

Weekly Careers News for Victoria

August 18, 2025

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Events

This Week's Events

Refugee and asylum seeker applicants – application information

Organisation: Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre

Location: Online

Date: August 19, 2025

Refugees and asylum seekers are a vital part of Australia's higher education community, and we understand that the application process can be complex. This webinar is designed to guide you through the steps to accessing tertiary study and the support available to help you along the way. In this session, we'll cover the application process, equity schemes and scholarships as well as other resources to support you. Join us to gain clarity, connect with helpful programs, and take confident steps toward your future in higher education.

[Find out more and register](#)

Monash Information Evening – Webinar

Organisation: Monash University

Location: Online

Date: August 19, 2025

We know that choosing a university is a big decision. Get all your questions answered at our information evening webinar.

During the informative webinar, you'll learn about what it's like to study at Monash, our diverse range of courses, scholarships, student life and so much more!

This webinar will also focus on accommodation options and tips on how to settle into your new home at Monash University.

[Find out more and register](#)

Western civilisation application process and interview preparation webinar

Organisation: Australian Catholic University

Location: Online

Date: August 19, 2025

This webinar is designed to guide you through the application process for the Bachelor of Arts (Western Civilisation) and our combined degrees with law or teaching.

Join Associate Professor Sarah Irving-Stonebraker as she explains what makes a strong candidate and how to prepare each part of your application. You'll get step-by-step advice on:

- writing your personal statement
- choosing your referees
- structuring and preparing your written submission
- getting ready for the interview.

This is your opportunity to ask questions and gain insider tips on applying for one of ACU's most distinctive and competitive programs.

[Find out more and register](#)

Access Monash – Parent/Caregivers Supporting University Students

Organisation: Monash University

Location: Online

Date: August 20, 2025

We hear a lot about university being stressful and a big change, but how can we support students going through this? What can we do to ease this transition? What support services can we rely on and what support do universities offer?

Hear from current Monash University students about their experiences moving from high school to University, what supports they found helpful, and how this transition can be aided by support people. Live Q&A included.

[Access Monash](#) enhances opportunities for secondary students from low Socio-Economic Status (SES) backgrounds and regional or remote locations, helping them improve their educational outcomes and transform their lives.

[Find out more and register](#)

ATAR, Bonus Points, & Uni Entry Explained

Organisation: Claire Pech Careers

Location: Online

Date: August 20, 2025

Looking for ways to unlock bonus points and improve uni entry chances? Join our webinar designed for Yr 12 students and parents, navigating university admissions.

We will cover: The ATAR explained, bonus points (adjustment factors) and who qualifies, what is EAS and how to apply, dates, preferencing and decision making.

This talk is being run by [Claire Pech Careers](#) and [Amanda Krulis](#).

[Find out more and register](#)

National Fashion College Open Day 2025, Melbourne

Organisation: National Fashion College

Location: NFC Melbourne Campus

Date: August 20, 2025

Unlock a world of limitless possibilities at National Fashion College, where your fashion journey begins at our iconic Melbourne Campus!

Step into a realm of unmatched creativity and immerse yourself in the forefront of fashion innovation. Our pioneering courses, dynamic internship opportunities, and exclusive access to the buzz of Australian, New York, and London Fashion Weeks will propel you into the heart of the global fashion scene. Get ready to be inspired, challenged, and transformed - we can't wait to welcome you!

There will be two sessions available on the day: one from **10.00 am to 12.00 pm**, and another from **3.00 pm to 5.00 pm**.

If these times don't suit you, you can always [book in for a private appointment or tour instead](#).

[Find out more and register](#)

Navigating your post-school plans with confidence

Organisation: myfuture

Location: Online

Date: August 21, 2025

School is such a big part of your life; you might have mixed feelings as you approach the end of it.

You might be excited about your next steps. But it's okay if you're not sure about your post-school plans or feeling a bit anxious or overwhelmed about it all.

In this pre-recorded session, Dr Michael Healy, myfuture's National Career Education Manager will share six simple ideas that will help you think about your future with confidence. Some of them might surprise you! We'll talk about:

- Different kinds of post-school pathways.
- Why it's OK if you don't know what you want to do.
- Why it's OK to change your mind.
- Why ATAR might not be as important as you think.
- How to research your options.
- Who to talk to for help.

This webinar is designed for students in senior secondary school, but it's suitable for parents and teachers too.

[Find out more and register](#)

Parents Connect with Bond – Victoria

Organisation: Bond University

Location: Axil Coffee, Melbourne Central

Date: August 21, 2025

Join us for our upcoming breakfast event tailored for parents navigating the important decision of choosing the right university for their child. This is a great opportunity to discover what sets Bond University apart and to learn more about our unique programs and offerings. Whether you're already considering Bond or just beginning your research, we're here to help guide you in making an informed choice for your child's future.

Event highlights:

- Discover Bond University's diverse programs and study areas, and learn what sets us apart from other institutions.
- Get detailed information on the transition process for interstate students, including student life and accommodation options.
- Understand the application process, including direct applications, early offers, scholarships, and admissions.
- Hear first hand experiences from parents of current Bond students.
- Have your questions answered by our knowledgeable staff.
- Benefit from personalised follow-up and ongoing support after the event to address any further questions or concerns.

Don't miss this chance to get a comprehensive overview of Bond University and how we can support your child's educational journey. We look forward to welcoming you!

[Find out more and register](#)

Bendigo TAFE Open Night, Charleston Road Campus

Organisation: Bendigo TAFE

Location: Bendigo TAFE Charleston Road Campus

Date: August 21, 2025

At our Open Night you will have the chance to speak one on one with teaching areas, discover the free support services available to assist you with your studies and tour our amazing facilities. Some study areas will be running information sessions and guided tours to give you a closer look at the courses and our outstanding training facilities. You're welcome to attend multiple sessions based on your interests.

[Find out more and register](#)

Bendigo TAFE Open Night, City Campus

Organisation: Bendigo TAFE

Location: Bendigo TAFE City Campus

Date: August 21, 2025

At our Open Night you will have the chance to speak one on one with teaching areas, discover the free support services available to assist you with your studies and tour our amazing facilities.

Some study areas will be running information sessions and guided tours to give you a closer look at the courses and our outstanding training facilities. You're welcome to attend multiple sessions based on your interests.

[Find out more and register](#)

The Hotel School Industry Insights Melbourne 2025

Organisation: The Hotel School Australia

Location: Hyatt Centric Melbourne

Date: August 23, 2025

Step into the world of hospitality at Hyatt Centric Melbourne! This exclusive event for Year 12 students gives you a behind-the-scenes look at one of the top venues in the industry and a taste of the exciting careers that could be yours. Key takeaways include:

- Hear from Industry Experts
- Interactive Workshop inc. Completion Certificate
- A tour of the iconic hospitality venue
- Get all your questions answered by THSA team
- Network with Industry leaders & current THSA students
- Complimentary Morning Tea & Lunch provided for students

[Find out more and register](#)

JMC Melbourne August 2025 Open Day

Organisation: JMC Academy

Location: JMC Melbourne Campus

Date: August 23, 2025

This is your chance to see our multi-million dollar world-class facilities - future students, parents and friends welcome.

Things to do at Open Day:

- Explore your creative future and learn about our courses
- Meet our current students and industry expert lecturers
- Check out live student performances
- Tour our world-class facilities and tech
- Speak to us about the admissions process
- Get hands-on with our interactive activations

[Find out more and register](#)

Torrens Open Day 2025, Melbourne

Organisation: Torrens University Australia

Location: Torrens Flinders Street Campus

Date: August 23, 2025

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.

[Find out more and register](#)

La Trobe Open Day 2025, Bendigo

Organisation: La Trobe University

Location: La Trobe Bendigo Campus

Date: August 24, 2025

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 and register](#)

GOTAFE Open Day 2025, Wangaratta

Organisation: GOTAFE

Location: GOTAFE Docker Street Campus

Date: August 24, 2025

Whether you're aiming for a career change, professional growth, or pursuing your passions, remember, with GOTAFE you've got this. Take the next step towards your ideal future by attending a GOTAFE Open Day.

- Explore subject areas
- Understand study pathways
- Join an information session
- Talk to career advisors
- Take part in demonstrations
- Enjoy some food and coffee

[Find out more and register](#)

Federation Open Day 2025, Ballarat

Organisation: Federation University

Location: Federation Mt Helen, SMB & Camp Street Campus

Date: August 24, 2025

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 and register](#)

ACU Open Day 2025, Ballarat

Organisation: Australian Catholic University

Location: ACU Ballarat Campus

Date: August 24, 2025

Open Day is your chance to find out everything you need to know about studying at ACU before you enrol. You'll be able to check out the campus, meet staff and students, discuss entry pathways, and talk to experts about your study options and career goals.

[Find out more and register](#)

VU Open Day 2025, City Tower

Organisation: Victoria University

Location: VU City Tower Campus

Date: August 24, 2025

No one sees you like VU – and there's no better way to see all your possible study/career paths than coming to our VU Open Day.

It's a day where you get to explore our campus, learn about our range of TAFE and Higher Education courses, and dive into interactive events. You'll also find a place to belong – and discover what's next.

[Find out more and register](#)

Deakin Open Day 2025, Melbourne

Organisation: Deakin University

Location: Deakin Melbourne Burwood Campus

Date: August 24, 2025

Open Day 2025 is your opportunity to experience everything Deakin has to offer at our campus in Burwood.

- Chat with lecturers about how a Deakin degree prepares you for a successful career.
- Attend information sessions to find your ideal course.
- Participate in demonstrations of our top-ranked facilities.
- Tour the campuses with current students and get all the insider information.
- Enjoy entertainment and activities while learning about student social clubs.

[Find out more and register](#)

Next Week's Events

Kangan Essendon Open Night

Organisation: Kangan Institute

Location: Kangan Essendon Campus

Date: August 27, 2025

At our Open Night you will have the chance to speak one on one with teaching areas, discover the free support services available to assist you with your studies and tour our amazing facilities.

Some study areas will be running information sessions and guided tours to give you a closer look at the courses and our outstanding training facilities. You're welcome to attend multiple sessions based on your interests.

[Find out more and register](#)

Access Monash – VTAC and Beyond

Organisation: Monash University

Location: Online

Date: August 27, 2025

Completing your VTAC application and understanding your options is a tricky business! Hear from the Access Monash team and current students on all the details you need to know to ace your application, including information on SEAS, entry schemes, pathways and scholarships, and hear from current students about their experience applying to higher education.

[Access Monash](#) enhances opportunities for secondary students from low Socio-Economic Status (SES) backgrounds and regional or remote locations, helping them improve their educational outcomes and transform their lives.

[Find out more and register](#)

A Flying Start: Aviation Info Session

Organisation: Swinburne University of Technology

Location: Swinburne Hawthorn Campus

Date: August 27, 2025

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 and register](#)

Study in the US – Virtual Information Session

Organisation: Internationally Educated

Location: Online

Date: August 27, 2025

Internationally Educated is excited to host a live, virtual information session providing students and families from years nine to eleven (9-11) the opportunity to learn more about Studying in the US.

This general presentation draws on our experience having worked in US university admissions and will provide insight to the US university application process and the higher education system in the US. A brief Q&A session will follow the presentation.

[Find out more and register](#)

Post-UCAT Advice & Medical Interviews Information Session

Organisation: National Institute of Education

Location: Online

Date: August 27, 2025

This webinar is an excellent opportunity for students, parents, and teachers to find out about the post-UCAT steps medical school applicants are required to take.

The session is packed with invaluable information during which we will be covering the following topics:

- Your UCAT Scores and what they mean

- Applying to universities that do not require UCAT (JCU and Bond)
- Medical Interviews for undergraduate medicine and dentistry courses
- Interview structures and assessment criteria by universities
- Take a look at a few sample questions
- Medical interview preparation advice
- Q and A.

[Find out more and register](#)

ADHD & ATAR, Bonus Points, & Uni Entry Explained

Organisation: Claire Pech Careers

Location: Online

Date: August 28, 2025

Looking for ways to unlock bonus points and improve uni entry chances? Join our webinar designed for Yr 12 students with ADHD and parents, navigating university admissions.

We will cover: The ATAR explained, bonus points (adjustment factors) and who qualifies, what is EAS and how to apply with ADHD as the main contributor, dates, preferencing and decision making throughout this.

This talk is being run by [Claire Pech Careers](#) and [Amanda Krulis](#).

[Find out more and register](#)

Graphic Design Online Session

Organisation: Melbourne Polytechnic

Location: Online

Date: August 28, 2025

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):

- Diploma of Graphic Design

[Find out more and register](#)

Kangan Cremorne Open Night

Organisation: Kangan Institute

Location: Kangan Cremorne Campus

Date: August 28, 2025

At our Open Night you will have the chance to speak one on one with teaching areas, discover the free support services available to assist you with your studies and tour our amazing facilities.

Some study areas will be running information sessions and guided tours to give you a closer look at the courses and our outstanding training facilities. You're welcome to attend multiple sessions based on your interests.

[Find out more and register](#)

AIE Online Campus Day

Organisation: Academy of Interactive Entertainment

Location: Online

Date: August 30, 2025

Discover the courses designed to get you started in game development, 3D animation, film and visual effects at the AIE Online Campus Day. AIE will be running this event for students interested in studying online. You will be able to meet our teachers, explore how classes will run, course options, career pathways and see our amazing student work.

We will be covering everything you need to know about the:

- careers in games and VFX that we train students for;
- studios and industries that we work with;
- courses we offer - from beginners to professional mastery, and;
- the software, skills and knowledge we teach.

[Find out more and register](#)

Collarts Open Day 2025

Organisation: Australian College of the Arts

Location: All Collarts Campuses

Date: August 30, 2025

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, state-of-the-art facilities, expert faculty, and more.

[Find out more and register](#)

Future Events

Torrens Technology Virtual Open Day

Organisation: Torrens University Australia

Location: Online

Date: September 2, 2025

Join online as our Technology 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.

[Find out more and register](#)

Torrens Health and Education Virtual Open Day

Organisation: Torrens University Australia

Location: Online

Date: September 2, 2025

Join online as our Health and Education 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.

[Find out more and register](#)

Torrens Business and Hospitality Virtual Open Day

Organisation: Torrens University Australia

Location: Online

Date: September 2, 2025

Join online as our Business and Hospitality 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.

[Find out more and register](#)

Torrens Design and Creative Technology Virtual Open Day

Organisation: Torrens University Australia

Location: Online

Date: September 3, 2025

Join online as our Design and Creative Technology 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.

[Find out more and register](#)

GOTAFE Open Day 2025, Seymour

Organisation: GOTAFE

Location: GOTAFE Wallis Street Campus

Date: September 3, 2025

Whether you're aiming for a career change, professional growth, or pursuing your passions, remember, with GOTAFE you've got this. Take the next step towards your ideal future by attending a GOTAFE Open Day.

- Explore subject areas
- Understand study pathways
- Join an information session
- Talk to career advisors
- Take part in demonstrations
- Enjoy some food and coffee

[Find out more and register](#)

Kangan Broadmeadows Open Night

Organisation: Kangan Institute

Location: Kangan Broadmeadows Campus

Date: September 4, 2025

At our Open Night you will have the chance to speak one on one with teaching areas, discover the free support services available to assist you with your studies and tour our amazing facilities. Some study areas will be running information sessions and guided tours to give you a closer look at the courses and our outstanding training facilities. You're welcome to attend multiple sessions based on your interests.

[Find out more and register](#)

SuniTAFE Open Day 2025 Swan Hill

Organisation: Sunraysia Institute of TAFE

Location: SuniTAFE Swan Hill Campus

Date: September 17, 2025

Join us for our 2025 Open Day and see for yourself how SuniTAFE can help you launch into your future.

Whether you're finishing secondary school soon and planning what comes next, have your heart set on a new career, or are just looking to learn what's out there, our Open Day is for you.

Hear from our expert teachers and watch practical demonstrations that will give you a glimpse into what your career could look like.

[Find out more and register](#)

USYD Online Open Night

Organisation: University of Sydney

Location: Online

Date: September 18, 2025

Open Night is your opportunity to experience the University of Sydney from wherever you are. Join us online for an interactive evening designed specifically for prospective domestic undergraduate students from interstate and regional areas in Australia, New Zealand, and offshore.

Whether you're exploring your study options, want to understand entry pathways and scholarships, or are curious about life on campus, this event is for you. You'll hear from current students, and connect with our faculty, admissions, student support and scholarship staff, as well as a range of accommodation providers, in live breakout rooms.

[Find out more and register](#)

Wodonga TAFE Logic Campus Open Day

Organisation: Wodonga TAFE

Location: Wodonga TAFE Logic Campus

Date: September 20, 2025

Have you ever wondered what goes on behind the scenes at our Logic campus? Now's your chance to see the action up close and explore future career pathways.

Bring your friends and family for a fun, hands-on experience in a vibrant and welcoming atmosphere. Learn about our training in:

- Heavy Vehicle Licensing
- Forklift Operation
- Civil Construction & Plant Operation
- Supply Chain & Warehousing
- Light Vehicle Automotive & Motorsport

[Find out more and register](#)

RMIT Student for a Day 2025

Organisation: RMIT University

Location: RMIT City Campus

Date: September 23, 2025

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 and register](#)

Enter the World of Le Cordon Bleu Careers Residential, Melbourne

Organisation: Le Cordon Bleu

Location: Le Cordon Bleu Melbourne Campus

Date: September 24 to September 26, 2025

We're opening our doors to high school students in Years 11 & 12, to experience a day in the life at one of the world's leading culinary and hospitality institutions. The residential will provide a taste of what a future career in hospitality looks like.

Meet lecturers and Le Cordon Bleu professionals, hear from industry experts, discover what Le Cordon Bleu hospitality management degree programmes involve and experience hands-on culinary classes with our chefs.

Open to high school students in Years 11 & 12 interested in culinary arts, hotel or business management.

[Find out more and register](#)

A Day in the Life of a Swinburne Student | STEM

Organisation: Swinburne University of Technology

Location: Swinburne Hawthorn Campus

Date: September 30, 2025

Do you dream of getting paid to code, revolutionising the world of robotics, or solving problems in outer space? Maybe you already think like an engineer and want to know your course options – and what it takes to get there. Whether you're passionate about algorithms or anatomy, this is your chance to see exactly what life at Swinburne is all about.

This immersive event is for you if you're interested in any of the following study areas:

- Biomedical Science
- Computer Science
- Chemistry
- Cyber Security
- Product Design Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Robotics
- Space Technology

[Find out more and register](#)

A Day in the Life of a Swinburne Student | Creative & Social Impact

Organisation: Swinburne University of Technology

Location: Swinburne Hawthorn Campus

Date: October 1, 2025

At Swinburne, we have plenty of courses that let you channel your imagination into your studies – and maybe one day, a career with impact. This is your chance to become a creative change-maker for a day as you explore our most innovative courses, from law to social media.

This immersive event is for you if you're interested in any of the following study areas:

- Architecture
- Arts
- Business and Entrepreneurship
- Design
- Fashion Design
- Film and Television

- Law and Criminology
- Media and Communication

[Find out more and register](#)

A Day in the Life of a Swinburne Student | Health, Sport & Education

Organisation: Swinburne University of Technology

Location: Swinburne Hawthorn Campus

Date: October 2, 2025

Do you nerd out over the brain? Fascinated by physiology? Hoping to one day have a career in healthcare or education? From psychology to sports management, there are endless ways to make your mark in these groundbreaking industries – with the right Swinburne course.

This immersive event is for you if you're interested in any of the following study areas:

- Allied Health
- Biomedical Science
- Education
- Exercise and Sport Science
- Nutrition
- Psychology
- Sports Management

[Find out more and register](#)

It Takes a Spark STEM Conference, Melbourne

Organisation: Intuyu Consulting Pty Ltd

Location: The Knox School, Wantirna

Date: October 23, 2025

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 Digi-Design workshops and 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 and register](#)

A day in the life of a medical imaging student

Organisation: Deakin University

Location: Deakin Geelong Waurin Ponds Campus

Date: October 28, 2025

'A day in the life of a medical imaging student' is an opportunity for Year 11 students who live in the South West and Grampians/Wimmera regions and have an interest in medical imaging to experience what it is like to study at Deakin.

The day will include hands-on practical activities as well as the chance to learn more about pathways, entry requirements and career options.

Academics and current students will be available to answer all your questions.

Expressions of interest due 19 September.

[Find out more and register](#)

Scholarships

Charles Sturt Transgrid Engineering Scholarship

Organisation: Charles Sturt University

Location: Australia

Value: \$20,000 AUD

Open Date: August 1, 2025

Close Date: November 24, 2025

[Find out more](#)

Monash MRS Undergraduate Accommodation Scholarship

Organisation: Monash University

Location: Australia

Value: \$2,500 AUD

Open Date: August 4, 2025

Close Date: October 10, 2025

[Find out more](#)

Competitions

JMC No Limits National High School Competition

Organisation: JMC Academy

Location: Australia

Value: Up to \$2,000 AUD

Open Date: August 1, 2025

Close Date: September 30, 2025

[Find out more](#)

Weekly Posts

Skills for Work

How to get the most out of an informational interview

Career conversations – whether they're casual chats or more formal informational interviews – are one of the most powerful tools you have for exploring your future. They're like getting insider access

to the careers you're curious about, and the best part? Most people are surprisingly happy to share their experiences with someone who's genuinely interested.

What exactly is an informational interview?

A informational interview or career conversation is simply talking with someone who works in a field or job you're considering, with the goal of learning more about what their work is really like. It's not about asking for a job (that would be awkward!) – it's about gathering honest, first-hand information to help you understand whether a particular path might suit you.

These conversations can happen in different ways. You might have a planned 20-30 minute chat with a family friend who works in marketing, bump into someone at a community event and end up discussing their career as a paramedic, or even learn from professionals sharing their experiences on podcasts or social media. The key is that you're hearing from someone with real experience, not just reading generic information online.

Understanding different types of interviews

Not all career conversations serve the same purpose, and understanding what you need can help you make the most of each opportunity:

The exploration chat

This is perfect when you're in the early stages of considering a career path. Maybe you've heard about sports psychology or environmental science, but you don't really know what these professionals actually do day-to-day. An exploration chat helps you understand the basics and might even introduce you to related careers you'd never considered.

The gap-filling conversation

You've done some research, read a few articles, maybe even looked at university courses, but you still have specific questions or concerns. Perhaps you're worried that becoming a teacher means you'll struggle financially, or you're not sure if you need to be incredibly artistic to work in graphic design. This type of conversation helps fill in the missing pieces.

The focused interview

This comes later in your exploration when you're pretty confident about your chosen field. Now you want insider information: which universities have the best reputation in this field? What skills should you be developing now? Which companies are great to work for? This conversation helps you plan your next steps more strategically.

Who should you talk to?

The good news is that potential conversation partners are everywhere – you just need to know where to look:

Start close to home

Begin with your existing network. Ask your parents, relatives, teachers, and family friends about their careers or if they know someone in the field you're interested in. Your dentist, your neighbour, your part-time job supervisor – you'd be amazed how many different careers are represented in the people you already know.

Expand through school connections

Your school's careers advisor or guidance counsellor often has connections with professionals in various fields. Many schools also have alumni networks or parent volunteer programmes where people are specifically willing to share their career experiences with students.

Professional networks and community groups

Look for local professional associations, industry groups, or community organisations. Many professionals belong to groups like the local medical association, teachers' union, or business networking groups. These organisations often welcome inquiries from students and may even have formal mentoring programmes.

Online platforms

LinkedIn can be incredibly useful for finding professionals, especially if you're looking for people in specific companies or roles. Many professionals are open to helping students and will respond to polite, well-crafted messages.

Community events and open days

University open days, career fairs, industry conferences, and community events are goldmines for meeting professionals. Don't just collect brochures – engage in conversations with the people representing different organisations.

How to approach someone for a career conversation

Asking someone for their time can feel intimidating, but remember that most people are flattered when someone shows genuine interest in their career. Here's how to make the approach:

Be clear and specific

Whether you're writing an email, sending a LinkedIn message, or asking in person, be upfront about what you're seeking. Mention that you're a student exploring career options and would appreciate a brief conversation about their experiences.

Make it easy for them

Suggest a specific time frame (like 20-30 minutes) and offer flexibility about when and how to meet. You could suggest a coffee catch-up, a phone call, or even a video chat – whatever works best for them.

Show you've done your homework

Demonstrate that you've already done some basic research. Instead of saying "tell me about marketing," try "I've been reading about digital marketing and I'm curious about how the day-to-day work differs from what I see in university course descriptions."

Subject: Student seeking career advice - Marketing Professional

Dear [Name],

I hope this email finds you well. I'm a Year 12 student at [School] currently exploring career options, and I'm particularly interested in marketing. [Mention how you found them - through LinkedIn, a mutual connection, etc.]

I've been researching the field and reading about different specialisations within marketing, but I'd love to hear about the reality of working in this industry from someone with first-hand experience.

Would you be willing to spare 20-30 minutes for a brief conversation about your career path and what working in marketing is really like? I'm happy to work around your schedule and can meet in person, by phone, or via video call – whatever is most convenient for you.

Thank you for considering my request. I really appreciate your time.

Best regards,

[Your name]

[Your contact details]

Preparing for your career conversation

Preparation is absolutely key to making the most of your time together, and the good news is that most of the prep work is quite straightforward.

Do a bit of research

The first thing you'll want to do is learn some fundamental information about the field beforehand. This doesn't mean becoming an expert overnight, but reading a few articles, checking out job descriptions, and familiarising yourself with common terminology shows respect for their time and allows you to ask more insightful questions. Instead of asking what marketing is, you can ask about the difference between digital marketing roles and traditional marketing positions.

Prepare some questions in advance

Write down around five to eight questions that reflect what you genuinely want to know, keeping in mind what stage of exploration you're at.

If you're just starting to explore, focus on understanding what the work is really like day-to-day. If you're further along in your research, you might want to ask about specific qualifications or next steps.

You don't need to stick rigidly to your list – the best conversations often flow naturally and take unexpected but valuable directions.

Need some help coming up with questions? We have some you might like to use below.

Be organised

Don't forget the practical side of preparation either!

Confirm the time and location the day before your meeting, and make sure you know exactly where you're going and how long it will take to get there. Plan to arrive a few minutes early, and think about what you'll wear based on the setting. If you're meeting at their workplace, err on the side of being slightly more formal than you might normally dress.

Write things down

Finally, bring a notebook and pen with you. Taking notes shows you're serious about the conversation and helps you remember important details later.

You don't need to write down absolutely everything, but jotting down key insights, specific advice, or contact details will be incredibly useful when you're reflecting on the conversation afterwards.

Essential questions to ask

The best questions are open-ended and encourage storytelling. Here are some proven conversation starters organised by exploration stage:

For early exploration

- Can you walk me through what a typical day or week looks like in your role?
- What do you enjoy most about your work? What's most challenging?
- How did you end up in this career? Was it always your plan?
- What skills or qualities are most important for success in this field?
- What would someone be surprised to learn about your profession?

For deeper understanding

- What are the different pathways into this career?
- How has the industry changed since you started working in it?
- What advice would you give to someone just starting to consider this field?
- Are there related careers I should also be exploring?
- What are the biggest misconceptions people have about this work?

For focused planning

- Which qualifications or courses would you recommend?
- What should I be doing now to prepare for this career?
- Are there particular companies or organisations you'd recommend researching?
- What professional bodies or resources should I know about?
- What trends do you see affecting the future of this industry?

Practical questions

- What's the work-life balance like in this field?
- How do career progression and salary expectations typically work?
- What are the main challenges facing professionals in this industry right now?
- If you were starting over today, what would you do differently?

Making the most of your conversation

You've got them to give you some of their valuable time, so ensure you make the most of the conversation. There are four key things to remember here:

- **Listen actively** - Focus on what they're saying rather than just waiting for your turn to ask the next question. Ask follow-up questions based on their responses – this shows genuine interest and often leads to the most valuable insights.
- **Be genuine** - Don't pretend to be someone you're not. If you're nervous, it's okay to mention it – most people will appreciate your honesty and may even share their own experiences of career uncertainty.
- **Respect their time** - Stick to the agreed timeframe unless they indicate they're happy to continue. Watch for signs that they need to wrap up and be prepared to conclude gracefully.
- **Show appreciation** - Thank them genuinely for their time and insights. Let them know specifically what you found most helpful about the conversation.

Following up after your conversation

What you do after your conversation can be just as important as the conversation itself. A thoughtful follow-up can turn a single conversation into an ongoing connection:

- **Send a thank-you message** within 24-48 hours, send a brief email thanking them for their time. Mention one or two specific things you learned that were particularly valuable.

- **Update them on your progress**, and if you make decisions based partly on your conversation with them, let them know. People appreciate hearing how their advice influenced your choices.
- **Connect on LinkedIn** if appropriate; send a LinkedIn connection request with a personalised message referencing your conversation.
- **Offer to help** if there's ever an opportunity - perhaps with a student survey, a small research project, or by volunteering for their organisation.

Overcoming common concerns

If you're feeling hesitant about reaching out to professionals, you're definitely not alone. Many students worry that they're too young or inexperienced to have valuable conversations with working professionals.

But the reality is quite the opposite – most professionals remember being in your shoes and are often eager to help. Your youth and genuine curiosity are actually advantages. People want to support the next generation, and many professionals view these conversations as a way of giving back to their communities.

Another common concern is not wanting to bother anyone with your questions. Remember that the worst someone can say is no, and you'd be surprised how often people say yes.

Many professionals are flattered when someone shows genuine interest in their career and are happy to share their experiences. If someone can't meet with you, it's usually because of timing or other commitments, not because they don't want to help.

Making career conversations a habit

Rather than thinking of career conversations as a one-off activity, consider making them an ongoing part of how you explore your options. Each conversation adds another piece to your career puzzle and helps you build a clearer, more nuanced picture of what different paths might involve. You might discover that speaking with three different engineers gives you vastly different perspectives on the field, or that a casual chat with someone working in social services opens your eyes to career paths you'd never previously considered.

The more conversations you have, the more confident you'll become in asking questions, engaging with professionals, and ultimately making decisions about your future.

You'll also start to develop valuable networking skills and build connections that might prove useful throughout your career. These aren't just conversations about work – they're opportunities to practice professional communication, learn about different industries, and understand how various career paths unfold in real life.

Ready to explore more?

[You might like to start your career research by taking a look at some of the other helpful resources on our website here.](#)

Jobs & Careers

Career convo with Rob the Chief Engagement Officer

Join us for a fascinating career convo with Rob, the Chief Engagement Officer at Study Work Grow, as he shares his unconventional career pathway from potato farms to Chief Engagement Officer. Listen to his fascinating career story and how he went from studying civil engineering to working on a potato farm, selling IT solutions, and finally becoming a key player in the education sector.

Find out about what his job entails day-to-day, and learn about the pivotal moments that reshaped his career, as well as some valuable advice he wishes he knew at 15.

[Watch the video here.](#)

Ideal for secondary school students, teachers, and families looking for career inspiration and insights into varying career trajectories.

Subject Selection

Where history can take you

Do you think history is just about memorising dates from dusty old books? Think again. History is one of the most versatile subjects you can study, and could help you to build a toolkit of skills that employers across every industry will value. From detective work to storytelling, critical thinking to cultural understanding, history graduates are shaping our world in ways you might never have imagined.

History isn't just about the past, it's about understanding how the world works, how people think, and how to navigate complex issues and thinking with confidence. Ready to discover where history can take you? It could be your secret weapon for career success.

The superpowers history gives you

When you study history, you're not just learning facts; you're developing a remarkable set of transferrable skills that make you incredibly valuable in today's job market.

Critical thinking and analysis

History teaches you to examine sources, weigh evidence, make connections, and spot bias from a mile away. You'll learn to ask all the right questions: Who wrote this? Why? Does this make sense? Is this true? What's missing from this story? [These skills are pure gold](#), but particularly now in our age of information overload and fake news.

Research mastery

Historians are expert detectives, tracking down clues across libraries, archives, and databases. You'll master [the art of finding reliable information](#) quickly and efficiently, which is invaluable whether you're preparing a business report or investigating a news story.

Communication excellence

As a history student you'll become a brilliant storyteller who can take complex ideas and make them engaging and accessible. You'll learn to write persuasively, present confidently, and adapt your communication style for different audiences, from academic papers to social media posts.

Cultural intelligence

Understanding different time periods and societies makes you exceptionally [good at working with diverse groups of people](#). You'll develop empathy, cultural sensitivity, and the ability to see situations from multiple perspectives.

Problem-solving prowess

Historical events are like giant, messy case studies filled with competing interests, unintended consequences, and complex causes. Studying them teaches you to navigate ambiguity, think systemically, and approach problems from multiple angles.

Where history can take you

Have you ever wondered why certain news stories trend whilst others disappear, how successful companies build their brands, or why some political campaigns succeed whilst others fail spectacularly? The answers often lie in history - understanding patterns, precedents, and the deeper currents that shape human behaviour.

If you're considering studying history at high school, you'll be opening doors to an incredible range of career possibilities that extend far beyond what you might imagine. Let's take a look at some of the role history could help you to succeed:

Media and communications

Your storytelling skills and ability to research complex topics make you perfect for a career in journalism, content creation, or public relations. History graduates often become:

- **Journalists** covering everything from politics to business
- **Documentary makers** bringing fascinating stories to life
- **Content strategists** helping brands tell their stories
- **Social media managers** creating engaging historical content

Business and finance

The analytical and research skills you develop studying history are highly prized in the business world. Many history graduates thrive as:

- **Management consultants** solving complex business problems
- **Investment analysts** researching companies and market trends
- **Project managers** coordinating complex initiatives
- **Business development specialists** identifying new opportunities

Government and policy

Your understanding of how societies work and change makes you valuable in shaping public policy and governance. You could become a:

- **Civil servant** developing and implementing government policy
- **Political advisor** providing strategic guidance to decision-makers
- **Diplomat** representing your country's interests abroad
- **Policy researcher** analysing the potential impact of proposed changes

Law and justice

The critical thinking and argument skills developed through history make it an excellent foundation for legal careers, where you might work as a:

- **Lawyer** arguing cases and interpreting complex legal precedents
- **Paralegal** supporting legal research and case preparation
- **Court administrator** managing the systems that keep justice flowing
- **Legal researcher** investigating case law and regulatory changes

Education and training

Share your passion for understanding the world by helping others develop the same critical thinking skills as a:

- **Teacher** inspiring the next generation of curious minds
- **Corporate trainer** helping businesses develop their staff
- **Museum educator** making history come alive for visitors

- [Curriculum developer](#) designing engaging learning experiences

Arts and culture

Your deep appreciation for human creativity and cultural context opens doors in the creative industries. Careers for people with an interest in history include becoming a:

- [Museum curator](#) selecting and presenting collections
- [Heritage consultant](#) helping preserve important historical sites
- **Arts administrator** managing cultural organisations
- **Exhibition designer** creating immersive historical experiences

More jobs that need history

Enjoying history but not inspired by any of the jobs mentioned so far? That's fine - there are heaps more to explore too, like:

- [Archivist](#) – preserve and organise historical documents and records that help us understand our shared heritage.
- [Genealogist](#) – help people discover their family histories using research skills and historical knowledge.
- **Intelligence analyst** – use research and analytical skills to assess threats and provide strategic insights to government agencies.
- **Historic preservation specialist** – protect and restore important buildings and sites for future generations.
- **Travel writer** – combine your knowledge of different cultures and places with storytelling skills to guide modern explorers.
- **Market researcher** – investigate consumer behaviour and business trends using the same skills you'd use to analyse historical patterns.
- **Film researcher** – ensure historical accuracy in movies and TV shows, helping bring the past to life on screen.
- **Publishing editor** – use your research skills and attention to detail to help authors tell their stories effectively.
- **Data analyst** – apply your pattern-recognition skills to make sense of large datasets in business or government.
- [Anthropologist](#) – study human cultures and societies, both past and present, to understand how we've evolved as a species.
- **Political campaigner** – use your understanding of how societies change to help shape public opinion and policy.
- **Grant writer** – research funding opportunities and craft compelling proposals for non-profits and cultural organisations.
- **Corporate historian** – help companies understand their heritage and use their stories for marketing and strategic planning.

Getting started

If you're interested in any of these careers and you're already studying history, you're already on the right track. Make sure to:

- **Develop your digital skills** – learn to use databases, digital archives, and data analysis tools.
- **Build a portfolio** – whether it's blog posts, research projects, or multimedia presentations.
- **Seek [work experience](#)** – museums, archives, newspapers, and government offices all offer valuable opportunities.

- **Join relevant societies** – connect with professional historians and learn about career opportunities.
- **Consider interdisciplinary studies** – combining history with business, technology, or science can open even more doors.

Your future starts here

History isn't just about understanding the past; it's also about shaping the future. Whether you end up investigating corporate corruption as a journalist, advising governments on policy, or helping a start-up understand its market, your skills and passion for history could give you the tools to make a real difference.

Ready to discover more about study and career options? [Explore the comprehensive guides and resources on our website here.](#)

Entrepreneurship

10 things every entrepreneur should know

Ever watched Dragons' Den and thought, "I could do that!" or had a brilliant idea whilst lying in bed at 2am? You're not alone. Entrepreneurship is like a thrilling roller coaster – terrifying and exhilarating all at once. But before you quit school to become the next Mark Zuckerberg, here are 10 things every entrepreneur should know (according to the people who have been there themselves already).

Start with a problem, not just an idea

Every great business solves real problems or fills voids. Your mate struggling to find decent study spaces during exam season might seem like a minor annoyance, but if students across your city share that frustration, you could be looking at a real business opportunity.

Before you fall in love with your idea, ask yourself: "What problem does this actually solve?" The most successful entrepreneurs are problem-solvers first, idea-generators second.

You don't need to be the smartest person in the room

Contrary to popular belief, you don't need to be a genius to succeed in business. What you do need is curiosity, persistence, and the wisdom to surround yourself with people who know things you don't (as well as the ability to take their advice when it's offered).

Think of yourself as the conductor of an orchestra – you don't need to play every instrument perfectly, but you need to bring out the best in everyone else.

Failure is your friend (kind of)

Every entrepreneur fails. The difference between successful ones and the rest? They see that they're failing quickly, learn from their experiences, and move on. Failure isn't the opposite of success – it's a stepping stone towards it.

If your first attempt at selling homemade candles doesn't work out, don't bin the whole idea. Ask yourself what you learned, how to improve your product, branding, market placement, budgeting etc, and importantly - how you can do it better next time.

Money management is everything

You might have the best product in the world, but if you can't manage money, your business won't survive. This doesn't mean you need to become an accountant, but you do need to understand the

basics: income, expenses, profit, and cash flow. You'll do well to learn about taxes and insurance too if you want to avoid problems later on.

Start simple: track every penny that comes in and goes out. There are brilliant apps and tools that can help with this, but even a basic spreadsheet will do.

Your network is your net worth

This might sound cheesy, but it's true. The people you know – and more importantly, the people who know you – can open doors you didn't even know existed.

Start building relationships now. Join entrepreneurship clubs at school, attend local business events and networks, or connect with like-minded people online. Every conversation is a potential opportunity.

Listen to your customers (they're usually right)

Your customers will tell you exactly what they want – if you're willing to listen. Don't be so attached to your original vision that you ignore feedback.

If people keep asking for a blue version of your product instead of red, maybe it's time to consider making blue ones. Your ego might prefer red, but your bank account will prefer whatever sells.

Time is your most valuable resource

Unlike money, you can't make more time. Successful entrepreneurs learn to prioritise ruthlessly.

Not every opportunity is worth pursuing, and not every task needs to be done perfectly. Learn to say no to good opportunities so you can say yes to great ones.

And remember, you don't have to do everything yourself, outsource jobs and pay someone else to help out.

You need thick skin

Rejection is part of the entrepreneurial journey. Investors will say no, customers will complain, and critics will question your decisions. Don't take it personally – it's just business.

Develop resilience like you're training for a marathon. Start small and build up your tolerance for disappointment and criticism, take time to reflect on what you've been told and then.... do better.

Legal stuff matters (even if it's boring)

Ignoring legal requirements won't make them go away. Whether it's registering your business, understanding tax obligations, or protecting your intellectual property, these basics are crucial.

You don't need to become a lawyer, but you do need to understand the rules of the game you're playing. So do some research, ask for advice if necessary - getting things right and knowing what your obligations are from the start could save you a bunch of time, money, and stress later on.

There's no such thing as overnight success

Despite what social media might suggest, the majority of successful businesses take years to build. The entrepreneurs you see on magazine covers have usually been working behind the scenes for much longer than you realise, and the business that's done well probably isn't their first rodeo. Prepare for a marathon, not a sprint. Success often comes to those who persist when others give up.

Taking your first steps

Ready to take the plunge? Here's how to begin:

Test your idea cheaply

Before investing significant money, test your concept on a small scale. Create a simple prototype, run a survey, or start with a basic version of your product ([MVP](#)) or your service ([MVT](#)).

Start while you're studying

You don't need to drop out of school, college, or uni to start a business, but there's also no need to wait to get going with your idea - many successful entrepreneurs began while they're still at school or university.

Use your current situation as a safety net while you experiment, as having a Plan B is always the best way to go.

Learn from others

Read books, listen to podcasts, and watch interviews and shows about entrepreneurship. Learning from others' mistakes and their genius tips are a sensible way to get ahead.

Find a mentor

Look for someone who's been where you want to go. This could be a teacher, family friend, or local business owner willing to share their experience.

Where to find help

There are lots of people and places that will help you to get started, be a sounding board for your ideas, offer advice and help implement solutions. Aside from your family, friends, and school networks, here are some other places to look for support:

Online resources

There are plenty of companies that offer programmes and advice specifically for student entrepreneurs, such as:

- [YEP](#) (global)
- [Nestlé Youth Entrepreneurship Platform](#) (global)
- [Young Enterprise Scheme](#) (NZ)
- [ASE](#) (Australia)
- [The King's Trust Free Enterprise Programme](#) (UK)
- [Junior Entrepreneur Programme](#) (Ireland)
- [Futurpreneur](#) (Canada)
- [Future Founders](#) (US)
- [YEA](#) (US)

Government websites often have free resources and guides for starting businesses too.

Local support

Many communities have business incubators, co-working spaces, or entrepreneurship programs. Libraries often host business workshops and have resources available, or can connect you to the best places to look elsewhere.

Educational institutions

Your school, local college, or TAFE might offer entrepreneurship courses or have teachers who can guide you.

Peer networks

Connect with other young entrepreneurs through social media groups, local meetups, or [entrepreneurship competitions](#).

Professional services

When you're ready, consider consulting with accountants, your bank, lawyers, or business advisors. Many offer free initial consultations.

Ready to start building?

Entrepreneurship isn't just about making money – it's about creating something meaningful and solving problems that matter. Whether you dream of launching a tech startup or opening a local café, these principles will serve you well.

Remember, every successful entrepreneur started exactly where you are now: with an idea and the courage to pursue it. The difference between dreamers and achievers isn't talent or luck – it's taking that first step.

[You can explore more career paths and opportunities on our website here.](#)

Pathways

What is an undergraduate certificate?

If you're exploring your study options after leaving school or considering a career change, you might have come across something called an undergraduate certificate. But what is an undergraduate certificate exactly, and could it be the right choice for you? We'll break down everything you need to know about this flexible qualification.

So what is an undergraduate certificate?

An undergraduate certificate is a short-term qualification designed to give you foundational knowledge in a specific field. Usually taking anywhere from 3 to 12 months to complete, these certificates offer an introduction to a subject area without the time commitment of a full degree. Think of it like dipping your toes in the water before diving into the deep end. You get to explore a field of study, develop new skills, and gain qualifications that can either lead to employment or serve as a stepping stone to further education.

These certificates usually cover content at various academic levels, from foundational skills through to more advanced concepts. For example in Australia they cover content between Levels 5 to 7 on the [Australian Qualifications Framework](#). This is the same level as anything from a Diploma to a Bachelor Degree. The specific level depends on the institution and the particular certificate you choose.

Understanding undergraduate vs postgraduate study

You might wonder why it's called "undergraduate" when you've probably heard that term used for bachelor's degrees. Here's the thing: undergraduate simply means any qualification you can study without already having a degree. It's the opposite of postgraduate study, which requires you to already hold a degree for entry.

So whether you're studying a certificate, diploma, or bachelor's degree straight from school (or later in life without prior higher education), you're an undergraduate student.

Why consider an undergraduate certificate?

There are plenty of compelling reasons to choose an undergraduate certificate over jumping straight into a longer qualification.

Lower entry requirements

Perhaps you have your heart set on a particular field but don't quite meet the entry requirements for a full degree. Undergraduate certificates often have more accessible entry requirements, making them an excellent stepping stone. Many institutions will then give you credit towards a longer qualification if you decide to continue your studies.

Time efficient

In our fast-paced world, spending three or four years studying isn't always a practical option. Undergraduate certificates allow you to gain qualifications and skills in months rather than years. This means you can start working in your chosen field sooner or test the waters before committing to longer study.

Try before you buy

Unsure whether you'll actually enjoy studying the psychology, business, or creative writing degrees you've been contemplating? An undergraduate certificate lets you experience what the subject is really like before investing in years of study. You'll engage with similar content to what you'd find in a longer qualification, giving you a genuine taste of what's ahead.

Flexible

Most undergraduate certificates offer flexible study options, including online delivery and part-time schedules. This makes them ideal if you're working, caring for family, or have other commitments that could make traditional full-time study challenging. If you manage to handle everything brilliantly and you're still keen to study afterwards, you'll have the confidence to know that you can give it a good shot.

Career advancement and upskilling

Already working but want to climb the career ladder? Undergraduate certificates are brilliant for developing new skills, specialising in a niche area, or transitioning into a related field. They're particularly valuable in industries that evolve quickly, where staying current with new knowledge and skills is essential.

Cost-effective learning

Let's be honest – education can be expensive. Undergraduate certificates understandably cost significantly less than full degrees while still providing valuable, recognised qualifications. This makes them a smart choice if you're budget-conscious or want to minimise student debt.

What can you study?

The range of undergraduate certificates available is quite impressive, with more options being added all the time. You'll find options in areas like:

- Business and entrepreneurship
- Health and community services
- Information technology and digital skills
- Creative arts and design
- Education and training
- Engineering and technical fields

- Hospitality and tourism

Many institutions design these certificates around industry needs, so you're likely to find options that align with current job market demands. [Course Seeker](#), is an example of one search engine you could use to browse and compare your options, including entry requirements, institutions, delivery mode, and more.

Will it actually help your career?

The short answer is yes, but it depends on your goals and industry. Many employers value the practical, focused skills that undergraduate certificates provide. They demonstrate your commitment to professional development and can set you apart from other candidates. In some fields, an undergraduate certificate might be all you need to start working. In others, it might be the foundation for further study. The key is researching your chosen industry to understand how employers view these qualifications.

Making your decision

Before enrolling, consider what you want to achieve. Are you looking to start a new career (or career change), advance in your current role, or explore a potential field of study? Understanding your goals will help you choose the right certificate and institution.

Research the specific requirements and outcomes of any certificate you're considering. Look at what skills you'll develop, how the qualification is viewed by employers in your chosen field, and whether it offers pathways to further study if that's something you might want later.

Finding your options

When you're ready to explore specific undergraduate certificates, start by researching institutions in your area or those offering online study. Many universities, vocational education providers, and private colleges offer these qualifications.

Consider factors like delivery mode (online vs on-campus), duration, cost, entry requirements, and whether the certificate offers credit towards further qualifications. Don't hesitate to contact institutions directly with questions – they want you to succeed and are usually happy to provide guidance.

Your next steps

An undergraduate certificate could be exactly what you need to kickstart your career, change direction, or simply explore a new interest. The flexibility, accessibility, and practical focus of these qualifications make them an excellent choice for many people.

Take some time to research your options, speak with careers advisors or industry professionals, and consider how a certificate might fit into your broader life and career goals. With the right choice, you could be on your way to new opportunities in just a few months.

Learn more

[You can find loads more information about study options, pathways, and career planning on our website here.](#)

Health & Wellbeing

7 tips to protect yourself from workplace bullying

Many of us grow up thinking of bullying as something confined to childhood — playground taunts, group exclusion, or schoolyard intimidation. But for too many Australians, bullying doesn't stop at the school gates. It shows up again in workplaces, where it can be harder to spot and even harder to escape.

Workplace bullying is a serious issue that affects thousands of adults every year. And even if you were never bullied at school, it's still possible to find yourself the target of harmful behaviour later in life. That's why it's important to understand what drives people to bully (spoiler: it's not about you) and how you can protect yourself if it happens.

Why do people bully?

It's not really about the victim. Generally, bullies are using ineffective coping techniques to tackle issues in their own lives, like a lack of confidence or a feeling that they've lost control.

People become bullies because:

- They want to have control over others
- They want to improve their social status
- They don't feel very good about themselves, and want others to feel as bad as they do
- They are angry or frustrated about something and take it out on you
- They have been bullied themselves in another setting, and bullying gives them back their feeling of power

(For more on why people bully, check out [this resource](#) from Kids Helpline.)

See, none of these reasons include anything about the victim.

Which means there's **nothing you've done wrong**, and there's **nothing wrong with you**.

People who bully others are actually [more likely to have lifelong issues with anxiety and depression](#) than those who have never bullied (see [this article](#) for more info).

The same reasons for bullying apply to bullies at school and in the workplace. The difference is that in a workplace the bully is often also the boss. So, how can we protect ourselves from becoming a victim of workplace bullying?

Seven tips to protect yourself from bullying

Tip 1 - Keep a diary

Record when, where, who was there, and what happened. Include every interaction, and also record how it made you feel. If you're ever in a position where you need to prove what happened you'll be armed with the facts.

Tip 2 - Maintain your professionalism

Remember that you're there to work, not hang out. Sure, make friends and have a good time, but maintaining some of the professional lines in your workplace can help you more easily identify inappropriate behaviour.

Tip 3 - Don't separate yourself from your old friends

Even if your workplace becomes your favourite place to hang out (and with some offices now boasting cafés, bars, chill out zones, and weekly drinks sessions, it's possible you'll enjoy work more than home), try to keep some friends who don't work in the same place as you, and put energy into those relationships.

Tip 4 - Do what you can to separate yourself from the person

If you can, change your shifts so they don't overlap, or see if you can work in a different department. It's not always a long term solution, but separating yourself can help you deal with the immediate problem while you look for a long-term solution.

Tip 5 - If you feel safe and confident enough you can stand up to the bully

State clearly that you're not going to tolerate their behaviour, and that you're aware that you can take action to get them to stop. Try to ensure you have witnesses, or put it in writing so you have documented evidence.

Tip 6 - Report it

The best thing you can do if you're experiencing any form of bullying is tell someone. Your employer not only has an obligation to keep you safe at work, chances are they're also probably a good person who doesn't want any of their workers to be hurt or upset. You could go to your manager, someone in human resources, or even a union representative.

Tip 7 - What about if your boss or manager is the problem?

All of the above tips can help, but if your boss or manager is causing the issue you may need to go 'over their head' to get the problem to stop. Organisations are becoming more proactive at stomping out bullying at every level, so chances are someone more senior than your boss or manager will want to help.

If all else fails you can try your legal options. Contact your local [Legal Aid clinic](#), explain what's happening, and they should be able to point you in the right direction. This [resource](#) from the Fair Work Ombudsman goes over your rights and options to stop bullying in the workplace.

What you can do to help stop bullying

- Bullying. No Way! Have put together some [resources](#) for parents to help you learn how to respond if your child is being bullied.
- The [School Toilet Project](#) recognises that school toilets are 'the one place we know upset students naturally gravitate to', and aims to make them safe, nurturing places.
- ReachOut have some advice about what to do if you [witness someone else being bullied](#).
- The National Centre Against Bullying has some tips for you if you want to [help a friend who is being bullied](#).

How to find help if you are being (or have been) bullied at school

- Go to your teachers. They're trained to help you and support you, and they can be instrumental in stopping the bullying.
- Tell your parents. If they don't know what's happening it's hard for them to help you, and trust me, they want to help you.
- Call Kids Helpline on 1800 55 1800. They'll talk you through everything and help you work out some next steps. Their [website](#) is packed with articles and resources to help you as well.
- headspace are another fantastic resource – you can [call them or chat with them online](#).
- ReachOut have lots of fantastic [online resources](#) to help you understand bullying and find a way to move beyond it.
- Want to know where you stand? [Youth Law Australia](#) can help you learn about your legal rights when it comes to bullying and [cyberbullying](#).

11 to 15 August 2025 is [Bullying No Way Week](#). Bullying No Way Week is Australia's key bullying prevention initiative for schools. It provides an opportunity for schools to create a shared

understanding about bullying behaviours and share their bullying prevention policies and strategies, and the theme for 2025 is Be Bold. Be kind. Speak up.

Job Spotlights

How to become a Visual Merchandiser

Visual merchandisers create eye-catching store displays and layouts to attract customers into retail settings and maximise sales. They use colours, lighting, props, and products to influence how people experience and interact with brands.

If you have a great sense of style, love retail, and enjoy creating spaces that capture people's attention, a career as a visual merchandiser could be right for you.

What skills do I need as a visual merchandiser?

- Creativity and imagination
- Customer focused mindset
- Strong attention to detail
- Good understanding of colour and design
- Excellent communication skills
- Great time management skills
- Can cope with the physical demands of the job
- Flexibility and adaptability

What does the job involve?

- Design and create displays and in-store layouts
- Choose colours, lighting, and props that enhance products
- Decide which products are to be displayed and where
- Install, maintain, and pack up displays
- Plan seasonal campaigns and product launches
- Collaborate with your team on promotional campaigns
- Manage budgets for display materials and props
- Keep up to date with trends in fashion, design, and retail

What industries do visual merchandisers typically work in?

- Retail Trade
- Professional, Scientific and Technical Services
- Manufacturing

What Career Cluster do visual merchandisers belong to?

Because the goal of their work is to connect customers and drive sales, visual merchandisers primarily fall in the [Linker Cluster](#). [Innovators](#) may also enjoy the design aspect of the role, while [Makers](#) might be drawn to the more hands-on parts of the job.

What kind of lifestyle can I expect?

This job offers a high amount of flexibility, with around half of all visual merchandisers working part-time. Most work standard business hours, but you might need to work evenings or weekends during busy shopping periods or seasonal changes.

The work can be quite physical, involving lifting props, climbing ladders, and moving displays around. Travel is sometimes part of the role, particularly if you work for a large retailer with stores in multiple locations.

While visual merchandisers mostly work in retail settings, there are also opportunities in museums, hotels, airports, and other commercial environments.

Visual merchandisers typically earn an average salary, with opportunities for growth as you gain experience.

How to become a visual merchandiser

There's no single path to becoming a visual merchandiser, but there are several things you can do to help you break into the field.

Many visual merchandisers obtain a qualification in design, visual arts, fashion, or marketing.

Courses in interior design, graphic design, or retail management can also be useful.

Alternatively, you might like to start in a retail sales position and work your way up. Many visual merchandisers learn about customer behaviour and retail operations while working in other roles.

No matter which pathway you take, it's beneficial to build a strong portfolio of work you can show to potential employers. Showing off your design skills in other mediums (like graphic design, photography, fashion design, or even visual arts) is a great starting point.

What can I do right now to work towards this career?

If you're still in school and interested in a career as a visual merchandiser, here are some steps you can take right now:

- Practice at home by creating your own displays - rearrange your bedroom, style a bookshelf, or even help organise your school's display boards.
- Gain retail experience through casual work or work experience. Understanding how shops operate and customers behave is valuable for any visual merchandiser.
- Take workshops and short courses in design that can help you build important skills. There are lots of courses you can take online and some for no cost.

Where can I find more information?

- [Australian Retailers Association](#)
- [Shop!](#) (Aus & NZ)
- [The British Display Society](#)
- [Retail Design Institute](#)

Similar careers to visual merchandiser

- [Interior Designer](#)
- [Graphic Designer](#)
- [Architect](#)
- Marketing Manager
- [Fashion Stylist](#)
- [Jewellery Designer](#)
- Retail Assistant
- Advertising Agent

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

Created by Study Work Grow in 2025

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