/counsellor or career advisor for specific information about scholarships.

Specific scholarship information for 2015 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.
Gap Year Program updates


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’. The reasons for choosing a Gap Year might include 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:

- African Conservation Experience http://www.conservationafrica.net/
- Global Vision International http://gvifoundations.co.uk/
- Go Abroad Programs http://www.goabroadprograms.com/gap/default.asp
- InterExchange http://www.interexchange.org/
- Letz Live http://www.letzlive.org/
- Rotary Youth Exchange http://rotaryyouthexchange.org.au
- Ski Internship Courses http://www.easkiandsnowboard.com/
- Tutors Worldwide http://www.tutorsworldwide.org/
- World Education Program Student Exchange http://wep.org.au/info/

Always thoroughly investigate any Gap Year program you are considering. Get your parents involved in this process. Start your research early to avoid missing out.
Careers in health

According to QTAC, health science courses were the most popular first preference choices for QTAC applicants wishing to commence study in 2015. This could be attributed to the fact that many jobs in the health science field are expected to have good employment prospects for the next few years (see the Australian Jobs 2014 publication at http://docs.employment.gov.au/documents/australian-jobs-2014-publication). So what are the jobs in health field? There are several very good websites that provide this information, including the following.

University of Queensland’s (UQ) undergraduate health website at http://health.uq.edu.au/undergraduate has several useful resources:

- Information on medical study areas
- UQ’s Ultimate Guide to Health Jobs in Australia
- Six steps to getting subject selection right (if you want a health science career in the future)
- ‘Stay connected’ link to register to receive newsletters and information about health science careers and courses.


- interesting news items, mostly from health professionals
- information videos on health related jobs
- health course scholarships
- employment prospects links
- subscription to receive fortnightly news from the Australian health industry.

The Health Careers in the Bush website at http://www.healthcareersinthebush.com/ has a special section for high school students that contains:

- careers and pathways in the health industry
- information on financial assistance and scholarships
- support for Indigenous students.

The Health Heroes website at http://www.healthheroes.health.gov.au/internet/heroes/publishing.nsf. This website has been developed as part of a campaign to encourage Aboriginal and Torres Strait
Islander secondary students to pursue a job in the health sector. However, the information on the website is useful for all students. It includes:

- information on a range of health jobs, training options, scholarships and career pathways in the health field
- case study videos of young Indigenous people talking about their real experiences and health-related jobs.

Explore careers in aviation 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 a Career Day for Flight Attendant Training on Saturday 21 February 2015 at its Brisbane campus. For more information and to book a place, see http://www.aviationaustralia.aero/flightattendant/Open-Night.php.

Interested in joining the Queensland Police Service?

The Queensland Police Recruiting Unit holds regular information seminars throughout Queensland for people interested in becoming a Police Officer. These are usually held on Saturdays and evenings. Visit the Queensland Police Recruiting website at http://www.policerecruit.qld.gov.au/seminars/default.htm for a list of upcoming seminars. You can make bookings on this site.

Real Estate Institute of Queensland information sessions

The Real Estate Institute of Queensland (REIQ) presents these sessions for people considering a career in real estate. The sessions provide information on how the real estate industry operates and the career options available. Sessions are held in Brisbane, on the Sunshine Coast and on the Gold Coast. Visit http://www.reiq.com/courses-training/free-introduction-to-real-estate for details.
Major career/course expos in Queensland in 2015


University Open Days in Queensland in 2015*

- 26 July – Queensland University of Technology, Gardens Point campus [https://www.qut.edu.au/study/events](https://www.qut.edu.au/study/events)
- 2 August – University of Queensland, St Lucia campus [http://youruq.com/openday](http://youruq.com/openday)
- 16 August – University of Queensland, Gatton campus [http://youruq.com/openday](http://youruq.com/openday)
- 16 August - Queensland University of Technology, Caboolture campus [https://www.qut.edu.au/study/events](https://www.qut.edu.au/study/events)
- 23 August – CQUniversity, Rockhampton campus  
  http://www.cqu.edu.au/calendar
- 23 August - University of Southern Queensland, Springfield campus  
  http://www.usq.edu.au/news-events/events
- 23 August – James Cook University, Cairns campus  
  http://www.jcu.edu.au/openday/
- 29 August – CQUniversity, Cairns campus  http://www.cqu.edu.au/calendar
- 29 August – CQUniversity, Townsville campus  http://www.cqu.edu.au/calendar
- 30 August - James Cook University, Townsville campus  
  http://www.jcu.edu.au/openday/

* A complete list of open days will be available when dates become known.
I’m in Year 12. I want to go to uni in 2015. 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 institutes 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; some courses have early closing dates) 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. For more information about QTAC and the QTAC process, visit the QTAC website at http://www.qtac.edu.au/.

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 the My University website at http://myuniversity.gov.au/. This website has a function to help you compare universities.

UMAT and entry to medicine

What is UMAT?

The Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admission Test (UMAT) is used as part of the process to select students for medicine and other health science undergraduate degree programs at some universities in Australia and New Zealand. It is a three-hour, multiple-choice test covering logical reasoning and problem solving, understanding people, and non-verbal reasoning. The 2015 UMAT Information Booklet can be downloaded from the UMAT website at http://umat.acer.edu.au.

Which universities require UMAT?
The UMAT website lists the following universities as requiring UMAT for medicine and other health science courses for entry in 2016.

- The University of Adelaide (SA) – Medicine, Dental Surgery
- Bond University (QLD) - Medicine
- Charles Darwin University (NT) - Clinical Sciences
- Flinders University (SA) - Clinical Sciences/Medicine, Vision Sciences
- La Trobe University (VIC) – Health Sciences (Dentistry), Oral Health Science
- Monash University (VIC) – Medicine
- The University of Newcastle/University of New England (NSW) - Joint Medical Program
- University of New South Wales (NSW) - Medicine, Optometry
- The University of Queensland - Medicine (provisional entry for school leavers), Dental Science
- University of Tasmania - Medicine
- The University of Western Australia - Medicine (assured entry), Dental Medicine (assured entry)
- University of Western Sydney (NSW) - Medicine
- University of Auckland (New Zealand) - Medicine
- University of Otago (New Zealand) - Medicine, Medical Laboratory, Dental Surgery

Please note that at select institutions international students may be exempt from taking UMAT or may be required to sit a different test. For details candidates should refer to the websites of the universities to which they intend to apply.

**What is the UMAT timeline in 2015?**

- 5 June 2015 Registrations close
- 29 July 2015 – Sit the test.
- Late September 2015 – UMAT results issued.

To register for UMAT in 2015 you must have either completed Year 12 or plan to complete Year 12 in 2015. Year 11 students cannot sit for UMAT.

**How do you prepare for UMAT?**

UMAT is an aptitude test. You cannot prepare for it by learning content. The best way to prepare for the test is to familiarise yourself with the type of questions on the test and to do timed practice tests. The UMAT Information Booklet has some example questions. You can purchase test booklets from the UMAT website.

There are several organisations that offer UMAT preparation workshops or online programs. For example:


It is recommended that you research these organisations (websites, previous students, etc.) before deciding to invest in a preparation program.
Study tips

It is the start of a new school year. This is the perfect time to polish your study skills before the demands of study become too hectic. To help you with this task, the Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand website at http://www.charteredaccountants.com.au/Students/Study-resources has tips on the following study skills.

- Better exam performance
- High school to university survival guide
- Guide to time management
- Improving concentration
- Learning to study checklist
- Managing exam stress
- Memory tips
- Staying motivated
- Tips on good notetaking
- Writing essays and papers
Youth Enrichment Activities

Chrysalis 2015

Applications for the 2015 Chrysalis International Young Leaders Conference are open to international and Australian students. The theme of Chrysalis 2015 is ‘Leadership as Conflict Resolution’ and will focus on three main questions:

- Is conflict a normal part of all human interactions? Can conflict be beneficial?
- Is developing a greater intercultural awareness key to resolving conflict in today's world?
- Is effective leadership crucial to successful conflict resolution?

The program will run from Sunday 28 June 2015 - Sunday 5 July 2015. Applications close on 28 March 2015. For more information, visit http://chrysalisyoungleaders.org/.

Join the Queensland YMCA Youth Parliament (QYP)

Are you interested in community issues? Think you can do a better job than our current politicians? If you are between 15 and 25 years of age, you are invited to apply to become a member of the QYP. QYP is a Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority accredited educational program (participation can contribute credit to your Queensland Certificate of Education). The application form and details about the program can be accessed at http://www.ymcaqyp.org/. Nominations for 2015 are now open.
‘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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