NEWS FROM THE CAREERS ROOM

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

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

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

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

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

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

New Zealand Special Category Visa holders access to HELP loans

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

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


The Tuckwell Scholarship

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

ANU Scholarship Roadshow

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

• Brisbane on 24 February from 5.30 – 8 pm at the Brisbane City Hall
• Online on 3 March.

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

How do you become a qualified psychologist in Australia?

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

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

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

The second step is to complete one of the following:
- An accredited masters or doctoral degree
- An accredited graduate diploma in professional psychology plus one year of a PsyBA-approved supervised experience
- A two-year PsyBA-approved internship.

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

The following are useful resources:


**Career and tertiary expos in Queensland in 2016**

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

- 16 and 17 July - Tertiary Studies Expo (TSXPO) [http://www.careersevent.com/](http://www.careersevent.com/)

**New York Film Academy Open House**

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

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

University Open Days in Queensland in 2016

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

World Science Festival Brisbane

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

I am in Year 12. I want to go to uni in 2017. How do I apply?

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

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

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

Through QTAC you can apply for up to six courses at different institutions. However, you only receive one course in any given offer round. Connect with QTAC on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube at http://www.qtac.edu.au/ for important news and information.
You apply directly to Queensland education institutions that do not use the services of QTAC. Queensland students can apply for interstate courses through interstate tertiary admissions centres (the exception is Tasmania where you apply directly to the University of Tasmania). To find out more about universities in Australia and the courses they offer, visit:


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


A number of organisations offer preparatory courses for students who plan to sit for UMAT. These include:


Note the following from the UMAT 2016 Information Booklet:

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

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

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

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

- The University of New South Wales - Medicine, Optometry
- The University of Newcastle/University of New England - Joint Medical Program
• Western Sydney University - Medicine
• Charles Darwin University - Clinical Sciences
• The University of Queensland - Medicine (provisional entry), Dental Science
• The University of Adelaide - Medicine, Dental Surgery
• Flinders University - Clinical Sciences/Medicine
• University of Tasmania - Medicine
• La Trobe University - Health Sciences in Dentistry/Master of Dentistry, Oral Health Science
• Monash University - Medicine
• Curtin University - Medicine
• The University of Western Australia - Medicine (assured entry), Dental Medicine (assured entry)
• The University of Auckland - Medicine
• University of Otago - Medicine, Medical Laboratory Science, Dental Surgery

Note that to be eligible to sit for UMAT students must be in their final year of secondary schooling or higher. Year 11 students are not eligible to sit for UMAT.

Learning to study checklist

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

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