WHERE TO NOW?

A Career resource for Change of Preference and beyond
Where To Now?

So, you’ve finished Year 12 and a whole world of opportunity has just opened up to you. What do you do now?

Important Dates

November - December:

- 14 December – **VCE Results and ATAR** available at 7am on the VTAC website
- 23 November (Opens 10am) – 21 December (Closes 12 noon) – **Change of Preference**

January and February:

VTAC Offer Rounds and Change of Preference Dates 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offer Round</th>
<th>Offer Date</th>
<th>Change of Preference Opens</th>
<th>Change of Preference Closes</th>
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<tr>
<td>Round 1</td>
<td>18 January 2016 (2pm)</td>
<td>19 January 2016 (10am)</td>
<td>29 January 2016 (4pm)</td>
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<td>Round 2</td>
<td>4 February 2016 (2pm)</td>
<td>5 February 2016 (10am)</td>
<td>10 February 2016 (4pm)</td>
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<td>Round 3</td>
<td>15 February 2016 (2pm)</td>
<td>16 February 2016 (10am)</td>
<td>17 February 2016 (4pm)</td>
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<td>Round 4</td>
<td>22 February 2016 (2pm)</td>
<td>23 February 2016 (10am)</td>
<td>24 February 2016 (4pm)</td>
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<td>Round 5</td>
<td>29 February 2016 (2pm)</td>
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Results and ATAR service

Your VCE study scores, ATAR and VTAC Scaled Study Scores will be available to you via internet and SMS services. All current VCE students will receive a statement of VCE study scores from the VCAA. However, only students who have applied for courses through VTAC this year and have paid their VTAC processing fees will be sent an ATAR statement in the mail.

How to access your results online
To view your results online, log on to resultsandatar.vic.edu.au using your VCE student number and PIN. The default PIN is the first four digits of your birth date, however you are strongly encouraged to change this prior to the release of results (see below). Results will be available online from 7am Monday 14 December to 5pm Friday 18 December.

Protect your privacy: Change your PIN
In order to ensure that your privacy is protected, VTAC strongly recommends that you change your PIN. If you don't change your PIN, anyone with knowledge of your VCE student number and birth date will be able to access your ATAR and VCE results. You can change your PIN in your VTAC user account. Your new PIN will work with all results and ATAR services.

How to register to receive your results by SMS
To get your results by SMS on the morning they are released, register by sending your VCE student number (without the letter) and PIN to 19 787 888 ($1.10 incl. GST). Registration is open from 9am Monday 9 November until midnight Sunday 13 December. From 7am on Monday 14 December until 5pm Friday 18 December results can be obtained immediately.

Text the following:

- student number – eight digits only, not the letter
- space
- PIN (four digits)
- send to 19 787 888 (cost $1.10 incl. GST).

(SMS provided by Salmat Digital. SMS cost $1.10 max (incl. GST). Service closes on Friday 18 December at 5pm. You must have the bill payer’s permission to use this service. SMS helpdesk 1800 501 083.)
Change of Preference Information

The official Change of Preference period opens on the 23 November (10am) and closes on the 21 December (12 noon).

During this time you will have the opportunity to log on to your VTAC account and add to, remove, or re-shuffle your preferences.

Your ATAR (which is released on Monday 14 December at 7am, via the website), to some extent, will determine your order of preference, but just because you got a higher or lower ATAR than you expected doesn’t mean you have to change your preferences, but do make sure that you have some pathway courses lower on your list.

AND, make sure you have covered all the extra requirements before you put a course down on your preferences.

Change of Preference Contacts

Many of the Universities and TAFEs offer Change of Preference Expos, where you can call or drop-in to discuss courses and pathways

Australian Catholic University

ACU will be holding their Change of Preference Event on:

Tuesday: 15 December 2015: 12pm - 4pm
115 Victoria Parade, Fitzroy.

Swinburne University

At the time of printing, Swinburne had not yet published their Change of Preference Events. Please check the Swinburne website closer to the time:

Deakin University

You are invited to attend these free events.

Find out more about course options at Deakin, talk to current students about their experiences at Deakin, and ask your questions.

For more information about Change of Preference at Deakin:  [http://choose.deakin.edu.au/events](http://choose.deakin.edu.au/events)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2015 December 14 –18 &amp; 21 (12 noon)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Online chat sessions</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chat online with staff and ask questions about changing your preferences and getting into Deakin. To participate in a live chat, please visit choose.deakin.edu.au during these dates and times.</td>
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<td>• 14 December, 7am – 7 pm</td>
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<td>• 15 –18 December, 9am –7 pm</td>
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<td>• 19 –20 December, 9am –2 pm</td>
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<td>• 21 December, 9am –12 noon</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>2015 December 14 – 21 (noon)</strong></th>
<th><strong>Change of preference hotline</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For advice or more information about studying at Deakin, please phone the Deakin Change of preference hotline: 1300 DEGREE (1300 334 733). The hotline is open on:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• 14 December, 7 am –7 pm</td>
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<td>• 15 –18 December, 9 am –7 pm</td>
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<td>• 19 –20 December, 9 am –2 pm</td>
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<td>• 21 December, 9 am –12 noon</td>
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<th><strong>2015 December 15 4pm –7pm</strong></th>
<th><strong>Information evening Melbourne Burwood Campus</strong></th>
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<td>Building BC, 221 Burwood Highway, Burwood Campus</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Students can explore Deakin’s Melbourne Burwood</td>
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<td>Campus and attend course specific information</td>
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<td>sessions. Chat with staff and current students who</td>
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<td>will be available to answer your questions at e expo.</td>
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<td>Online registration is required. Faculty breakouts</td>
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<td>will be available throughout the event, including</td>
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<td>general tours.</td>
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<th><strong>2016 January 19, 21, 28 9am – 5pm</strong></th>
<th><strong>One-on-one chats Melbourne Burwood Campus</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Building BC, 221 Burwood Highway, Burwood Face-</td>
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<td></td>
<td>to-face meeting with a Deakin staff member to talk</td>
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<td>rough study and pathways options. Online</td>
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<td>registration is required. registration is</td>
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La Trobe University

La Trobe University is running study consultations during the Change of Preference period. These can be booked online at: http://www.latrobe.edu.au/events/all/change-of-preference-study-consultations. There will also be a change of preference advisory day on Tuesday 15 December.

Monash University

At the time of printing, Monash had not yet published their Change of Preference Events. Please check the Monash website closer to the time: http://www.monash.edu/

RMIT University

During the Change of Preference period RMIT will have a variety of services available to assist with study options. These services will be open Monday 14 December - Monday 21 December 12pm (noon).

The University of Melbourne

Course Information Day: Wednesday 16 December 2015, 10am – 2:30pm, Parkville Campus

Online Course Information Day: Thursday 17 December 2015, 11am - 9pm

For more information and to register visit: http://coursesearch.unimelb.edu.au/change-of-preference
**Victoria University**

Come along to the Victoria University course information sessions and discuss the many course and entry options available to you. Find out about our work-based learning, pathways and career outcomes.

**Course Information Sessions**

**Dates:**
1. Monday 14 – Friday 18 December 2015, 8:30am-6pm
   Monday 21 December 2015, 8:30am-12pm
   Chat online or call for advice: **1300 842 864**

2. Wednesday 16 December 2015 4 - 7pm: Change of Preference Expo. Footscray Park Campus

3. Monday 14 - Friday 18 December: 9am-6pm
   Monday 21 December 9am -11am
   One–on–one course advice appointments
   30 minute appointments are free
   Register online at the below website
   **Where:** Footscray Park Campus

For more information and to register: [https://www.vu.edu.au/change](https://www.vu.edu.au/change)

**Federation University**

Fed Uni’s Info Day is on Wednesday 16 December 2015, between 11am and 2pm at the Mt Helen Campus and Gippsland Campus

For more info: [http://federation.edu.au/future-students/study-at-feduni/info-day](http://federation.edu.au/future-students/study-at-feduni/info-day)

**William Angliss Institute**

The William Angliss Institute will be hosting a Course Information Expo on **Wednesday 16 December from 4pm until 6pm.**

This expo is a great opportunity for students who might like final information before completing their VTAC application. Teaching staff and students will be available from the Foods, Hospitality, Tourism, Events departments and the Faculty of Higher Education. Course advisors will also be present to assist with the application and fee information.
You Have been offered a place at Uni or TAFE, what do you do?

Accepting:

If your application is successful, you will receive an offer letter with instructions of how to accept your offer. Follow the steps of those instructions carefully.

Enrolling:

You will get a letter of enrolment in the mail. Check the enrolment day, time and venue information carefully on your enrolment letter to see where you must attend to enrol. The enrolment process can take up to 3 - 4 hours.

It is a good idea to take some identification along with you, such as your Birth Certificate and Driver's Licence. You may also need your Tax File Number too.

If you cannot attend yourself for whatever reason, you must have assigned a nominee on your VTAC application. This is a person at can turn up to enrolment on your behalf and enrol you into your course.

If you want to get HECS-HELP/FEE-HELP you must fill in the appropriate forms and hand them in on the day. You will need your Tax File Number for this.

There will be faculty representatives there on the day to answer any questions that you might have regarding the different units on offer.

There will also be many students there as representatives of the institution to help show you where to go and answer any questions at you might have.

Deferring:

If, for some reason you wish to defer your studies for a year, you must first accept your offer. Then all you have to do to defer is fill out a deferral application form from the TAFE or University at has offered you a place.

Each TAFE and university has its own policy about deferral. Some courses may not allow you to defer at all. To find out what your deferral options are, visit the TAFE or university's website, or call their Office of Prospective Students.
What happens if I miss out on a first-round VTAC offer?

If you are not offered a place in any course in the first round of the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) offers in January, you still have some options:

1. Wait until VTAC later round offers are sent out (See table on page 2 for offer round dates)

2. Change your preferences and re-submit, to be considered for future round offers.

3. You may receive a VTAC supplementary offer (February) if you have given VTAC permission to release your application to all courses with vacancies, and you have not received an offer in a previous VTAC offer round.

What is a Supplementary Offer?

The Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) runs a supplementary offer process for applicants who have not been made any offers through VTAC. You need to confirm whether you would like to be considered as part of the supplementary round to allow for your information to be provided to all institutes participating through VTAC for consideration. You do this through your VTAC account.

PLEASE NOTE You still need to fulfil the entry requirements and prerequisites to receive a supplementary offer.

Offers

All courses are required to participate in Round 1 offers. All other offer rounds are optional and will depend on the number of places available and other factors. If you applied for courses through VTAC you will receive notification in your VTAC user account advising whether you have received an offer. Don't panic if you haven't received the offer you were hoping for. You may still be eligible for future offers. You can also change your preferences if you wish.
If you received an offer, you will still be automatically considered for higher preferences in later offer rounds.
If you didn't receive an offer you will still be considered for course preferences in future rounds.
If you have changed your mind and want to change your preferences, add new courses to your preference list or be considered for a course listed lower than another offer already received, you can change your preferences throughout January and February. You do this through your VTAC account. Change of preference opens the day after each offer round. You are able to log into your VTAC account and make changes to your course application and re-submit it for future rounds. See the table on page 2 for the dates of the offer rounds.

What about Mid-Year Intakes at Uni or TAFE?

VTAC:

You may be able to apply to start the course you want midway through the year.

A number of courses will have places available for entry in second semester 2016. Applications are open around April. You will need to log on to the VTAC website for details on how to apply.

An online supplement will be available in April on the VTAC website (www.vtac.edu.au) listing the participating institutions and the courses offering mid-year entry including prerequisite studies and extra requirements for applicants such as interviews and STAT sittings (if required).

Direct Application:

Some institutions will have direct intakes for second semester. You will need to contact the institution directly and ask to speak to the Course Advisor of the course at you wish to study.

There’s Always Next Year

What if I still don’t have an offer?

If the course you applied for is the one you really want to get into, and you don't get a second or third round offer for that course, you might decide to take a year off from study and reapply in time to start the course the next year.

If you do decide to do this, you'll need to register again and apply through VTAC. Details on how to do this are on the VTAC website.
As a non-year 12 student you may need to sit a test such as STAT, but you will need to check this in the ‘Extra Requirements’ section of the course information.

If you are going to re-apply during 2016 to commence study at the start of 2017, try to do something during 2016 that could help you with your application.

The following things could help with your application, depending on the area that you wish to get into:

- short courses
- first aid courses
- folio preparation workshops
- community service
- volunteering in various areas (E.g. CFA and so on)
- joining an amateur theatrical group, etc ....

**Get some Work Experience**

Getting yourself a job or doing some volunteer work in a field that’s related to the course you want to get into is a good way to try things out and see if you really do want to work in that field.

Not only will working in the field you plan on studying in allow you to 'try before you buy', it can help you develop valuable experience that might improve your chances when you apply for your preferred course in the following year.
There are some very useful websites to help you find a job:


http://www.myfuture.edu.au/

**TAFE**

Sometimes, completing a TAFE course can help you with getting into the Uni Degree that you want.

Sometimes TAFE offers the course that you want.

Sometimes you may not be sure and browsing through some TAFE courses might help you decide about your future. Here are some useful websites for TAFE courses:


http://www.tafe.swin.edu.au/

http://www.holmesglen.edu.au/

http://www.rmit.edu.au/

http://www.bhtafe.edu.au/
Apprenticeships and Traineeships

Apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeships are a great way to get into certain careers. Apprenticeships are available in lots of fields, from sport to agriculture and everything in between.

An apprenticeship or traineeship is a training contract between an employer and an employee in which the apprentice or trainee learns the skills needed for a particular occupation or trade.

Australian Apprenticeships are available in a variety of certificate levels in more than 500 occupations across Australia, in traditional trades, as well as a diverse range of emerging careers in most sectors of business and industry, including:

- Agriculture, horticulture and related industries
- Automotive
- Building and Construction
- Business services
- Finance services
- Food
- Hairdressing
- Community services and health
- Information technology
- Light manufacturing
- Local government
- Metals and Engineering
- Printing
- Process manufacturing
- Property services
- Public services
- Retail
- Seafood
- Sport and recreation
- Telecommunications
- Tourism
- Transport and distribution
- Utilities and energy

Some useful websites are:


With hard work and persistence, you will achieve your dream!

GOOD LUCK!