1. VTAC APPLICATIONS

Applications for university, VET (TAFE) and private provider courses for 2015 are now open through the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC). Any Year 12 student wishing to apply for courses should visit: [www.vtac.edu.au](http://www.vtac.edu.au) and view the online guide, important dates and other useful information relating to the VTAC process. Timely applications close on 30th September and will cost $28. This covers the cost of your application, receiving an ATAR statement and an offer(s) and changing your preferences as many times as you like. After 30th September the application fee increases to $93 so it makes sense to be a timely applicant. You may apply for up to 12 courses through VTAC, placing your preferences in the order you most want them. A VTAC application must have a minimum of 1 course and a maximum of 12. You may receive an offer in January for the highest placed course on your list for which you meet all the requirements (such as ATAR, prerequisite subjects and any other selection requirements). Make sure you check prerequisites and the selection criteria for all the courses for which you are applying.

The VTAC Information evening was held on Monday night 4th August in the CPA. Copies of the slides are available for students who were unable to attend. Please send an email to Careers and a copy will be emailed back to you. All Year 12 students will have at least one, one on one Careers interview in B21 before the end of term. At this interview it is anticipated students will input their VTAC preferences if they are intending to continue with further study at a university or TAFE in 2015. These preferences are not “set in concrete” until noon on 22nd December so there are plenty of opportunities to alter them should a student change their mind about what they want to do, or think of additional course options which appeal to them. Appointment slips will be sent out through homeroom next week.

2. SPECIAL ENTRY ACCESS SCHEME (SEAS)

The 2015 VTAC Guide has a section titled SEAS (pages 30 - 43): [www.vtac.edu.au/who/seas.html](http://www.vtac.edu.au/who/seas.html). Read this section to see if you are eligible for any special consideration for your course application. There are five categories of disadvantage. Note that SEAS applications are made on the VTAC website but an application can only be made after making an application for courses and submitting at least one preference. (SEAS applications close: 7th October, 2014).

3. TERTIARY SCHOLARSHIPS

Most institutions listed in the VTAC Guide have a number of scholarships available to applicants. Many of these can be applied for through the VTAC system (some require a direct application). Read the scholarships section of the online VTAC Guide (pages 44 - 50) and also visit institution websites for more information. Some scholarships are described in the VTAC Guide course description (eg Swinburne Information Technology Scholarship Program, page 469); so keep your eyes open as you are reading.

4. RMIT OPEN DAY

Plan your visit to the RMIT Open Day on 10th August by visiting: [www.rmit.edu.au/openday](http://www.rmit.edu.au/openday). This way you can choose which presentations, information areas, displays and activities you will attend before you arrive on campus. Note that a shuttle bus will be provided between the City, Bundoora and Brunswick campuses throughout the day so you can easily transit between RMIT campuses.
5. RMIT FLIGHT TRAINING OPEN DAY

At the RMIT Flight Training Open Day visitors can take guided tours of the facilities, find out about booking a trial introductory flight and obtain advice from flight instructors and staff on how to start a career as a professional pilot. This will be held from 10:00am – 4:00pm on Sunday 31st August at the RMIT Flight Training Centre, Point Cook site, Building 202, Williams Rd, RAAF Base, Point Cook.

6. ACCESS MELBOURNE

Access Melbourne provides educational opportunities for students from a range of backgrounds enrolling in undergraduate degrees. The University has a selection guarantee for eligible applicants who have suffered financial disadvantage. There is a guaranteed Commonwealth Supported Place in Melbourne undergraduate degrees for eligible Melbourne Access applicants provided you also meet the course prerequisites and achieve the following ATARs: Arts, Environments, Science – an ATAR of 78 or higher; Commerce – an ATAR of 88 or higher; Biomedicine – an ATAR of 95 or higher. Applicants eligible for other Access Melbourne categories will be considered for entry on an individual basis. For further information visit: www.access.unimelb.edu.au.

7. B. FINE ARTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE – EARLY CLOSING OF APPLICATIONS

Some specialisations of the B. Fine Arts (University of Melbourne Southbank campus) require the earlier completion of a VTAC application than the general on time closing date for VTAC applications (5:00pm, 30th September). The Animation, Film and Television and the Screenwriting specialisations require applications by 5:00pm on 29th August. The Dance specialisation also has a timely closing date of 29th August to guarantee applicants a live audition. The final closing date for Dance is 5:00pm on 7th November but after 29th August applicants will not be guaranteed a live audition.

8. WHAT IS INDUSTRY BASED LEARNING (IBL)?

IBL is a joint venture between university educators and employers offering students relevant paid industry experience. It is offered by several universities, sometimes taking place for six or 12 months prior to completing the final year of the degree. Monash offers IBL to IT students with a full time, paid ($17,000), 22 week placement at a leading IT company. This particular placement gives students credit points towards their degree. Swinburne offers IBL opportunities in a large range of their degrees. You can check out IBL opportunities at university Open Days. It is a great way to obtain paid work experience, perhaps leading to ongoing employment with that employer upon graduation.

9. PARENTS AND UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

Universities understand that parents play an important role in providing advice, information and support to their children as they plan for their future and consider their options. The University of Melbourne has developed some online resources for parents / guardians to help them understand the options, entry requirements and what is on offer at the university. Visit: www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/parents for further information.

10. WHY STUDY PHYSICS?

Physics explores our universe at a fundamental level. It has provided the basis for many new technologies (for example: computers, lasers, medical imaging and power generation). Physics also provides the basis for many emerging technologies (for example:
nanotechnology, quantum computing and atomtronics). Physics graduates are skilled in empirical reasoning, computational modelling, problem solving and analytical thinking, data analysis and written and oral communication. Physicists find employment as acoustical physicists, accelerator physicists, astronomers, biophysicists, climate modellers, educators and much more. They work in industry, for government, in hospitals, universities, schools and the financial sector. Future careers that will need physicists are in atomtronics, complex systems modelling, quantum computing, the space industry, spintronics, synthetic biology, functional materials, energy technology, security and data protection. For information about studying physics at Monash University visit: www.physics.monash.edu.

Note that The University of Melbourne School of Physics is holding a lecture for VCE physics students called: 'Light....Waves or Particles?' It is based on the VCE study (Unit 4, Study 2) and will help you understand this topic. It will be held at 6:00pm on Thursday 7th August in the Hercus Theatre, School of Physics, corner Tin Alley and Swanston Streets. For further information telephone Max on 0401990142.

11. OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY (OT) INFORMATION SESSION

'Explore Occupational Therapy as a Career’ at an information and demonstration evening at the Austin Hospital. Hear from Occupational Therapists experienced in spinal rehabilitation, hand therapy, mental health, neurology and more. This will be held on Thursday 11th September, 5:00pm for registration, then a 5:30 – 8:00pm session at the Education Precinct, Level 4 Austin Tower, Austin Hospital, Studley Rd, Heidelberg. RSVP your attendance by emailing: renee.bartlett2@austin.org.au by 5th September (there is a maximum of two attendees per reservation).

12. WILLIAM ANGLISS OPEN DAY

Sunday 24th August is Open Day at William Angliss when they throw open their doors to the public and showcase the very best of what they have to offer as the specialist centre for foods, tourism, hospitality and events training. This year at the Melbourne CBD campus, prospective students will have the opportunity to attend information sessions, meet enthusiastic staff and students, tour the campus, participate in Trial – a - Trade (including new activities in Resort Management (Spa) and Events) and view demonstrations from celebrity chefs Ian Curley and Anna Polyviou. More information about this year’s Open Day, including the Open Day Programme can be found at: http://www.angliss.edu.au/melb-open-day?utm_source=Website.

13. READY 4 WORK AT WILLIAM ANGLISS

There will be a September school holidays intake for this programme which includes training in Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA), Basic Coffee Service, Follow Workplace Hygiene and Basic Food & Beverage Service. Upon successful completion participants will receive accredited units which will give you an “edge” when applying for casual or part time jobs in pubs, clubs, restaurants, cafés, catering operations and hotels...just to name a few! Participants will be able to take part in practical activities, gain useful skills and obtain experience in practical bar, café and restaurant settings. The cost of the programme is $350; further information is available at: https://shortcourses.angliss.edu.au/courses/ready-4-work.

14. WOMEN IN ENGINEERING: INSPIRE POSSIBILITIES

This free event will take place on Sunday 10th August at the RMIT Open Day at 12:30pm. Hear female engineering alumni talk about their experiences and gain a real insight into a career in engineering.
The programme will be conducted as a forum to enable Q & A with the panel and audience. It will take place in Storey Hall, Level 7, City campus.

15. OPEN DAY AT MACLEY COLLEGE

A Career Open Day will be held at Macleay College, 55 Brady Street, South Melbourne, on Saturday 23rd August. Visit: https://www.macleay.edu.au/campaign/journal-melb for more information about studying Journalism at Macleay which offers fast tracked, practical diploma level journalism courses. Journalism is a career for life; a career that can take you around the world working in some exciting roles and interesting locations. Career paths include: Newspaper Journalist, Magazine Editor, Sports Journalist, Political Reporter, Fashion Writer and TV, Radio or Online Producer. You can view the newsroom where students are presenting the news as part of the course at: http://newsroom.macleay.net. Note that Macleay is a Private Provider so courses are not Government subsidised and full fees are charged.

16. AUTOMOTIVE, TECHNICAL AND PARTS APPRENTICESHIPS

Vantage Automotive Pty Ltd is a major provider of government funded vocational learning and outsourced services to major vehicle manufacturers with an extensive client list across Australia. They are interested in hearing from students who would like to join the automotive industry. You can visit: www.vantage.automotive.com to learn more about their Modern Apprenticeship Programme. You can also apply online for apprenticeships from this website. (These are full time apprenticeship positions.)

17. NCAT FOLIO PREPARATION COURSE POST YEAR 12

NCAT provides the opportunity for students interested in pursuing courses and careers in the Art and Design field to develop a wonderful folio for selection purposes. Students who have completed Year 12 study the Cert IV in Design and Visual Arts at minimal cost. Through creative hands on workshops, job briefs, industry exposure and mentoring, students are provided with pathways advice, support and access to university partnerships. The NCAT staff are experts in assisting students to make the best choice for their art or design future and to help students develop their creative skills. Students are well prepared for a positive pathway regarding their career choice and for success at university. An information evening for prospective students and their parents will be held at NCAT (62 Murray Rd, Preston) on Tuesday 19th August at 6:00pm.

18. SWINBURNE UNILINK DIPLOMAS: PATHWAY TO A DEGREE

Swinburne Unilink diplomas are higher education diplomas equivalent to first year study of a Swinburne Bachelor degree. Upon successful completion of the diploma students may progress into the second year of a Swinburne Bachelor degree. A minimum ATAR of 50 and a study score of at least 20 in English is required to access one of the Unilink diplomas. These courses have Commonwealth Supported Places and are for eight months full time on the Hawthorn campus. Unilink diplomas are available in Engineering, Business, Design and Information Technology. Note that the Design diploma requires a Year 12 art, design or media subject and the Engineering Unilink diploma requires a study score of at least 20 in Maths Methods or Specialist Maths. Further information is available at: swinburne.edu.au/pathways.

Compiled by: c. borg and m. walker