Why do I need a White Card to do work experience on a construction site?

Construction sites are dangerous places. Consequently, all workers on a construction site, even work experience students, must have knowledge of the possible hazards they may encounter and how to manage them.

The White Card is issued at the end of the Building and Construction General Safety Induction course. This is a short course that covers general safety for the construction industry. Courses are delivered face-to-face or online. Some training organisations have a discount price for students. The following are a sample of organisations that offer the course.

- HIA (classroom course) telephone 3846 1298
- Narbil Training (online course) [http://www.narbiltraining.edu.au/](http://www.narbiltraining.edu.au/)

Do an Internet search to find other White Card courses. Note that the White Card approved for Queensland may not meet the requirements for all states and territories in Australia.
Important information for Year 11 and 12 students wanting to apply to the Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA)

Year 11 students considering applying for a place at the ADFA are encouraged to commence their applications now. To do this call 131901 or use the online tool at [http://www.defencejobs.gov.au/](http://www.defencejobs.gov.au/). It is not too late for Year 12 students to start their application but you need to start the process as soon as possible.

Join the Australian Air Force Cadets (AAFC)

Any young Australian who is between the ages of 13 and 18 years and is physically fit enough to participate in the activities is welcome to join the AAFC. Through this organisation you will gain important life skills in leadership, self-reliance, self-confidence, self-discipline, self-respect, good communication, teamwork and citizenship. You will also have an opportunity to experience life in the Air Force. Visit [http://www.aafc.org.au/](http://www.aafc.org.au/) to find out more.
Free career information resources

Visit the Graduate Opportunities website at http://www.graduateopportunities.com/ to access free downloads and ebooks that can help you with your career exploration. The resources on this site include:

- Career information booklets on careers such as engineering, the environment, human resources, ICT, law, marketing, media and the arts, nursing and midwifery, social work, science and teaching
- ‘Your Career and You’ – a self-assessment booklet to help you gain awareness of your skills and abilities
- ‘Where the grads go 2014’ – information about what jobs students get into after they finish university and how much they earn
- 2014 Graduate Opportunities ebooks.

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 this.

What is career decision-making?

- Career decision-making is not 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, the media, the income you can earn).

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 can be found on the myfuture website at http://www.myfuture.edu.au/ (sign up to create your Career Profile) and the Career Quiz section of the Job Outlook website at http://joboutlook.gov.au. Another useful site with questionnaires is Career Quest at http://www.careers.govt.nz/tools/
• Use the Bullseye Posters on the myfuture website to explore jobs related to your favourite school subjects (search for ‘Bullseye posters: explore occupations by school subject’) to add to your job ideas list.
• Your guidance officer/counsellor or career adviser can help you develop your job ideas list.

How do I explore my job ideas?

• Use your research skills.
• Read about the jobs on your job ideas list – use myfuture, the Job Guide (http://www.jobguide.education.gov.au/) and Job Outlook.
• 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.

As you can see, career decision-making requires some effort; but aren’t you worth it?
**Under the Radar Youth Short Film Competition**

This competition is for filmmakers under the age of 21. As part of the St Kilda Film Festival, the competition provides an opportunity for young filmmakers to show their work in an internationally recognised film festival. Entries close in March 2014. For details, see [http://www.portphillip.vic.gov.au/under-the-radar.htm](http://www.portphillip.vic.gov.au/under-the-radar.htm).

**Youth Against Rubbish Competition 2014**

This competition runs in conjunction with the Clean Up Australia Day campaign to be held on the 2 March 2014. To enter you must be 13 – 19 years of age and registered as a volunteer at a Clean Up Australia Day site (see [http://www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au/](http://www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au/)). All you have to do is submit three before and after photographs and write a paragraph about your day. Entries open on the 21 February and close on 9 March 2014. For details, visit [http://www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au/about/competitions/youth-against-rubbish-competition-2014](http://www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au/about/competitions/youth-against-rubbish-competition-2014).
Access Programs at CQUniversity (CQU)

CQU has two access programs that provide pathways to further education. These are:

**Skills for Tertiary Education Preparatory Studies (STEPS)** is a program that provides students with the skills they need to be successful at university. It is available at CQU campuses in Brisbane, Bundaberg, Gladstone, Mackay, Noosa and Rockhampton. For more information, see [http://www.cqu.edu.au/study/special-programs/enabling-programs/steps](http://www.cqu.edu.au/study/special-programs/enabling-programs/steps).

**Tertiary Entry Program (TEP)** is provided by Nulloo Yumbah (CQU’s Indigenous Learning, Spirituality and Research Centre) to ensure that university studies are accessible to all Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders. Read more about this program at [http://www.cqu.edu.au/study/special-programs/enabling-programs/tep](http://www.cqu.edu.au/study/special-programs/enabling-programs/tep).

**AFTRS online short courses**

The Australian Film, Television and Radio School (AFTRS) will offer the following online short courses during Semester 1, 2014.

- Screenwriting for Film: online – starts 25 February
- Houdini: Introduction to Pyrotechnics: online – starts 2 March
- Introduction to Music Composition for the Screen: online – starts 3 March
- Houdini: Introduction to Fluid Dynamics: online – starts 6 April
- Introduction to Animation Basics: online – starts 29 April
- Houdini: Introduction to Lighting, Rendering and Compositing: online – starts 4 May


**Brisbane’s first chiropractic degree launched**

Earlier this month, the B Science (Chiropractic) was launched at the Brisbane campus of CQUniversity (CQU). The successful completion of this degree qualifies students to apply for entry to the Master of Chiropractic Science, which is the professional qualification required for registration as a chiropractor in Australia.
The B Science (Chiropractic) is a three years full-time degree offered at CQU’s Brisbane and Mackay campuses in Queensland. The subject prerequisites for the course are English and one of Biology, Chemistry or Physics. The cut-off for this course in the January 2014 offer round was OP12 for the Brisbane campus and OP14 for the Mackay campus. For more information about this course do a degree search on the CQU website at [http://www.cqu.edu.au/](http://www.cqu.edu.au/).

**Career tool on the ACU website**

In the ‘Future Students’ section of the Australian Catholic University (ACU) website there is a free career questionnaire that can help you discover your strengths, abilities and personality style and the jobs that match these. It also links the jobs that come up for you with ACU courses.

Go to [http://www.acu.edu.au/study_at_acu/future_students/undergraduate](http://www.acu.edu.au/study_at_acu/future_students/undergraduate), click on ‘Discover your dream career’ and register to do the questionnaire. Shortly after completing the questionnaire, you will be emailed a comprehensive report.

**Careers that started in science**

The Faculty of Science at the University of Queensland has gathered the profiles of scientists who have used their qualifications to gain entry into a diverse range of interesting and rewarding jobs and now work worldwide. The profiles can be accessed from [Careers that started in science](http://www.science.uq.edu.au/career-profiles) at [http://www.science.uq.edu.au/career-profiles](http://www.science.uq.edu.au/career-profiles).

**Indigenous Connections at the USQ Springfield campus**

The USQ (University of Southern Queensland) Indigenous Connections offers a great opportunity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from Years 7 to 12 to learn about the importance of higher education and to experience what university is all about. This event will be held on 14 March 2014 at the USQ Auditorium, Springfield campus.

See your guidance officer or career adviser if you would like to attend this event, as you are required to register through your school. More information can be accessed at [http://www.usq.edu.au/news-events/events/2014/03/indigenous-connections-springfield](http://www.usq.edu.au/news-events/events/2014/03/indigenous-connections-springfield). The due date for registrations is 21 February 2014.

**Interested in an Arts degree but don’t know where it will lead?**

The Faculty of Arts at the University of Queensland has produced a brochure, *Careers that Inspire*, which gives examples of careers that started in Arts. The brochure can be downloaded at [http://www.uq.edu.au/schools/publications/ArtsCareers2014.pdf](http://www.uq.edu.au/schools/publications/ArtsCareers2014.pdf).

**Interested in engineering – find out about The Engineering Link Group (TELG)**
TELG offers several programs for secondary school students aimed at helping them to explore and better understand the career opportunities available to them in the field of engineering. These programs include:

- Engineering Link Project (ELP)
- Enterprise Management Project (EMP)
- International Engineering Experiences for Students and Teachers.

ELP is a three-day program specifically for Year 11 and 12 students who may be considering engineering as an option when they leave secondary school. During the program students meet engineers from different fields of engineering and participate in solving engineering problems. The TELG calendar of events for 2014 can be found at [http://www.telg.com.au/2014Projects.html](http://www.telg.com.au/2014Projects.html). The ELP events of interest to Queensland students include:

- Central Queensland Engineering Link Project at CQUniversity, Rockhampton Campus from 1 – 3 July 2014
- Far North Queensland Engineering Link Project at James Cook University, Cairns Campus, Qld on 17 and 18 July 2014
- North Queensland Engineering Link Project at James Cook University, Townsville Campus, Qld on 21 - 23 July 2014
- South Queensland Engineering Link Project at The University of Queensland, St Lucia Campus on dates to be advised.

You can submit an early expression of interest for ELP events by completing the form at the bottom of the calendar of events. You can sign up to receive the TELG newsletter at [http://www.telg.com.au/](http://www.telg.com.au/).

**International College of Hotel Management (ICHM)**

ICHM, located in South Australia, is the only Swiss Hotel Association institution outside of Europe. It offers a dual B Business and B Hotel Management course. During the course, students have an opportunity to learn a language and to experience an industry placement in Australia or overseas. Visit [http://www.ichm.edu.au/](http://www.ichm.edu.au/) for more information.

**Like a good argument? Enter the High School Mooting Competition**

This competition is conducted annually by Bond University. It involves teams of students from different schools competing against each other in a legal argument. Read more at [http://www.bond.edu.au/faculties/law/events-and-competitions/high-school-mooting-competition/index.htm](http://www.bond.edu.au/faculties/law/events-and-competitions/high-school-mooting-competition/index.htm) and talk to your Legal Studies teacher or guidance officer/counsellor about forming a school mooting team.

**Martin College, Gold Coast open day**
The Martin College of Business, Technology and Design offers accredited advanced diploma, diploma and certificate courses in business, IT, graphic design, events and tourism. It will hold an open day on Saturday 8 March 2014 at its Gold Coast Campus. See http://www.martincollege.edu.au/ for more information about this event and to RSVP.

**Short courses in design**

The Australian Institute of Creative Design (AICD), with campuses on the Gold Coast and in Brisbane, offers accredited advanced diploma, diploma and certificate courses in interior design, fashion design, fashion business, styling, photography, visual arts, textile design, make-up and beauty therapy. It also offers short courses on weekends and during school holidays. Go to http://www.aicdedu.com.au/, click on ‘Our courses’ and look for the short courses.

**Support for students with disabilities**

All universities offer services to support students with a disability. The following are links to disability support services at Queensland universities.

- Australian Catholic University [http://www.acu.edu.au/study_at_acu/future_students/parents_information/student_services_and_support](http://www.acu.edu.au/study_at_acu/future_students/parents_information/student_services_and_support)
- University of Southern Queensland [http://www.usq.edu.au/current-students/services/disability-resources/support](http://www.usq.edu.au/current-students/services/disability-resources/support)

The following websites may be of assistance to students with disabilities.

- Strategies for students with ASD from La Trobe University [http://www.latrobe.edu.au/otarc/your-questions-answered/support/students](http://www.latrobe.edu.au/otarc/your-questions-answered/support/students)

Australian Network on Disability website focuses on providing information for employers. However, it does contain resources that may be of interest to students. [http://www.and.org.au/](http://www.and.org.au/)

**Updates from Griffith University (GU)**

**Griffith Honours College**

High achieving school leavers who meet the eligibility criteria can apply to be part of this career-enhancing program. The College provides a range of experiences including mentoring, leadership development, international study, work and research, networking and social events. Year 12s apply to the College when they submit a Sir Samuel Griffith Scholarship/Honours College application, usually in November.

**Resources for Year 12s**

The GU Future Students website at [http://www.griffith.edu.au/future-students](http://www.griffith.edu.au/future-students) has a section specifically for Year 12 students that will give you some ideas about what university is like and how to apply.

**New degrees for 2014**

- B Industrial Design, Gold Coast
- B Occupational Therapy, Gold Coast
- B Science, Gold Coast and Nathan
- B Psychological Science/B Criminology and Criminal Justice, Gold Coast

Find out about these degrees by using the search function on the GU home page at [http://www.griffith.edu.au/](http://www.griffith.edu.au/).

**Year 12 bonus admissions scheme**

Under this scheme Year 12 students who have successfully studied nominated senior subjects will receive bonus admission ranks to study at GU. You can receive:

- two bonus ranks for passing Maths C and/or a language other than English.
- one bonus rank for completing the GUEST or an equivalent program.


**Want to learn more about music and/or prepare for a music audition?**


The Open Conservatorium, within the Queensland Conservatorium at Griffith University, offers a range of different programs for all ages. See http://www.griffith.edu.au/music/open-conservatorium for details about these programs.

One of the programs of interest to students wanting to go on to study music at tertiary level is the tertiary preparation workshop. This workshop is designed to prepare students for the theoretical and practical aspects of the audition process. The workshop is from 30 June – 4 July 2014. For more information, go to http://www.griffith.edu.au/music/open-conservatorium/tertiary-preparation-workshop.

What is it like to be a student at the University of the Sunshine Coast (USC)?

Find out about the ‘Life of a USC student’ at http://www.usc.edu.au/study/study-at-usc/open-day-and-information-events/update-me#Future. This site enables you to follow current USC students as they experience university life. While you are on this site, register to receive the USC future student newsletter. Show your parents the section specifically for them.
The Tuckwell Scholarship

This scholarship was first offered last year. It is a generous scholarship available for students applying to study at the Australian National University (ANU) in Canberra. Applications for 2015 will open on 3 March 2014. Visit http://tuckwell.anu.edu.au/ for information about the selection criteria and the three-stage application process.

ANU also offers a National Undergraduate Scholarship based solely on academic merit. See http://students.anu.edu.au/scholarships/ug/fut/dom/ for more information about this scholarship.
Antipodeans Abroad

This organisation has a GapBreak program. With this program, students aged 17-20 years travel in groups to countries in Africa, Asia, North America, South America and Europe. They live and work in a community teaching English, working in orphanages, building schools, working on environmental and animal conservation projects or teaching sport. Visit http://www.antipodeans.com.au/Home.htm for details about the program and information events.

Attend a gap year program information session

A good way to research gap year programs is to attend an information session. At these sessions you can gather information, ask questions and, usually, talk to young people who have used the program.

- 17 February 2014 - Camp America information session in Brisbane, see http://campamerica.com.au/.
- 26 February 2014 – WEP information session on the Sunshine Coast, see http://wep.org.au/info/node/1587.

Camp America

Camp America organises summer camp jobs in the US for Australian students. The jobs are usually nine-week adventures in which participants experience living and working in the USA with others from all over the world. Visit http://campamerica.com.au/ for more information.

Letz Live
This organisation organises a number of programs including gap year experiences working in boarding schools in the UK, Canada and Thailand. Other programs include working in the USA and UK and volunteering in a number of developing nations. See http://letzlive.org/ for more details of these and other programs offered by Letz Live.

Projects Abroad

Projects Abroad is a volunteer abroad organisation. Its projects provide an experience in which you can contribute to as well as become a part of a community in one of 28 countries. Projects include teaching, conservation, sports and health care. Visit http://www.projects-abroad.com.au/ for more information.

Southern Cross Cultural Exchange (SCCE)


World Education Program Australia (WEP)

Through WEP students have an opportunity to travel and study at an overseas school with the support of a volunteer host family. Find out more about WEP at http://wep.org.au/info/.
Construction careers

According to ‘Employment Outlook to 2017’ (http://lmip.gov.au/default.aspx?LMIP/EmploymentProjections) employment in the construction industry is projected to grow in the next few years. To find out about construction jobs, visit the Be Constructive website at http://www.constructmycareer.com.au/. Parts of this website are under construction, however the following sections are useful:

- About: Wages and industry information
- Career planning: Job information sheets, aptitude quizzes, pathway charts and stories of people working in the construction industry.
- Videos: Videos of construction jobs

Links: Website links to professional and industry associations.

Explore jobs in health care, construction and food service

The Right Choices website at http://www.maketherightchoice.com.au/index.html has information on jobs and training in the healthcare (child care, aged care, allied health), construction (carpentry, plumbing, electrician) and food service (food and beverage, kitchen operations) industries.

Interested in joining the Queensland Police Service?

Young people can apply for entry to the Queensland Police Service at the end of Year 12 once they are 18 years of age. The specific eligibility requirements are listed on the Police Recruitment website at http://www.policerecruit.qld.gov.au/.

The Queensland Police Recruiting Unit will be holding information seminars in Brisbane and regional centres during February and March 2014. For details about these sessions and to book a place, see http://www.policerecruit.qld.gov.au/seminars/.

If you are unable to attend a seminar, you can visit the Police Recruiting Centre at 30 Makerston Street, Brisbane. Alternatively, you can call 1300 232 267 or email recruiting@police.qld.gov.au to make an appointment to speak to a recruitment officer.

Learn more about jobs in real estate
The Real Estate Institute of Queensland (REIQ) regularly presents ‘Introduction to Real Estate’ information 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.

The next session will be held on the Sunshine Coast at 5.30 pm on Wednesday 4 March 2014. Bookings are required. Visit http://institute.reiq.com/REIQ/Home/REIQ/Default.aspx (click on ‘Careers & Training) for details about this event and future events.

Want to be an accountant in the future?

The Institute of Chartered Accountants Australia has developed resources and networks for students (university and high school) interested in a future career in accounting. For example, its ‘OneNetwork’ web page provides career tips, job advice, competitions and events. For more information, visit http://www.charteredaccountants.com.au/Students/OneNetwork.aspx.

What careers use mathematics?

The Australian Mathematical Sciences Institute has developed a website containing 21 career profiles that require mathematical skills. The website can be found at http://www.mathscareers.org.au/. Also you can find out about people who use maths and stats every day on the Mathematics of Planet Earth blog at http://mathsofplanetearth.org.au/category/blog/a-coffee-with/.
The career expo that never stops

The Virtual Careers Expo at [http://www.virtualcareersexpo.com/](http://www.virtualcareersexpo.com/) provides non-stop information about occupations, employment and study opportunities across Australia.
How are OPs and FPs calculated?

OPs (Overall Position) are used for tertiary entrance purposes in Queensland. FPs (Field Positions) are used by tertiary institutions to help differentiate between students with the same OP. For more information about OPs and FPs visit the Queensland Studies Authority website at [http://www.qsa.qld.edu.au/570.html](http://www.qsa.qld.edu.au/570.html). You can download the following publications from this site.

- **OP fast facts**
- **Calculating OPs: The basic principles**
- **Eligibility for Field Positions (FPs)**

How do I find the OP/Rank cut-offs for university courses?

Cut-offs are the OP/Rank of the last QTAC applicant to gain entry into a course before all the available places are filled. Cut-offs are not normally predetermined. They can change from year to year as they are determined by the:

- number of places available in the course
- number applicants who meet the minimum requirements
- OP/Rank of those applicants.

For example, the following are the OP cut-offs in the QTAC January offer round for two courses in selected years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>UQ B Arts</th>
<th>QUT B Creative Industries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>OP8</td>
<td>OP6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>OP12</td>
<td>OP12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>OP10</td>
<td>OP8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>OP12</td>
<td>OP10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OP myths

The following information is from the May 2013 edition of the Student Connect magazine. The Queensland Studies Authority (QSA) publishes this magazine twice a year for Year 12 students.

Myth: Some subjects are worth more than others.

Fact: All subjects are treated equally in the calculation of OPs, and you can achieve a high OP, including an OP1, with any combination of subjects. In 2012, there were 702 OP1 students. They studied 391 different Authority subject combinations!

Myth: There is a bias in favour of certain schools.

Fact: Students, not schools, are awarded OPs. The procedures followed for the calculation of OPs are exactly the same for students at every school.

Myth: Students in a small group or small school are disadvantaged.

Fact: The QSA has special procedures in place for small groups and small schools to ensure students are not disadvantaged. Subject achievement indicators are assigned differently and the scaling processes are adjusted to make sure that OPs reflect students’ performances fairly.

Myth: My school can predict my OP.

Fact: Only the QSA has all the necessary data to calculate OPs. Any prediction your school makes is only a guide.

Myth: QSA allocates the number of OP 1s for each school in advance.

Fact: QSA does not set a quota of OP1s or any other OP rank for a school. OPs and FPs compare the performance of students, not schools, across the state.
Goal setting: You don’t have to be an expert flowchart

This flowchart is from the ‘Your Future Beyond High School’ brochure that can be downloaded from the Bond University website at http://www.bond.edu.au/study-at-bond/your-future-beyond-high-school/index.htm. The steps in the flowchart consist of practical strategies to help you set and achieve your goals for this year and beyond.

Support for senior students

The Desk at https://www.thedesk.org.au/ has been developed by the University of Queensland to help students cope with the ups and downs of study and life. While it has been developed for tertiary students, senior students may find it helpful.

The Desk covers topics such as study skills, stress management and communication skills. It also has a number of self-development tools. Do one of the quizzes on the website to get started.

The website includes a ‘Freaking Out! Get Help’ button with links to helpful websites. Senior students using this website should follow up any personal concerns they have with their guidance officer/counsellor.
Youth Enrichment Activities

Have your say through the Australian Youth Forum (AYF)

The AYF is the Commonwealth Government’s strategy to engage with young Australians. It gives young people between 15 - 25 years of age the opportunity to have their ideas heard. AYF involves young people in direct communication with the Government through a number of ways including the AYF website and forums. For more information and to have your say, visit http://www.youth.gov.au/sites/youth/ayf/.
'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.'