

Weekly Careers News for Victoria

August 24, 2026

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Table of Contents

EVENTS.....	4
This Week's Events	4
AIM August Open Day, Melbourne	
La Trobe Open Day 2026, Bendigo	
Deakin Open Day 2026, Melbourne	
ACU Open Day 2026, Ballarat	
Federation Open Day 2026, Ballarat	
CSU Open Day 2026, Bathurst	
ACU Year 12 VCE Revision Webinars	
CQU Education Open Day Webinar	
BDO's High School Leaver Program information session	
GOTAFE Careers & Futures Expo	
Victorian Skills & Careers Expo	
Admission to medicine at Sydney	
Study medicine at Sydney	
Swinburne University Aviation Info Session for Future Students	
Wodonga TAFE Careers & Futures Expo	
Swinburne Health Info Session	
GOTAFE Careers & Futures Expo Wodonga	
ADF Trade Careers Virtual Information Session	
Next Week's Events	9
Torrens University Open Day 2026, Melbourne	
Collarts Open Day 2026, Melbourne	
LCI Melbourne Open Day 2026	
VU Open Day 2026, City Tower	
Melbourne Polytechnic Information Technology & Security Online Information Session	
Torrens University Virtual Open Day 2026	
Monash Information Evening – Webinar	
Admission to medicine at Sydney	
Study medicine at Sydney	
Chadstone Careers Expo 2026	
Collarts Open Day 2026, Online	
Future Events	13
Massey University International Online Open Day	
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	

CDW Studios Online Information Session
 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 & 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
 Yr 12 & Beyond with ADHD – Webinar for Year 12 Students and Parents
 Procrastination & ADHD – Webinar for Year 10, 11, 12 Students and Parents
 Year 11 & Beyond with ADHD – Starting Strong in the Senior Years

SCHOLARSHIPS..... 18

AFTRS Constellation Creatives Scholarship
 UON Shaping Futures Scholarship for Early Entry
 Chances for Children Non-Tertiary Scholarship for students to participate in sport or music at state or national level
 Chances for Children Tertiary Scholarship

COMPETITIONS..... 19

The 2026 OutStanding LGBTQIA+ Short Story (750 words or less) Competition for 16+
 RANZCOG Liam and Frankie Davison Award
 UniSQ The Bruce Dawe National Poetry Prize 2026
 Student Poetry Competition 2026
 Moonhack 2026 Coding Competition for ages 7-15
 ARTEFFECT 2026 Summer Art Competition for High School Students
 Caritas School Art Competition 2026
 Blue Ocean Student Entrepreneur Competition

EXPERIENCES..... 20

Monash Engineering Girls (MEG) for Years 9-12

WEEKLY POSTS..... 20

University, Vocational Education..... 20

Everything you need to know about stackable qualifications

Study Tips..... 22

Smart ways to use AI for schoolwork

Jobs & Careers..... 24

Quantum science for students: what it actually is
 5 niche careers in nanotechnology

Apprenticeships & Traineeships, Vocational Education 27

Do you need to be good at maths to do a STEM apprenticeship?

Study, Volunteering 28

Should you get involved in citizen science as a student

Job Spotlights 30

How to become a Property Developer

Events

This Week's Events

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](#)

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](#)

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](#)

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](#)

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](#)

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](#)

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](#)

BDO's High School Leaver Program information session

Organisation: BDO Australia

Location: Online

Date: August 25, 2026

Join BDO Australia and Chartered Accountants Australia & New Zealand (CA ANZ) to discover a different way to start your career. Our High School Leavers Program offers students the opportunity to step straight into a full-time permanent role, earn an income, gain real-world experience and complete the CA ANZ Fundamentals Pathway at the same time, without going to university.

In this free online information session, you'll learn how students can build professional skills, work towards becoming a Chartered Accountant with a recognised qualification and start their careers from day one.

We'll cover:

- How the High School Leavers Program works
- The types of roles available at BDO and what participants do day to day
- The CA ANZ Fundamentals Pathway and how students combine work and study
- The support available, including funded study, study leave, mentoring and professional development
- The benefits of earning an income while gaining practical experience
- How this pathway differs from the traditional university experience.

[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](#)

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](#)

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](#)

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](#)

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

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](#)

GOTAFE Careers & Futures Expo Wodonga

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](#)

ADF Trade Careers Virtual Information Session

Organisation: Australian Defence Force

Location: Online

Date: August 27, 2026

Apply your existing trade skills or receive world-class training in order to work with formidable military assets and enjoy the many benefits of a career in the Australian Defence Force.

To find out more about available trade roles, come along to an info session and speak with current serving personnel.

It is highly recommended you book as soon as possible to avoid missing out as places are strictly limited!

[Find out more](#)

Next Week's Events

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](#)

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](#)

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](#)

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](#)

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](#)

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](#)

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](#)

Chadstone Careers Expo 2026

Organisation: Chadstone

Location: Vicinity Tower One Lobby

Date: September 2, 2026

Chadstone and Holmesglen Institute are excited to host a Careers Expo to promote employment opportunities at Chadstone.

These companies will be present on the day to meet with candidates and talk about current job opportunities. Keep in mind the list isn't final and may change, so stay tuned for updates!

Who should attend

Open to job seekers aged 15+ who are legally permitted to work in Australia: students, school leavers, graduates, career changers and experienced job seekers are all welcome.

Event details

The event will be held in 2 bookable sessions:

Session 1 – 1:30pm to 3:00pm

Session 2 – 3:30pm to 5:00pm

Venue: Chadstone Shopping Centre, Vicinity Tower foyer (LXD Lounge)

Can't interview with everyone in person?

Use our Digital Resume Submission Wall to scan the QR codes on the day to submit your resume directly to participating retailers you're interested in.

Want a sneak peek of what to expect? Just Google 'Chadstone Career Expo connects retailers with job seekers' to check out highlights from last year's event!

Get retail ready

The Holmesglen Employment Centre team will be running a free online workshop on Interview Techniques and Resume Writing on Tuesday, 25th August to help you become retail ready and boost your confidence for the Expo. **Bring your resume along on the day, digitally or in hardcopy. As this is a real interview opportunity, business or professional attire is required for entry, besides school uniform.**

[Find out more](#)

Collarts Open Day 2026, Online

Organisation: Australian College of the Arts

Location: Online

Date: September 3, 2026

At Collarts, Open Day is designed to help you understand what it's really like to study online, explore our learning experience, meet the people who will support you, and discover how flexible online study can fit around your life while keeping you connected to a creative community.

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

Here are some of the experiences you can take part in during Open Day.

- Take a guided walkthrough of the Collarts Online learning environment and see how your study experience comes together. You'll gain a clear understanding of how online study works and what to expect as a student.
- Connect with academics, Online Learning Tutors and Student Success Advisors. These sessions provide an opportunity to ask questions about courses, study options, career outcomes and student support. You will learn more about the people who will guide and support you throughout your studies.

- See examples of learning activities, projects and creative work from across our disciplines. See how students apply their learning through authentic industry-focused projects and gain insight into the types of experiences that form part of a Collarts online study.
- Hear directly from current students and graduates about their experiences studying online. Learn how they balanced study with work and life commitments, built creative networks, developed their skills and progressed towards their career goals.
- Discover how Collarts Online helps students stay connected throughout their studies. Learn about study groups, live sessions, student communities, one-on-one support and the range of services available to help you succeed from your first week through to graduation.

[Find out more](#)

Future Events

Massey University International Online Open Day

Organisation: Massey University

Location: Online

Date: September 5, 2026

Join us in New Zealand. Each year, more than 5,000 international students from over 100 countries find a warm welcome at Te Kunenga ki Pūrehuroa Massey University.

During the event, you'll hear from our academics, current students and support staff as they share insights into studying at Massey and answer some of the most common questions from future international students.

During the event, we'll cover topics including:

- Courses and qualifications available including graduate outcomes
- Our campuses in New Zealand and accommodation options
- What makes Massey unique
- Student life in New Zealand
- Student support services including careers
- Admission and enrolment support
- Fees and funding

You'll also have the opportunity to connect with Massey staff and ask questions about your study options, helping you choose the qualification that's right for your interests and career goals.

Whether you're just starting to explore university or have applied already, you'll leave with a better understanding of what studying at Massey is like and the next steps to begin your journey.

We can't wait to welcome you to Massey University's 2026 International Online Open Day.

[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](#)

CDW Studios Online Information Session

Organisation: CDW Studios

Location: Online

Date: September 16, 2026

Discover our industry-recognised pathway into the entertainment design industry!

This free online session is designed for anyone interested in building a creative career in the entertainment design industry, becoming a professional artist for games, movies, animation and VFX.

[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 & 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](#)

Yr 12 & Beyond with ADHD – Webinar for Year 12 Students and Parents

Organisation: ADHD Webinars

Location: Online

Date: October 29, 2026

Designed to help Year 12 students and parents navigate the transition to tertiary study or employment with practical ADHD management strategies. It offers actionable guidance on post-school options, strengths and interests, accommodations, and setting up tailored support systems.

[Find out more](#)

Procrastination & ADHD – Webinar for Year 10, 11, 12 Students and Parents

Organisation: ADHD Webinars

Location: Online

Date: November 5, 2026

A practical session focusing on why ADHD brains procrastinate and how students in Years 10–12 can overcome executive dysfunction. Attendees will learn evidence-based study tools, time-management hacks, and task-initiation techniques.

[Find out more](#)

Year 11 & Beyond with ADHD – Starting Strong in the Senior Years

Organisation: ADHD Webinars

Location: Online

Date: November 26, 2026

Focuses on setting senior students up for success as they enter their final school year and look ahead to future pathways. This webinar for parents, senior high school students and career practitioners covers strategies for managing workload stress, building independence, and planning post-school transitions.

[Find out more](#)

Scholarships

AFTRS Constellation Creatives Scholarship

Organisation: Australian Film Television and Radio School

Location: Australia, New Zealand

Value: \$15,000 AUD

Open Date: June 29, 2026

Close Date: October 21, 2026

[Find out more](#)

UON Shaping Futures Scholarship for Early Entry

Organisation: University of Newcastle

Location: Australia

Value: \$5,000 AUD

Close Date: November 12, 2026

[Find out more](#)

Chances for Children Non-Tertiary Scholarship for students to participate in sport or music at state or national level

Organisation: Chances for Children Foundation

Location: New South Wales, Victoria

Value: Varies

Open Date: August 17, 2026

Close Date: October 26, 2026

[Find out more](#)

Chances for Children Tertiary Scholarship

Organisation: Chances for Children Foundation

Location: New South Wales, Victoria

Value: Varies

Open Date: August 17, 2026

Close Date: October 26, 2026

[Find out more](#)

Competitions

The 2026 OutStanding LGBTQIA+ Short Story (750 words or less) Competition for 16+

Organisation: Outstanding Stories

Location: Australia, New Zealand

Value: Up to \$1,000 AUD

Close Date: August 30, 2026

[Find out more](#)

RANZCOG Liam and Frankie Davison Award

Organisation: The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG)

Location: Australia, New Zealand

Value: \$1,000 NZD or AUD

Close Date: August 31, 2026

[Find out more](#)

UniSQ The Bruce Dawe National Poetry Prize 2026

Organisation: University of Southern Queensland

Location: Australia

Value: Up to \$3,000 AUD

Close Date: September 22, 2026

[Find out more](#)

Student Poetry Competition 2026

Organisation: Independent Schools Victoria

Location: Victoria

Value: See details

Close Date: August 28, 2026

[Find out more](#)

Moonhack 2026 Coding Competition for ages 7-15

Organisation: Code Club Australia

Location: All

Value: Up to \$1,435 AUD

Close Date: No closing date

[Find out more](#)

ARTEFFECT 2026 Summer Art Competition for High School Students

Organisation: ARTEFFECT

Location: All

Value: Up to \$3,000 USD

Close Date: September 15, 2026

[Find out more](#)

Caritas School Art Competition 2026

Organisation: Caritas Australia

Location: Australia

Value: Up to \$300 AUD

Close Date: September 18, 2026

[Find out more](#)

Blue Ocean Student Entrepreneur Competition

Organisation: Blue Ocean

Location: All

Value: Up to US\$1,000

Close Date: February 21, 2027

[Find out more](#)

Experiences

Monash Engineering Girls (MEG) for Years 9-12

Organisation: Monash University

Location: Monash University

[Find out more](#)

Weekly Posts

University, Vocational Education

Everything you need to know about stackable qualifications

A stackable qualification is built from smaller qualifications or units of study that combine over time to count towards something larger. Rather than enrolling in one long course and

completing it as a single block, a student finishes a smaller qualification first, then may continue on to the next level using the credit already earned.

A Certificate II, for example, is a real qualification a student can list on a job application or use to meet entry requirements, whether or not they ever continue on to a Certificate III. If they do continue, the units of competency they've already completed may be recognised by the next course through a process called [credit transfer](#). This applies unit by unit, and the student needs to provide formal evidence, such as a certificate, statement of attainment, or transcript, before the credit is granted. Once it is, that unit doesn't need to be studied or assessed again. This is different from a standalone qualification, which is designed and delivered as one complete course with a single outcome at the end.

Why stackable qualifications exist

Stackable qualifications exist because not every student wants, or needs, to commit to a long course from the outset. Some want to test out an area of study before deciding how far to take it. Others want to start working sooner and add further qualifications later, once they have a clearer sense of direction.

Building a qualification up in stages also limits what's lost if a student changes direction partway through. A smaller qualification completed along the way remains valid on its own, and depending on the receiving course's credit arrangements, some or all of the units involved may still be recognised later, even outside the original pathway.

How stacking works in practice

Stacking looks different depending on the type of course and institution involved. The two most common examples are vocational qualifications and university study.

A vocational pathway

Vocational qualifications, often called VET courses, are structured in levels, from Certificate I through to Advanced Diploma. Each level is made up of [units of competency](#), which are the individual skills or topics a student is assessed on, and each of these units belongs to a specific training package linked to an industry area. Every unit of competency is listed on the National Training Register, along with the qualification and training package it belongs to.

A student might complete a Certificate II in Business, then move on to a Certificate III in Business. Because both qualifications draw from the same training package, many of the units completed at Certificate II level are listed as core or elective requirements in the Certificate III. Where a student continues with the same training provider, records already held usually mean this happens without a separate application, though moving to a different provider still requires the formal evidence described earlier. This same process could continue through a Certificate IV in Business and into a Diploma of Business, provided each step stays within the same or a closely aligned training package.

Moving into a training package outside this area, such as switching from business into hospitality, would usually mean starting that pathway from scratch, since the units wouldn't match up in the same way. A student can check this directly by searching the qualification on the National Training Register, which lists which units are treated as equivalent.

A university pathway

University stacking usually works through micro-credentials, short, individually assessed units of study smaller than a full subject. These are set out under the government's [national micro-credentials framework](#), which allows them to count towards a larger qualification. Some universities combine a small number of undergraduate-level micro-credentials into an undergraduate certificate, a recognised qualification in its own right.

From there, further stacking into a [diploma or bachelor degree](#) depends on whether the university offering the next qualification has an articulation arrangement in place, a defined pathway that lets a student progress from a completed qualification into another with admission or credit already agreed. Where no articulation arrangement exists, a student may still be able to apply for recognition of prior learning, where a qualified assessor evaluates their existing skills and knowledge against the course requirements. This may result in partial or full credit, though it isn't guaranteed to match what an articulation arrangement would provide. This means university stacking depends heavily on which institution is involved and what arrangements it has in place, rather than working the same way across every provider.

What to check before relying on it

Before assuming a smaller qualification will count towards something bigger later, it's worth checking a few specific things directly with the course provider or the institution offering the next step. [Your Career](#), the government's course directory, is a useful starting point for comparing course details. From there, check:

- Whether the course leads to a formal qualification or statement of attainment, not just a certificate of completion
- Whether a specific, named qualification is listed as the next step in the pathway
- Whether a credit transfer or articulation arrangement is documented between the two courses
- Whether recognition of prior learning is available as a backup option if no formal arrangement exists
- Whether the units involved can be checked directly on the [National Training Register](#)

If none of this is confirmed, the course may still be worthwhile on its own, but the pathway beyond it shouldn't be assumed.

Things that catch students out

A few assumptions cause problems for students relying on stacking:

- Assuming all units from one course automatically carry over into an unrelated course or training package
- Assuming a microcredential or short course from one provider will be recognised by a different provider without a documented arrangement
- Assuming a smaller qualification alone is enough to meet a job requirement that specifically calls for the full, completed qualification

Checking these details early, before enrolling, avoids planning around a pathway that may not actually apply.

The same test applies either way

The mechanics differ between a VET pathway and a university pathway. VET stacking runs on units of competency and training packages, while university stacking runs on microcredentials and articulation arrangements. In both cases, the same underlying test decides whether stacking will work: has the credit been documented by the provider or institution on the receiving end, through credit transfer, recognition of prior learning, or an articulation arrangement. If you want to explore more about study pathways and qualification options, we have plenty of other blogs and resources for you to [check out](#).

Study Tips

Smart ways to use AI for schoolwork

By now, you've probably typed a question into an AI chatbot at least once. Maybe you asked it to explain a tricky maths problem, or help you plan an essay. It's fast, it's free, and it always has an answer ready. Yes AI can be a useful helper with your schoolwork and could do the work for you, but hold your horses and have a read of this article before you use it for your next assignment. Things aren't always black and white, including using AI.

Where AI can actually help

Used well, AI is more like a study buddy than a genius who does your homework while you scroll or keep on gaming. It's good at explaining a concept in a different way when your textbook isn't making sense. It can help you plan the structure of an essay, suggest revision questions, or turn your messy notes into a tidy summary. If you're stuck on how to start a piece of writing, asking AI for a few different opening lines can shake loose your own ideas.

It's also handy outside school. You could use it to help draft an email to a coach or employer, get feedback on your CV, or explore a job you're curious about and what it involves day to day. Used this way, it's a tool that speeds up the boring bits so you have more time and energy for the parts that need real thought.

Why you still have to do the heavy lifting

Each of the examples above only work if you're still driving your studies. If AI writes your whole essay, including planning your whole argument, and picking your whole conclusion, you haven't learned anything. You've just handed in a hodgepodge of someone (or something) else's thinking with your name on it. That's not going to serve you well in exams or down the track. Forming an argument means deciding what you believe, based on evidence that you've found, read, and understood yourself. That's a skill, and skills can only grow through practice. If AI does all of your research for you, you're skipping the tasks that build your ability to think for yourself. The rule of thumb is simple, you should still be doing the lion's share of the work. AI can support your process, but it shouldn't replace it.

Teachers can usually spot AI-generated work anyway, it tends to sound very generic, missing your voice, and your reasoning. Not mention that as AI evolves, the AI detection software used to spot it is also developing, you'll never know if you're ahead of that curve at any one time, so it's probably safer just to do your own homework.

The risks of leaning on AI too much

First of all, AI chatbots can get facts wrong with total confidence. Sometimes inventing statistics, misquoting sources, stating something false as if it were obvious truth, or just jumbling things up and using them out of context. Which is understandable since it's only using information you've provided along with what it can sift from the internet of things. If you copy everything straight into your work without checking all of the facts and the sources (using reliable platforms, databases, and networks if you're not using direct research papers themselves); then you're just passing on someone else's mistake as your own.

As we mentioned earlier, relying on AI to think for you now, means you're not building the skills you'll need later. Exams don't let you use it. University assignments are increasingly designed to spot over-reliance on it. And in most jobs, employers want your judgement and ideas, not a paraphrased chatbot answer. The habits you build now, good or bad, could stick - so why not start using AI intelligently now to give your studies a boost while still building important human skills like critical thinking, problem-solving, emotional intelligence, and ethical judgment.

Using it the right way

You don't need to avoid AI altogether. In fact it's important that you keep learning about it and how to use it to enhance your human abilities. As Jensen Huang CEO of NVIDIA said "You won't lose your job to AI—you'll lose your job to somebody who uses AI".

Used properly, it could take some of the grunt work out of studying, strengthen your understanding of topics, and help you formulate your ideas more clearly. Learn to use good habits, like always checking facts, statistics, and sources yourself before using them. If it gives you a fact that sounds surprising, you should definitely look it up elsewhere before you trust it. Form your own views or hypothesis first, then use AI to test or refine it. Most importantly use your own voice in everything you write.

Keep building the skills that matter

Learning how to research properly, argue your point, and check your sources are skills that will serve you long after you've left school, in almost any career you choose. If you'd like more ideas on how to build these kinds of skills for study and beyond, head over to our [Human Skills](#) or [Study Tips](#) pages for more suggestions.

Jobs & Careers

Quantum science for students: what it actually is

The word "quantum" comes up in movies, marketing, and casual conversation far more often than any clear explanation of what it actually means. It's a well-established field of physics, and understanding the basics doesn't need any advanced maths or background knowledge beyond what you've already got.

The basic idea

Quantum science studies how matter and energy behave at extremely small scales, at the level of atoms and the particles that make them up. At this scale, the rules that describe how a ball rolls or a car accelerates stop applying, and a different set of rules takes over.

Just how small we're talking about

An atom is roughly a hundred thousand times narrower than a strand of human hair. Quantum science studies particles smaller again, including electrons, which exist within atoms. At this scale, direct observation with the naked eye or a standard microscope isn't possible, so behaviour is instead measured through specialised equipment and inferred using mathematical models built from decades of experimental data.

Where the confusion comes from

Quantum science shows up constantly in movies, video games, and marketing, usually attached to ideas like instant teleportation, parallel universes, or objects existing in two places at once. Most of this borrows the word "quantum" for its reputation rather than reflecting the actual science.

Quantum behaviour follows a different set of rules to the physics visible in daily life, largely because it only becomes measurable at a scale no one interacts with directly. That gap between what's observable and what's real gives fiction plenty of room to exaggerate. Real quantum science is grounded in decades of experiments and evidence, and it's already responsible for technology you use every day, like the chips inside your phone and computer.

The two ideas behind most of it

Two concepts come up again and again when people talk about quantum science: superposition and entanglement.

Superposition means a particle can exist in more than one state at once, rather than being locked into a single definite state the way everyday objects are. Think of a coin spinning in the air. While it's spinning, it isn't simply heads or tails, it's a mix of both possibilities until it lands

and you check it. Particles behave a bit like that spinning coin until they're measured. Entanglement happens when two particles become linked in a way that means the state of one instantly affects the state of the other, even if they're far apart, without any signal passing between them in the usual sense. It's still an active area of research today.

Where quantum science shows up in the real world

Quantum science already underpins plenty of technology you might not realise counts as "quantum." The chips inside your phone and computer rely on quantum physics to work, since the behaviour of electrons in tiny transistors follows quantum rules rather than classical ones. Precision sensors used in navigation and medical imaging, like MRI machines, also depend on quantum effects to measure things with a level of accuracy classical technology can't match. Beyond what's already in use, [quantum computing](#) is one of the most talked-about applications, using superposition and entanglement to process certain types of problems in ways traditional computers can't. Secure communication is another growing area, using entanglement to detect if a message has been intercepted, which could make future data significantly harder to access without permission.

Why this field is growing right now

Quantum science has moved from mostly theoretical research to real-world application over the past couple of decades, which is part of why it comes up more often now than it would have a few years ago. Governments and companies are investing heavily in the field, particularly in computing, sensing, and secure communication, since the potential impact across industries like medicine, finance, and defence is considerable.

It's still an emerging field, which means a lot of what's possible hasn't been figured out yet, rather than being an area where the groundwork is already fully established.

How it connects to what you're already learning

You don't need to already understand quantum physics to start building toward it. Senior physics covers the classical physics that quantum science builds on and eventually departs from, and maths subjects that cover probability and complex numbers give you tools that show up again in quantum theory later on.

If you're curious about where physics and maths subjects could take you, our [subject selection hub](#) breaks down how different combinations connect to future pathways.

5 niche careers in nanotechnology

A single strand of DNA is about 2 nanometres wide, roughly 40,000 times thinner than a human hair. Nanotechnology works at that scale, engineering materials and devices atom by atom, and it already shapes things like sunscreen, medical treatments, phone screens, and the batteries in your devices.

Here's a look at five careers worth considering.

Nanotechnology Research Assistant/Technician

Nanotechnology Research Assistants and Technicians support the hands-on side of nanotechnology research, preparing samples, running experiments, and recording results under the guidance of senior scientists. Precise, detail-focused work matters here, since even a small error in measurement or contamination can affect an entire experiment.

It's often the most accessible entry point into the field, since positions can be reached through a laboratory-based qualification rather than a full science degree. Many technicians build on this foundation over time, moving into more advanced roles as their experience and study level grows.

Nanomaterials Engineer

Nanomaterials Engineers design and test new materials engineered at the nanoscale, adjusting the way atoms and molecules are arranged to create materials that are stronger, lighter, or more conductive than their traditional counterparts. Their work feeds into industries like construction, electronics, and manufacturing, wherever a small change in material properties can make a big difference to performance.

A science or engineering degree with a materials or chemistry focus is the usual pathway in. Nanomaterials Engineers often specialise further as they build experience in a particular industry.

Nanomedicine Researcher

Nanomedicine Researchers develop nanoscale tools for medicine, including drug delivery systems designed to target specific cells in the body and diagnostic tools that can detect disease earlier than traditional methods. The work sits at the intersection of biology, chemistry, and engineering.

It's demanding, and usually means years of study and research experience before you're leading your own projects. If you're interested in both science and healthcare, it's one of the more direct ways to combine the two.

Nanomaterials Safety Officer

Nanomaterials Safety Officers assess and manage the risks involved in working with and manufacturing nanomaterials, since particles this small can behave differently in the body and the environment compared to their larger-scale counterparts. The role includes testing exposure levels, setting handling procedures, and making sure a workplace meets safety standards.

A science background is generally expected, often combined with further training in occupational health and safety. It suits you if you care about the practical, real-world side of new technology.

Nanotechnology Process Engineer

Nanotechnology Process Engineers take nanomaterials and processes that have been proven in a lab and work out how to scale them up for industrial manufacturing, without losing the properties that made them useful in the first place. It's a role that blends science with problem-solving and logistics, since manufacturing at scale introduces challenges that don't show up in small lab batches.

An engineering degree is the typical starting point, and experience in a manufacturing or production environment is highly valued alongside it.

What you'd need to get started

There's no single pathway into nanotechnology, since these five roles range from a laboratory-based qualification through to a full science or engineering degree. What they share is a foundation in the physical sciences, so senior subjects in chemistry, physics, or maths give you a solid base regardless of which direction you end up taking.

Beyond subject choice, a few things matter across all five roles:

- A high level of attention to detail, since small errors matter more at this scale
- Comfort following precise procedures and safety protocols
- Curiosity about how materials and systems behave, not just what they do
- The patience to work on problems that can take months or years to solve

None of these roles require you to have it all figured out before you start. Lab-based positions can be a practical way to build experience and work out whether the field suits you, before committing to further study in a specific direction.

If you're interested in exploring more careers, head to our [jobs and careers page](#) for more.

Apprenticeships & Traineeships, Vocational Education

Do you need to be good at maths to do a STEM apprenticeship?

If you've wondered whether your maths is actually good enough for a STEM apprenticeship, or whether you need to work on it before you'd stand a chance, the honest answer depends on which kind of role you're picturing. Trade-based STEM apprenticeships, like becoming an Electrician or a Refrigeration Mechanic, generally need less maths than you'd expect. Some technical and engineering-focused STEM pathways need considerably more.

What counts as a STEM apprenticeship

STEM apprenticeships (roles built around science, technology, engineering, or maths) show up in more places than most students expect. Electricians work with circuits and wiring systems, while Refrigeration Mechanics keep cooling and climate control systems running properly. Automotive Technicians diagnose and repair vehicles that rely on increasingly computerised systems, and Engineering Technicians support design and construction work on-site. In a lab setting, Laboratory Technicians prepare samples and run tests, and IT Technicians set up, maintain, and troubleshoot technology systems for a business.

None of these roles need a university degree to get started. They combine paid, on-the-job training with structured study towards a nationally recognised qualification, so you're building practical skills in a real workplace from early on.

Where the bar actually sits

An Electrician's maths covers load calculations, voltages, and measurements, usually assessed at around a Year 10 standard. A Refrigeration Mechanic works with pressure and temperature calculations, and an Automotive Technician reads diagnostic data and works with ratios and tolerances. All of this maths applies to real, high-stakes problems, but it stays at a level most students have already covered by the end of Year 10.

Some STEM-related roles need considerably more. An Electrical Engineer or Mechanical Engineer works through calculus and advanced mathematical modelling, which is why those degrees usually expect a higher level senior maths subject before you're even accepted.

How your maths already measures up

You can usually get a sense of this without any formal test. If you're comfortable working with fractions, decimals, and percentages, converting between units, and reading measurements accurately, you're already at the level most trade-based STEM apprenticeships expect. These are things you're probably already doing without noticing, like adjusting a recipe, working out change, or reading a tape measure. If you want a clearer answer, some apprenticeship providers offer short numeracy quizzes you can try before you apply, so you're not just guessing.

If you're picturing something like engineering instead, it's worth being honest with yourself about how comfortable you are with more abstract, multi-step problem solving, since that's closer to what those degrees actually demand.

If you think you need to build it up

If you've realised your maths isn't quite where you'd like it to be, that doesn't need to close any doors. Free numeracy check-ins are available if you're applying for an apprenticeship, giving you a clearer picture of what to expect. Once you're in an apprenticeship, training providers and

government-funded foundation skills programs also offer extra support, including tutoring and additional numeracy sessions, so you're not left to work it out alone. Employers are generally looking for someone willing to learn and apply themselves, not someone who already has every skill locked in from day one.

Building it up in the meantime

There are a few low-key ways to keep building your numeracy, whatever your current level. Practising applied problems, like working out measurements, ratios, or unit conversions, builds the exact kind of maths these roles use day to day. Paying attention to how maths shows up in everyday situations, from cooking to budgeting to sport, keeps those skills fresh without it feeling like study. The more you practise using numbers this way, the more natural it becomes.

The takeaway

Most STEM apprenticeships need a level of maths you've probably already got. If you're aiming higher, at something like engineering, the maths climbs with it, and it's worth knowing that early rather than finding out once you've applied.

If you're curious about other [apprenticeship and career pathways](#), we've got plenty more to explore.

Study, Volunteering

Should you get involved in citizen science as a student

You don't need a lab coat or a science degree to contribute to real research. Citizen science lets everyday people, including students, collect data that scientists use in their work, and there are plenty of ways to get involved without any prior experience.

What counts as citizen science

Citizen science is any project where members of the public help collect or process data for actual scientific research. It might mean photographing a plant you found on a walk, reporting an animal sighting through an app, or classifying images from a telescope on your laptop. The data gets fed into projects run by universities, museums, and research organisations, and used the same way any other scientific data would be.

What makes it different from a school science experiment is that the research is ongoing and run by actual scientists, with your contribution becoming part of a live dataset rather than a one-off assignment.

Why it's worth doing as a student

Getting involved gives you a look at how science actually works outside a classroom, collecting and reporting data the way researchers do, often using the same apps and platforms professionals rely on. It's also flexible. Most projects can be done in short bursts, a ten-minute bird count or a few minutes classifying images online, so it fits around school rather than competing with it.

It can also strengthen future applications, whether for further study or work, since it shows initiative and a willingness to contribute to something beyond your own immediate interests. More than anything, it's a way to turn curiosity about the world around you into something useful.

Examples you can get involved with

Citizen science covers a wide range of topics, but most projects fall into a few broad types.

Spot-and-report apps

These projects ask you to report a specific type of sighting through an app, usually with a photo. FrogID has you record a frog call to help track frog populations around the country. Redmap asks divers, fishers, and beachgoers to log marine species turning up in unusual places along the coast, which helps researchers track how ocean conditions are shifting. FeralScan collects sightings of feral animals to support control and conservation efforts. TurtleSAT and WomSAT work the same way for freshwater turtles and wombats, including signs of mange in wombat populations, both valuable indicators for researchers monitoring the health of local wildlife.

General biodiversity logging

Rather than tracking one species, these projects let you log anything you come across. iNaturalist lets you photograph and upload sightings of plants, animals, or fungi, and the community helps identify what you've found, building a picture of biodiversity across the country over time. The Aussie Backyard Bird Count runs for one week each year and asks people to spend twenty minutes recording the birds they see in their local area, contributing to one of the largest wildlife surveys in the country.

From-home projects

Not every project needs you outdoors. Zooniverse hosts dozens of projects you can join entirely from a laptop, from classifying galaxy shapes captured by telescopes to identifying animals in wildlife camera trap footage. DigiVol lets you help digitise museum collections and historical records, transcribing old documents or entering specimen data that would otherwise take researchers years to process by hand.

How it benefits the wider community

The data collected through these projects feeds directly into research. Researchers rely on citizen science because some questions, like whether a wombat population is affected by mange in a particular region, or whether a fish species is turning up further south than it used to, need far more eyes and locations than any research team could cover alone. A single sighting might not seem like much, but thousands of them, submitted from all over the country, build a picture that helps track environmental change, support conservation decisions, and sometimes even lead to new discoveries.

Species range shifts recorded through projects like Redmap, for example, have fed directly into research on how climate change is affecting Australian marine life. Data from apps like FrogID and WomSAT has been used to monitor the impact of habitat loss and disease on native species. Your individual contribution becomes part of something much bigger than a single sighting.

Common hesitations

A lot of people hold off on getting involved because they're worried about identifying something incorrectly. Most projects are built around this exact concern. Apps like iNaturalist and FrogID use both community input and expert review to confirm identifications, so a wrong guess gets corrected before it's used rather than counted as bad data. Zooniverse projects usually have multiple people classify the same image, and the results are cross-checked against each other before anything gets counted. Having a go and letting the system catch mistakes is exactly how these platforms are designed to work.

The other common hesitation is thinking a single sighting or classification is too small to matter. Citizen science is built around exactly that kind of small, individual contribution. No single data point needs to carry the weight of a discovery on its own, it just needs to be one accurate entry among thousands. That's a much lower bar than most people assume when they first look into it.

Getting started

The easiest way in is to pick one project that actually interests you, rather than trying to do all of them at once. If you like being outdoors, a spot-and-report app is a good place to start. If you'd rather contribute from your room, Zooniverse or DigiVol are worth a look. Download the app or create an account, have a look at how the data collection works, and start small. There's no minimum commitment, and most people who stick with it started with a single sighting or a few minutes spent classifying images.

Citizen science won't replace a formal science education, but it's a solid way to engage with actual research while you're still at school, and it might just introduce you to a field you hadn't considered before.

If you're curious about where an interest like this could take you, have a look through our [study section](#) for more.

Job Spotlights

How to become a Property Developer

Property Developers identify opportunities, secure land and financing, and coordinate the teams needed to turn a site into something new. They manage the full process from initial concept through to completion, working across planning, design, construction, and finance to bring a development from idea to reality.

If you're drawn to complex projects with many moving parts, comfortable working with ambiguity, and interested in how the built environment takes shape, this career sits at the intersection of business, construction, and planning.

What skills do I need as a Property Developer?

- Strategic & commercial thinking
- Strong negotiator
- Project coordination
- Financial literacy
- Effective communicator
- Risk awareness
- Relationship builder
- Detail-oriented mindset

What do Property Developers do?

Before a project breaks ground, you're doing a significant amount of groundwork. You'll research potential sites, assess their development potential, and evaluate whether a project stacks up financially. This involves analysing planning controls, commissioning feasibility studies, and securing the financing needed to move forward. Getting this stage right is critical, and it requires you to draw on input from planners, financiers, and legal advisers before a single decision is made.

Once a project is underway, your role shifts to coordination. You'll manage relationships with architects, engineers, planners, construction teams, and local authorities, making sure each part of the process connects to the next. You're not necessarily doing the technical work yourself, but you need enough understanding of each discipline to ask the right questions, spot problems early, and keep everyone aligned on the shared outcome. Decisions come at you from multiple directions, and your job is to keep the project on track without losing sight of the budget or timeline.

Periodically you'll navigate planning approvals, respond to community feedback, and manage variations when something doesn't go to plan. Some developers focus on residential projects, others on commercial or mixed-use developments, and some work on large-scale urban renewal. As your experience grows, you may take on larger and more complex projects, or move into development management roles within larger organisations.

What kind of lifestyle could I expect?

Property Developers work for development companies, construction firms, real estate groups, and government agencies involved in housing and urban renewal. Some work in-house for large organisations managing their own development pipelines, while others work for smaller boutique developers or eventually establish their own businesses. The role can also exist within local and state government, where development is driven by public infrastructure and housing needs rather than private investment.

Hours are typically above average, particularly during active project phases when approvals, construction milestones, or settlements create concentrated periods of pressure. The work is largely office-based, though you'll regularly visit sites and attend meetings with councils, consultants, and contractors. Some flexibility is possible depending on the employer, but the pace of the work means it rarely fits a rigid nine-to-five pattern.

Salaries are above average, though income in this field can vary considerably. Many developers, particularly those running their own projects, earn based on the success of individual developments rather than a fixed salary. This means income can be variable, with the potential for significantly higher earnings as experience and track record grow. The property development sector is tied to broader economic conditions, including interest rates and housing demand, which can affect project viability and employment at different points in the cycle.

How to become a Property Developer

- **Build relevant knowledge through study:** A degree in property economics, urban planning, construction management, business, or a related field gives you a strong foundation. These programs build your understanding of feasibility, finance, and the planning and construction processes that underpin development work.
- **Gain experience in a related field:** Most people enter property development after working in an adjacent role first. Construction, real estate, planning, and project management are all common starting points. This experience builds the practical knowledge of how projects actually run, which is hard to develop from study alone.
- **Develop your financial and commercial literacy:** Understanding how development finance works, including concepts like feasibility modelling, cash flow, and return on investment, is central to the role. Look for opportunities to build this knowledge through your studies, workplace experience, or professional development.
- **Build your professional network:** Property development runs on relationships. Connections with planners, architects, financiers, builders, and real estate agents all become relevant as you progress. Starting to build those connections early, through work experience, industry events, and professional associations, puts you in a stronger position when you're ready to take on more responsibility.

From here, you could move into development management roles overseeing larger project portfolios, take on senior positions within major development or construction companies, or build experience across enough disciplines to pursue your own projects over time.

What can I do right now?

If you're in high school and interested in working as a Property Developer, here are some practical steps:

- Follow property and construction news to build your understanding of how the development market works, including how planning decisions, interest rates, and housing demand shape what gets built and where
- Look for work experience with real estate agencies, property management firms, or construction companies to get a ground-level view of how projects and transactions work in practice
- Focus on building strong foundations in maths and business subjects, as financial literacy and analytical thinking are central to development work at every level

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

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