

Careers News – Tuesday, 21 March 2023

Everything you need to know about the ATAR in (just over) 2 minutes

HSC students: don't stress!

Here's a quick and simple ATAR explainer without all the jargon.

The ATAR is a rank, not a mark.

The Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) is a number between 0.00 and 99.95 that indicates a student's position relative to all the students in their age group (i.e. all 16 to 20 year olds in NSW). So, an ATAR of 80.00 means that you are 20 per cent from the top of your age group (not your Year 12 group).

Universities use the ATAR to help them select students for their courses and admission to most tertiary courses is based on your selection rank (your ATAR + any applicable adjustments). Most universities also use other criteria when selecting students (e.g. a personal statement, a questionnaire, a portfolio of work, an audition, an interview or a test).

The average ATAR is usually around 70.00.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_NNx5NVFPQk&t=1s

Welcome to UAC, Class of 2023!

If you're in Year 12 and thinking of applying for Uni in 2024, UAC applications open on Wednesday, 5 April (19 April for international Year 12 students). Until then, here are a few things you can do to help make your Uni application process smoother – before the year gets too hectic.

<https://www.uac.edu.au/media-centre/news/welcome-to-uac-class-of-2023>

University of Wollongong Online Year 10 subject selection and information evening

29 March - 6pm

Get information and advice that is specifically for parents/carers and Year 10 students! Selecting subjects to study in Year 11 and 12, for some, can be an overwhelming decision. We want to make sure you feel empowered to make an informed decision.

We will talk about what things to consider when selecting subjects, how to apply for uni, scholarships and give you an insight into what student life at UOW is all about.

Live Q & A will run throughout the session, come along with your questions and we will answer them.

https://uow_srd.swoogo.com/infoevenings2023

UNSW Key Dates 2023

April 18-20 - Year 10 and 11 On Campus Experience Days

May 1 - Co-op applications open

May 3 - Law Admissions Test Information Evening

May 11 and 23 - Year 10 Info Evening: Subject Selection

May 17 - UCAT Applications Close

June 13 and 15 - Year 12 Information Evenings

July - Most UNSW Scholarships Open

August - EAPL Adjustment Factor Scheme Applications Open

September 2 - UNSW Open Day

September 30 - UAC Early Bird Preferences Close

September 30 - UNSW Medicine Application Portal Closes

September 30 - UNSW Scholarship and Co-op Applications Close

November 30 - EAPL Applications Close

Business Cadetships Program – Applications Now Open

For Year 12 students who are interested in business, why undertake insecure, casual jobs in hospitality or retail while you are at university? Launch your career from the start of university by applying for a cadetship under the Business Cadetships Program. Cadetships are open to students from all schools. Business Cadets combine study at the university of their choice in Sydney with paid work at either UBS, Barrenjoey Capital Partners or Macquarie Group in Sydney. These companies are leaders in the financial services industry.

As a cadet, you may choose from a wide range of degrees, including economics, commerce, business, actuarial studies, computer science and technology, mathematics and the humanities. In 2023, the Business Cadetships Program offers exciting cadetship opportunities in a range of business areas at participating companies. You will work alongside world-class professionals and be well remunerated. By studying and working at a leading company from the start of university, cadets earn a competitive advantage over students who delay meaningful work until after university. Only current Year 12 students can apply so this is your once-in-a-lifetime chance to take advantage of this unparalleled opportunity!

Applications for the Business Cadetships Program opened on 6 March and **close on 24 May 2023**.

By this date, both your Application Form and School Assessment are due in.

To apply, go to www.businesscadetships.com.au.

International Science School 2023 – it's back, live and in-person!

Applications close 6 April 2023

ISS2023 will run from 2-15 July 2023

The fully residential International Science School returns to the University of Sydney in, July 2023. Join top science students from Australia and around the world for two weeks of inspiring talks by world-renowned scientists, amazing visits to cutting-edge research facilities, loads of hands-on experiments and activities, and a packed program of social events. It's going to be fantastic; you don't want to miss this one!

<https://www.sydney.edu.au/science/industry-and-community/community-engagement/international-science-school.html>

University of Sydney - Interaction Design

29 March

Learn about how our new Bachelor of Design (Interaction Design) will provide you with the innovative technical and social design skills to become a leading-edge designer in today. Find out how your passion for creativity and problem solving can be harnessed for a career in digital and visual design.

https://uni-sydney.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_7pdl_cGnSW2iYCiYUMsGnA

UTS Introduction to Engineering

27 April

Gain an insight into what Engineering and IT is all about and find out if it's right for you. Hear from key academics about what it's like to study engineering and IT at UTS and how best to prepare. There will also be Q&A sessions where you can have your questions answered live.

https://utsmeet.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_SAQINSMpStmBO9Nwua7Uqg

Degrees of the Future

We speak a lot about [jobs of the future](#), and how it's important to set ourselves up with the right skills today so we can adapt to whatever comes. And it seems that a lot of universities also have this in mind, and are designing more flexible degrees that can equip you with multiple skills, instead of focusing on a single area.

So we've found some cool degrees that can set you up for the future. Take a look.

UTS – Bachelor of Creative Intelligence and Innovation

Pair this unique degree with one of UTS' 25 core degrees to create an entirely new course that sets you up with important future skills. Take part in real-world projects and self-initiated proposals and come together with students from all different study areas to share ideas and collaborate.

Learn more [here](#).

Macquarie – Bachelor of Cognitive and Brain Sciences

If you're interested in learning about how the brain works, this course is for you. Delve deep into the workings of the mind through participation in hands-on experience with real researchers and learn valuable communication and critical thinking skills. You can also pick several flexible units to study from any discipline, either to deepen your knowledge or learn something new.

Read more about the course [here](#).

Interested in finding out more? You can take a look on [Course Seeker](#) to browse thousands of courses from universities and institutions across Australia.

HSC Shakespeare Seminars with USYD

May 3 to May 5, 2023

Join us at Pier 2/3 for a series of live HSC Shakespeare Seminars in partnership with the University of Sydney.

Part performance, part interactive seminar, these sessions are designed to directly link to HSC modules and give students the edge in upcoming exams.

Presented onsite at Pier 2/3 in The Neilson Nutshell, each seminar will feature Bell Shakespeare's Resident Artist In Education, Huw McKinnon, and a leading academic from the University of Sydney presenting illuminating and engaging content on each play. The Players from Bell Shakespeare will perform key scenes and soliloquies to demonstrate ideas presented and key content from each play. Combining live performance academic analysis and illuminating dramatic insights into the plays, sessions will be presented in a dynamic format showing the interplay between text and drama.

[Find out more](#)

Create for a Day at SAE

April 15 to April 29, 2023

SAE Institute is opening its doors this April for a one-day program, designed to expand your skills and get you working on inspiring creative projects in the fields of Animation, Audio, Design, Film, Games, Music Production, or Songwriting. Don't miss out on your chance to experience life as an SAE student and discover what it means to be a creative professional, in state-of-the-art facilities with industry experts by your side.

During the workshop, attendees will learn valuable practical and collaborative skills to build a creative piece of work! They will also receive a certificate of participation to acknowledge the creative project they have undertaken.

Due to the level of workshop content, this event is open to school students aged 15 years and above (Year 10 and over).

[Find out more](#)

ACU's New Bachelor of Arts / Masters of Teaching (Secondary) course

An initial teacher education course, this new double degree is fast-tracked so students will be able to graduate with an undergraduate degree and a postgraduate teaching qualification in just four years.

<https://www.acu.edu.au/course/bachelor-of-artsmaster-of-teaching-secondary?type=Domestic&campus=Strathfield>

Timeline for Medical Entry 2023

Getting into medicine is a complex process. It's not just about your academic performance, you also need to succeed in UCAT and interviews. There are many important deadlines that you must not miss if you are to enter your dream course. This blog outlines the key dates and tasks so you can ensure you keep on track!

<https://www.medentry.edu.au/blog/timeline-for-medical-entry>

UCAT Bookings for 2023 Now Open

Bookings Close 17 May

Registrations to sit UCAT 2023 are now open! The 2023 UCAT ANZ must be sat between 3 July and 11 August 2023.

<https://www.ucat.edu.au/register/booking-your-test/>

UCAT Timeline 2023

1 March - BOOKING OPENS via ucat.edu.au

10 May - Concession application deadline

17 May - Access Arrangements application deadline

17 May - BOOKING DEADLINE

31 May - Late booking deadline

5 June - FINAL late booking deadline

10 June - Cancellation deadline

3 July - Testing begins

11 August - Last testing date

Results delivered to universities by early September 2023

Mathematics Prerequisites Course Listing – University of Sydney

All you need to know about our Mathematics prerequisites

We have Mathematics prerequisites for some courses to help you thrive in your degree and prepare you for future career challenges.

Check here for Degrees that require Mathematics prerequisites:

- Arts and social sciences
- Business
- Education
- Engineering and computer science
- Law
- Medicine and health
- Science

<https://sydney.edu.au/study/how-to-apply/undergraduate/mathematics-prerequisite.html>

HSC and Tertiary Preparation at TAFE

The nationally accredited Certificate IV in Tertiary Preparation will prepare you for Diploma level and university study or entry into the Australian Defence Force. Recognised by educators and employers as an alternative pathway to Year 12, you will develop the technical, social and academic skills needed to perform at the next level of study.

Completing this course will provide you with:

- A nationally recognised qualification at a Certificate IV level
- A Tertiary Entrance Score (TES)
- A year 12 equivalent qualification

You can continue your education journey with:

- Admission to university
- Entry to the Australian Defence Force
- Diploma or above qualifications

<https://www.tafensw.edu.au/course-areas/study-and-career-pathways/courses/certificate-iv-in-tertiary-preparation--10767NAT-01>

Five Steps to Study in the USA

Whether you plan to pursue a short-term or full degree program in the United States, EducationUSA has the resources you need in 'Your Five Steps to U.S. Study'.

<https://educationusa.state.gov/your-5-steps-us-study>

USA – College placements and scholarships – Green Room Futures

At Green Room Futures our focus is on finding college opportunities and scholarships for general students, artists and student-athletes interested in studying in the USA. However, that is actually just a small piece of what this whole experience is all about. To us, this process is about establishing and growing genuine relationships with students and their families to inspire, mentor, educate, advise, assist, and motivate students on their unique journeys toward self-actualization in life.

We pride ourselves in finding suitable and affordable US university options based on the individual we are working with. Every person is unique, and every University in the US is unique, therefore the opportunities our students receive are specific to them and everything they bring to the table. As long as you want to get a university education in the USA, we can help turn those dreams into a reality.

<https://lp.greenroomfutures.com.au/specialonlinediscussion>

Explore Teaching

Thinking about a career in education? Find out what it's like to be a teacher in NSW schools and what type of teacher you could become.

<https://www.teach.nsw.edu.au/exploreteaching>

NSW Ambulance Service

Thinking about a career in the Ambulance Service? Find the information that you need for careers in New South Wales here:

<https://www.ambulance.nsw.gov.au/careers>

<https://www.ambulance.nsw.gov.au/careers/paramedic>

<https://www.ambulance.nsw.gov.au/careers/control-centre-officer>

<https://www.ambulance.nsw.gov.au/careers/flight-nurse>

<https://www.ambulance.nsw.gov.au/careers/prehospital-and-retrieval-registrar>

Sydney: Defence Force Gap Year Information Session

5 April

Experience a Gap Year like no other with the Australian Defence Force. You'll grow and develop in a dynamic, supportive and people focused environment.

Join us for an info session and speak with current serving personnel to learn about the challenges and rewards on offer.

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

<https://www.defencejobs.gov.au/events/events-detail/f2bei1>

What is ADFA ?

Receive service training while studying for your degree, earn a salary while learning, and graduate with a rewarding job and no HELP debt. Forged from a unique partnership between the ADF and the University of New South Wales, the Australian Defence Force Academy offers world-class education plus cutting edge military and leadership training. On our Canberra campus, in addition to being expertly trained in the art of leadership and management, you'll undertake a degree in Arts, Business, Engineering, Information Technology, Science or Technology.

<https://www.defencejobs.gov.au/students-and-education/australian-defence-force-academy/what-is-adfa>

ADFA Virtual Tour

Want to learn more about the Australian Defence Force Academy? Discover ADFA through our virtual tour. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IW174RY9IIA>

Applying to the Australian Defence Force Academy

Applying for ADFA is a competitive, dual application process that can take up to 12 months. It's preferable you apply in Year 11, but you can still apply in Year 12.

To start the ADF application process, use our [degree and job match tool](#) to explore the courses through ADFA, and the careers they can lead to. You can choose from a range of [UNSW degrees](#), each of which leads directly to an officer role in the Navy, Army or Air Force. You will also need to [ensure you are eligible](#).

<https://www.defencejobs.gov.au/students-and-education/australian-defence-force-academy/how-to-apply/>

Police Recruitment Process

Learn about the process and the requirements here:

<https://www.police.nsw.gov.au/recruitment>

[Information & Practice PCT Sessions - NSW Police Recruitment](#)

NSW Police Force – Recruiting Eligibility Quiz and Certificates You Need

Take the quiz to see if you may be eligible to commence an application to the NSW Police Force.

'Aquatic Rescue Sequence' certification:

Applicants are required to provide certification of successful completion of the Aquatic Rescue Sequence.

First Aid certification

Applicants are required to supply certification of completion of an approved 'Apply First Aid' course with at least 12 months currency remaining on certification.

Typing certificate

Applicants are required to supply a recognised certificate of typing proficiency equivalent or greater than 25 words per minute at 98 per cent accuracy.

https://www.police.nsw.gov.au/recruitment/eligibility_quiz

Australian Border Force Officer Recruit Training Program

Working for the Australian Border Force (ABF) can give you the opportunity to work across the country or the world. You will be on the frontline protecting Australia's border, whether it be:

- processing passengers at an air or seaport
- clearing cargo at an air or sea port
- clearing mail at a clearance centre
- patrolling the Australian coastline in an ABF vessel
- working at a district office
- investigating illegal border activity
- working at a detention centre
- locating and detaining unlawful non-citizens.

The Border Force Officer Recruit Training (BFORT) program is an entry level program. It prepares you for a career in the ABF.

To apply for a Border Force Officer Recruit position you must:

- be an Australian citizen – you must show evidence of this during the recruitment process
- be 18 years of age or older
- have a minimum Year 10 Certificate with a Cert IV/Diploma level qualification or Trade Certificate and/or relevant work experience
- be able to obtain an [Australian Government security clearance](#) and an [Employee Suitability Clearance](#).

Border Force positions are typically advertised twice a year, generally in May and November. However this can change due to operational priorities.

You can read all about the role and the entry requirements, as well as keeping an eye out for applications, here: <https://www.abf.gov.au/about-us/careers/a-career-with-us/entry-level>

Qantas Recruitment Drive

Australia's national carrier is on the hunt for 8500 aviation industry workers as it progressively boosts its aircraft fleet to meet demand for travel.

Some 2000 of the new jobs – for cabin crew, pilots, engineers and other operations roles – will be created in the next 18 months

<https://thenewdaily.com.au/finance/work/2023/03/03/qantas-jobs-pilots-engineers/>

Qantas Group Pilot Academy

Applications close 26 March

Estimates suggest that 790,000 more pilots will be required globally over the next 20 years with around one third of them in the Asia Pacific region.

To help meet the increasing need for skilled aviators in one of the fastest growing global industries we've launched the Qantas Group Pilot Academy. The Academy is part of our plans to build a long-term talent pipeline not just for Qantas, QantasLink and Jetstar, but for the industry more broadly.

As the national carrier, we have a history of attracting the best and brightest to fly for us, so we're hoping to see passionate men and women training with us at our new Academy.

Course Information here:

<https://www.qantas.com/au/en/about-us/our-company/pilot-academy.html#course-information>

Main site here: <https://www.qantas.com/au/en/about-us/our-company/pilot-academy.html>

The benefits of an Australian Apprenticeship

An Australian Apprenticeship refers to a qualification that is completed through working on-the-job, studying off-the-job and earning a wage. The term 'Australian Apprenticeship' covers both apprenticeships and traineeships.

Apprenticeships and traineeships are completed with a hands-on learning style, which makes them a great alternative for those who don't wish to complete traditional studies. There may be some classroom-based elements, but these are linked to things you will be doing in your job.

In this blog, AATIS explores in-depth the different types of apprenticeships and traineeships, the benefits of completing an Australian Apprenticeship and how you can start a rewarding career and earn while you're learning on the job.

Careers in the Construction Industry

If you're considering a career in construction, there are lots of roles you could consider and many pathways that will get you there.

We've got lots of resources, information about industry growth and opportunities to explore over on our page: <https://studyworkgrow.com.au/careers/construction/>.

Australian Cabinet and Furniture Association Apprenticeships

Flexibility and Personalised Apprenticeships ACFA is a registered training organisation that brings a unique experience to how young people are trained in an existing industry. The workplace-based training model brings flexibility and a personalised touch with a dedicated trainer. Click to find out more about where to start.

<https://www.acfa.net.au/>

Apprenticeships - What is the My Pathways Hub Account?

Navigating your way through information regarding Australian Apprenticeships can be quite the time-consuming activity, even if you're searching in the right place. Fortunately, AAPathways has made the process of finding and storing Australian Apprenticeship information, an easy one.

The new My Pathways Hub Account facilitates a custom user journey, whereby users can choose the information and resources that they would like to save, allowing for quick and easy future access. Designed with providing the best user experience front of mind, you're bound to benefit from using the new My Pathways Hub Account.

Visit: <https://bit.ly/3Qi5Av0>

Skills shortage and what to study in university: Is this your sweet spot?

There are many factors that play into a student's decision making around undergraduate study. It's no longer foreign to ask, 'What should I study in university?'. In the midst of seemingly endless options and factors, how can one easily choose the right course or the right university for them?

<https://www.gooduniversitiesguide.com.au/education-blogs/tertiary-study/skills-shortage-and-what-to-study-in-university-is-this-your-sweet-spot>

Searching for your dream course

Looking for the perfect course to study? Going through every single university website and seeing if they offer the course you want can be tedious.

Thankfully, you don't have to do that. This is where [Course Seeker](#) comes in.

What is Course Seeker?

Course Seeker is a comprehensive database of tertiary courses on offer from universities and private providers across the country. It makes it easy to find your dream course. You can filter your search by subject area, location, duration, qualification level, institution type, and more. You can also see the entry requirements for each course, so you can work out which courses you might be eligible for in a flash.

You also get other handy info, like the course duration, whether you can study part-time, and the campuses where the course is offered.

You can also add courses to your shortlist, which lets you easily compare them when you're trying to decide. In your shortlist, you can also compare indicative course fees, whether Commonwealth Supported Places (CSPs) are available, and if there are any prerequisites, plus more.

And if you click on a course, you can see all the information you'll need, including majors, extended admissions criteria, the date the course will start next, and more.

Get searching

Find the course of your dreams here: <https://www.courseseeeker.edu.au>

Looking for something similar for VET courses? Try [MySkills](#).

HSC4Me The ultimate study app for Year 12 students

Written by the most experienced teachers and markers, HSC4Me is full of resources that will boost student's knowledge and skills. The app delivers easy to follow guides and resources including video snapshots, interactive quizzes and practice questions, worked examples and solutions, study notes, sample papers, answers and exemplars. Learn more at <https://inspired.edu.au/hsc4me/>

Nine podcasts with all the study tips and advice you could ever need

Looking for study tips and love listening to podcasts? You might want to check out these gurus with all the insights:

1. [Study with Jess](#) – A YouTube based podcast dedicated to helping students study smarter, not harder
2. [CDU Study Skills](#) – The 'I wish I'd known that' podcast with tips from Uni students
3. [The Exam Study Expert](#) – Tips for working smarter, not harder from a psychologist
4. [The Study Sessions](#) – A podcast that offers advice and support for students looking to improve their study habits
5. [The Skills Pod](#) – All about maths and study skills from the Uni of Chester's Academic Skills team
6. [Chloe Made Me Study](#) – Perfect for non-traditional students who are mature age, studying online, or just don't fit into the normal 'student' box
7. [The College Info Geek Podcast](#) – A podcast that provides practical advice for students on a variety of topics, including studying, test-taking, and productivity
8. [The Productivity Show](#) – Tips on productivity, time management, and efficiency in all areas of your life
9. [UnstoppableTeen Podcast](#) – With study skills, employability tips, and more

Seven ways volunteering could benefit you

Volunteering your precious free time to help worthy causes is a really noble undertaking. You won't earn big bucks, but there are plenty of other ways that becoming a volunteer could be of value.

Learn new skills

No matter where you decide to volunteer, there will always be an element of training. While the skills may seem basic or trivial, they could be essential building blocks for future careers.

For example, if you're collecting, organising, accounting for, and distributing donations from school fundraisers, you might be learning more than you think about finances, budgeting and inventory. Skills useful in almost all jobs including management, accounting, or running your own business. Then there's the other skills that you might not even realise you're working on, like communication, team work, independence, problem solving, and customer service – the list goes on.

Give your resume a boost

If you have lots of part time or summer work experience on your resume that's fantastic.

Got computer skills? Excellent.

But adding a few more lines will never hurt. Showing commitment to community efforts, or any kind of voluntary work, will speak volumes about your personality. If you're happy to keep showing up without getting paid, you must be dedicated and motivated; all qualities that universities and future employers will look favourably on.

Make you stand out in admissions

Whether you're applying to uni, TAFE, or looking for work, chances are you'll be up against a lot of other applicants. Some might have a higher ATAR than you, some may have relevant work experience.

How will you stand out? Well, what you choose to do outside of the classroom could make all the difference.

Volunteering is a great way to show you care about others and that you can manage your time well enough to balance a volunteer job with your other commitments.

Form connections and networking contacts

Volunteering could introduce you to people you wouldn't have met otherwise.

Those people could become friends, mentors, or your inspiration. The more you get involved with projects outside your school, the wider you're casting your net.

You'll end up with more contacts that could be helpful in providing you with paid holiday jobs, work experience, references, and even full blown job offers.

If you already know what you want to study at uni, try finding volunteer opportunities in those areas. For example, if you're interested in politics, see if you can volunteer with your local politician. There's every chance your volunteer experience could help you in your future endeavours.

Personal development

When you're at high school, chances are that you're operating within a fairly limited social circle.

You'll be engaging with your family, school friends and teachers, and possibly a few friends outside of school.

Volunteering will introduce you to new situations and people, potentially really different to what you've known up until now.

You could:

- Increase your confidence
- Learn to communicate more effectively with different audiences
- Become a better listener
- Learn about your personal strengths and weaknesses
- Be more aware of and active about social justice issues

Positive impacts on your health

Studies have shown that volunteering could contribute to improved mental and physical health.

Increased physical activity, providing a sense of purpose, kicking goals, achieving good things, and focusing on other people's problems rather than your own can create a "helper's high".

You could feel happier, less stressed and be fitter as well.

Feel great about yourself

So this is a bit cheeky, as it kind of ties in with number 6, but we felt it deserved its own spot. When you volunteer you're not only benefiting yourself, you're having a positive impact on lots of other people around you too.

Potentially you'll be helping an individual and an organisation, your community and subsequently you're contributing to the wealth and health of a nation.

When you realise that your actions are so widespread, you might feel humbled and you should definitely feel proud of your contribution, it could definitely improve your self-esteem and feelings of self-worth.

Find a volunteering position that works for you

It's ok if you're not ready to commit yourself straight away. Start by having a look around your community, and find out what the options are near you. See how much commitment you'll be asked to make, then decide if it's something that you can fit in (and that you'd like to do).

Alternatively, you can even find opportunities to [volunteer online](#).

Maybe you'd love to volunteer, but you can't fit it into your busy school term schedule. Why not see if there's a way you can offer your help during the school holidays?

Getting Ready for Work

Example Interview Questions

Employers are not trying to trick you, but they do want to assess how they think you'll perform in the role and see how you might fit into their team. If you have a job interview coming up, you might want to prepare by knowing what kinds of questions you could be asked.

Here are a few example interview questions to think about:

Goals

- Can you describe the most enjoyable role that you have ever had and why you feel that way about it?
- If you could describe an ideal role for yourself, what would it be?
- What are your short- and long-term career plans?

Conflict Resolution

- Tell me about a challenging situation you have had to deal with at work or in your life.
- How do you think you handled the situation and, given the opportunity, would you do anything differently?

Decision Making

- Tell me about a difficult decision you have had to make in the last year.
- Can you tell me a bit about how you made your decision?
- On reflection, do you think you made the right decision?

Leadership

- Can you think of a time when you've noticed how something could've been done better, and worked to implement the change?
- How did you get management, team members, peers, or parents on board with the change?

Results

- Can you give me an example of when you were given a number of tasks to do and had to prioritise what needed to be done first?
- Can you think of a way you have contributed at school or work that's led to a successful outcome in the last 12 months?
- What is your biggest accomplishment so far and how did you achieve it?

Teamwork

- Can you give me an example of when you've worked as part of a team to complete a job, and describe your role?
- How did you overcome any differences of opinion during the task?

Role Awareness

- Why did you apply for this job?
- What is it about [this career] you particularly think you will enjoy?

Personal Qualities

- Can you describe your strengths to me (character and professional)?
- What would your manager / colleagues / peers / teachers tell me about you?
- What are your top three values and what do they mean to you?
- Can you tell me a bit about yourself and why you'd be great in this role?

Technical Skills

- What [insert software/tool here] have you worked with in the past?
- Give me an example of a task you have completed using this [software/tool]?

Not sure how to answer?

- Don't lie, be honest. If you can't think of a relevant example or situation, ask the interviewer to give you a scenario.
- Don't waffle. It's OK to ask for clarification if you don't understand the question or ask them to repeat it to make sure you heard it correctly.
- Advocate for yourself. Even if you don't know something, don't just say "I don't know" – you could redirect your answer and share how skills you've gained in another capacity are relevant, and let them know you're eager and excited to learn.

Get more ideas about how to prepare for your interview (as well all things careers) on our website [here](#).

Job Spotlights

Landscaping Apprenticeship Spotlight

Do you love the outdoors, and want a career that will see you building and maintaining beautiful green spaces? You might like to consider a career as a landscaper – and one of the best ways to get your foot in the door is by completing an apprenticeship.

What is a career in landscaping?

As a landscaper, you'll be responsible for designing, building, and maintaining all kinds of green and natural areas. This includes things like yards and lawns, gardens, parks, and sports turf, on both a small and large scale. You might find yourself designing garden layouts and irrigation systems, building paths and garden beds, planting seeds and established plants, mowing and trimming grass, hedges, and other plants, or advising clients on growing and maintenance techniques.

There is growing interest in areas such as sustainable and native gardening and landscaping, so these might be something you could look into as well.

What skills do I need for a career in landscaping?

You'll need to have a keen eye for space and design, as well as the willingness to get your hands dirty and do lots of work outdoors. If you have a passion for and knowledge of nature and sustainability, this could be an ideal career choice. Good communication skills are also very important to ensure you deliver just what your client has asked for.

Why should I consider a landscaping apprenticeship?

Apprenticeships are a great way to get your foot in the door with an employer and start building valuable skills. There are often lots of opportunities to continue working with your employer after your apprenticeship is complete, and even advance your career down the track.

As part of a landscaping apprenticeship, you will be doing real work for an employer while completing study with a TAFE or RTO. A landscaping apprenticeship can take anywhere between 3-4 years to complete, depending on whether you work and study full- or part-time.

Here are some common qualifications you might want to look into:

- [Certificate II in Sports Turf Management](#)
- [Certificate III in Landscape Construction](#)
- [Certificate III in Parks and Gardens](#)
- [Diploma of Landscape Design](#)

There are tons of benefits to an apprenticeship, rather than just work or study alone, including:

- Getting paid while you learn – unlike uni, you can work and study without having to take on an insane workload.
- The opportunity to get hands-on experience, not just endless reading.
- The potential to connect with an employer and continue working with them after your apprenticeship is finished.
- Your qualification will be nationally recognised, meaning you can go anywhere with it.

Where can I find apprenticeship opportunities?

Just like searching for a job, there are lots of places you can go to find an apprenticeship. You can start your search on sites like [SEEK](#) and [Indeed](#). Take a look on social media like Facebook or LinkedIn to see if any local businesses are hiring. Sign up with an [Apprenticeship Network Provider or Group Training Organisation](#), or even go old fashioned and take a look in the local paper or give local businesses a call.

How to become an Air Traffic Controller (ATC)

Responsible for keeping aircraft, flight crews, and airline passengers safe, Air Traffic Controllers work from control towers, approach control facilities, or route centres. They instruct aircraft when to safely take off or land and coordinate air traffic patterns to maintain safe distances from other aircraft. They also monitor all aircraft to ensure they are in the right place at the right time, problem free. They are authorised to change flight paths if necessary.

Incredibly focused and able to concentrate for long periods? A quick thinker and great team player? Looking for a career that could take you anywhere in the world? Then consider a career in Air Traffic Control.

About you:

- Excellent decision maker
- Good spatial awareness and strong mathematical skills
- Work well under pressure
- Exceptional computer skills
- Confident, highly responsible and motivated
- Fluent English speaker
- Excellent communication skills
- Good forward planning but adaptable to changing situations
- Willing to do shift work 24/7, 365 days of the year

The job:

- Issue landing and take-off instructions to pilots

- Monitor and direct the movement of aircraft on the ground and in the air, using radar, computers, or visual references
- Organise flight plans and traffic management plans
- Control all ground traffic at airports, including baggage vehicles and airport workers
- Communicate with pilots, airport staff, and other agencies as required
- Provide information to pilots, such as weather updates, runway closures, and flight path changes or directions to emergency landing fields for pilots travelling in bad weather or in emergency situations
- Alert airport response staff in the event of an emergency
- Maintain accurate records and reports

Lifestyle Impact: High

- Part Time opportunities: Low – only around 12% of Air Traffic Controllers work part-time (source: labourmarketinsights.gov.au).
- Average hours for full-time workers: 40 hours a week, which is around average (source: labourmarketinsights.gov.au).
- Air Traffic Controllers' salary (median) \$123,000* per year (source: ato.gov.au). *Salaries greatly vary depending on your skills and experience. If you train through the ADF, you will earn \$80,857 as soon as you finish your training (source: defencejobs.gov.au).
- Future career growth: Very strong (source: labourmarketinsights.gov.au).
- You will be doing most of your work indoors, from an air traffic control tower.
- You will need to do a lot of shift work, and be prepared to work any time of the day or night.

Air Traffic Controllers are most in demand in these locations:

Demand for Air Traffic Controllers is highest in Queensland and the Northern Territory, and many Air Traffic Controllers live and work in capital cities (around 70%). Most Air Traffic Controllers work in the Transport, Postal and Warehousing industry.

How to become an Air Traffic Controller in Australia

There are two pathways to becoming an Air Traffic Controller in Australia: either complete a traineeship through Airservices Australia, or complete training through the Australian Defence Force.

Step 1 – Complete Year 12 with a focus on English and Maths.

Step 2 – Complete a Diploma of Aviation (Air Traffic Control) with Airservices Australia. The course will take 12 months if you go down the Tower path, or 14 months if you go down the Enroute path.

Step 3 – Alternatively, you can complete your training with the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF), which can take around 12 to 18 months.

Step 4 – Pass an aviation medical and meet security clearance requirements.

Step 5 – Start working as a fully qualified Air Traffic Controller.

Find out more here –

<https://www.casa.gov.au/>

<https://www.airservicesaustralia.com/>

<https://www.defencejobs.gov.au/>

Similar Careers to Air Traffic Controller

- Pilot
- Aircraft Engineer
- Astronaut
- Engineer

- Cyber Security Specialist
- Defence Force

Find out more about alternative [careers](#).

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What options are there for career progression?

Generally your salary will increase as you gain more experience as an Air Traffic Controller. There may also be further specialist qualifications you might like to undertake.

Do I need to go to university to become an Air Traffic Controller?

You don't need to go to university, but you will still need to follow a formal pathway (either through Airservices Australia or the ADF) to work as an Air Traffic Controller.

Where do Air Traffic Controllers work?

Air Traffic Controllers spend a majority of their time working in control towers, which are located at all airports – even little ones.