Apprenticeships with Aurizon

Aurizon Holdings provides rail and road-based freight services across Australia. The company offers apprenticeships in the following areas:

- Electrical Tradesperson
- Telecommunications Tradesperson
- Mechanical and Diesel Fitters or Mechanical Fitter and/or Turner
- Heavy Fabrication (Boilermaker)
- Surface Trimmer
- Power Traction Linesperson.


Automotive, technical and parts apprenticeships

Students can apply for automotive apprenticeships with major vehicle manufacturers across Australia through Vantage Automotive Pty Ltd. Visit [http://www.vantageautomotive.com/](http://www.vantageautomotive.com/) and click on ‘Apprenticeship Programs’ for more information.

Certificate II in Plumbing and Certificate I in Construction

TAFE Queensland SkillsTech will offer this 18-month combined program commencing mid-August 2016 at its Alexandra Hills Training Centre. Students will attend from 8 am – 4 pm each Wednesday (school holidays excluded). Students must be in Year 11. The program is subsidised by the Queensland Government. Students who successfully complete the program will obtain seven QCE credits (three credits for Certificate I/four credits for Certificate II). Contact the TAFE at Schools team on phone 3244 0376 or email schools.skillstech@tafe.qld.edu.au to nominate. Nominations close on 29 July 2016.

The My Skills website

This website at [http://www.myskills.gov.au/](http://www.myskills.gov.au/) provides a national directory of vocational education and training (VET) courses and providers. On the site you can search by type of course, job title or industry. The information provided includes:
• An overview of each course as well as course details
• A list of course providers
• Career and course pathways
• Employment outcomes and average salary.

A list of Government supported courses, case studies, VET FEE-HELP calculator for eligible courses, skills in demand in each state and overall student outcomes are included on the site.
Australian Defence Force (ADF) Information Sessions

Joining the ADF is not just a career decision, it is also a lifestyle decision. Consequently, it is important to do your research. Attending an information session lets you explore your options and talk to people already in the ADF. Consider attending one of the following sessions:


See [https://www.facebook.com/DefenceJobsAustralia/events](https://www.facebook.com/DefenceJobsAustralia/events) for details of these information sessions. You can also find information sessions about the Army Reserve on this site.
Career Quiz app

The Career Quiz on the Job Outlook website at http://joboutlook.gov.au/careerquiz.aspx can be downloaded as a free app from the iTunes store or Google Play. The quiz is useful for people who haven’t a clue about how to start exploring their career options.

Don’t know where to begin your career exploration?

One way is to first think about the school subjects you have studied and liked. Then go to the Career Bullseyes on the myfuture website at https://myfuture.edu.au/career-bullseyes. There are 33 subject area bullseyes you can choose from. Click on one that aligns with your favourite subject. The bullseye that comes up lists the occupations or jobs related to that subject.

The occupations/jobs are positioned within four levels. As explained at the bottom of the bullseye, these indicate the level of education/training normally required to get into the job. Click on a job that looks interesting within the level of education/training you aspire to.

You will be required to ‘Sign up’ (if this is the first time you have used myfuture) or ‘Log in’ to access information about this job. The information provided includes:

- An overview of the job, the tasks usually required, similar occupations and, usually, a video about the job
- The skill level, personal requirements and knowledge areas you will need for the job
- Suggested school subjects that would be a good foundation for the job
- Courses available in each state/territory
- The ‘Prospects’ section provides information on employment prospects (i.e. what are your chances of getting a job), salary levels, related industries (to expand your exploration) and helpful industry websites.

Explore the information for other jobs on the bullseye. You can also explore jobs related to your other favourite subjects. If all else fails and you are none the wiser about what you might like to do in the future, make an appointment to talk with your school Guidance Counsellor/Officer.
Competitions

Buy Smart Competition

Try your hand at creating an innovative way to present a consumer issue to an audience of your choice by entering this competition. It is open to Queensland students in Years 4 – 12. You can enter individually or in a group of up to six. The closing date is 16 September 2016. Find out more at http://www.qld.gov.au/buysmartcomp.

Country to Canberra Leadership Competition

Each year Country to Canberra runs the Leadership Competition. This year the competition will enable at least 10 young rural women to win an all-expenses paid trip to Canberra to meet inspiring politicians and CEOs, attend exclusive events, tour Parliament, and receive a day of leadership and public speaking training from organisations like TEDxCanberra. The competition opens on 27 July and closes on 9 September 2016. Visit the website at http://countrytocanberra.com.au/enter-the-competition/enter-the-competition for details.

Haywire

If you’re aged 16 - 22 and live outside the big cities, you can enter a story about your life and the issues affecting your community in the Heywire competition. Entries close 16 September 2016. Winners of this competition are invited to take part in the annual Heywire Regional Youth Summit in Canberra. Find out more at http://www.abc.net.au/heywire/competition/.

Science Trivia Challenges

Griffith University will hold these challenges as part of National Science Week. Students from Year 5 to 12 can enter. The challenges will be held on the Gold Coast and Brisbane South. If this sounds interesting, talk to your science teacher about entering the challenge. For more information, see http://scienceontheago.griffith.edu.au/events/science-trivia-challenge-2/ for the Gold Coast challenge and http://scienceontheago.griffith.edu.au/events/science-trivia-challenge-2-2/ for the Brisbane South challenge.

The 2016 Queensland Science Contest
Registrations are now open for this contest. To enter, you need to choose a contest category (Scientific Investigations, Engineering and Technology Projects, Classified Collections, Communicating Science, Environmental Action Projects and Mathematical Investigations). Fill out your entry form online and pay $5 per individual entry before 9 October 2016. Complete your project and send or bring your entry to the University of Queensland on Friday 14 or Saturday 15 October 2016. For more information, visit http://www.staq.qld.edu.au/queensland-science-contest.
Australian Film, Television and Radio School (AFTRS) applications for 2017

AFTRS, located in Sydney, offers a B Arts Screen with specialisations in Cinematography, Directing, Documentary, Editing, Producing, Radio, Screen, Screen Business, Screen Design, Screen Music, Screenwriting, Sound and 3D Animation. Entry to the course is by direct application to AFTRS between late July and 30 November 2016. This is a competitive course and students are selected on the basis of merit. Specific course details and application tasks will be available on the website at https://www.aftrs.edu.au/degrees/new-bachelor-of-arts shortly.

Mary McConnel School of Early Childhood

The Mary McConnel School is located at Shafston College, Kangaroo Point, Brisbane. It offers a Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care, including vocational placements as part of the course. VET FEE-HELP is available for eligible students. Interested students can contact the school to arrange a tour of the campus. Find out more at http://www.mmsec.edu.au/.

Mater Education Certificate courses

In addition to its D Nursing, Mater Education, located in Brisbane, offers the following certificate courses.

- Certificate III Allied Health Assistant – This course trains students to work in assistant roles in areas such as physiotherapy, occupational therapy, podiatry, social work and speech pathology. See http://matereducation.qld.edu.au/Courses/health-admin-support-pathology/Certificate-III-in-Allied-Health-Assistance#sthash.mDy1ENuX.dpuf
- Certificate III Health Services Assistance – This course prepares students for work in roles such as assistant in nursing, patient care attendant, personal carer, orderly and wards person. See http://matereducation.qld.edu.au/Courses/health-admin-support-pathology/Certificate-III-in-Health-Services-Assistance.

There are two intakes per year into these courses. Each course includes a two-week vocational placement. Certificate III guarantee is available for eligible students. Employment outcomes on graduation are good. These courses could be used as taster courses for students unsure of their interest in health occupations.
Open Universities Australia (OUA)

OUA offers online higher education courses. Through OUA, students can:

- Study online, so they have flexibility about when and where they study
- Choose from a large range of undergraduate courses
- Select individual undergraduate units instead of a whole course
- Study with Australian universities e.g. Monash, Griffith, Macquarie, Curtin, RMIT, Swinburne University of Technology, University of South Australia and many more
- Graduate with the same qualification as an on-campus student
- Access online support services.


Queensland Writer’s Centre (QWC) Qld Core Skills Masterclass

QWC’s Youth Program is for young writers between 12 – 18 years of age. It provides an opportunity to learn new skills and techniques. QWC is offering a Queensland Core Skills Masterclass from 10.30 am – 3.30 pm on Saturday 6 August 2016 at the QWC Offices located in the State Library of Queensland at South Brisbane. The Masterclass is designed to help writers in Years 11 and 12 develop high quality ideas in an exam situation. See [http://www.qwc.asn.au/events/youth-program/faranda-qcs-aug/](http://www.qwc.asn.au/events/youth-program/faranda-qcs-aug/) for details.

Snippets from the University of Southern Queensland (USQ)

Creative Arts auditions – Within the B Creative Arts at USQ there are five areas of specialisation (Film, Television and Radio; Music; Theatre and Visual Arts). Applicants for the Music, Theatre and Visual Arts specialisations are required to contact USQ or visit the website at [http://www.usq.edu.au/audition](http://www.usq.edu.au/audition) to register for an audition and/or interview. This site has links to admission requirements and tips for auditions/interviews/portfolios. Audition/interview dates are:

- Toowoomba – Monday 28 November 2016 and Monday 13 February 2017
- Springfield - Wednesday 30 November 2016.

Open Days – The open day website at [http://www.usq.edu.au/study/open-day](http://www.usq.edu.au/study/open-day) provides information about the 2016 open day programs at USQ campuses. Register on this website to receive update emails. Open day dates are:

- 7 August - Toowoomba Campus
- 14 August – Ipswich campus
- 21 August - Springfield campus.

TASTE in the September holidays
The Agricultural Skills and Technology Experience (TASTE) is a program for Year 10 – 12 students held at Emerald Agricultural College and Longreach Pastoral College during school holidays. The four-day program is designed to help young people explore the career options available in the rural industry. The next TASTE program will be held:

- 25 – 29 September 2016 at Emerald Agricultural College
- 25 – 29 September 2016 at Longreach Pastoral College

TASTE is a very popular program, so apply early. For more information and to download the 2016 TASTE flyer, visit http://www.qatc.edu.au/Learn%20with%20us/Pages/TASTE.aspx. This site also provides information about sponsorships and scholarships to help students pay the cost of the program.

The Australian Institute of Applied Sciences (AIAS) free Beauty Showcase

AIAS will hold this event from 10 am – 12 noon on Saturday 13 August 2016 at its Brisbane Beauty Campus, 28 Old Cleveland Road, Stones Corner. The event is for beauty lovers, especially those interested in entering the beauty industry. AIAS offers diplomas in Beauty Therapy and Salon Management. It also provides nationally accredited courses in Natural Medicine, Massage, Community Services, Counselling and Allied Health. For more information and to RSVP for the Beauty Showcase, visit http://www.aias.edu.au/about/upcoming-events/beauty-showcase-brisbane.

The University of Queensland (UQ) news

B Politics, Philosophy and Economics (Honours) (PPE) – This four-year degree will be offered for the first time in semester one, 2017. It is designed for high achievers interested in creating change through a leadership role in politics, business, the community or academia. Prerequisites for the course are English (4, SA) and Maths B (4, SA). Find out more about the course at https://bel.uq.edu.au/bppehons.

Associate Degree in Business: An alternate pathway for Year 12s – This is a four trimester course offered by UQ College at St Lucia campus. There are no subject prerequisites. Successful completion of the course will satisfy English and Maths A prerequisites and provide a pathway, with credit (depending on the course), into UQ degree programs. You apply through QTAC for this course. The cut-off for entry in 2016 was OP 16/ Rank 65. Read about the course at http://www.uqcollege.edu.au/programs.php.

International student applications to UQ – International students currently completing Year 12 or IB in Australia must apply to UQ through QTAC. More information about the application process is available at https://future-students.uq.edu.au/apply/undergraduate/international/how-apply/current-year-12-international-applicants.

Engineering and Technology Careers Evening – This event will be held at 5 pm on Thursday 18 August 2016. The evening program will provide you with information
about UQ’s Engineering and IT courses and give you an opportunity to hear from recent graduates about their experiences in the industry so far. You can access the full program and register to attend at https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/engineering-and-technology-careers-evening-2016-tickets-25590190950.

Japanese Language and Careers Engagement Forum – High school students currently studying Japanese are invited to attend this forum to be held from 3.30 – 6.30 pm on Tuesday 14 September 2016 at the St Lucia campus. Industry representatives and UQ graduates will share insights and experiences from their careers in Japanese business environments. Register your interest to attend by email to Bronwyn May at events@languages-cultures.uq.edu.au. See https://languages-cultures.uq.edu.au/event/1525/japanese-language-and-careers-engagement-forum for more information about the event.

Pharmacy Experience Day – This event will be held from 10 am – 1 pm on Sunday 21 August 2016 at the Pharmacy Australia Centre of Excellence (PACE) at Woolloongabba. The program for the day includes an information session on UQ’s B Pharmacy, a mini-lectures about pharmacy, hands-on activities, an opportunity to meet current students, show bags and a sausage sizzle. Register to attend at http://www.uq.edu.au/pharmacy/begin-your-career.

University of the Sunshine Coast (USC) updates

Imaginarium - This is USC’s Open Day. It will be held from 10 am – 2 pm on Sunday 7 August 2016 at the Sippy Downs campus. On the website at http://www.usc.edu.au/imaginarium#/ you can plan your open day and register for an information session. If you haven’t a clue about what to study, visit the ‘Superpowers’ section on the site for help. You can also enter to win a ‘Superhero Transformation’!

Meet USC at Gympie – This event will be held from 1 – 4 pm on Wednesday 17 August 2016. It is an opportunity to explore the study options available and to check out the campus. Register to attend at http://www.usc.edu.au/learn/courses-and-programs/meet-usc#usc-gympie.

B Business at USC Brisbane – Students can study this course at USC’s Brisbane campus, located on the TAFE Queensland Brisbane South Bank campus. The majors/specialisations available are Accounting; Financial Planning; Human Resource Management; International Business; Management; Marketing; Supply Chain Management; Tourism, Leisure and Event Management. Read about the course at http://www.usc.edu.au/learn/courses-and-programs/bachelor-degrees-undergraduate-programs/bachelor-of-business.

Scholarships – USC Semester one 2017 undergraduate scholarship applications will open on 1 August and close on 31 October 2016. Visit http://www.usc.edu.au/learn/what-will-i-pay/scholarships for a list of available scholarships.

- B Laws/B Environmental Management
- B Midwifery
- B Recreation and Outdoor Environmental Studies


Updates from Griffith University

More new courses – The following are new and restructured courses for 2017:

- B Education – The first year of this course will cover fundamental teaching principles. Students choose to specialise in primary or secondary education from second year onwards. The degree can be completed in 3.5 years. See [https://www.griffith.edu.au/study/education/education-primary-secondary](https://www.griffith.edu.au/study/education/education-primary-secondary).
- B Design – This course will be offered at the Gold Coast campus with majors in 3D design, fashion design, graphic design, interior design, publication design and visualisation. See [https://www.griffith.edu.au/study/visual-creative-arts](https://www.griffith.edu.au/study/visual-creative-arts).
- B Laws/B Asian Studies – This new double degree will prepare students for careers in professional legal practice and opportunities in foreign affairs, foreign trade, business consultancy, defence and security agencies. See [https://degrees.griffith.edu.au/Program/1544](https://degrees.griffith.edu.au/Program/1544).

B Midwifery information session – This event will be held from 5.30 – 7 pm on Wednesday 27 July 2016 at the Logan campus. It will provide an overview of the admission processes for the course, including academic, clinical and continuity of care requirements. To confirm your attendance, email bmidcpo@griffith.edu.au or phone 3382 1476.

Reminder about audition applications – Audition/folio applications for the following courses must be submitted to the Queensland Conservatorium by Monday 15 August 2016.

- B Music
- B Music Technology
- B Musical Theatre
- B Popular Music

Interested in Chinese language and culture? – Chinese immersion courses will be available at the Nathan and Gold Coast campuses during the September and December school holidays. Find out more at https://www.griffith.edu.au/tourism-confucius-institute/programs-courses/school-holiday-immersion-courses.

Updates from the Queensland University of Technology (QUT)

QUT offers through QTAC this year – QUT will make offers to Year 12 students at the following times for entry in semester one 2017:

- **From 18 November** for all additional entry courses in the Creative Industries Faculty, except B Fine Arts (Acting) and B Design (Honours) (Fashion); Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students will receive offers through the Oodgeroo Unit’s Centralised Assessment Selection Program
- **From 1 December** for B Fine Arts (Acting)
- **From 21 December** (when Year 12 results are available) for applicants who are eligible for an offer (i.e. have a competitive OP/rank and meet any prerequisites) in their highest eligible preference; elite athletes
- **January major offer round** will still be the main offer round for the majority of QUT courses.
- **February offer round** will be used to fill any course vacancies.

Where bonus entry ranks (e.g. Entry bonus scheme, EAS, elite athlete bonuses) or alternative Year 12 results (e.g. IB) are available, they will be included for early offers. Otherwise students will be included in the January offer round. Don’t panic if you don’t get an early offer. Remember, most offers will still be made in the major offer rounds. You will be able to check your application on the QTAC applicant portal for advice about your eligibility for courses. More information at https://www.qut.edu.au/study/undergraduate-study/do-you-advice-school-students/news-and-events (scroll down and click on ‘QTAC early offers: What student’s need to know’).

Additional course costs and requirements – These apply to some courses. They could be for uniforms, vaccinations, course materials, etc. See https://www.qut.edu.au/study/fees-and-scholarships/additional-compulsory-course-costs for 2016 costs.

Fashion illustration for beginners – Registrations are now open for the November 2016 course. The course will provide you with the foundations for creating a portfolio of fashion illustrations using industry-standard design software. Visit https://www.qut.edu.au/study/short-courses-and-professional-development (Click on Creative, design and performance’) for more information.

Considering a double degree? – Visit the QUT website at https://www.qut.edu.au/study/undergraduate-study/double-degrees to read about the advantages of undertaking a double degree and how it works. There is also information on how to apply for double degrees and a list of double degree programs at QUT.
Moving to Brisbane to study? – The QUT website at https://www.qut.edu.au/study/undergraduate-study/moving-to-brisbane-to-study provides essential information for students moving to Brisbane to study at QUT.

Caboolture Open Day – Check out the courses offered and the campus at Caboolture on Sunday 21 August 2016. Register for Open Day to win a MacBook Air and start planning your day at https://www.qut.edu.au/study/events/caboolture-campus-open-day.
Future proof jobs and new jobs

An article on the Workforce Blueprint website states that while there are jobs that will be taken over by robots and automation in the future (e.g. commercial pilots, legal work, technical writing, telemarketers, accountants, retail workers and real estate sales agents), many other current jobs will continue to be in demand. These include construction managers, medical and health services managers, sales representatives, registered nurses, market research and marketing specialists, software systems developers, teachers and specialist physicians. But what about the jobs that don’t exist yet? The article lists the following predicted jobs.

- Future Currency Speculator – a virtual currency market expert
- Productivity Counsellor – to provide advice on a range of topics (e.g. wellness, time management) to help employees improve their value to employers
- Microbial Balancer – needed to assess the composition of new forms of bacteria
- Crowdfunding Specialist – expert advisers to help fundraisers promote their causes
- Privacy Consultant – an expert to manage and safeguard our digital information.


What do I need to know when I start a job?

The Fair Work Ombudsman website at [http://www.fairwork.gov.au/find-help-for/young-workers-and-students](http://www.fairwork.gov.au/find-help-for/young-workers-and-students) has a number of resources that can help. These include:

- Guide to starting a new job
- Starting a new job online course
- Guide for young workers.
Grants for young women

Layne Beachley and her Aim for the Stars Foundation invites Australian females aged 12 years of age and above who need funding to achieve goals in their sporting, academic, community, business, environmental or cultural pursuits to apply for a 2017 grant. The application due date is 17 November 2016. Find out more at http://www.aimforthestars.com.au/.

Low Income Health Care Card

Students may be eligible for this card if they are on a low income and meet the Low Income Health Care Card income test (this card is not subject to an assets test). Find out more at http://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/services/centrelink/low-income-health-care-card.
Selected upcoming gap year program information events

Projects Abroad will hold an information evening from 6.30 – 7.30 pm on Tuesday 26 July 2016 at Hotel George Williams, 325 George Street, Brisbane. Register to attend at http://www.projects-abroad.com.au/more-info/information-events/.

Southern Cross Cultural Exchange will hold the following information evenings from 7 – 9 pm on Tuesday 26 July 9 August 2016 at Ruth Fairfax House, 89-95 Gregory Terrace, Brisbane. See http://www.scce.com.au/programs/information-sessions/#QLD for more information.

World Education Program Student Exchange will hold the following information evenings in Queensland.

- 7 – 8.30 pm on Wednesday 27 July and 24 August 2016 at Fulton Trotter Lounge, 129 Leichhardt Street, Spring Hill, Brisbane
- 7.30 – 9 pm on Wednesday 10 August 2016 at Quest Mackay on Gordon, 27 Gordon Street, Mackay
- 7 – 8.30 pm on Monday 8 August 2016 at Aitkenvale Library, 4 Petunia Street, Aitkenvale, Townsville
- 6.30 – 8 pm on Wednesday 31 August 2016 at Lake Kawana Community Centre, 114 Sportsman’s Parade, Bokarina, Sunshine Coast


Camp America’s 2017 Season Launch will be held at 6.30 pm and 8 pm on Tuesday 23 August 2016 at George William Hotel, 317-325 George Street, Brisbane QLD 4000. Visit http://campamerica.com.au/events/2016-season-kick-off-brisbane-queensland/ to register to attend.

AFS Intercultural Programs Australia will hold an online information session from 7 pm on Tuesday 9 August 2016. Visit http://www.afs.org.au/news-and-events/event/?event_id=4115 for details.

YFU Student Exchange

This program arranges for young people, 15 – 18 years of age, to travel and study in a number of overseas countries from two months to 12 months. Students live with a volunteer host family, attend a local school and have the support of the YFU network. Visit the YFU website at http://www.yfu.com.au/ for details of the program.
GUMURRII Student Support Unit open nights

This unit provides support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students attending Griffith University campuses. It will hold open nights from 5 – 7 pm on Tuesday 16 August 2016 at the Nathan campus and Thursday 18 August 2016 at the Gold Coast campus. Information about support services, programs, study options and direct entry pathways will be provided. Register to attend at https://www.griffith.edu.au/gumurrii-student-support-unit/programs. For more information, contact GUMURRII Gold Coast staff on gumurrii-gc@griffith.edu.au.

Indigenous Scholarships

The Aspiration Initiative website at http://theaspirationinitiative.com.au/ has an Indigenous Scholarships section. This section has information about going to university and applying for scholarships. It also has a list of ‘Featured scholarships’. The Bond University Indigenous Scholarship (applications due on 31 July 2016) is on this list.

InspireU - Junior Engineering camp

The camp is for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in Years 9 and 10 who are interested in studying engineering. The camp is run by staff from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Unit (ATSIS Unit) at The University of Queensland, St Lucia campus over four days from 26 - 30 September, 2016. If you wish to apply for InspireU Junior 2016 you will need to complete the application form provided by 5 pm 31 August 2016. For more information, contact inspireu@uq.edu.au or phone 07 3365 7417. More information at https://www.eait.uq.edu.au/inspireu.
National Science Week

In 2016, Science Week will be held from 13 – 21 August. Visit the website at http://www.scienceweek.net.au to find Science Week activities near you. The website has lots of resources and ideas for holding your own Science Week event.

National Student Volunteer Week

National Student Volunteer Week celebrates young people who make a difference through volunteering. It will be held from 8 – 14 August 2016. Visit http://nationalstudentvolunteerweek.org.au/ and click on ‘Events’ and ‘Queensland’ to see events that will be held during the week.
Occupational Information

10 things to ask a health professional

When seeking information about health science occupations, it is important to talk to people who are already in the job. These conversations can be very valuable, especially if you prepare questions in advance. The following questions are suggestions from the My Health Career website at https://www.myhealthcareer.com.au/career-university/what-to-ask-a-health-professional.

- What aspects of the career do you like the most or find to be the most rewarding?
- What aspects of the career do you dislike the most or find to be the most challenging?
- What aspects of the profession do students/graduates find to be the most challenging as they are going through the course or entering the workforce?
- What are the differences between how the average person perceives the profession and what you actually do on a day-to-day basis?
- What are the characteristics or personal attributes of a successful practitioner in your profession?
- Please outline a standard case and an unusual case you have come across.
- How much money could a new graduate, experienced practitioner or business owner expect to make?
- What are the different branches or areas of specialization in the profession?
- Has the profession changed over the time of your involvement?
- Looking forwards, where are the opportunities and threats in the profession?

I want to be a pilot but I’m not sure I’m suited for the job

If you are unsure about your aptitude to be a pilot, you could investigate sitting for a pilot aptitude assessment at Aviation Australia. Find out more from the Pilot Aptitude Assessment website at http://www.aviationaustralia.aero/pilot-aptitude-testing/.

ICT for girls

A good resource for female students interested in ICT is the Dot Diva website at http://www.dotdiva.org/. This site profiles women who have made a difference through computing.

Interested in being a police officer?
Visit the Queensland Police Recruiting website at [http://www.policerecruit.qld.gov.au/](http://www.policerecruit.qld.gov.au/) to begin your exploration. Click on ‘Recruit Entry’ to find out about the entry requirements and how to prepare yourself for a police career. Attending a seminar is also very useful (click on ‘Seminars’) as you get an opportunity to ask questions about the job. The ‘Academy’ section of the site will give you information on the Queensland Police Service Academy.
Australian College of Applied Psychology (ACAP) information session

ACAP provides accredited diploma and degree courses in counselling, psychology, case management, coaching, social science, social work and youth work. ACAP’s Brisbane campus will hold an information session at 6 pm on 17 August 2016. Visit http://www.acap.edu.au/ to register your attendance.

Aviation Careers Expo 2016

This event will be held from 10 am – 4 pm on Saturday 20 August 2016 at Aviation Australia, 15 – 25 Boronia Road, Brisbane International Airport. Aviation industry exhibitors, including Defence Force Recruiting, will be at the expo to talk about pathways to a career in aviation. Register to attend the event at http://www.aviationaustralia.aero/events/ace/.

Design College Australia Open Haus

This college offers an accredited Advanced Diploma in Visual Communication within which students can specialise in graphic design or photography. It also offers diploma courses in graphic design and photography. VET FEE_HELP is available for eligible students. The college will hold and Open Haus from 10 am – 3 pm on Saturday 6 August 2016 at its Brisbane campus in Fortitude Valley. Register to attend at http://www.designcollege.com.au/events-and-workshops/open-haus/.

IDP Brisbane International Students Expo

This event will be held from 11 am – 4.30 pm on Friday 5 August 2016 at the Brisbane City Hall. It will give international students a chance to talk to representatives of education institutions from around Australia. Visit https://www.idp.com/australia/studyabroad/events/events-in-brisbane/2016/08/idpbrisbaneaugustexpo2016 to register to attend. Share the expo with your friends and be in the draw to win an Apple iPad Mini.

JMC Academy Open Day

JMC offers diploma and degree courses in the areas of contemporary music performance, audio engineering and sound production, film and television production,
3D animation, entertainment business management and game development. FEE-HELP is available for degree courses for eligible students. It will hold an open day at its Brisbane campus from 10.30 am – 2.30 pm on 6 August 2016. Register to attend and download a program for the day at http://www.jmcacademy.edu.au/events/open-days/register-for-our-next-open-day-2016-(1).

**Open Days for Brisbane THINK Education colleges**

THINK Education is a network of colleges of higher education offering courses in design, business, hospitality management, natural therapy and beauty therapy. All of its Brisbane colleges will hold an open day on 13 August 2016 from 10 am – 2 pm. Use the following links for event details and to explore the courses offered by each college.


THINK Education colleges offer an Early Entry Program in which students applying now for entry in 2017 can get an early conditional offer for the course they want before the end of the year. The colleges also offer scholarships with application due dates starting in August 2016 for 2017 courses.

**SAE Qantm Open Day**

This institute offers degree courses in the fields of animation, audio, design, film, games and web and mobile. FEE HELP and VET FEE-HELP are available for eligible students. SAE Qantm will hold an open day from 11 am – 3 pm on Saturday 6 August 2016 at its Brisbane campus in West End. The program on the day will include interactive demonstrations of equipment and facilities, student work displays, information sessions and entertainment. Register for the open day and attend the event for your chance to win one of two GoPro Hero4 Black. Visit [https://sae.edu.au/news-and-events/events/](https://sae.edu.au/news-and-events/events/) to register.

**Selected interstate tertiary institution open days**

If you are thinking of applying for university studies interstate, you will need to begin your research as soon as possible. Information you should seek, includes:

- Location of the institution (does it have more than one campus?)
- Courses offered, entry prerequisites, previous ATAR cut-offs (go to the Year 12 Comparison Table at [http://www.qtac.edu.au/applications/apply-here/applying-interstate](http://www.qtac.edu.au/applications/apply-here/applying-interstate) to see a comparison between ATARs and OPs)
- Cost of accommodation and when to apply
You can obtain much of this information from the websites of the institutions. Attending an open day would also be useful. The following are a selection of 2016 interstate open days:

**Australian Defence Force Academy:** Saturday 27 August  
[https://www.unsw.adfa.edu.au/openday/](https://www.unsw.adfa.edu.au/openday/)

**Australian Maritime College, Tasmania:** Sunday 7 August  
[http://www.amc.edu.au/openday](http://www.amc.edu.au/openday) (Queensland students can apply through QTAC for courses at this institution)

**Australian National University, Canberra:** Saturday 27 August  
[http://www.anu.edu.au/study/choose-anu/open-day-2016](http://www.anu.edu.au/study/choose-anu/open-day-2016)

**Monash University, Victoria:** 6 and 7 August  
[http://www.monash.edu/open-day](http://www.monash.edu/open-day)

**University of New South Wales:** Saturday 3 September  
[http://www.futurestudents.unsw.edu.au/open-day](http://www.futurestudents.unsw.edu.au/open-day)

**University of South Australia** Sunday 14 August  

**University of Tasmania:** Sunday 7 August  

**University of Western Australia** Sunday 14 August  

**The University of Melbourne:** Sunday 21 August  
[https://openday.unimelb.edu.au/](https://openday.unimelb.edu.au/)

**The University of Sydney:** Saturday 27 August  

**The Ultimate Uni Checklist**

This checklist, produced by the University of the Sunshine Coast, will help you gather information about your future study options as you attend open days, career markets and expos this term. The checklist can be accessed at [http://checklistusc.com.au/](http://checklistusc.com.au/). It consists of questions you can ask the institutions you are considering. You could add your own questions to the checklist.
Upcoming Career Markets and Expos

Don’t miss out on career expos in your area.

27 July - **Charters Towers Careers and Opportunities Expo** at the Dalrymple Trade Training Centre, Charters Towers


8 August - **Townsville Careers Expo** at the Townsville RSL Stadium [http://www.careersevent.com/townsville/](http://www.careersevent.com/townsville/)

9 August - **Proserpine Careers Expo** in the Multi-Purpose Hall at Proserpine State High School [https://proserpineshs.eq.edu.au](https://proserpineshs.eq.edu.au)

10 August - **Mackay Careers Expo** at Souths Mackay, South Mackay [http://www.mackaycareersexpo.com/#about](http://www.mackaycareersexpo.com/#about)

Upcoming Queensland tertiary institution open days

These events are a must attend for students interested in studying a tertiary course in 2017.

28 July - **Queensland SkillsTech** Open Day at Alexandra Hills, Acacia Ridge, Bracken Ridge and Eagle Farm training centres [http://tafeskilltech.edu.au/](http://tafeskilltech.edu.au/)

31 July - **Queensland University of Technology** at Gardens Point Campus, from 9 am – 3 pm. Start planning your day and register for a chance to win a MacBook Air, at [https://www.qut.edu.au/study/events/qut-open-day](https://www.qut.edu.au/study/events/qut-open-day)


6 August – **CQUniversity Bundaberg campus** from 9 am – 1 pm [https://www.cqu.edu.au/campaigns/opendays/bundaberg](https://www.cqu.edu.au/campaigns/opendays/bundaberg)

7 August – **University of the Sunshine Coast Sippy Downs campus** from 10 am – 2 pm. You can plan your day and register for an information session at [http://www.usc.edu.au/imaginarium#/](http://www.usc.edu.au/imaginarium#/)

7 August – **University of Queensland St Lucia campus** from 9 am – 3 pm. Visit [https://future-students.uq.edu.au/open-day](https://future-students.uq.edu.au/open-day) to download the open day program and plan your day.
7 August – James Cook University Cairns campus from 11 am – 3 pm
https://www.jcu.edu.au/open-day

7 August – University of Southern Queensland Toowoomba campus from 10 am – 2 pm. Register to attend and book your Career Exploration consultation at
http://www.usq.edu.au/study/open-day/toowoomba

11 August - CQUUniversity Brisbane campus from 3 – 6 pm

13 August – CQUUniversity Mackay campus from 9 am – 1 pm
https://www.cqu.edu.au/campaigns/opendays/mackay

14 August – University of Southern Queensland Ipswich campus from 10 am – 1 pm. Register to attend and book your Career Exploration consultation at
http://www.usq.edu.au/study/open-day/ipswich
Elite athlete entry bonus schemes for students applying to university

Elite athlete programs recognise sporting excellence. Successful applicants have usually competed at state, national or international level in their chosen sport. While many universities are recognised as ‘Elite Athlete Friendly’ institutions and offer sports scholarships, the following universities offer entry bonuses to elite athletes.

- **Australian Catholic University**’s Elite Athlete and Performer Program [http://www.acu.edu.au/study_at_acu/alternative_entry/elite_athlete_program](http://www.acu.edu.au/study_at_acu/alternative_entry/elite_athlete_program)
- **Queensland University of Technology**’s Elite Athlete Special Entry Program [https://www.qut.edu.au/study/applying/undergraduate-applications/special-entry-programs](https://www.qut.edu.au/study/applying/undergraduate-applications/special-entry-programs) (scroll down and click on ‘Elite Athletes’)
- **Griffith University**’s Elite Athletes Program through the Griffith Sports College [http://www.griffith.edu.au/griffith-sports-college](http://www.griffith.edu.au/griffith-sports-college)
- **University of the Sunshine Coast**’s Elite Athlete Bonus [http://www.usc.edu.au/learn/how-do-i-apply/entry-pathways/access-usc-bonus-scheme](http://www.usc.edu.au/learn/how-do-i-apply/entry-pathways/access-usc-bonus-scheme) (scroll down to ‘Elite Athlete Bonus’)

Fixed closing dates

Some courses have fixed closing dates. These are usually courses that require interviews, folios or auditions. In addition, some course requirements may be needed earlier that the QTAC on-time application due date of 30 September 2016. A list of most of these courses and their required closing dates or due dates can be found on pages 20 and 21 of the QTAC Guide. They are also listed for relevant courses in the ‘Courses with applications through QTAC’ section of the Guide, starting from page 29. Examples of early fixed closing dates:

- 15 August – Audition applications for UQ Music
- 15 August – Audition and folio application for Queensland Conservatorium courses
- 31 August – QTAC applications and JCU Application Form submissions from international students for medicine and dentistry (see pages 108 and 109 of the QTAC Guide).
- 9 September – Registration with QUT for Creative Industry courses with additional entry requirements (see page 20 of the QTAC Guide).
Fixed closing date information is also available on the QTAC website at http://www.qtac.edu.au/key-dates--fees/fixed-closing-dates. Note that if you don’t meet the due dates, you will not be considered for the course.

How are applicants selected for courses through QTAC?

Entry to many of the courses you can apply for through QTAC is competitive. Consequently, many institutions use specific selection criteria to select students. Once institution admission rules are met (i.e. English Language Proficiency – automatic for most domestic students; age requirements – generally 18 years or completion of Year 12) selection is based on:

- meeting minimum entry requirements for the course (these may include subject prerequisites, a folio; interview or audition; tests or questionnaires; the successful completion of a course; and age), and
- merit (based on OPs and FPs or a QTAC Selection Rank).

Through the QTAC process, eligible applicants (i.e. those who meet the entry requirements) are considered in order of merit (i.e. OP or QTAC Selection Rank). In very simplistic terms, the OP or Rank of the last person to get into the course before all places are filled becomes the cut-off for that course in that offer round.

What is a QTAC Selection Rank?

A QTAC Selection Rank is:

- a number given to a qualification
- on a scale from 1 to 99 (highest/best)
- derived from a QTAC or institution specific schedule.

Your school guidance officer/counsellor can show you a schedule that compares OPs with QTAC Selection Ranks. Examples of qualifications that may be allocated a QTAC Selection Rank for a Year 12 QTAC applicant include:

- Year 12 results e.g. OP Ineligible students are allocated a QTAC Selection Rank when they apply for tertiary courses through QTAC
- Certificates III and IV, Diplomas
- Some Music, dancing and speech and drama qualifications.

Worried about missing out on updates from QTAC?

QTAC has introduced a new Desktop notification system that will enable you to receive the latest key dates and information vital to your QTAC application. To subscribe, go to the QTAC website at http://www.qtac.edu.au/ (on both your home and school computers) and select the bell symbol in the bottom right-hand corner of the home page. Note that Desktop notifications are available on Chrome and Safari browsers only. Another plan is to connect with QTAC on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube for important news and information.
The laws of learning

The following laws of learning and remembering are oldies but goodies.

• **Primacy** – We tend to remember material that is presented first or early in the lesson.
• **Recency** – Work completed most recently is often best remembered.
• **Frequency** – The more often material is presented or revised the more likely it is to be remembered.
• **Vividness** – Material that is presented in interesting, attention-getting ways is more likely to be remembered.

This information is adapted from *Study Smart*, Department of Education, Queensland.
Youth Enrichment Activities

National Mathematics Summer School (NMSS)

NMSS is a two-week residential school held each January at the Australian National University for mathematically gifted and talented senior high school students. It will be held from 8 – 21 January 2017. Queensland applications close on Friday 12 August 2016. Details about NMSS can be found at [http://nmss.edu.au/](http://nmss.edu.au/).
'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.'