



## Wyndham Central College Career News

No. 20, 30 November 2023

The Careers Centre, in the Monash Building, is a resource centre for our students with current institutional handbooks and brochures at their disposal. Students are invited to visit, browse, and question. An open-door policy exists to ensure students make informed decisions about future pathways. Appointments can be made to discuss the future pathways of their children.

### YEAR 12 STUDENTS

#### IMPORTANT DATES – Year 12 STUDENTS:

- VTAC applications close + VTAC Personal Statement deadline to guarantee consideration for all offer rounds: Friday 1 December (5pm)
  - VTAC application fee deadline for December offers. *Applicants unpaid by this deadline will not be eligible for December offers:* Tuesday 5 December (5pm)
  - Closing date for change of address and payment to receive ATAR statement by mail  
Deadline to opt-out of receiving a printed ATAR statement:  
Wednesday 6 December (5pm)
  - VCE results and ATAR scores will be available online from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7am.
  - Results Counselling with the Pathways Team in the Careers Centre – Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December from 10am – 2pm
  - Change of preference close – 14<sup>th</sup> December
  - VCE results and ATAR scores (the paper documents) should be in the post within 10 business days
  - Note: Any student who does not submit an application by 5pm 1 December may apply afterwards for January Round 2 and February offers until 5pm 16 January.
  - December Offer Round: Offers Released Thursday 21 December 2023 (VTAC account 2pm)
  - January Offer Round: Offers released Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2023 (VTAC Account 2pm)
  - More dates available at [www.vtac.edu.au/dates](http://www.vtac.edu.au/dates)
- The Careers Team would like to take this opportunity to wish each Year 12 Student the best of luck in all their future endeavours.



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### **Year 12 Morning Tea:**

**All Year 12 students are invited to a morning tea in the Careers Centre on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December from 10am till 12:30 pm.**

**This will assist students to wind down after the rigours of Year 12, to discuss their results, change preferences and pathway options and make an appointment to see Ms Siragusano/Mrs Karlovic.**

Congratulations on completing Year 12! Whatever your plans are for 2024 and beyond, you should be very proud of your achievements this year.

This is the final career newsletter for Year 12 students – it aims to provide information on various pathways and provide answers to frequently asked questions.

**Please refer to the two attachments providing detailed information on:**

- **Change of Preference**
- **Results, Preferences & Offers**

### **POST SCHOOL CAREER SUPPORT**

**Results Counselling with the Pathways Team in the Careers Centre – Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December from 10am – 2pm**

#### **University and TAFE**

If you are transitioning into university or TAFE, you will be able to access free career support at Tertiary Institutions. Practitioners are usually located in the student services faculty.

#### **Apprenticeships and Traineeships**

Many apprenticeship centres and group training companies have free careers support and offer mentoring during your employment.

#### **Transition to Work**

Workforce Australia funds a program called 'Transition to Work'. This free program aims to support young people to transition into employment, training, and further education.

Search for a provider via [www.workforceaustralia.gov.au](http://www.workforceaustralia.gov.au)

#### **Employment Companies**



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Staff at employment companies can assist you with your job search and some have funded programs for young people with disabilities.

Use the online Yellow Pages to contact local providers to discuss your eligibility.

### **DEFENCE FORCE PATHWAY**

#### **The ADF Gap Year Program**

There are a variety of exciting gap year roles on offer in the Navy, Air Force and Army. You have until the age of 24 to apply, so don't worry if you missed out on applying earlier this year.

You can start your application now and work through the steps.

Information visit <http://bit.ly/3eKYXP8>

#### **General Entry**

You can start your application at any time to apply for general entry into most roles (including trades).

Search here for available roles [www.defencejobs.gov.au](http://www.defencejobs.gov.au)

Learn about the application process here <http://bit.ly/2Tyn8Yp>

#### **University - ADFA**

You can study a university degree at the Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA), Canberra.

Applications are closed but will open again next year for the 2025 intake.

Visit: [www.unsw.adfa.edu.au](http://www.unsw.adfa.edu.au)

#### **Defence University Scholarship (DUS)**

This option is for students already studying an eligible university degree. The Defence Force will sponsor you to complete your degree and pay most of your course fees. In return, you will commit to a service period in the Army, Navy or Air Force.

Examples of eligible courses include engineering, nursing, medicine, physiotherapy, medical imaging, law, business etc.

Visit: <http://bit.ly/2HEjCG6>

#### **Trades**

You can apply for various trade roles in the Army, Navy or Air Force. Examples include: vehicle mechanic, electrician, aircraft technician, carpenter, chef, and plumber.

You will receive full training and an excellent salary.

Visit: [www.defencejobs.gov.au](http://www.defencejobs.gov.au)



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## **TAFE PATHWAY**

TAFE stands for Technical and Further Education and is a name commonly used for vocational training. TAFE is an excellent pathway for everyone. Benefits include:

- Hands-on applied learning
- The aim of the course is to make you 'job ready', so every unit is relevant.
- There are different study levels and a large range of study areas.
- Employers love candidates with job ready skills!
- Obtain a qualification in a relatively short time frame.
- Can easily fit a TAFE qualification into a gap year before university.
- Higher level courses (e.g., Diploma) can provide a direct pathway into university courses with credit.
- Can give you the opportunity to trial an industry or career area before you commit to university study.
- Can give you a qualification you can use to gain part time work while undertaking university study.

Applications are open for most TAFE institutes and private providers.

The following is important to know:

- Competitive courses may have early closing dates
- You may need to complete additional tasks as part of your application such as portfolios, literacy and numeracy tests, information sessions, applying for a Working With Children Check, etc.

For examples of TAFE courses and to search for TAFE providers, visit [www.yourcareer.gov.au/](http://www.yourcareer.gov.au/)

## **UNIVERSITY PATHWAY**

Important updates regarding university applications. December will be a very busy time, so it's important to get organised as soon as possible.

The following is information on what to expect:

### **RELEASE OF RESULTS AND ATAR**

Victorian students: Monday 11 December

### **FINALISING COURSE PREFERENCES**

The moment is almost here! If you'd like to change your course preferences, will need to do this via the Tertiary Admission Centres (TACs) you've applied through.

The following is what you need to be aware of:



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- There are key dates  
Each state has different dates and different offer rounds. Key dates are listed on the home page of each TAC website.
- You can change your preferences

You can add/delete/reorder your preferences between offer rounds for most courses and can do this at any time until the cut off dates. You may hear the term 'Change of Preference'. This typically refers to the following periods in the offer cycles:

### **Changing your preferences after you receive your VCE results and ATAR**

Changing your preferences between offer rounds.

#### **Important!**

Some courses can't be re-added if you remove them from your preference list (e.g., medicine).

Some courses have additional selection criteria such as admission tests, portfolio, interviews, personal statements etc. If you have missed the deadlines to submit these, then you will not be eligible for a course offer.

### **Ordering Course Preferences**

Be very mindful of how you order your preferences.

Remember – dream courses should be at the top and then your back-up courses below, including TAFE.

Your RAW ATAR will be different to your SELECTION RANK for the purpose of course eligibility and your selection rank will be different for each university as it's made up of your ATAR + any adjustments you're eligible for (e.g., academic and equity bonus points). Each university has different adjustment schemes.

It's important to be aware of this, as you may receive entry into your dream course if you don't think your raw ATAR is competitive enough.

**For example**, Jane achieves an ATAR of 60. She applies for courses at Deakin University and La Trobe University via VTAC.

Through the information she submitted in her VTAC SEAS application and her strong study scores she receives equity and academic ATAR adjustments.

Her selection rank for courses is now:

72.5 for Deakin University



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71.8 for La Trobe University.

### Excellent Resources

This video explains selection ranks and ATAR profiles: <https://bit.ly/3GiSJFX>

This video explains the preference system and course offers.

Although it is for VTAC, the information is similar for each state-based Tertiary Admission Centre, <https://bit.ly/46H52Xs>

### HELP WITH COURSE PREFERENCES

Apart from meeting with the Pathways Team at WCC (Ms Siragusano & Mrs Karlovic), tertiary institutions offer a range of support services such as:

- One to one advice via phone/chat
- On campus expos and campus tours
- Virtual information webinars

For informant on the support Victorian institutions are providing, visit <https://bit.ly/3Ga9KCK>

**Note:** Many of the expos are running on 11, 12 and 13 December, so plan early.

### Webinars

VTAC is running two information sessions in December:

- 5: ATAR, scaling, and offers release
- 12: Getting ready for offers

Register via <https://vtac.edu.au/events>

### COURSE OFFERS

Offers will be released over several rounds. It's important to note that most offers will be made in the December round.

You can change your preferences between rounds, and you can only receive one offer per round.

### Excellent Resource

This video explains the offer system.

Although it is for VTAC, the information is similar for each each state-based Tertiary Admission Centre <https://youtu.be/1QPbnbe6Ffw>



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### **KEY DATES FOR CHANGE OF PREFERENCE AND OFFERS**

#### **Victorian Courses**

Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) [www.vtac.edu.au/dates.html](http://www.vtac.edu.au/dates.html)

#### **NSW/ACT Courses**

Universities Admissions Centre (UAC)

[www.uac.edu.au/key-dates](http://www.uac.edu.au/key-dates)

### **APPRENTICESHIP/ TRAINEESHIP PATHWAY**

Now is a great time to search for your dream apprenticeship/traineeship!

There are many positions available for enthusiastic young people who are keen to work hard, earn while you learn, and obtain a portable qualification.

Apprenticeships and traineeships combine the best of both worlds of TAFE study and employment. Many employers are finding it difficult to fill positions, so if you're lucky you might find positions being advertised with a higher rate of pay.

If you're planning to go to university in 2025, a 12-month gap year traineeship is the perfect way to earn money, gain an industry relevant qualification, and learn amazing skills before you start your degree.

#### **Where to Start**

It is important to sign up to local Australian Apprenticeship Support Network Providers and Group Training Organisations as they will be able to assist you with your search.

You can find their contact details via [www.apprenticeships.gov.au](http://www.apprenticeships.gov.au)

### **GAP YEAR**

#### **What is a Gap Year?**

Traditionally a gap year was taken by Year 12 students who deferred their universities studies for 12-months. Now gap years are taken by students who would like to delay their vocational or tertiary pathways.

#### **Gap Year Programs**

Year13 have put together a list of companies that offer working holidays, travel, and volunteer gap year programs.

Visit: <https://year13.com.au/explore/travel>



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## EMPLOYMENT

If you are keen to work next year, there are several methods for finding employment. The following explores three:

### 1. Cold Calling

Did you know that many jobs aren't advertised? These employers rely on word of mouth and /or contact people who drop in resumes to their business. This is called 'cold calling'. What does this mean for you? It means you have to be:

#### **Proactive**

Get your resume and cover letter together, use/buy/borrow a smart outfit and hit the streets. Employers love young people who demonstrate initiative and independence.

#### **Organised**

Ask someone to go over your resume to look for spelling and grammatical errors. Ensure it is formatted correctly and no more than 2-pages. Be careful of using online resume builders as often the formatting looks poor. Youth Central has excellent sample resumes.

Visit: [www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au](http://www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au)

#### **Engaged**

Let everyone know you are looking for casual employment. Word of mouth is a powerful tool to finding a job. Contact the referees on your resume to let them know they may receive calls from employers.

### 2. Register with Businesses

Some businesses allow prospective employees to register with their organisation and apply for jobs advertised on their website. Access a list of casual job links to get started via <https://slmcareerresources.edublogs.org/>

### 3. Search for Advertised Jobs

The following websites are great to bookmark and check regularly

- [www.seek.com.au](http://www.seek.com.au)
- <https://au.iora.com>
- <https://au.indeed.com/>

Also check the classified section in your local newspaper.





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### **Excellent Job Seeking Resources**

For job seeking tips, and resume/cover letter templates, check out the resources at Youth Central- [www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au](http://www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au)

### **Rights and Responsibilities**

Know your rights and responsibilities when starting a new job, [www.fairwork.gov.au](http://www.fairwork.gov.au)

### **Tax File Number (TFN)**

If you don't have a TFN, you will need to apply for one via the Australian Tax Office - [www.ato.gov.au/Individuals/Tax-file-number/](http://www.ato.gov.au/Individuals/Tax-file-number/)

### **Learn about Safety in the Workplace**

It's very important to understand safety in the workplace.

Learn how to stay safe at work - [www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/young-workers](http://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/young-workers)

### **VOLUNTEERING**

Volunteering is an excellent way to give back to your community and develop employability skills.

Check out opportunities via Volunteering Australia, [www.volunteeringaustralia.org](http://www.volunteeringaustralia.org)

## **ALL STUDENTS**

### **FOCUS ON SUMMER SCHOOLS**

The following programs are running during the Christmas break:

#### **MAGNIFY MUSIC CAMP**

Magnify is an intensive high-level skills camp for high school students between the ages of 14 – 18 who are serious about career success in the field of music. Run by Box Hill Institute, the camp will run between 15 - 20 January 2024. There will be a final concert on Friday night, where students can show off their newfound skills. Entry is by audition and there are only 30 places.

The cost is \$450.

Visit: <https://bit.ly/45idxrc>

#### **INSIGHTS PROGRAM**

NIE and Immerse Education offers an amazing 11-day residential program in Sydney for students who are passionate about academics. The program will run between 3 – 13 January 2024.



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Streams cover study areas such as medicine, business, creative writing, veterinary studies, international studies, and psychology. The cost is over \$10,000 and students will stay on campus at a University of Sydney College.

For information and to apply, visit [www.niecareers.com.au](http://www.niecareers.com.au)

### **FILMMAKING SUMMER SCHOOL**

Filmmaking for the Digital Age: this intensive summer school is taught by Australia's leading film industry professionals and is suited to people from all ages and backgrounds.

The event will be held between 12 - 14 January 2024 at Dancehouse, Carlton North, Vic.

Visit: [www.summerfilmschool.com/](http://www.summerfilmschool.com/)

### **CAMPION COLLEGE SUMMER PROGRAM**

This immersive four-day program provides the opportunity to reside on campus and interact with like-minded peers. Students will engage in a fun-filled program including movies, trivia, dancing, and sports, as well as sample lectures from history, literature, philosophy, and theology professors.

Applicants must be 16 – 20 years old.

**When:** 9 – 12 or 16 – 19 January 2024.

**Where:** Champion College, Toongabbie, NSW.

Visit: [www.champion.edu.au](http://www.champion.edu.au)

### **FUTURE DOCTORS PROGRAM**

NIE offers a 4-day intensive work experience program for students interested in medicine.

Cost is \$2,290 and doesn't cover transport or accommodation.

The Melbourne program will run between 19 – 22 January 2024 and is currently 88% full.

For information and to apply, visit [www.niecareers.com.au](http://www.niecareers.com.au)

### **THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DRAMATIC ARTS (NIDA)**

NIDA is running several acting and musical theatre short courses for students at the Melbourne campus during January.

To explore the program options and reserve your place, visit [www.open.nida.edu.au](http://www.open.nida.edu.au)

### **UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE - VCE SUMMER SCHOOL**

**This summer school has been cancelled for 2024.**



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### **UPCOMING CAREER EVENTS**

#### **NATURAL HEALTH**

##### **Endeavour College of Natural Health**

The College is located at Melbourne and offers higher education courses in:

- Naturopathy
- Acupuncture Therapies
- Nutritional and Dietetic Medicine
- Complimentary Medicine
- Chinese Medicine
- Remedial Massage
- Chinese Remedial Massage

The institute is running an open day for prospective students and their families on Saturday 20 January. For information and to RSVP, visit [www.endeavour.edu.au/events](http://www.endeavour.edu.au/events)

#### **AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE**

Interested in a career in the Army, Navy or Air Force?

Check the amazing career information sessions running across the country and online

Visit: [www.defencejobs.gov.au/events](http://www.defencejobs.gov.au/events)

#### **ENDOTA WELLNESS COLLEGE**

Endota Wellness College is located in Melbourne and offers courses in Beauty, Massage, and Salon Management. An open day will be run on Saturday 9 December for prospective students and their families.

For information, visit <https://endotawellnesscollege.edu.au/>

### **YEAR 11 STUDENTS**

#### **MEDICINE, DENTISTRY, ORAL HEALTH**

If you will be in Year 12 next year and are planning to apply for medicine, dentistry and/or oral health to start in 2025, you may need to sit the UCAT ANZ (University Clinical Aptitude Test).

You will sit the test mid-year and selected universities will use your UCAT ANZ results as part of the selection process, in conjunction with your ATAR and Year 12 results, and in some cases an interview.

You will only have one chance to sit the UCAT ANZ in 2024 and you will be able to receive your results straight away.



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Please go to [www.ucat.edu.au](http://www.ucat.edu.au) for more information about the UCAT ANZ, to see if you have to sit the test and to access free preparation materials.

Registrations will open on 5 March 2024.

### UCAT Preparation Sessions

You have the choice to start preparing for the test early.

There are several private companies that offer commercial preparation programs such as:

- NIE, [www.nie.edu.au](http://www.nie.edu.au)
- Med Entry, [www.medentry.edu.au](http://www.medentry.edu.au)

It's important to note that private companies are not endorsed by the universities that use the UCAT.

## ALL STUDENTS

### UNIVERSITY COURSE SEARCH

#### Course Seeker

There are many university courses at various institutions across Australia. It can be a daunting task to research your options, but the Course Seeker website has been designed to make this an easy process for you.

It contains a national course comparison tool which enables students to search, select and compare higher education courses and filter search results by ATAR, study area and location, [www.courseseeker.edu.au](http://www.courseseeker.edu.au)

### EMPLOYMENT

If you are keen to find a casual job, now is the perfect time to start looking for employment opportunities.

The following are resources to get you started:

- **Excellent Job Seeking Resources**  
For job seeking tips, and resume/cover letter templates, check out the resources at Youth Central- [www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au](http://www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au)
- **Rights and Responsibilities**  
Know your rights and responsibilities when starting a new job, [www.fairwork.gov.au](http://www.fairwork.gov.au)
- **Tax File Number (TFN)**  
If you don't have a TFN, you will need to apply for one via the Australian Tax Office - [www.ato.gov.au/Individuals/Tax-file-number/](http://www.ato.gov.au/Individuals/Tax-file-number/)



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### - **Learn About Safety in the Workplace**

It's very important to understand safety in the workplace. Learn how to stay safe at work - [www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/young-workers](http://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/young-workers)

### **BUILDING YOUR RESUME**

To build your resume for future opportunities such as employment, traineeships, apprenticeships, scholarships, university accommodation, and leadership positions, it's crucial you take up career development opportunities during your high school years.

The following are activities you may consider:

- Secure casual or part time employment
- Play sport and volunteer for your club
- Participate in volunteering and community service activities
- Participate in fundraising activities.
- Participate in school and community leadership programs
- Join public speaking and debating clubs
- Get tutoring to improve your writing and oral presentation skills
- Join service clubs such as Scouts, Cadets, Guides, St Johns.
- Undertake work experience.
- Participate in competitions.
- Strive for academic awards.

Add to your resume to keep it up to date.

### **INTERESTED IN A CAREER WITH THE VICTORIA POLICE?**

Victoria Police has four different roles available for students who might be interested in pursuing a career in policing.

- Police Officer
- Protective Services Officer
- Police Custody Officer
- Victorian Public Servant

For a brief overview of each role and to watch recruitment videos, visit - <https://bit.ly/2N5vhUu>



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Experience and attributes the Force is looking for:

Not every 18-year-old will be ready to apply but those who are gathering life experience whilst they are in high school will be more competitive throughout the recruitment process.

For example:

- **Employment in a customer service role**  
Provides exposure to people of all works of life and develops communication, teamwork, and conflict resolution skills.
  
- **Volunteer experience**  
Develops a sense of community-mindedness and communication skills. For example, working at the local surf lifesaving club or community centre.
  
- **Sporting club experience**  
Develops teamwork, communication, and leadership skills, not to mention the healthy level of fitness that is a requirement of the role.
  
- **Overseas travel**  
Provides exposure to other cultures, religions and languages and fosters a sense of independence and assertiveness.

For information on eligibility criteria and the recruitment process, visit [www.police.vic.gov.au/careers](http://www.police.vic.gov.au/careers)

Information sessions:

- Bookmark the following page and check regularly for upcoming career information sessions, <http://bit.ly/3uBvCOQ>

**Pathways & Transitions Team**

**Pina Siragusano and Kathy Karlovic**

**Tel: 9741 4911 Ext.924/925**