



ATCareers

Vol.6 2017

Apprenticeships & Traineeships

Busting Vocational Education and Training (VET) Myths

New research from McCrindle, commissioned by the Skilling Australia Foundation, found that many of the perceptions people have of VET are not based on fact. The following are the myths exposed in the research report.

Myth: VET graduates earn low wages

Fact: The median full-time income for a VET graduate is \$56,000. The median graduate salary for students completing a Bachelor's degree is \$54,000.

Myth: VET graduates struggle to find work

Fact: The proportion of bachelor degree graduates in full-time employment is currently at 69%. Comparatively, 78% of VET graduates are employed after training and 82% of graduates who participated in VET as a part of an apprenticeship or traineeship are employed after training. The graduate employment rate of VET students who train as part of a trade apprenticeship is as high as 92%.

Myth: VET is a thing of the past

Fact: According to the Commonwealth Government Department of Employment, the VET sector currently provides training courses for 9 out of 10 occupations predicted to have the greatest growth of new jobs over the next five years.

You can read the research findings in [Perceptions Are Not Reality: myths, realities and the critical role of vocational education and training in Australia](#). The employment outcomes for graduates of selected VET courses can be found on the [MySkills website](#) (scroll down to Student Outcomes at the bottom of the home page).

Australian Defence Force

Australian Defence Force information sessions

Brisbane – Tuesday 6 June 2017 at 6 pm - *Defence Careers Information Session* at Defence Force Recruiting Brisbane, Level 13, 295 Ann Street, Brisbane. Book your spot [here](#).

Brisbane – Wednesday 7 June 2017 at 6 pm - *Aviation Careers Information Session* at Defence Force Recruiting Brisbane, Level 13, 295 Ann Street, Brisbane. Book your spot [here](#).

Brisbane – Tuesday 13 June 2017 at 6 pm - *Australian Defence Force Academy Future Leaders Networking*

For details about these events and for information on Army Reserve Information Sessions, visit the [Defence Jobs Australia Facebook site](#).

How do I apply for the Defence Force?

You can apply online or ring 13 19 01. Visit the [Defence Recruitment Centre website](#) to find out if you are eligible to join and to access the six steps in the recruitment process. Each step has a video that explains what happens during the step. The six steps are:

1. Apply online
2. YOU Session
3. Assessment Session
4. Officer Selection
5. Fitness Test
6. Enlistment and Appointment.

Want to become an officer in the Australian Defence Force (ADF)?

There are many different pathways to becoming an officer in the ADF. Explore the following options:

- [Australian Defence Force Academy](#)
- [Royal Military College Duntroon](#)
- [Graduate entry](#)
- [Defence University Sponsorship](#)
- [Reserve](#).

Career Exploration

Follow your passion to select your career

We've all been advised to do this. However, some writers see problems with this approach to career decision-making. An article on the [80,000 Hours website](#), while agreeing that it is great to be passionate about your work, identifies four ways "follow your passion" can be misleading advice. The four problems with following your passion identified in the article are:

Problem 1. It makes it seem that passion is all you need.

Problem 2. Many people don't feel like they have a career-relevant passion.

Problem 3. It makes it sound like you can work out the right career for you in a flash of insight.

Problem 4. It can make people needlessly limit their options.

An accompanying article suggests that the following six ingredients are needed for a dream job:

- Work that's engaging
- Work that helps others

- Work you're good at
- Work with supportive colleagues
- Lack of major negatives
- Work that fits with the rest of your life.

Read the articles. What do you think? Would it be helpful to explore your career options using these ingredients? Also read 'How to ensure your career has a serious social impact' on the [Foundation for Young Australians \(FYA\) website](#).

Competitions

Bragg Student Prize for Science Writing

In the next decade, our global society faces major challenges in developing sustainable energy solutions, food sources, clean water, and waste management and in protecting biodiversity. This competition requires you to submit an essay describing one of the challenges we face, and present your ideas or past research into how we are currently addressing, or we could potentially address, this issue. The competition is open to all Australian secondary students in Years 7 – 10. You have until 20 August 2017 to submit your essay. Details about the competition can be accessed [here](#).

STUFFit Student Film Festival competition

This competition is organised by a committee of students from St. John's College, Nambour. It is a high school student film competition. There are nine categories and applications will close on 10 July 2017. The competition culminates in a festival which will be held on Saturday 7 October 2017 at Birch, Carroll and Coyle, Maroochydore. Visit the [Stuffit website](#) for details.

Courses & Institution Updates

Bond University Snippets

Experience Days – The following events will be held in June 2017. You need to register to attend.

- 7 June - [Careers in Actuarial Science and Commerce](#) - Experience a simulated trading environment with real market data and discover the emerging world of big data and the increasing impact it has on business, climatology, health, science, sport and technology.
- 8 June – [Careers in Sport Day](#) - Learn what a career in sport, physiotherapy, nutrition and dietetics or occupational therapy is like.
- 17 June – [Careers in Health](#) - This interactive day provides students with an opportunity to learn what a career in biomedical science, anatomy and medicine is like.
- 22 June – [Environments, Planning and Urban Design](#) - See how cities work and gain an understanding of the design processes involved in developing a local urban space.
- 28 June – [Communications and Digital Media](#) - You can tailor your studies to focus on film and television, journalism, digital media, computer games, advertising and public relations or keep your options open with a broad-based communications degree.

- 29 June – [Psychology Experience Day](#)- Find out about the fascinating study of the human mind.

Pathway to Occupational Therapy and Dietetics – The [B Health Science](#) at Bond is a 2-year accelerated degree designed for students who wish to explore a variety of disciplines in the health sciences. It can also provide a pathway to postgraduate specialised study, such as the Master of Occupational Therapy and the Master of Nutrition and Dietetic Practice.

Bond with Bond events in Brisbane and Townsville – These events provide an opportunity for students considering studying at Bond to learn about the courses available, the campus facilities, campus life, the fees and costs and scholarships. The [Brisbane event](#) will be held from 6 – 8 pm on Thursday 15 June 2017 and the [Townsville event](#) from 6 – 7.30 pm on Tuesday 27 June 2017. Registration is required for these events.

Griffith University events

Rock School – This event will be held from 8 - 12 January 2018 at Griffith University, Gold Coast campus, Southport. Participants will attend a series of workshops from experts in stagecraft and live sound, song writing, performance and recording. Applications close Wednesday 1 November 2017. There are 25 places in the program, so early application is advised. More information is available on the [website](#).

National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA) holiday courses in Brisbane

NIDA will hold short courses for students in [Years 3 – 6](#), [Years 7 – 10](#) and [Years 11 and 12](#) during the June/July school holidays at the Queensland Academy for Creative Industries at Kelvin Grove. One of the courses offered to the Year 11s and 12s is the NIDA Audition Preparation course. Students who book three weeks before the course start date will save 10% with NIDA's early bird discount.

Preparation courses for Aviation careers

The College of Aeronautical Science, located at St Johns College on University of Queensland campus, offers the following courses for students interested in a career in Aviation.

- Aeronautical Physics Bridging Course
- Aeronautical Mathematics Bridging Course
- Aptitude Selection Test Preparation for the Defence Force and commercial airlines

The Aeronautical Mathematics Curriculum is approved to meet the educational requirements for pilots/cadets applying for major commercial airlines and the Defence Force. The course can also be used as a Mathematics assumed knowledge for entry into Griffith University's B Aviation. Find out more on the [College website](#) and [Facebook page](#).

Programs at the University of Southern Queensland (USQ)

Head Start – This program provides high achieving students in Years 10 – 12 with an opportunity to start university studies while still at school. Applications for Semester two (10 July – 3 November 2017) are due on 5 June 2017. Visit the [Head Start website](#) for more information.

USQ's B Aviation – This is a three-year full-time (or part-time equivalent) course offered at the Springfield campus. The course has two majors – Aviation Management and Flight Operations. During the first year, all students complete core subjects on-campus. The Aviation management major students can complete their second and third years on-campus or online. During the second year of the program, the Flight Operations major students undertake flight training to obtain their Commercial Pilot Licence and Instrument

Rating. They can complete their third year on-campus or online. See the [USQ website](#) for further information about this course.

Queensland University of Technology (QUT) information

2018 course booklets – These publications are now available on the [QUT website](#). They include booklets for Business, Creative Industries, Education, Health, Law and Justice, and Science and Engineering. Other publications on the site include: Entry Pathways, Opportunities for International Baccalaureate students, Scholarships, A Quick Guide for Year 7-10 students, and the QUT Open Day program.

Assumed Knowledge – Most courses at QUT have [assumed knowledge](#) rather than subject prerequisites (B Education courses have prerequisite subjects). Students who do not meet the assumed knowledge requirements can gain entry to a course (if they also have a competitive OP or rank) but may find the course very difficult. Students in this situation are strongly encouraged to undertake [bridging courses](#) in the relevant subjects before they commence their studies at QUT.

QUT Entry Bonus Scheme – Under [this scheme](#) you can receive bonus ranks (not OPs) for successfully completing specific subjects. The specific subjects are Maths C, Languages other than English (LOTE), Engineering Technology (for entry to B Engineering) and university units.

QUT's OP Guarantee – Under [this scheme](#), if you get an OP 1 – 5 (or a rank of 93 or better), you are guaranteed a place in courses where this scheme applies. To find out if your preferred course is included in the OP Guarantee, check the entry requirements in the course information section on the [QUT website](#). Guaranteed entry is also offered to domestic students who complete an International Baccalaureate Diploma with a score of 33 or better. Bonus ranks you receive through the Entry Bonus Scheme count towards the OP/IB Guarantee. The OP Guarantee is only offered during the major QTAC offer round. You don't need to apply separately for the OP Guarantee, just complete your QTAC application on time.

Languages at QUT - You can incorporate language studies into many of the degrees at QUT as a minor (four subjects), second major (six subjects) or individual electives. Find out more about [language courses at QUT](#).

Open Day updates – On the day, you will be able to talk to QUT graduates about their studies at QUT and what they are doing now in their careers. Download a full program and register to win a MacBook on the [Open Day website](#).

QUT at career expos – Representatives from QUT will be at the [Brisbane Careers and Employment Expo](#) this Friday 2 and Saturday 3 June 2017. You will have an opportunity to ask questions about QUT courses and talk to current students about studying at QUT. QUT representatives also attend [regional career expos](#) during May, July and August.

Student Sharehouse – QUT students use [this blog](#) to share tales about life and study, including overseas exchanges, study stress, being a newbie and what's happening around campus.

School Holiday Filmmakers Bootcamp at QSFT

The [Queensland School of Film and Television](#) (QSFT) will hold this two-day filmmaking workshop on 5 and 6 of July 2017 at its campus at Annerley. The bootcamp is for students in Years 9 – 12. You can access an expression of interest in the bootcamp [here](#).

Screen, Media and Animation - Open Evening and Creative Industries Exhibition

The Open Evening for the Screen Media and Animation School at TAFE Brisbane will be held from 6 – 8 pm on Thursday 8 June 2017 at the South Bank campus. During the evening, there will be information sessions for the Certificate III in Screen and Media (TAFE in School and full-time), and related Diploma and Bachelor Degrees.

This event will coincide with CRE8. This is TAFE Qld's premier creative industries showcase event. The evening will be jam packed with diverse collections of free and interactive experiences and exhibitions showcasing student work. Visit the [TAFE Qld Brisbane website](#) for details.

Taste is almost here – a reminder

The Agricultural Skills and Technology Experience (TASTE) is a four-day program for high school students aged 15 and over to help them explore the many career options available in the rural industry. The program will be run in the June/July and September/October school holidays at the Longreach Pastoral College and the Emerald Agricultural College. The June/July 2017 program dates are:

- 25 – 29 June - [Longreach Pastoral College](#)
- 2 – 6 July - [Emerald Agricultural College](#)

Download a flyer from the [Taste website](#).

The University of Queensland (UQ) updates

Limited places available for the Experience Science workshops - Experience Science is a free event that provides students in years 10 - 12 the opportunity to discover what studying science is like at UQ and how science is applied in industry and everyday life. A few places are still available for school groups on Friday 7 July and Wednesday 12 July 2017 (13 and 14 July are booked out). Individual students can register for 7 July 2017. Visit the [Experience Science website](#) for details.

Stay up-to-date with UQ – You can [register](#) for UQ's e-newsletter to receive email updates with information tailored to your areas of interest, tips and tricks on the transition from high school to university and suggestions about transport and accommodation.

What's New at ACU (Australian Catholic University)?

Applications for the Early Achievers Program (EAP) for 2018 are now open – EAP at ACU considers the contribution you have made to your community through your school, local community organisations, cultural and/or religious groups (not just OPs) for entry to ACU courses. An additional benefit of this program is that successful applicants will receive an offer as early as August to study at ACU in 2018. Applications for this program are now open and will close on 17 July 2017. Visit the [EAP website](#) more information.

University Experience registrations now open – If you're considering tertiary study for next year or in the future, University Experience provides the perfect chance to explore your study options by living a day in the life of an ACU student. It will be held from 9 am – 3 pm on Thursday 6 July 2017 in the school holidays. For more information and to register, visit the [University Experience website](#).

Passion for Business (P4B) – P4B is an early entry program for students interested in a future business career. Successful applicants will receive an early offer to their chosen ACU business course; access to the ACU Business Mentoring program and Student Leadership Professional Development program; and textbook vouchers to the value of \$300. Applications close on 15 September and conditional offers will be given to successful applicants on 29 September. To apply:

- complete the P4B online application
- be studying or have studied an eligible business subject
- submit a 200-300-word response to the question; Why are you passionate about business?

Visit the [P4B website](#) for more information.

Education and Arts at ACU – Find out what it's like to study Education and Arts at ACU by watching the following videos.

- [Education](#)
- [Arts](#)

Employment

Places to search for jobs

There are many places to look for a job. It is important to include many sources as part of your job search plan. The following are some of the sources you could use.

Job board websites – These feature jobs advertised by employers and employment agencies. They usually allow you to search for jobs by keyword, occupation, location or employment type (e.g. full-time, part-time, casual). On some of the sites you can create a profile and upload your resume so employers can contact you if they have a job that suits you. Some examples of job board websites are: [Job Active](#), [Seek](#), [Adzuna](#), [Apprenticeship Central](#), [Indeed](#), and [Spot Jobs.com](#).

Company and organisation websites - Companies, organisations and government departments often advertise vacancies on their websites. Look for the 'Careers' or 'About us' section on the homepage. A helpful website that lists large employers in Australia is [Job Adviser](#).

LinkedIn - This has emerged as an important platform for finding job vacancies. Companies, organisations and government departments all advertise jobs on LinkedIn. If you create a career profile, [LinkedIn](#) will use information from your profile to show you jobs you may be interested in.

Networking – Have you heard the saying 'It's not what you know, it's who you know'? That's what networking is all about. There are formal networking events (e.g. Career and Employment expos) but you can also use your local and personal networks formed through school, community involvement, sport or hobbies. Let people in your network know you are looking for a job. They may know an employer who is looking for a worker. Visit the [Youth Central website](#) for more tips on networking.

Group Training Organisations - These employ apprentices and trainees and place them with 'host employers'. Visit the [Group Training Australia](#) website for more information about these organisations.

Newspapers - Daily, weekly, local, state and national

Newspapers - Daily, weekly, local, state and national newspapers usually have job advertisements on some days. The jobs are usually grouped by profession and industry but it pays to look through all sections as the job you want may be in a different section from the one you expect. The Saturday Courier Mail has a Jobs and Careers section.

Noticeboards - Noticeboards can be a source for local jobs, often based on a casual or part-time work arrangement. Keep an eye out for job vacancy notices in places like shop windows, shop counters, community noticeboards (often found at supermarkets, libraries and shopping centres), outside factory gates.

This information has been adapted from an article on the [myfuture website](#). Read the full article for more job search ideas.

Should I get a part-time job while I'm still at school?

The [Grow Careers website](#) lists the advantages and disadvantages of having a part-time job while you are still at school. Basically, the advantages are earning money, experiencing the world of work, gaining work skills and learning about your work-related interests. The disadvantages are mostly about having less time for study and other activities. The site has tips for managing a part-time job and for getting a part-time job. It also has a list of employers who provide part-time work to students. This is a useful site for anyone who eventually wants to get a job, part-time or full-time.

The jobs of the future – and two skills you need to get them

A recent article from the World Economic Forum (WEF) made the following points about jobs of the future.

- Five million jobs will be lost before 2020 as artificial intelligence, robotics, nanotechnology and other socio-economic factors replace the need for human workers. The good news is that those same technological advances will also create 2.1 million new jobs.
- Most new jobs will be in more specialised areas such as computing, mathematics, architecture and engineering.
- David Deming, a Harvard University researcher, argues that soft skills (social skills including empathy, cooperation, negotiation and sharing) will be crucial in the modern workplace where people move between different roles and projects.
- Deming has mapped the changing needs of employers and identified key skills that will be required to thrive in the job market of the future. He says that, along with soft skills, mathematical ability will be very beneficial.

Read the full article on the [WEF website](#).

The jobs of the future will be what robots can't do

[Dr Michio Kaku](#) is an American theoretical physicist, futurist, writer and populariser of science. He is a professor of theoretical physics at the City College of New York and CUNY Graduate Centre. Listen to him talk about jobs of the future on [YouTube](#).

What does 'Work Ready' mean to employers?

Employers today are looking for workers who have more than a qualification. They want employees to have specific attributes before they consider them suitable (or ready) for a job. The work readiness attributes employers want are listed in a small brochure produced by the Business Council of Australia. The brochure contains a table that lists the minimum expectations for an individual's work readiness when they apply for a job or soon after starting a job. These are:

- **Values** – Accountability, Continuous improvement, Honesty, Knowledge, Respect, Tolerance, Work ethic
- **Behaviours** – Adaptable, Authentic, Business-minded, Collaborative, Customer focused, Flexible, Globally aware, Self-aware, Resilient
- **Skills** – Business literacy, Critical analysis, Data analysis, Digital technology, Literacy, Numeracy, Problem solving, Technical skills.

You can read about each of these attributes in the 'Being work ready: A guide to what employers want' brochure on the [Business Council of Australia website](#).

Occupational Information

Quantity Surveying – What is it? What training do you need?

Behind every construction project, large or small, is a Quantity Surveyor whose responsibility it is to determine what the project will cost. Quantity Surveyors are also known as Construction Economists or Cost Managers. They might work in the private sector with consulting firms or construction companies, or in the public sector with government departments and authorities. Quantity surveyors must have orderly and analytical minds and be prepared to work to very rigid time schedules.

To become a Quantity Surveyor, you need to complete a Bachelor Degree. There are several degree options available. The Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors (AIQS) has produced the [AIQS Accredited Course Guide](#) that lists the courses that meet the educational standards relevant to the disciplines of quantity surveying and construction economics. The Queensland courses listed in the guide are:

- Queensland University of Technology (QUT): [B Urban Development \(Honours\) \(Quantity Surveying and Cost Engineering\)](#)
- Bond University: [B Construction Management and Quantity Surveying](#).

However, other courses may also be suitable, for example QUT's [B Property Economics](#). The AIQS recommends that students look for cadetship opportunities when they graduate or even while you are still studying. Most of this information is from the [AIQS website](#).

Take the plunge - Careers in water

The [H2Oz website](#) provides descriptions of jobs in the water industry in the following fields: Science and Environment; Engineering; Operations, Maintenance and Trades; Communication and Education; Policy and Planning; Corporate Services.

The Australian Border Force (ABF)

The ABF is the operational arm of the Department of Immigration and Border Protection. It manages the flow of people and goods across Australia's border. ABF officers are located at all international airports and seaports around Australia. ABF also has a Marine Unit which responds to reported or suspected border incidents and illegal activity in Australian waters. To join the ABF, you must be:

- An Australian citizen
- 18 years or over
- Able to meet minimum security requirements
- Able to meet medical, fitness, aptitude and psychometric requirements
- Willing to relocate to other ABF sites throughout Australia
- Able to complete Use of Force training, and be willing to carry and use personal defence equipment, including a firearm, if required.

Find out more about employment with the ABF on the [ABF website](#).

Open Days, Expos & Career Markets

Natural Health Open Day

Endeavour College of Natural Health will hold its Open Day from 10 am – 1.30 pm on Saturday 17 June 2017 at its campuses in Brisbane and on the Gold Coast. This will be an opportunity to check out the campuses and find out about the degree programs in natural health offered at Endeavour, as well as the educational pathways and study options available. The day will provide you with an opportunity to talk to lecturers and current students. Please register your attendance on the [Endeavour Open Day website](#).

New York Film Academy (NYFA), Gold Coast Open Day

NYFA offers accredited Advanced Diploma and Diploma courses in Film Making, Acting for Film and Screenwriting. It will hold its next open day from 10 am – 12 noon on Saturday 17 June 2017 at the Gold Coast campus. Note that students under 18 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. RSVP on the [NYFA website](#).

Queensland School of Film and Television (QSFT) Open Day

[QSFT](#) offer a Diploma and Certificate III in Screen and Media. The School will hold its next open day from 10 am – 12 noon on Saturday 17 June 2017 at the QSFT campus at Annerley. This is the perfect opportunity for you to gain knowledge about the creative industry and career path opportunities. You will hear from industry professionals, along with personal stories from current and alumni students. [Register](#) to attend this free event.

Shillington College Info Session

Shillington College offers accredited courses in Graphic Design. It will hold an [Info Session](#) starting at 6 pm sharp on Wednesday 31 May 2017 at its Brisbane campus on Level 7, 157 Ann Street. This session will feature a special panel of Shillington graduates, sharing their experiences and outcomes. You will have an opportunity to chat to the graduates and view current student work. Visit the [Shillington website](#) for more information about the College.

Overseas Studies

Study in the USA handouts and resources

[Internationally Educated](#) offers customised college search and application services for Australian students wanting to study in the USA. The following links are to handouts and resources on their website.

- [The US application process - a holistic approach](#)
- [The SAT and ACT Standardised Tests - Updated](#)
- [Resources](#)

Want to study in Hong Kong?

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) offers undergraduate degrees in the fields of science, engineering, business and management, information technology, humanities and social science. Courses are conducted in English. For information about international undergraduate admission to this institution, see the [HKUST website](#).

QTAC and Tertiary Entry

University school holiday tours

Explore your university options during the school holidays by taking a tour of the campus you are interested in.

- [Australian Catholic University](#)
- [Bond University](#)
- [CQUniversity](#) – contact each campus directly, see the menu at the bottom of the home page for contact information
- [James Cook University](#)
- **University of the Sunshine Coast** – use the [USC Campus Tour App](#) to do a virtual tour
- [The University of Queensland](#)
- **Queensland University of Technology** – tours of the Gardens Point campus will be conducted during [QUT's Open Day](#) on 30 July 2017
- **Griffith University** – tours of the Nathan and Gold Coast campuses will be offered during the [Twilight tours](#) events
- [Southern Cross University](#)
- [University of New England](#)

Study Skills

Study skill tips from USQ

The Social Hub on the University of Southern Queensland's website has lots of study skill tips. While the tips are written for university students, you will find them helpful for your high school studies. The following are links to a selection of the study skill tips on the site.

- [Does your motivation need a kick start?](#)
- [Five ways to boost your self-confidence](#)
- [Why you shouldn't study in bed](#)
- [Studying under the pump](#)

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