

Weekly Careers News for Victoria

August 10, 2026

© 2026 Study Work Grow. Member Schools are licensed to use this content within their school community, including in newsletters, social media, websites, virtual notice boards, and print.

Table of Contents

EVENTS..... 4

This Week's Events 4

Kmart & Target Christmas Casual Recruitment Briefing 2026
The Gordon TAFE Info Night, Geelong City
Melbourne Polytechnic Hospitality Courses Information Session, Preston
Chisholm Institute Info Day for Future Students, Frankston
La Trobe Open Day 2026, Mildura
Career Conversations @ Home – Helping Parents Have Positive Career Convo!
The Gordon TAFE Info Night, East Geelong
Bendigo TAFE Open Night, Charleston Road Campus
The Gordon TAFE Info Night, Werribee
Eastern College Open Night
University of Melbourne Physics Phantasy
Bendigo TAFE Open Night, Bendigo City Campus
Conservation Science Careers Webinar
ACAP Open Day 2026, Melbourne
ADFA Open Day 2026
SAE Open Day 2026, Melbourne
Deakin Open Day 2026, Geelong Waterfront
VU Open Day 2026, Footscray Park
University of Melbourne Open Day 2026
Federation Open Day 2026, Berwick
Monash Open Day 2026, Parkville
CSU Open Day 2026, Albury-Wodonga
La Trobe Open Day 2026, Albury-Wodonga
Deakin Open Day 2026, Geelong Warrn Ponds

Next Week's Events 10

Meet an Enviro Scientist Panel at La Trobe – for Year 7-12 Students
Swinburne Engineering Info Session
QTAC Student Information Night 2026
AIM August Open Day, Melbourne
Federation Open Day 2026, Ballarat
La Trobe Open Day 2026, Bendigo
ACU Open Day 2026, Ballarat
CSU Open Day 2026, Bathurst
Deakin Open Day 2026, Melbourne

Future Events 13

ACU Year 12 VCE Revision Webinars
 CQU Education Open Day Webinar
 GOTAFE Careers & Futures Expo
 Study medicine at Sydney
 Swinburne University Aviation Info Session for Future Students
 Admission to medicine at Sydney
 Victorian Skills & Careers Expo
 Wodonga TAFE Careers & Futures Expo
 Swinburne Health Info Session
 What to expect
 Collarts Open Day 2026, Melbourne
 Torrens University Open Day 2026, Melbourne
 LCI Melbourne Open Day 2026
 VU Open Day 2026, City Tower
 Melbourne Polytechnic Information Technology & Security Online Information Session
 Monash Information Evening – Webinar
 Torrens University Virtual Open Day 2026
 Study medicine at Sydney
 Admission to medicine at Sydney
 Chisholm Institute Info Day for Future Students, Dandenong
 Federation Nursing & Individual Support Information Session, Horsham
 Mission Control at Parliament House for Year 7-12 Students
 Whitehouse Institute of Design Fashion Illustration Workshop – Melbourne
 Whitehouse Institute of Design Studio Lighting and Fashion Photography Workshop – Melbourne
 Camp SEEK 2026 for Year 9-10 Girls & Non-binary Students
 AIM Music Theatre Audition Workshop, Melbourne
 RMIT University Student for a Day Experience for Year 10-12 Students
 Swinburne Innovation in Action for Year 10-12 Students
 CDW Studios Digital Art Holiday Workshop for Ages 14+ Melbourne & any age Online
 Create for a Day at SAE Melbourne
 It Takes a Spark STEM Conference for Year 4-10 Students and Teachers, Melbourne
 VU TAFE Open Night 2026, Sunshine Campus
 Deakin A Day in the Life of a Medical Imaging Student – Year 11 & 12, Geelong

SCHOLARSHIPS..... 22

Aspen Medical Foundation First Nations Health Scholarship
 Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (AusIMM) Undergraduate Education
 Endowment Fund Scholarships
 Larsen Jewellery Design Scholarship Program
 University of Melbourne Narm Scholarships
 The PSA Insurance Program in Dentistry for Rural Victoria Scholarship
 La Trobe John Richards Agricultural Scholarships
 Swinburne Access Scholarships
 La Trobe Vice-Chancellor's Excellence Scholarship (Aspire)

COMPETITIONS..... 23

Future Founders of Wyndham | Pitching Competition
 Immerse Education Essay Competition
 Write the World Micro Flash Fiction Competition 2026 for ages 13-19
 Global Logic & Reasoning Competition

WEEKLY POSTS..... 24

Study 24

How to understand 'command words' in assessment tasks and exam questions	
Study Tips, Time Management.....	28
How to catch up when you've fallen behind in a subject	
Job Spotlights	30
How to become a Community Liaison Officer	
Jobs & Careers	32
Pathways into Dentistry	
First Jobs, Study Tips.....	35
How to keep a part-time job from swallowing your study time	
Collaboration, Communication Skills, Study	36
How to handle uneven workload in a group assignment	
University, Vocational Education.....	38
What's the difference between full-time and part-time study?	
Health & Wellbeing, University	39
Making the leap from high school to university	

Events

This Week's Events

Kmart & Target Christmas Casual Recruitment Briefing 2026

Organisation: KMart Group

Location: Online

Date: August 10, 2026

Join the Kmart and Target recruitment team for an exclusive briefing on their 2026 Christmas Casual recruitment campaign. Learn about upcoming seasonal employment opportunities, the candidate qualities and availability requirements recruiters are looking for, and the application and selection process. This session will provide employment service providers with practical insights and tips to help participants prepare for and secure Christmas casual roles with two of Australia's largest retail employers.

[Find out more](#)

The Gordon TAFE Info Night, Geelong City

Organisation: The Gordon

Location: The Gordon, Geelong City Campus

Date: August 10, 2026

Info Nights are the perfect opportunity to explore life at The Gordon. You'll get to tour our campuses, meet our teachers, and find out more about the courses and career pathways that interest you. With presentations, classroom sessions in your chosen study areas, and the chance to ask questions, Info Nights help you make informed decisions about your future. Plus, if you're ready to take the next step, our friendly team can help you apply on the spot!

[Find out more](#)

Melbourne Polytechnic Hospitality Courses Information Session, Preston

Organisation: Melbourne Polytechnic

Location: Melbourne Polytechnic, Preston Campus

Date: August 10, 2026

Choosing a brand-new career path, knowing where to upgrade your skills or how to start doesn't need to be a decision you make alone.

Hosted by teachers who can answer questions and offer advice on your chosen field, our information sessions help you make an informed decision around your study and career options.

Find out more about the following course(s):

- Certificate III in Commercial Cookery - Non-apprenticeship
- Certificate III in Hospitality
- Certificate III in Patisserie
- Certificate IV in Hospitality
- Certificate IV in Kitchen Management
- Diploma of Hospitality Management

[Find out more](#)

Chisholm Institute Info Day for Future Students, Frankston

Organisation: Chisholm Institute

Location: Chisholm Institute, Frankston Campus

Date: August 12, 2026

Whether you want to start a new career, upskill in your current one or are still exploring your options, Info Day is your chance to experience Chisholm up close. Chat with our teachers, tour our campuses, and find out how we can support your study journey – for the better.

[Find out more](#)

La Trobe Open Day 2026, Mildura

Organisation: La Trobe University

Location: La Trobe University, Mildura Campus

Date: August 12, 2026

Why attend Open Day at La Trobe?

- Chat with current students, alumni and teachers to get first-hand advice about your dream course, or just about the best places to eat on campus.
- Explore the campus by yourself or join a guided tour. See our world-class health facilities, leading IT and science labs, business trading room, accommodation and much more.
- Discover your options for placements, internships and work-based learning, and get all your questions answered about your dream course.
- Get a taste of what it's really like to be at uni. Join events and activities or kick back and enjoy the campus – Open Day is the place to see it all.

[Find out more](#)

Career Conversations @ Home – Helping Parents Have Positive Career Convos!

Organisation: Arrive & Thrive

Location: Online

Date: August 12, 2026

Come join Tyson Day, the Co-Founder and Lead Facilitator of Arrive & Thrive, as he shares the best way to have impactful career conversations in and around your home environment that produce clarity, career discovery, and momentum. Tyson will share concepts and practices that he has learned through his 10+ years of experience in career education and the 85,000 students who have attended Arrive & Thrive workshops since 2019.

In our webinar, you can expect to learn:

- How can you positively influence your young person in their career decisions.
- How can you effectively navigate the future of work and understand your young person's options.
- How to communicate effectively through the GROW model to support your young person in career exploration.

We can't wait for you to join us!

All participants will receive a Career Conversation Kit to kick off conversations with their young person as soon as possible!

[Find out more](#)

The Gordon TAFE Info Night, East Geelong

Organisation: The Gordon

Location: The Gordon, East Geelong Campus

Date: August 12, 2026

Info Nights are the perfect opportunity to explore life at The Gordon. You'll get to tour our campuses, meet our teachers, and find out more about the courses and career pathways that interest you. With presentations, classroom sessions in your chosen study areas, and the

chance to ask questions, Info Nights help you make informed decisions about your future. Plus, if you're ready to take the next step, our friendly team can help you apply on the spot!

[Find out more](#)

Bendigo TAFE Open Night, Charleston Road Campus

Organisation: Bendigo TAFE

Location: Bendigo TAFE, Charleston Road Campus

Date: August 13, 2026

Bendigo TAFE is hosting an Open Night at our Charleston Road campus, giving you the chance to explore our courses, meet passionate teachers and tour our state-of-the-art facilities.

Whether you're considering a career in health, automotive, animal studies, trades or beauty – you're welcome to attend as many sessions as you like.

[Find out more](#)

The Gordon TAFE Info Night, Werribee

Organisation: The Gordon

Location: The Gordon, Werribee Campus

Date: August 13, 2026

Info Nights are the perfect opportunity to explore life at The Gordon. You'll get to tour our campuses, meet our teachers, and find out more about the courses and career pathways that interest you. With presentations, classroom sessions in your chosen study areas, and the chance to ask questions, Info Nights help you make informed decisions about your future. Plus, if you're ready to take the next step, our friendly team can help you apply on the spot!

[Find out more](#)

Eastern College Open Night

Organisation: Eastern College Australia

Location: Eastern College Wantirna

Date: August 13, 2026

[Find out more](#)

University of Melbourne Physics Phantasy

Organisation: University of Melbourne

Location: Hercus Theatre, David Caro Building, University of Melbourne

Date: August 13, 2026

Get ready to have your mind blown as we turn science into a spectacle! Join us for a high-energy show!

Who needs magic when science is this spectacular?

Get ready to have your mind blown as we turn science into a spectacle! Join us for an interactive high-energy show packed with bangs, sparks and exciting demonstrations.

We'll prove that physics can be fun as well as fundamental! Don't miss your chance to witness the incredible power of science firsthand.

[Find out more](#)

Bendigo TAFE Open Night, Bendigo City Campus

Organisation: Bendigo TAFE

Location: Bendigo TAFE, Bendigo City Campus

Date: August 13, 2026

Bendigo TAFE is hosting an Open Night at our Bendigo City campus, giving you the chance to explore our courses, meet passionate teachers and tour our state-of-the-art facilities.

Whether you're considering a career in health, automotive, animal studies, trades or beauty – you're welcome to attend as many sessions as you like.

[Find out more](#)

Conservation Science Careers Webinar

Organisation: Bush Heritage Australia

Location: Online

Date: August 14, 2026

All interested secondary school students and university undergraduates are invited to join Bush Heritage Australia's online event on the eve of National Science Week 2026 - Conservation Science Careers.

This virtual event offers the opportunity for students to connect with, learn from and be inspired by field professionals in conservation science.

Individual students are welcome to register, along with course managers or subject teachers who would like to bring a class or group together to join the event.

[Find out more](#)

ACAP Open Day 2026, Melbourne

Organisation: ACAP University College

Location: ACAP University College, Melbourne Campus

Date: August 15, 2026

Ready to turn your passion into a purpose-driven career? ACAP Open Day is your opportunity to discover how our practical, people-focused courses can help you make a real difference – in your community and your life.

Join us on campus this August and experience what makes ACAP different. Whether you're considering counselling, psychology, social work, criminology, law or business, you'll get a firsthand look at the learning, support, and outcomes that set our students up for success.

From expert-led masterclasses and career panels to course advice and campus tours, Open Day is designed to give you the insight and inspiration to take the next step.

[Find out more](#)

ADFA Open Day 2026

Organisation: Australian Defence Force Academy

Location: ADFA Canberra Campus & Online

Date: August 15, 2026

ADFA Open Day is run each year in August. Join us online or in person to:

- Explore world-class UNSW degrees, with information sessions about Business, Arts, Science, Engineering, Computing and Cyber Security.
- Learn about military training, studying and life on campus from current ADFA Trainee Officers.
- Watch a variety of exciting displays, take a virtual tour, and much more

[Find out more](#)

SAE Open Day 2026, Melbourne

Organisation: SAE University College

Location: SAE University College, Melbourne Campus

Date: August 15, 2026

Whether you're still exploring your study options or you're ready to apply, SAE Open Day is the perfect place to get inspired, get informed, and get hands-on with your creative future.

Join us on campus this August to tour our studios, meet your future mentors, and experience what it's like to study at SAE – the University College built for creators and tech innovators. Explore your study and career pathways across animation, audio, design, film, games, music, VFX and more. Connect with current students, industry-experienced lecturers, and alumni who've turned their ideas into careers.

[Find out more](#)

Deakin Open Day 2026, Geelong Waterfront

Organisation: Deakin University

Location: Deakin University, Geelong Waterfront Campus

Date: August 16, 2026

We're opening up our campuses again in August 2026! Experience first-hand why Deakin is the #1 Victorian university for course satisfaction and graduate employment.

Come to Open Day to find out how studying at Deakin lets you gain practical experience, make industry connections and build career confidence – everything you need to land the job you want.

[Find out more](#)

VU Open Day 2026, Footscray Park

Organisation: Victoria University

Location: Victoria University, Footscray Park Campus

Date: August 16, 2026

Open Day is your chance to explore everything unis like VU have to offer – in person.

You can tour our campuses, explore our state-of-the-art facilities, chat with students and teachers, get course advice, attend hands-on workshops and demos, and experience what student life could look like for you! It's a really valuable experience to getting the inside scoop on campus and life at uni or TAFE in general before you even finish school.

It also gives you a great opportunity to apply on the spot for our Early Entry program, or even apply for a course right there and then!

[Find out more](#)

University of Melbourne Open Day 2026

Organisation: University of Melbourne

Location: University of Melbourne, Parkville Campus

Date: August 16, 2026

From robots and renewables to Renaissance art, Open Day is a chance to experience what it's really like to study, live and thrive at Melbourne.

We look forward to welcoming you and your family to our campuses.

What's on at Open Day:

- Chat to our academics, Future Student teams and current students to learn more about your study options and the exciting careers they could lead to
- Get a feel for campus life by exploring the spaces you'll be learning in, including our labs, libraries, galleries and other specialist facilities
- Learn how our curriculum works, including how you can combine your passions and strengths to set yourself apart for whichever career you choose
- Explore our range of student accommodation facilities and the social activities and study support on offer

[Find out more](#)

Federation Open Day 2026, Berwick

Organisation: Federation University

Location: Federation University, Berwick Campus

Date: August 16, 2026

Experience Open Day at Federation University. From campus tours to live music and hands-on experiences, there's something for everyone.

Why come to Open Day?

- Tour the campus with current students
- Meet our academics, students and industry partners
- Enjoy food stalls, live music, games and giveaways
- Attend info sessions with expert course advice

[Find out more](#)

Monash Open Day 2026, Parkville

Organisation: Monash University

Location: Monash University, Parkville Campus

Date: August 16, 2026

If you're considering studying at uni, coming to our Open Day is one of the best decisions you can make. You'll be able to discover key course information, explore our campuses, meet current students and staff, and get a taste of Monash life, firsthand.

Whether you want to get a feel for what you'll be studying, make sure you're on the right track, or simply picture yourself in one of our learning spaces, you should join us at Open Day.

[Find out more](#)

CSU Open Day 2026, Albury-Wodonga

Organisation: Charles Sturt University

Location: Charles Sturt University, Albury-Wodonga Campus

Date: August 16, 2026

Discover what uni life is like! Whether you're in high school, looking to upskill, want to change careers, or are a parent, teacher or carer – there's something for everyone.

- Jump on a campus tour – explore our facilities and accommodation.
- Get detailed info about courses.
- Chat to current students about Charles Sturt life.
- Be inspired by our expert teaching staff.
- Discover the social side of life at Charles Sturt.
- Enjoy live entertainment, giveaways, competitions and free food!

Plus, you can explore our expo, info, and career and skills hubs. Chat to our friendly teams about our support services, early offer programs and how to boost your hiring potential.

[Find out more](#)

La Trobe Open Day 2026, Albury-Wodonga

Organisation: La Trobe University

Location: La Trobe University, Albury-Wodonga Campus

Date: August 16, 2026

Why attend Open Day at La Trobe?

- Chat with current students, alumni and teachers to get first-hand advice about your dream course, or just about the best places to eat on campus.
- Explore the campus by yourself or join a guided tour. See our world-class health facilities, leading IT and science labs, business trading room, accommodation and much more.

- Discover your options for placements, internships and work-based learning, and get all your questions answered about your dream course.
- Get a taste of what it's really like to be at uni. Join events and activities or kick back and enjoy the campus – Open Day is the place to see it all.

[Find out more](#)

Deakin Open Day 2026, Geelong Waurin Ponds

Organisation: Deakin University

Location: Deakin University, Geelong Waurin Ponds Campus

Date: August 16, 2026

We're opening up our campuses again in August 2026! Experience first-hand why Deakin is the #1 Victorian university for course satisfaction and graduate employment.

Come to Open Day to find out how studying at Deakin lets you gain practical experience, make industry connections and build career confidence – everything you need to land the job you want.

[Find out more](#)

Next Week's Events

Meet an Enviro Scientist Panel at La Trobe – for Year 7-12 Students

Organisation: La Trobe University

Location: La Trobe University, Bundoora Campus

Date: August 18, 2026

Students will hear from La Trobe University environmental scientists and industry professionals from a diverse range of areas including ecology, freshwater and wetland management, restoration climate change adaptation, resource management, and conservation genetics. They will share their expertise, research and pathway to their STEM career.

Panellists for this event will be:

- Nadia Zerman: Soil microbiologist
- Hayley Sime: Botanist
- Dr Kerry Fanson: Conservation endocrinologist
- Aidan Fitt: Entomologist

After an interactive Q&A panel discussion, participants will have the option to network with our panelists to build valuable connections with both student researchers and established academics.

This event is part of the [Victorian Challenge and Enrichment Series](#), providing free extension opportunities for high-ability students in Victorian Government Schools. Funded by the Department of Education's Student Excellence Program.

[Find out more](#)

Swinburne Engineering Info Session

Organisation: Swinburne University of Technology

Location: AMDC301 Swinburne University Hawthorn campus

Date: August 20, 2026

Join us on campus to find out with a deep dive on our Bachelor of Engineering. You'll get a breakdown of our different majors, hear about scholarships, and visit some of the labs used by engineering students. We'll also have current students sharing their experiences – including why they chose Swinburne for engineering.

This info session will include:

- a 60-minute presentation on the Bachelor of Engineering, including a Q&A

- networking with Swinburne staff, students and industry partners
- a look at our Smart Structures and Digital Construction labs
- complimentary light refreshments.

[Find out more](#)

QTAC Student Information Night 2026

Organisation: Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre

Location: Online

Date: August 20, 2026

Thinking of applying through QTAC? Join us for a live online session designed to give you the inside edge on submitting a successful application.

Whether you're applying straight from Year 12, returning to study, or changing direction, QTAC experts will walk you through key tips for a successful application.

This session is perfect for students (and parents!) wanting to feel confident and prepared throughout the QTAC process. Don't miss your chance to get insider advice straight from the source.

[Find out more](#)

AIM August Open Day, Melbourne

Organisation: Australian Institute of Music

Location: Australian Institute of Music, Melbourne Campus

Date: August 22, 2026

Join us at the Australian Institute of Music's Melbourne August Open Day and get a real feel for what it's like to study in one of the world's most exciting music cities.

Wander through our recording studios and performance spaces, chat with inspiring mentors and industry pros, and meet students and alumni who are already making waves in the industry, both at home and abroad.

You'll also have the opportunity to immerse yourself in hands-on workshops and interactive sessions that showcase the energy and creativity that connects our campus community. Plus, get insider tips on courses, career options, and how to start carving your path in the industry.

Whether you're exploring what's next or ready to turn your passion into your profession, our Melbourne Open Day is here to help you uncover your creative path.

[Find out more](#)

Federation Open Day 2026, Ballarat

Organisation: Federation University

Location: Federation University, Mt Helen, SMB & Camp Street Campus

Date: August 23, 2026

Experience Open Day at Federation University. From campus tours to live music and hands-on experiences, there's something for everyone.

Why come to Open Day?

- Tour the campus with current students
- Meet our academics, students and industry partners
- Enjoy food stalls, live music, games and giveaways
- Attend info sessions with expert course advice

[Find out more](#)

La Trobe Open Day 2026, Bendigo

Organisation: La Trobe University

Location: La Trobe University, Bendigo Campus

Date: August 23, 2026

Why attend Open Day at La Trobe?

- Chat with current students, alumni and teachers to get first-hand advice about your dream course, or just about the best places to eat on campus.
- Explore the campus by yourself or join a guided tour. See our world-class health facilities, leading IT and science labs, business trading room, accommodation and much more.
- Discover your options for placements, internships and work-based learning, and get all your questions answered about your dream course.
- Get a taste of what it's really like to be at uni. Join events and activities or kick back and enjoy the campus – Open Day is the place to see it all.

[Find out more](#)

ACU Open Day 2026, Ballarat

Organisation: Australian Catholic University

Location: Australian Catholic University, Ballarat Campus

Date: August 23, 2026

Open Day gives you the opportunity to ask our teaching staff any questions you might have about your dream course, the application process, pathway options, entry schemes and more. Chat to current students and discover the facilities your new campus has to offer. And sit in on information sessions from each of the faculties to find out more about the courses you're interested in.

[Find out more](#)

CSU Open Day 2026, Bathurst

Organisation: Charles Sturt University

Location: Charles Sturt University, Bathurst Campus

Date: August 23, 2026

Discover what uni life is like! Whether you're in high school, looking to upskill, want to change careers, or are a parent, teacher or carer – there's something for everyone.

- Jump on a campus tour – explore our facilities and accommodation.
- Get detailed info about courses.
- Chat to current students about Charles Sturt life.
- Be inspired by our expert teaching staff.
- Discover the social side of life at Charles Sturt.
- Enjoy live entertainment, giveaways, competitions and free food!

Plus, you can explore our expo, info, and career and skills hubs. Chat to our friendly teams about our support services, early offer programs and how to boost your hiring potential.

[Find out more](#)

Deakin Open Day 2026, Melbourne

Organisation: Deakin University

Location: Deakin University, Melbourne Burwood Campus

Date: August 23, 2026

We're opening up our campuses again in August 2026! Experience first-hand why Deakin is the #1 Victorian university for course satisfaction and graduate employment.

Come to Open Day to find out how studying at Deakin lets you gain practical experience, make industry connections and build career confidence – everything you need to land the job you want.

[Find out more](#)

Future Events

ACU Year 12 VCE Revision Webinars

Organisation: Australian Catholic University

Location: Online

Date: August 24 to August 27, 2026

Worried about your Year 12 exams? You're not alone.

Join our free online webinars from 24 - 27 August 2026. They are live, expert-led sessions designed to help you walk into your exams feeling prepared.

Can't attend live? Register anyway – recordings are available to registered attendees for one week after each webinar.

[Find out more](#)

CQU Education Open Day Webinar

Organisation: CQUniversity

Location: Online

Date: August 24, 2026

With [courses](#) available across early childhood, primary and secondary teaching, our friendly education academics will explain what it's really like to study at CQU. You'll learn about our strong local networks, the [support services](#) that help you succeed, and how CQU prepares you for a rewarding career in the classroom.

[Find out more](#)

GOTAFE Careers & Futures Expo

Organisation: GOTAFE

Location: GOTAFE, Fryers Street Campus

Date: August 25, 2026

Thinking about the future? Whatever stage of the journey you're at, the Careers & Futures Expo can provide you with important information to help guide you on your path.

- **Meet with teachers:** Explore your future study options and experience what it's really like to be a TAFE student.
- **Connect with industry:** Discover real job outcomes and career pathways through industry experts and employers.
- **Chat with students:** Hear their stories and learn how TAFE can take you all the way to university and beyond.
- **Explore our facilities:** Join tours and interactive activities for a taster of the hands-on training we deliver, and what awaits beyond.

[Find out more](#)

Study medicine at Sydney

Organisation: University of Sydney

Location: Online

Date: August 26, 2026

Join us ahead of Open Day to discover what it's like to study medicine at the University of Sydney and learn how we prepare future doctors to make a meaningful impact in Australia and around the world. Through a live Q&A with our specialist staff you'll have your questions answered ahead of Open Day, so you can arrive informed, have meaningful conversations with our team, and make the most of your time exploring our learning facilities.

[Find out more](#)

Swinburne University Aviation Info Session for Future Students

Organisation: Swinburne University of Technology

Location: Swinburne Hawthorn Campus

Date: August 26, 2026

Join us on campus to get all the need-to-know details on studying aviation at Swinburne. You'll get a breakdown of all our different aviation courses, hear insights on entry requirements, and get expert tips on career opportunities. We'll also cover financial info, including scholarships.

This info session will include:

- a 60-minute presentation on Swinburne's aviation program and courses
- networking with Swinburne staff and industry partners
- complimentary light refreshments.

[Find out more](#)

Admission to medicine at Sydney

Organisation: University of Sydney

Location: Online

Date: August 26, 2026

Join us ahead of Open Day to explore pathways to medicine at the University of Sydney. Learn about admission requirements, application dates and timelines, and the assessment process. We'll share details of the options available, whether you're applying to commence your studies after high-school, or after completing a bachelor's degree.

Through a live Q&A with our specialist staff, you'll have your questions answered ahead of Open Day, so you can arrive informed, have meaningful conversations with our team, and make the most of your time exploring our learning facilities.

[Find out more](#)

Victorian Skills & Careers Expo

Organisation: Victorian Skills Authority

Location: Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre

Date: August 26, 2026

The Victorian Skills & Careers Expo brings together over 50 RTOs, TAFEs, and employers under one roof. Discover apprenticeship opportunities, speak with industry professionals, and find out how VET can launch your career. Ideal for school leavers, career changers, and parents.

[Find out more](#)

Wodonga TAFE Careers & Futures Expo

Organisation: Wodonga TAFE

Location: Wodonga TAFE

Date: August 27, 2026

Thinking about the future? Whatever stage of the journey you're at, the Careers & Futures Expo can provide you with important information to help guide you on your path.

- **Meet with teachers:** Explore your future study options and experience what it's really like to be a TAFE student.
- **Connect with industry:** Discover real job outcomes and career pathways through industry experts and employers.
- **Chat with students:** Hear their stories and learn how TAFE can take you all the way to university and beyond.
- **Explore our facilities:** Join tours and interactive activities for a taster of the hands-on training we deliver, and what awaits beyond.

[Find out more](#)

Swinburne Health Info Session

Organisation: Swinburne University of Technology

Location: AMDC301 Hawthorn campus, Swinburne University

Date: August 27, 2026

Join us on campus for all the need-to-know details on studying health at Swinburne.

Get a breakdown of our different courses and majors, including health science, exercise and sports science, nutrition, and biomedical science. You'll also learn about entry requirements and even hear expert career tips.

This info session will cover the following health courses:

- Bachelor of Health Science
- Bachelor of Exercise and Sports Science
- Bachelor of Nutrition
- Bachelor of Biomedical Science

What to expect

This info session will include:

- a 60-minute presentation on Swinburne's health courses, including a Q&A
- networking with Swinburne staff, students
- complimentary light refreshments.

[Find out more](#)

Collarts Open Day 2026, Melbourne

Organisation: Australian College of the Arts

Location: Collarts, Melbourne Campuses

Date: August 29, 2026

At Collarts, our Open Day is all about making this process simple and hands-on. Information sessions, workshops and the chance to chat with students, teachers and leaders are an important part of learning more about what sets us apart from the rest.

We invite you to come and experience life at Collarts: from our passion for creativity, close community, industry-level facilities, expert faculty, and more.

From guided tours to live demonstrations, here are some of the activities you can catch at the next Collarts Open Day:

- **Guided tours:** Experience our campuses firsthand with guided tours led by our enthusiastic Student Ambassadors.
- **Info hubs:** Our info hubs provide convenient drop-in spaces where you can have direct conversations with Program Leaders, Academics, and students about your desired course.
- **Demonstrations:** Demonstrations are your chance to see our course content come to life. They allow you to be actively involved in projects and see our cutting-edge equipment in action, so you can get a firsthand preview of what studying at Collarts is really like.
- **Displays:** Our campus displays are positioned throughout different areas of our campuses, offering a showcase of our community's achievements and journeys.

If you have specific accessibility needs or require additional assistance, please contact Collarts in advance, and they will do their best to assist you.

[Find out more](#)

Torrens University Open Day 2026, Melbourne

Organisation: Torrens University Australia

Location: Torrens University, Flinders Street Campus

Date: August 29, 2026

Come and meet our academics and Future Student Advisors, who will be able to answer all your questions about early entry, scholarships, entry pathways and our world-class facilities. Explore our campus and see firsthand how exciting studying in Melbourne can be.

- Talk to our academics and Future Student Advisors about choosing courses, scholarships and the application process.
- Embark on a guided tour of our campus facilities and get a feel of our recreational spaces, teaching spaces and more.
- Meet our current students and find out what their experiences studying at Torrens University is like.

[Find out more](#)

LCI Melbourne Open Day 2026

Organisation: LCI Melbourne

Location: LCI Melbourne

Date: August 29, 2026

We're excited to welcome you to LCI Melbourne's 2026 Open Day!

Join us at our Collingwood campus for a day of creativity, connection, and discovery. Whether you're set on a career in the creative industries or still exploring your options, this is your chance to experience life at LCI Melbourne.

Experience Every Discipline

Step inside our studios, chat with mentors, meet current students, and get hands-on in activities across:

- Fashion & Costume Design
- Graphic & Digital Design
- Interior Design
- Visual Arts
- Business & Innovation

Register now to be the first to receive our Open Day itinerary and hear about our on the day prizes and activations.

[Find out more](#)

VU Open Day 2026, City Tower

Organisation: Victoria University

Location: Victoria University, City Tower Campus

Date: August 30, 2026

Open Day is your chance to explore everything unis like VU have to offer – in person.

You can tour our campuses, explore our state-of-the-art facilities, chat with students and teachers, get course advice, attend hands-on workshops and demos, and experience what student life could look like for you! It's a really valuable experience to getting the inside scoop on campus and life at uni or TAFE in general before you even finish school.

It also gives you a great opportunity to apply on the spot for our Early Entry program, or even apply for a course right there and then!

[Find out more](#)

Melbourne Polytechnic Information Technology & Security Online Information Session

Organisation: Melbourne Polytechnic

Location: Online

Date: August 31, 2026

Choosing a brand-new career path, knowing where to upgrade your skills or how to start doesn't need to be a decision you make alone.

Hosted by teachers who can answer questions and offer advice on your chosen field, our information sessions help you make an informed decision around your study and career options. Find out more about the following course(s) at Melbourne Polytechnic:

- Certificate III in Information Technology

[Find out more](#)

Monash Information Evening – Webinar

Organisation: Monash University

Location: Online

Date: September 1, 2026

Choosing a university is a big decision.

Join our Monash webinar to have your questions answered and get the key details you need to plan your next step.

You'll discover what it's like to study at Monash, and hear about our courses, accommodation, scholarships, support services and campus life. You'll also gain insights about moving to Monash and settling in.

This session is ideal if you're:

- Considering moving from interstate, or
- From regional or rural Victoria, or
- Live in Melbourne and are keen to know more about Monash.

Register now to secure your place.

[Find out more](#)

Torrens University Virtual Open Day 2026

Organisation: Torrens University Australia

Location: Online

Date: September 1 to September 2, 2026

Ready for the next step on your career journey? Join us online as our academics talk you through the courses on offer and how you can get the most out of studying with us. Learn about scholarships, study pathways, our industry partnerships with global brands and what sets us apart from other universities.

- Business, Education, Health, Hospitality, Technology and Higher Degrees by Research:
Tuesday 1 September - 6pm - 7pm (AEST)
- Design: Wednesday 2 September - 6pm - 7pm (AEST)

[Find out more](#)

Study medicine at Sydney

Organisation: University of Sydney

Location: Online

Date: September 2, 2026

Join us to discover what it's like to study medicine at the University of Sydney and learn how we prepare future doctors to make a meaningful impact in Australia and around the world.

Through a live Q&A with our specialist team, you'll gain valuable insights into your study options and ask any questions you may have as you consider your future in medicine.

[Find out more](#)

Admission to medicine at Sydney

Organisation: University of Sydney

Location: Online

Date: September 2, 2026

Join us to learn about admission requirements, application dates and timelines, and the assessment process. We'll share details of the options available, whether you're applying to commence your studies after high-school, or after completing a bachelor's degree. Through a live Q&A with our admission specialists, you'll gain valuable insights into the application process, better understand the options available to you, and ask your questions to help you plan your next steps with confidence.

[Find out more](#)

Chisholm Institute Info Day for Future Students, Dandenong

Organisation: Chisholm Institute

Location: Chisholm Institute, Dandenong Campus

Date: September 9, 2026

Whether you want to start a new career, upskill in your current one or are still exploring your options, Info Day is your chance to experience Chisholm up close. Chat with our teachers, tour our campuses, and find out how we can support your study journey – for the better.

[Find out more](#)

Federation Nursing & Individual Support Information Session, Horsham

Organisation: Federation University

Location: Federation University, Wimmera Campus

Date: September 15, 2026

The session will cover both Certificate III in Individual Support and Diploma of Nursing. The Teachers will talk about the Programs, how many day per week and how long the course goes for, they will show a PowerPoint presentation and run through information on the courses, talk about Placement, Fee's and Charges, Uniforms, Scholarships, how to apply, entry requirements, applications, LLN, Interviews etc.

[Find out more](#)

Mission Control at Parliament House for Year 7-12 Students

Organisation: Australian Space Agency

Location: Parliament House, Parliament of Victoria

Date: September 16, 2026

The space sector is set to triple in size by the year 2028 and will have a role in many diverse industries including agriculture, meteorology, precision mapping and health. What industries would it take to make Mars our home?

In this program, students will think critically about the skills and knowledge needed for a successful mission to Mars. After debating and voting on industries to send on the mission, in a way that mirrors Victoria's parliamentary process, they will work collaboratively to complete a hands-on design challenge as they consider how to sustainably power operations, feed the population, and communicate across the far reaches of space.

This program is a collaboration between Science Gallery Melbourne, Australian Space Agency and Parliament of Victoria.

[Find out more](#)

Whitehouse Institute of Design Fashion Illustration Workshop – Melbourne

Organisation: Whitehouse Institute of Design

Location: Whitehouse Institute of Design, Melbourne Campus

Date: September 19, 2026

In this 1-day workshop, you will gain an understanding of how to complete Fashion Illustrations. At the end of this workshop, you will have covered illustration content ready for an application to study a creative degree and receive a certificate of completion.

The workshop focuses on the following areas of skill development:

- Fashion illustration techniques and methods
- Application of pencils, professional markers, and felt-tip pens for professional rendering
- Fabric texture and surface rendering
- Exploring an individual design aesthetic.

This workshop is for aspiring designers as a starting point for those wishing to develop their illustration skills.

[Find out more](#)

Whitehouse Institute of Design Studio Lighting and Fashion Photography Workshop – Melbourne

Organisation: Whitehouse Institute of Design

Location: Whitehouse Institute of Design, Melbourne Campus

Date: September 21, 2026

This is a hands-on 1-day workshop designed for aspiring photographers eager to learn the fundamentals of camera settings, studio lighting, and fashion photography.

Whether you're just starting out or looking to strengthen your technical foundation, this workshop will guide you through the essentials—from mastering manual mode to setting up professional lighting and capturing dynamic fashion portraits.

Perfect for beginners looking to expand into the world of studio and fashion photography.

[Find out more](#)

Camp SEEK 2026 for Year 9-10 Girls & Non-binary Students

Organisation: SEEK

Location: SEEK HQ Melbourne

Date: September 21 to September 24, 2026

Camp SEEK is a four-day immersive daily learning program for Year 9 and 10 girls and non-binary students. Spend four action-packed days at SEEK HQ in Melbourne learning about careers in technology, developing coding, design and product practical skills, exploring real-world problem solving and pitching with your fellow Camp SEEKers.

The technology industry is not as diverse as it could be. There is a shortage of women and non-binary talent in STEM school subjects, at the tertiary level and in the workforce. As a leading technology company, we champion diversity within our industry and our own talent pipeline, and Camp SEEK is one of our favourite, and most fun, programs. It is designed to increase the number of girls and non-binary students who choose to pursue a career in technology.

Participants must be currently enrolled as a high school student in Year 9 or 10 in Australia and have not completed the Camp SEEK program previously.

[Find out more](#)

AIM Music Theatre Audition Workshop, Melbourne

Organisation: Australian Institute of Music

Location: Australian Institute of Music, Melbourne Campus

Date: September 29 to September 30, 2026

If musical theatre is your passion, this is where your industry journey begins.

AIM's Music Theatre Holiday Workshop is an immersive two-day experience designed for high school students who are serious about pursuing a career in musical theatre. Working directly with the industry professionals who teach our Bachelor of Music Theatre, you'll build the skills, refine your repertoire, and receive the kind of hands-on feedback that prepares you to walk into your Bachelor of Music Theatre audition with confidence.

[Find out more](#)

RMIT University Student for a Day Experience for Year 10-12 Students

Organisation: RMIT University

Location: RMIT City Campus

Date: September 30, 2026

Want a taste of life after high school? Register your interest in being a Student for a Day at RMIT this September school holidays.

Aimed at high school students in Years 10, 11 and 12, this event will let you experience student life at RMIT and discover more about our courses.

[Find out more](#)

Swinburne Innovation in Action for Year 10-12 Students

Organisation: Swinburne University of Technology

Location: Swinburne University of Technology, Hawthorn Campus

Date: September 30, 2026

The Swinburne Innovation in Action school holiday program is a 1-day program based at our Hawthorn campus where Year 10 - 12 students are given the knowledge and tools they need to come up with brilliant new ideas to solve real-world problems.

In this free program, you will:

- Identify and analyse a real-world problem
- Design possible solutions to your chosen problem
- Create a rapid prototype for your solution
- Pitch and evaluate your prototype with your peers

[Find out more](#)

CDW Studios Digital Art Holiday Workshop for Ages 14+ Melbourne & any age Online

Organisation: CDW Studios

Location: CDW Studios, South Bank Campus & Online

Date: October 2, 2026

Our **FREE** holiday workshops give students an opportunity to attend a full day workshop with some of Australia's best professional artists. Held in **Adelaide, Melbourne & Sydney** during school holidays, participants get an introductory insight to the industry whilst learning techniques that they can apply straight away!

Our free holiday workshops are perfect for beginners who wish to learn more as well as more experienced artists who want to push their work to the next level. These courses are a fantastic starting point for those who are curious about venturing into the competitive world of visual effects and entertainment design.

Take this rare opportunity to learn from professional artists in a fun, engaging environment.

[Find out more](#)

Create for a Day at SAE Melbourne

Organisation: SAE University College

Location: SAE University College, Melbourne Campus

Date: October 3, 2026

This October school holidays, SAE University College Melbourne is opening its doors for Create for a Day: a one-day, hands-on experience where you'll step into the studio, lab or production space and start creating.

Choose from:

- Animation
- Audio
- Computer Science
- Film
- Games
- Songwriting & Electronic Music Production
- VFX

Create for a Day lets you skip the textbooks and jump straight into building, recording, designing, coding or filming, all guided by lecturers who work in the industry.

By the end of the day, you'll walk away with your own finished project and a certificate of participation, plus a clearer idea of what studying at SAE is really like and where your skills could take you in the future.

Open to students in Years 10-12 and young creatives up to age 21.

[Find out more](#)

It Takes a Spark STEM Conference for Year 4-10 Students and Teachers, Melbourne

Organisation: Intuyu Consulting Pty Ltd

Location: The Knox School

Date: October 22, 2026

Most conferences currently being offered on STEM, STEAM and Entrepreneurship tend to be targeted towards teachers and involve a series of speakers and the occasional mini-workshops. This conference is designed to be different. This conference is designed by students and teachers for students and teachers.

The intent of the It Takes a Spark STEM Conference is to bring together Students (Year 4 to 10) and Teachers to connect with inspiring industry role models, share their current school based activities and projects using an authentic sharing and experiential model, create networks of teachers and student teams, and solve social justice design challenges.

The participation of the students is as important as teachers as our intent is to ignite, empower and nurture both to be leaders of STEM and Entrepreneurship within their schools. This is a conference designed and led by students and teachers for students and teachers.

Teachers will have both formal and informal opportunities to speak to other teachers who have enacted programs and activities in their schools and get their questions answered.

The Problem Solver design challenges are all hands-on so students and teachers will experience first-hand what it is like to be part of great STEM and entrepreneurial learning. This will spark new ideas about curriculum and pedagogy.

[Find out more](#)

VU TAFE Open Night 2026, Sunshine Campus

Organisation: Victoria University

Location: Victoria University, Sunshine Campus

Date: October 22, 2026

Future TAFE student? We've got an event just for you.

Join us at Sunshine for an action-packed evening to explore TAFE options in trades, health, English language and cyber security.

Meet students and teachers, explore campus and facilities, and discover courses designed to get you job-ready from day one.

[Find out more](#)

Deakin A Day in the Life of a Medical Imaging Student – Year 11 & 12, Geelong

Organisation: Deakin University

Location: Deakin University, Geelong Waurin Ponds Campus

Date: October 28, 2026

Step into the world of medical imaging and experience university life before you even finish school.

This immersive day gives Year 11 and 12 students who live in the South West and Grampians/Wimmera regions the chance to see what it's really like to study [medical imaging](#) at Deakin – from hands-on practical activities to exploring the technology that helps diagnose and treat patients every day.

You'll connect with Deakin academics and current students, discover entry pathways to your ultimate course and start imagining where a career in medical imaging could take you.

Deakin will provide shuttle buses from select locations in the South West and Grampians regions.

Expressions of interest close Friday 2 October 2026.

[Find out more](#)

Scholarships

Aspen Medical Foundation First Nations Health Scholarship

Organisation: Aspen Medical

Location: Australia

Value: \$10,000 AUD

Close Date: No closing date

[Find out more](#)

Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (AusIMM) Undergraduate Education Endowment Fund Scholarships

Location: Australia

Value: \$15,000 AUD per year + other benefits

Open Date: July 27, 2026

Close Date: September 4, 2026

[Find out more](#)

Larsen Jewellery Design Scholarship Program

Organisation: Larsen Jewellery

Location: Australia

Value: \$3,000 AUD

Open Date: May 18, 2026

Close Date: November 30, 2026

[Find out more](#)

University of Melbourne Narm Scholarship

Organisation: University of Melbourne

Location: Victoria
Value: Up to AU\$35,500
Open Date: August 3, 2026
Close Date: October 9, 2026
[Find out more](#)

The PSA Insurance Program in Dentistry for Rural Victoria Scholarship

Organisation: La Trobe University
Location: Bendigo
Value: up to \$25,000 AUD
Open Date: August 3, 2026
Close Date: October 9, 2026
[Find out more](#)

La Trobe John Richards Agricultural Scholarships

Organisation: La Trobe University
Location: Victoria
Value: \$6,000 AUD
Open Date: July 30, 2026
Close Date: December 31, 2026
[Find out more](#)

Swinburne Access Scholarships

Organisation: Swinburne University of Technology
Location: Victoria
Value: Up to AU\$15,500
Open Date: August 3, 2026
Close Date: October 9, 2026
[Find out more](#)

La Trobe Vice-Chancellor's Excellence Scholarship (Aspire)

Organisation: La Trobe University
Location: Australia, New Zealand
Value: \$5,000 AUD per year
Open Date: August 3, 2026
Close Date: October 9, 2026
[Find out more](#)

Competitions

Future Founders of Wyndham | Pitching Competition

Organisation: Tarneit Business Association
Location: Melbourne
Value: See details
Close Date: No closing date
[Find out more](#)

Immerse Education Essay Competition

Organisation: Immerse Education
Location: All

Value: See details

Close Date: No closing date

[Find out more](#)

Write the World Micro Flash Fiction Competition 2026 for ages 13-19

Organisation: Write the World

Location: All

Value: \$100 USD cash plus other prizes

Close Date: August 24, 2026

[Find out more](#)

Global Logic & Reasoning Competition

Organisation: Global Logic and Reasoning Competition

Location: All

Value: Up to \$250 USD

Close Date: September 6, 2026

[Find out more](#)

Weekly Posts

Study

How to understand 'command words' in assessment tasks and exam questions

If you are asked to evaluate a source you might spend the entire response describing it instead, and someone asked to compare two texts might only end up writing about one. Both examples show solid content undone by the wrong kind of response, usually because of a single misread word in the question.

This guide breaks down the most common words used in assessment questions, grouped by what they're actually asking you to do. Once you can tell the difference between them, you'll know what kind of response to write before you've even started planning it.

Words that ask you to show what you know

These words check whether you know a fact, term, or process. They don't want your opinion, just accurate information.

Define

Defining something means stating its precise meaning. In an assessment, this usually takes one or two sentences and needs to be accurate. An example on its own isn't a definition.

Asked to define renewable energy, you'd need to state what actually makes a source renewable, that it comes from something that naturally replenishes, such as sunlight or moving water

Identify

To identify something is to recognise it and point it out. Assessment questions using this word want you to name or select specific information from a text, image, or data set. You're not explaining why it matters yet, just showing you can spot it.

Once you can define renewable energy, identifying it is more straightforward: picking out which sources in a list or image, like solar panels or a wind turbine, fit that definition.

Describe

A description sets out the features or characteristics of something. In an assessment, you need to explain what something looks like, how it works, or what happened, in detail and in a logical order.

Describing renewable energy goes further than identifying it, setting out how a source like wind actually works, its blades turning a rotor that drives a generator to produce electricity.

State

This is one of the more straightforward instructions you'll come across. Stating something means expressing it clearly and briefly, usually as a direct fact or answer, without justification or extra detail.

Where describing renewable energy means setting out how it works, stating something about it is narrower again, giving a single fact without elaboration, such as noting that solar and wind are among the most widely used renewable sources.

Words that ask you to walk the reader through something

These words ask you to make an idea or process understandable to someone else, using reasoning rather than just facts.

Explain

To explain something, you need to say what it is and why it happens or why it matters. A common mistake is describing something instead of explaining it. If your answer only covers what happened without covering why, the question hasn't been fully answered.

Explaining why renewable energy use has grown means giving reasons, such as falling costs for solar panels and wind turbines and stronger government incentives, rather than simply noting that growth has happened.

Clarify

Clarifying a point means making something confusing or ambiguous easier to understand. This might mean removing uncertainty around an idea, or taking a general statement and being more precise about what it actually means.

If a source described gas as a "clean" energy option, clarifying that claim would mean pointing out that gas still produces emissions and isn't classified as renewable, even though it's sometimes framed as a cleaner alternative to coal.

Interpret

Interpreting something goes beyond repeating information, it asks what that information actually suggests. If a question asks you to interpret data, a quote, or a result, you're working out its meaning rather than restating what's already there.

Interpreting a rise in renewable energy use might mean explaining what it suggests about public or government priorities, rather than just describing that the rise has occurred.

Illustrate

An illustration uses examples to make a point clear. In an assessment, this means backing an idea up with a specific example, case, or piece of evidence that shows it in action. A good illustration turns something abstract into something concrete.

To illustrate the appeal of renewable energy, you might point to a household that's cut its power bill after installing solar panels, a concrete case that makes the broader point easier to grasp.

Words that ask you to look at how things relate

These words want you to consider two or more things side by side, rather than write about just one.

Compare

Comparing things means identifying what they have in common. Most compare questions expect you to refer to all the items you're comparing throughout your answer, rather than covering one and then the other separately.

Comparing solar and wind energy means noting what they share, such as producing no direct emissions once installed and depending on weather conditions to generate power.

Contrast

Where comparing looks at similarities, contrasting looks at differences. Some questions combine the two, asking you to compare and contrast, in which case your answer needs to cover both.

Contrasting solar and wind takes that same pairing and flips it, pointing out that solar output depends on daylight hours while wind can generate power at any time, given enough wind.

Distinguish

Distinguishing between things means recognising what makes them different enough to be treated separately. This word often comes up when two concepts or ideas could easily be confused, and you're being asked to draw a clear line between them.

Distinguishing renewable sources from non-renewable ones draws a clearer line again, separating solar, wind, and hydro from sources like coal and gas, which don't naturally replenish.

Classify

Classifying something means grouping it according to shared characteristics. You'll usually need to sort information, items, or ideas into categories, and be ready to justify why each one belongs where you've placed it.

Classifying a broader list of energy sources builds on that same distinction, sorting each one into a renewable or non-renewable category and explaining what ties each group together.

Words that ask you to break something down

These words want you to go beneath the surface of a topic, rather than just describe it.

Analyse

Analysing something means breaking it into its parts and examining each one. This is one of the more demanding command words on this list, because it's not enough to identify the parts, you also need to explain how they relate to each other or contribute to a bigger picture. A common trap is analysing at the surface, describing each element without exploring the connections between them.

Analysing the shift toward renewable energy means identifying the different factors behind it, such as cost, technology, and policy, and explaining how they connect rather than listing them separately.

Examine

Examining something means looking at it closely and carefully. It's similar to analysing but usually less demanding, asking you to consider specific aspects of a topic in some depth without necessarily drawing out relationships between every part.

Examining just one of those factors, like falling technology costs, means looking closely at that single piece without necessarily tying it back to the others.

Investigate

Investigating a topic means gathering information about it systematically, then presenting what you've found. Questions using this word often expect you to draw on multiple sources, rather than relying on just one.

Investigating why some places have been slower to adopt renewable energy goes further again, drawing on multiple sources to build a fuller picture, covering infrastructure, funding, and existing policy.

Determine

To determine something is to work it out using evidence or calculation, usually reaching a specific answer or conclusion through a process such as a calculation, comparison, or elimination of options, rather than simply stating what you already know.

Determining which renewable source would suit a particular location uses that same kind of evidence, weighing up factors like climate and geography to reach a clear conclusion rather than a general impression.

Words that ask you to judge or weigh up

These words want your own reasoned judgement, backed up with evidence, rather than just information.

Evaluate

Evaluating something means judging its value, quality, or effectiveness. You'll need to weigh up strengths and weaknesses, or evidence for and against, and reach a conclusion about how good, effective, or valid something is. The judgement matters less than the reasoning behind it, so show how you got there.

Evaluating a government incentive for solar panels means judging whether it has actually encouraged more households to switch, weighing that benefit against its cost.

Assess

Assessing something works similarly to evaluating, but often focuses on extent, such as how significant an impact was or how successful an approach has been. It still needs to be backed up with evidence rather than stated as opinion.

Assessing the impact of that same incentive shifts the focus slightly, looking at how significant the increase in solar adoption has actually been, rather than simply whether the incentive worked at all.

Justify

Justifying a decision, opinion, or claim means giving reasons that support it. This usually means acknowledging why someone might disagree, then explaining why your reasoning still holds up. Justifying a call to expand that kind of incentive means acknowledging the cost involved, then explaining why the benefits are likely to outweigh it over time.

Discuss

This is one of the broadest command words you'll see. Discussing a topic means exploring it from multiple angles, setting out different perspectives or arguments, and reaching a reasoned conclusion rather than presenting only one side.

Discussing whether renewable energy can fully replace fossil fuels takes that same weighing up further, setting out the case for and against before reaching a conclusion.

Why the same word can ask for something slightly different depending on the subject

Even once you know what a word generally means, the exact expectations can shift depending on the subject you're answering it in. In a science subject, analyse often means working with data, identifying patterns or relationships in results. In English or a humanities subject, analyse is more likely to mean examining language, structure, or evidence in a text and explaining the effect it creates. Evaluate can work the same way. In maths, it might ask you to calculate a numerical answer, while in a humanities subject it's asking for a judgement backed up by evidence and reasoning.

If you're ever unsure exactly what a command word means in a specific subject, your subject outline, marking criteria, or teacher's instructions are the best place to check. They'll usually spell out exactly what's expected.

Check your states official definition

The words in this guide come from the same source your assessment tasks do, official glossaries published by Australia's state curriculum and assessment authorities. If you want to see the definitions straight from where they come from, here's where each state publishes theirs:

- [Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority](#)
- [NSW Education Standards Authority](#)
- [Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority](#)
- [School Curriculum and Standards Authority, Western Australia](#)

At the time of writing, South Australia, Tasmania, the ACT, and the Northern Territory haven't published an equivalent glossary of their own. The best part is that doesn't change much for you: the words themselves work the same way regardless of which state you're in, so this guide still applies.

Before you start writing

Identify the command word in a question before you start planning your answer, and check you understand exactly what it's asking for. Underlining or circling it as you read can help you keep sight of it once you're deep into writing. Strong content won't count for much if you've answered the wrong kind of question, so this step is worth building into how you approach every assessment task.

If you want more ways to strengthen how you approach study and assessments, head to our [study section](#) for further tips and resources.

Study Tips, Time Management

How to catch up when you've fallen behind in a subject

Catching up on a subject comes down to what happens after you know you're behind: how much time it takes, what to prioritise, and which techniques actually help you close the distance efficiently. A quick check of your notes, past assessments, and the course outline is usually enough to turn a vague sense of being behind into a short list of specific topics to work through, and that list is what the rest of your plan is built around.

If you're a few weeks behind

A few weeks of missed work usually doesn't call for a complete overhaul of how you study. An extra hour or two each week, on top of your normal workload, is often enough to work through your list. Set aside a fixed block of time each week specifically for that catch-up, and treat it as a short-term addition to your routine rather than something to fix in one session. Once you've worked through your list, you're back to your normal routine, nothing about the way you study needs to change long-term.

If you're months behind

Being months behind needs a different approach. A single extra study session a week won't be enough to close that much distance, so it's worth setting up a dedicated study schedule specifically for catching up. This should run separately from your regular homework and revision, with its own fixed time each week, and needs to continue consistently over several weeks rather than as a one-off effort. Break your list into weekly chunks so the schedule has a clear endpoint, and group related topics into the same session where you can, since jumping between unrelated ones wastes time resetting your focus.

Prioritise what's relevant to current content first

Rather than working through your list in the order it was originally taught, it's often more effective to start with whatever's directly relevant to what's being taught in class right now. If a current lesson assumes you already know something you don't, that's the first thing to fix, since it affects your ability to follow everything that comes after it. Once you can follow current content, work backward through older material in order of how much it's likely to come up again, rather than in the order you originally missed it.

When there's an assessment before you've caught up

Sometimes an assessment lands before your catch-up plan would normally reach the content it covers. When that happens, it's worth shifting your priority list temporarily. Work out exactly what the assessment covers, and move those specific topics to the front of your schedule, even if they're not next in your normal order. Everything else on your list can wait until afterwards. Once the assessment's done, go back to working through the rest in its usual order, rather than trying to take every assessment into account when you're first planning.

Techniques that make catching up more efficient

How you work through missed content matters as much as when. Re-reading notes or a textbook chapter feels productive, but testing yourself, through practice questions or by trying to explain a topic without checking your notes, shows you much faster whether it's actually sunk in. Past assessment questions covering the topics on your list are also worth seeking out, since they show you the level you're expected to work at rather than just the content itself. Explaining a topic out loud to someone else, a classmate, a family member, anyone who'll listen, tends to expose weak spots in your own understanding the moment you have to put something into your own words.

Keeping on top of current work while you catch up

Catching up only works if it doesn't come at the cost of falling behind on new work as well. Keep your regular homework and revision separate from your catch-up sessions rather than letting one absorb the other, and treat both as fixed commitments rather than something to juggle depending on how the week's going. If a week gets busy, it's usually better to shorten a catch-up session than to skip current work altogether, since new content builds on itself in a way that older missed content generally doesn't. Checking in on both each week, what's due now and what's still outstanding from before, keeps one from taking over the other.

Using the right resources to catch up efficiently

You don't need to work through your list from scratch by yourself. Recorded lessons, textbook sections, or videos on a specific topic can help you cover missed content faster than starting from the beginning of your notes. Your teacher can tell you which topics matter most for upcoming assessments and may be able to point you toward materials or explain something outside of class time. Classmates who already understand a topic can walk you through it in a

way that fills in specific blanks casual re-reading won't. If your school offers tutoring or study support, that's really worth factoring into a longer catch-up schedule too.

Managing the plan over time

Check your progress every couple of weeks, whether you're still catching up or have just finished, and adjust from there. If you're moving through your list faster than expected, you can shift to a lighter, less frequent schedule. If new content keeps getting added faster than you can clear the old, that's a sign you need more time each week rather than the same amount stretched further. Once you're fully caught up, the same check keeps doing its job at a lower frequency, catching anything new before it turns into its own catch-up project.

For more ways to build a study routine that actually holds up, our [study tips](#) section has plenty more to work through.

Job Spotlights

How to become a Community Liaison Officer

Community Liaison Officers connect project teams with the people affected by development and infrastructure work. They communicate project information, gather feedback, and make sure that communities have a genuine voice in how projects unfold around them.

If you're a natural communicator who enjoys working with people from all walks of life, can navigate difficult conversations with patience and empathy, and want a role where relationships are at the centre of everything you do, this could be a great fit.

What skills do I need as a Community Liaison Officer?

- Empathetic & approachable
- Excellent communicator
- Active listener
- Conflict resolution ability
- Organised & thorough
- Culturally aware
- Report writing ability
- Relationship builder

What do Community Liaison Officers do?

Before a project goes public, you'll be involved in planning how the community engagement process will work. This means identifying who needs to be informed or consulted, developing communication materials, and setting up the channels through which community members can ask questions or raise concerns. Getting this groundwork right matters because it shapes how a community responds to a project from the outset.

During active project phases, you're the primary point of contact between the project team and the public. You'll organise and facilitate community meetings, respond to enquiries, manage complaints, and document feedback in a way that can be reported back to the project team and used to inform decisions. When concerns escalate or misinformation spreads, you'll work to address it quickly and constructively. The ability to stay calm, listen carefully, and communicate clearly under pressure is central to the role.

Between major engagement milestones, you'll prepare reports summarising community sentiment, track outstanding issues, and maintain relationships with key stakeholders including local councils, community groups, and resident representatives. Some Community Liaison Officers work across multiple projects simultaneously, while others are embedded full-time in a

single large infrastructure project. Those working on major projects may develop expertise in particular engagement methods or community contexts over time.

What kind of lifestyle could I expect?

Community Liaison Officers work for infrastructure project teams, construction and engineering firms, local and state government agencies, and community engagement consultancies. The role appears across a wide range of project types, from road and rail infrastructure to urban development, utilities, and environmental works. Some practitioners work in-house for large organisations with ongoing community engagement needs, while others work for specialist consultancies across multiple clients and projects.

Hours are generally average, though community meetings and public events often fall in the evenings or on weekends to accommodate residents who work during the day. The role is primarily office-based, with regular travel to project sites and community venues. Flexibility is relatively high for desk-based tasks, and many roles accommodate hybrid working arrangements.

The work is people-focused and can be emotionally demanding, particularly when communities are strongly opposed to a project or when individual concerns are complex and sensitive.

Salaries are average, and the outlook is strong, supported by sustained investment in infrastructure and an increasing expectation from governments and developers that community engagement is handled professionally and meaningfully.

How to become a Community Liaison Officer

- **Build a foundation in a relevant field:** There is no single qualification that leads directly into community liaison work. People enter the role from backgrounds in communications, planning, social work, community development, and project management, among others. A degree in any of these areas provides a useful foundation, but it is your communication skills and people experience that employers tend to prioritise.
- **Gain experience working with people and communities:** Volunteer work with community organisations, local councils, or advocacy groups is valuable preparation. Any experience that involves facilitating conversations, managing competing views, or communicating with diverse groups of people builds the practical capability this role requires.
- **Develop your writing and documentation skills:** A significant part of the role involves producing clear written records of community feedback, preparing reports for project teams, and drafting public-facing communications. Strong writing is as important as strong speaking in this profession.
- **Seek out project environments:** Work experience or entry-level roles with infrastructure project teams, construction firms, or engagement consultancies give you direct exposure to how community liaison operates in practice. Even an administrative or support role within a project team can open the door to more active engagement responsibilities over time.

From here, you could move into senior community engagement roles, lead consultation programs for major infrastructure projects, specialise in a particular type of community or project context, or transition into broader stakeholder management, communications, or planning roles.

What can I do right now?

If you're in high school and interested in working as a Community Liaison Officer, here are some practical steps:

- Get involved in community organisations, school councils, or local volunteer groups where you can practise facilitating discussions, representing others' views, and managing different perspectives
- Develop your written communication skills by contributing to school publications, community newsletters, or social media channels that require you to write clearly for a general audience
- Look for work experience with your local council or a community organisation involved in local development or planning, where you're likely to see community engagement in action

Find out more about alternative careers on [our Job Spotlights page](#).

Jobs & Careers

Pathways into Dentistry

If you like science, enjoy working with your hands, and want a job where you help people every day, dentistry might already be on your list. It's among the most competitive courses to get into at university - but don't let that put you off. It just means if you're really determined to make it in, you'll need to start preparing early. And we always recommend having a backup plan ready. If you're still in high school, you've got time to make sure you're well prepped and ready to make a great impact during applications. We'll walk you through the basics in this article.

What does a dentist actually do?

Do you think of dentists as the people who check and clean your teeth twice a year? Well, you're not wrong and that's a big part of the job for lots of dentists. General dentists can spend a lot of their time performing check ups and maintenance, treating decay, fitting fillings, removing teeth, looking out for gum disease, and advising patients on how to look after their teeth. Some dentists take their training further and specialise in areas like orthodontics, oral surgery, or treating children.

Where dentists work can look different too. Some run their own practice or clinic, while others work in hospitals, community centres and educational institutions, as well as the defence forces. They might move between locations, work in mobile settings, or travel to rural and remote communities. There's also research and public health work to consider, for anyone who wants to shape dentistry rather than just practise it.

Subjects to focus on in high school

Universities want a solid science background, so your subject choices matter. Chemistry and biology are essential, since they explain how the body works and set you up for anatomy and pharmacology later on. Maths is commonly required too, since you'll measure, calculate, and interpret data throughout your career.

Physics is an important subject too, as dentists need to understand fields like mechanical forces, material properties, and imaging technology on a daily basis. English shouldn't be an afterthought either, since dentists write clinical notes and explain treatment options to patients, the ability to write and speak clearly matter more than people expect.

Start researching in Years 9 and 10 if you think this is the right pathway for you. We recommend checking all the accredited courses available and reading up on the prerequisites and assumed knowledge for each course. That ensures you'll make the right choices at subject selection time. And, if some of the subjects are ones you don't enjoy or struggle with, you might want to start exploring other careers in the industry or think about different pathways that might suit you better.

Skills not just grades

Grades get your application noticed, but on their own they won't make you a good dentist and it might not be enough to secure your spot on a dream course. Tertiary courses will teach you the technical skills and knowledge you'll need, but there are key skills required to work in dentistry that you could start working on right now. They could put you ahead of the pack during the application and interview process.

When you think about what dentists do, fine motor skills and [manual dexterity](#) are vital, since you'll work with small instruments in a small space for long periods.

[Good communication](#) is super important, anxious patients need someone who can put them at ease, and all your patients will need to understand any concerns, recommendations, procedures, and treatments that you're sharing with them.

Dentists constantly weigh up symptoms and history to decide on treatment plan, so you'll need to be great at [problem-solving and critical thinking](#). On top of all that, the job is physically demanding, so physical stamina will be important too.

Getting experience before university

Hands-on experience in a dental clinic is probably not going to be possible to arrange, since privacy and insurance rules limit what students can do (and even observe). That doesn't make it impossible though. Some local clinics might let you shadow for a day so it's worth getting in touch, just remember to give them plenty of notice ahead of school holidays. Volunteering with community health or outreach services could also open doors, and a starting a vocational certificate in dental assisting is another practical thing you can do while you're still at school. There's always virtual work experience to consider as well. Providing a taste of what the role looks like and giving you a little more insight if it's something you'd like to pursue. [Springpod](#) and [MentorVerse](#) could offer a couple of experiences to get you started.

Accredited courses in Australia and New Zealand

Only a handful of universities offer dentistry degrees that directly lead to registration as a dentist. In Australia, check the course is accredited by the [Australian Dental Council \(ADC\)](#). In New Zealand, check with the [Dental Council of New Zealand](#).

Undergraduate entry, straight from high school (five years):

- [Charles Sturt University – Bachelor of Dental Science](#)
- Griffith University – [Bachelor of Dental Health Science/Master of Dentistry](#)
- [James Cook University – Bachelor of Dental Surgery](#)
- [La Trobe University – Bachelor of Dental Science \(Honours\)](#)
- [Adelaide University – Bachelor of Dental Surgery](#)
- [University of Queensland – Bachelor of Dental Science \(Honours\)](#)

Graduate entry, after completing an undergraduate degree first (three-and-a-half to four years):

- [University of Melbourne – Doctor of Dental Surgery](#)
- [University of Sydney – Doctor of Dental Medicine](#)
- [University of Western Australia – Doctor of Dental Medicine](#)
- [University of Queensland – Doctor of Dental Medicine](#)

In New Zealand, the University of Otago is the only dental school. Its [Bachelor of Dental Surgery with Honours](#) is accredited by the Dental Council of New Zealand, entry requires an A-average in the fourth year of the standard [Otago Bachelor of Dental Surgery \(BDS\)](#) program. Selected students complete an intensive final year that includes advanced clinical practice and a specialised research project.

Remember it's always worth double checking a course's accreditation status before you apply, since it can occasionally change.

Just how competitive is dentistry?

There's no getting around it, dentistry is a hard course to get into. Undergraduate-entry courses usually need an ATAR (or equivalent) in the high 90s and a strong UCAT score. Graduate-entry courses look at your GPA from your undergraduate course and GAMSAT score instead. It's more than likely you'll have to attend at least one interview, and there may be other elements to your application such as personal statements, letter of recommendation, even background checks. Places are limited everywhere, which is why having a backup plan is a sensible idea, just in case the competition is strong the year that you apply.

Backup plans if you don't get in

A lower ATAR or a disappointing GAMSAT score doesn't have to be the end of the road. One option is to begin a related science degree, do well in first year, then apply for a transfer into dentistry with proven results behind you. Another is to study a Bachelor of Oral Health, which qualifies you as a dental hygienist, therapist, or oral health therapist, which are careers that could end up being a great match for you, but you'll also start building clinical experience and skills for a future application into post-graduate dentistry courses later.

You could also consider studying overseas at an accredited school, then applying for a license or registration to then practice back home. It might take a little longer, but it's a proven route and you'll be in the same industry, working and earning. Or taking a gap year and getting in more experience and practice through volunteering, work experience, or vocational qualifications, then reapplying later.

Dental careers other than dentist

Not everyone who wants to work in oral health needs to become a dentist, there are lots of other jobs in the industry that you might like to explore.

You could complete a Bachelor of Oral Health and become a qualified, registered dental hygienist, therapist, or oral health therapist. They all provide preventative care, hygienists clean teeth and treat gum disease for all ages. Therapists provide fillings and extractions (mainly for children). While oral health therapists combine both roles into a single dual-qualification.

Dental prosthetists are also registered independent oral health professionals. They specialise in the design, construction, fitting, and repair of removable dentures and mouth guards. They consult directly with patients, take mouth impressions, then construct the appliances, making sure they fit the patient and are working correctly.

Dental technicians are the people who work behind the scenes in a lab. They're sent molds of a patient's mouth by a dentist, with instructions on what's required. They get to work building the crowns, bridges, dentures, or braces and send them back to the dentist to fit on their patient.

Dental assistants support dentists and oral health teams by preparing treatment rooms and patients, sterilising instruments, taking x-rays, managing patient flow, and handing equipment over during procedures. You can often get into these roles with a vocational certificate rather than a degree.

There are also non-clinical roles in the industry from practice managers and treatment coordinators who work in clinics and private practices alongside the dental teams. As well as the product manufacturers, research coordinators oversee trials for new dental materials, techniques, or devices, dental writers who create educational materials, journal articles, or content for dental brands, and so many more to explore.

Any of these roles are a smart way to gain experience, start networking, and find out if dentistry is the right career for you.

Ready to get started?

The reality is dentistry takes years of study, it's hard work, and there will be competition at every step, but if that doesn't put you off then it could be the perfect career for you. By focusing on the right subjects in school, chasing every scrap of work experience, and building your human skills starting now, there's every chance that you'll be successful in your goals. Just remember to keep checking all your (accredited) options, have a solid plan b, and keep your eyes on the prize.

For more ideas about careers and pathways head over to our [Job Spotlights](#) page or for learn more about [human skills](#) you can build on now.

First Jobs, Study Tips

How to keep a part-time job from swallowing your study time

A part-time job is a great way to earn some money, build skills, and get a taste of the workplace while you're still at school. It can also creep into your study time without you really noticing, one extra shift here, one late finish there, until you look up and realise your assignments have been pushed to the very last minute for weeks. Keeping the two in balance takes a bit of deliberate effort, but it's a skill worth building early.

Working out how much is too much

There's no single number of hours that works for everyone, since it depends on your subjects, your assessments, and how you personally manage your energy. Instead of aiming for a fixed number, it helps to pay attention to a few signs. Are you consistently finishing assignments at the last minute? Is study time getting pushed later and later into the evening after a shift? Are you more tired in class than you used to be? These are better indicators than any hours cap, and they're worth checking in on regularly rather than waiting until results start to slip.

Getting your roster to work with you

Most employers are used to scheduling around students, but they can only do that if you tell them what you need. Being upfront about your availability, including exam periods or weeks with major assignments due, makes it much easier for your employer to build a roster that doesn't clash with your study. It's worth flagging these dates as early as you can, since rosters are often built weeks in advance and last-minute changes are harder to accommodate.

If a shift does land right before something important, it's reasonable to ask if it can be swapped or moved. Most workplaces would rather know in advance than have you show up unprepared for a shift or an assessment.

Watching for your busiest weeks

Exam blocks and major assignment deadlines are worth treating differently to a normal week. If you know these dates ahead of time, let your employer know as early as possible and ask about reducing your hours for that period specifically, rather than trying to push through a full roster on top of a heavier study load. A short stretch of fewer shifts around your busiest weeks makes a bigger difference than trimming hours evenly across the whole term.

The cost of saying yes to every shift

Extra shifts are easy to say yes to, especially when the money's useful or a colleague asks for a favour. Each one on its own rarely feels like a big deal, but they add up quickly, and it's often not until you're behind on study that you notice how many extra hours you've picked up over a few weeks.

It's fine to take on extra shifts sometimes, but it helps to check in with yourself before agreeing, particularly around busier points in the term. Asking whether this week can actually absorb

another shift, rather than assuming you'll find the time somewhere, makes it much easier to say no when you need to.

Making study time non-negotiable

It's easy to treat a work shift as fixed and study time as flexible, since one has someone expecting you to turn up and the other doesn't. Flip that thinking and block out specific times for study the same way a shift gets blocked out, on a calendar, with a start and end time, and treat that time as a genuine commitment rather than something to fit in around everything else. This doesn't mean every study session needs to be hours long. Even short, protected blocks straight after school or before a shift can cover more ground than a longer session squeezed in late at night when you're already tired.

When to scale back

Sometimes the answer isn't better scheduling, it's fewer hours. If you've noticed the signs of falling behind and adjusting your roster hasn't helped, it might be time to have a conversation with your employer about reducing your shifts, especially around exam periods or when major assignments are due.

This conversation is easier than it sounds. Most employers understand that school comes first, and being upfront about needing fewer hours for a while is far better for your reputation at work than cancelling shifts last minute or turning up unprepared. You can always pick hours back up once things settle down.

A skill that carries beyond school

Learning to manage a job alongside your study is one of the first times you'll have to balance genuinely competing commitments, and it's excellent practice for further study or full-time work later on, when you'll likely be juggling even more. The habits you build now, communicating early, protecting your time, and knowing when to pull back, are ones you'll keep using well beyond school.

If you want more tips on managing your study alongside everything else going on, check out our [study section](#).

Collaboration, Communication Skills, Study

How to handle uneven workload in a group assignment

If you've ever finished a group assignment feeling like you did most of the work you're not alone. Uneven workload is one of the most common frustrations students run into with group assignments, and it's rarely because someone set out to be unfair. Most of the time it comes down to unclear expectations from the start.

What fair actually looks like

Before you can sort out an uneven workload, it helps to know what "fair" actually means in a group assignment.

It's not an even split by task count

Some tasks take five minutes, others take five hours. If one person is writing the introduction and another is building the entire results section, an equal number of tasks doesn't mean an equal amount of work. Fair comes down to the time, effort, and difficulty involved in getting the whole assignment done, not just how many jobs are on each person's list.

What's actually yours

It also helps to separate what you're individually responsible for from what's shared across the group. Usually you'll have a specific section or task with your name on it, alongside shared responsibilities like giving feedback on other people's sections, attending meetings, or helping pull the final version together. Knowing which is which makes it much easier to tell whether you're falling behind on your own part, or whether the group as a whole is dropping the shared load.

Setting things up to avoid it

A lot of workload problems can be avoided before they start. Early on, sit down as a group and divide the assignment into clear tasks, with a name attached to each one. Vague tasks like "help with research" tend to end up being done by whoever's most organised, while everyone else assumes someone else has it covered.

Agreeing on deadlines for each part, not just the final due date, gives you a way to check progress along the way instead of finding out too late that someone's behind. It's also worth agreeing early on how the group will communicate, whether that's a group chat, regular check-ins, or a shared document everyone updates, so no one's left guessing where things stand.

Noticing it early

Uneven workload rarely appears out of nowhere. Usually there are signs before it becomes a real problem: someone consistently missing check-ins, sections left blank close to a deadline, or the same one or two people always chasing everyone else for updates.

Paying attention to these signs early means you can address them while there's still time to fix the balance, rather than scrambling to cover gaps the night before the assignment is due.

Raising it with the group

If you notice the workload isn't balanced, raising it directly with the group is almost always more effective than picking up the slack or waiting for it to sort itself out. Frame it around the task rather than the person. Instead of saying someone isn't pulling their weight, try asking how their section is coming along, or whether they need a hand with anything.

If a group chat isn't cutting it, suggest a quick meeting to check in on where everyone's at. Most of the time, an conversation is enough to get things back on track, especially if someone's fallen behind for reasons the rest of the group didn't know about.

If it doesn't improve

If you've raised the issue and the imbalance continues, keep a simple record of who's done what. This doesn't need to be anything formal, a shared document noting who completed which task and when is enough. It protects you if the workload issue needs to be raised more formally later, and it gives the group something concrete to work from rather than relying on memory.

If the group can't resolve it between yourselves, most teachers would rather hear about a problem before the due date than mark a finished assignment with an obvious imbalance. Letting them know doesn't need to be about placing blame. A short, factual explanation of what's happened and what you've already tried is usually all that's needed.

Why this skill matters beyond school

Group assignments are often the first real experience of managing shared responsibility with people you didn't choose to work with, which makes them useful practice for further study and workplaces later on. Learning to divide tasks fairly, notice problems early, and raise concerns constructively are skills that carry well beyond the classroom.

If you want more on managing the parts of study that go beyond just the coursework, you can find more in our [study section](#).

University, Vocational Education

Whats the difference between full-time and part-time study?

Deciding how to structure your study is just as important as deciding what to study. Full-time and part-time aren't just labels, they shape how your week looks, how long a course takes to finish, and what else you can realistically fit around it. Here's how the two compare.

What is full-time study?

Full-time study means enrolling in the standard course load your institution expects for a given period, which usually leads to finishing your qualification within its intended timeframe. It's the pace most people picture when they think about study: a fuller weekly timetable, and less room to spread things out.

At university

A full-time university load is typically four subjects, or units, each semester, adding up to eight over a full year. This is often referred to using the term equivalent full-time student load, or EFTSL, which universities and the government use to measure study load consistently. Staying on this pace generally means completing a standard three or four year degree within that original timeframe, though the exact number of subjects and their weighting can vary between courses and providers.

In vocational education

At places like TAFE, full-time is usually defined by hours rather than subject count, generally around 20 to 25 hours of scheduled training each week, running across most of the year. Exact contact hours still vary depending on the course, and some full-time programs combine classroom time with practical or workplace-based components.

What is part-time study?

Part-time study means enrolling in less than the standard full-time load, which stretches your course out over a longer period in exchange for a lighter week-to-week commitment.

At university

Part-time usually means enrolling in fewer than four subjects a semester, sometimes just one or two. A degree that would normally take three years full-time might take five or six years part-time, depending on how much you take on each semester and whether that changes over time.

In vocational education

Part-time TAFE study generally means fewer weekly contact hours than the full-time equivalent, often delivered through evening classes, block release, or a mix of on-campus and online learning designed to work around a job or other commitments.

How the study experience differs day to day

Full-time study concentrates more hours into fewer years, which usually means a heavier weekly timetable and more time spent on independent study outside class, especially around assessment periods. It also tends to come with a stronger sense of being part of a single cohort, since you're moving through the course alongside the same group of people.

Part-time study spreads that same workload out, so any given week tends to be lighter. The trade-off is that your course takes longer to complete, and you might find yourself studying alongside people at a different stage of the course rather than a consistent group moving through at the same pace as you.

What each option means for your other commitments

Full-time study generally leaves less room for a substantial job or other major commitments alongside it, simply because more of your week is already accounted for. It tends to suit people who can focus mainly on study for the duration of their course, whether that's straight out of school or at another point where other responsibilities are lighter.

Part-time study is often the better fit if you're working regular hours, in an apprenticeship-style arrangement, managing family responsibilities, or want to test out a field without committing to it fully straight away. It's common among mature age students, but there's no rule that says younger students can't choose it too, especially if it means being able to work while studying.

Things that can depend on your study load

Whether you're studying full-time or part-time can affect more than just your timetable. In Australia, income support payments like Youth Allowance and Austudy generally require a full-time study load, though the definition used for payment purposes is based on a percentage of a standard load rather than a fixed number of hours, so it's worth checking your own situation rather than assuming. You can find the current rules on the [Services Australia website](#).

For university students with a HECS-HELP loan, your study load doesn't change how the loan itself works, since that's based on how much you've borrowed rather than how many subjects you're taking. It can, however, affect how long it takes to finish your course and reach a point where compulsory repayments might start. These settings change from year to year, so it's worth checking current thresholds directly on the [Study Assist website](#) before factoring them into a decision.

How to decide which suits you

There's no single right answer here, and plenty of people switch between full-time and part-time at different points in their course if their institution allows it. Some things worth thinking through: how much time you can realistically commit each week once work, family, or other responsibilities are accounted for, how quickly you'd like to finish, and whether an intensive pace motivates you or wears you down over time. It's also worth checking with your institution early on, since moving between full-time and part-time partway through a course is often possible if your circumstances change.

If you want to explore more about study options and pathways, head to our [study section](#) for more.

Health & Wellbeing, University

Making the leap from high school to university

Heading off to university next year? Making the transition from high school is a significant milestone, and it's totally normal to feel both excited and nervous. Whether you're moving away from home or staying local, here's some practical advice to help you settle in.

Get organised early

University can throw a lot at you in the first few weeks. Lecture times, reading lists, assignment deadlines, society sign-ups, and it all lands at once. A planner, a shared calendar, or even a simple notes app can stop things slipping through the cracks. It's a good idea to have everything set up and ready to go before semester starts, not during week three when you're already behind.

It sounds like a small thing, but students who build this habit early tend to spend far less time panicking later.

Find and establish a study routine

School gives you structure, university gives you freedom, which means you'll be responsible for your own progress. Nobody chases you up if you skip your reading or don't come to a lecture. In addition to making a schedule for your lectures, tutorials, and labs (depending on your course), try blocking out regular times each week for reading, assignments, and revision, and treat those blocks like appointments you can't cancel. Some weeks will be busier than others, so having some flexibility is great. But having a rough rhythm means you're not scrambling to catch up before every deadline and means you can still find time to fit in work, socials, and other things that are important to you without your grades slipping.

Use the support that's already there

Most universities offer far more help than students realise. Tutors, academic advisors, writing support, study skills workshops all these exist because plenty of students need them, not just a struggling few. Find out what's available in your first fortnight (or before you start), that way you'll know what help is on offer for you before you actually need it. That way, if things get tough, you'll already know where to go.

Look after yourself, not just your grades

It's easy to let sleep, good food, and exercise slide when deadlines pile up, especially if you're living away from home from the first time too. But your brain works better when your body is looked after. So try to take your parents advice and remember to get enough rest, eat properly, and move around during the day, even if it's just a walk between lectures.

If you're feeling overwhelmed, talk to someone. Friends, family, and your university's counselling or wellbeing service are all there for exactly this reason. Asking for help early is far easier than waiting until things feel unmanageable.

Talk to your lecturers

Lecturers and tutors aren't just there to deliver content, they're also there to guide you and share their expertise. So ask questions in class, turn up to office hours if they're offered, take any opportunities to extend your learning and understanding. A five-minute chat after a lecture could clear up something that would otherwise cost you hours of confusion later, and it helps your Professors get to know you as more than a name on a roll.

Say yes to things outside the lecture theatre

University isn't only about lectures and assignments, it's a chance for you to grow socially and emotionally too. Clubs, societies, and sports teams are where a lot of growing up happens. You'll pick up skills you can't learn from a textbook, and you'll meet people outside your course which all combines to make your time at university more fun. We recommend picking just one or two things that interest you rather than trying to join everything in freshers' week, you can always change or add more later when you feel settled in.

Set goals you can actually hit

Big ambitions are great, they serve as a roadmap, helping you stay focused and motivated but they usually work better broken into smaller pieces. Set yourself short-term goals for the week or month, alongside the bigger picture for the semester or year. Keep them realistic, and don't be afraid to adjust them as you go. Celebrate all the wins, even the small ones.

Stay curious and open-minded

University is a place of exploration and discovery, giving you time to explore subjects and ideas you never came across at school. Keep an open mind to new ideas, subjects, and experiences,

even in the modules you don't expect to enjoy. Curiosity fuels learning and personal growth which is what makes the whole experience worthwhile, not just the grade at the end of it.

Keen to start prepping?

As well as being exciting and exhilarating, the jump from high school to university can bring real challenges, and it's completely normal to hit a few bumps along the way. Stay patient with yourself, lean on the support around you, and trust your own abilities, you'll adjust faster than you think.

If you'd like more advice on settling into university life, courses, and everything in between, take a look at our [university hub](#) for more articles like this one.

Created by Study Work Grow in 2026

Web: studyworkgrow.com

Email: schools@studyworkgrow.com

Phone: +61 7 4039 3862

This newsletter and its contents are copyright © 2026 Study Work Grow. Member Schools have a limited, non-exclusive licence to use and adapt the content for their school community, in internal and public-facing communications, including newsletters, social media, websites, virtual notice boards, and printed materials. Attribution is not required; however, redistribution to external parties, non-member schools, or use outside the intended school community is not permitted without prior written consent from Study Work Grow. By using this content, schools agree to these terms of use.