



Issue No. 18

Friday December 6th, 2019



### Happy Holidays

As this is the final *Career News* for this year, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all students and their families a blessed Christmas filled with His love and joy and a wonderful summer holiday - filled with special times shared with friends and loved ones. Merry Christmas to all and I look forward to 2020!



### Dates to Diarise

**VET Students** – All VET classes will begin on the first week back – the week of 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020 unless specified by the VET provider. Please ensure students are aware of their VET Host School and the day and times of their classes.

**VCE Parent Information evening** – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February, 2020.



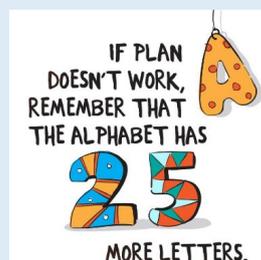
## Reminder: VTAC 2020 Key Dates



<b>ATARs Released</b>	Thursday 12 December 2019
<b>CoP for December Round Offers closes</b>	Saturday 14 December 2019
<b>December Round Offers</b>	Wednesday 18 December 2019
<b>Change of Preference (COP) closes</b>	Friday 20 December 2019
<b>January Round International Offers</b>	Tuesday 7 January 2020
<b>January Round Domestic Offers</b>	Wednesday 15 January 2020
<b>February Offer Rounds</b>	Monday 3 February 2020 onwards

For a full list of cancelled, amended, and new courses, visit [VTAC Course Updates](#)

[www.vtac.edu.au](http://www.vtac.edu.au)



### **Attention Year 10 students – Great Work Experience Opportunity!**

We are excited to let you know that the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research will launch its new Secondary School Work Experience Program in 2020, and hope that you can share this news with interested students.

The five-day program at the Institute's Parkville campus will give year 10 students the opportunity to learn about careers in medical research through placements with our leading scientific teams, as well as through group workshops devoted to laboratory safety and skills, research ethics and science communication.

The program will have two intakes in 2020, each hosting up to 24 students: 22-26 June and 14-18 September. Participants are expected to attend the full week, approximately 9-4pm each day, and will be paid \$10/day.

The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute aims to provide educational opportunities to a wide range of students. We welcome applications for our Secondary School Work Experience Program from students with diverse life experiences. Please note that work experience students must be aged 15 years or over by the first day of the program.

Applications for the program are now open and will close on 17 February 2020. Please visit [wehi.edu.au/workexperience](http://wehi.edu.au/workexperience) for more detailed program information and how to apply.



## 2020 VCE Summer School Programs

### ➤ Access Education Summer School

The **Access Education Summer School** program is a unique opportunity for students studying Units 3 & 4 to experience university life while preparing for the demands of the VCE year ahead. The format of the program is that extensive and detailed 3 ¼ hour VCE preparation lectures will be given, and subject specific study notes prepared by the lecturer will also be made available.

**Dates:** Tuesday 14 January to Friday 17 January 2020

**Venue:** Deakin University – Burwood Campus

Visit [Access Education Summer School](#) to find out more or to download a brochure for the 2020 program.

### ➤ The School for Excellence Summer School

**The School for Excellence (TSFX) Summer School** offers a comprehensive summer school program preparation, each lecture will thoroughly address Unit 1 or 3 materials in advance of school, and expose students to critical analytical/problem solving strategies and skills so as to maximise Unit 1 or 3 scores.

Students attending the programs receive detailed notes, fully worked examples and exercises to complete at home. The lectures are prepared and delivered by qualified, currently practicing VCE teachers and markers from top ranking schools who possess the knowledge and experience to demonstrate the means by which students can achieve higher scores.

**Dates:** Tuesday 7 January to Friday 24 January 2020

**Venue:** The University of Melbourne

Visit [TSFX Summer School](#) to find out more about the 2020 program.

### **Remember...**

Students who do best at university or TAFE are not necessarily those with the highest ATARs but those with **persistence, determination, organisational and self-management skills** that are also **assertive in asking for help**. Make sure you choose a course you will enjoy and are interested in; otherwise you may experience problems with motivation.

Form **friendship** groups with other students so you can be active in groups that discuss work and share ideas. Students that are engaged in **learning communities and networks** have a more positive university experience.

## USEFUL STUFF



### Websites/Links

- ✓ **Myfuture** – a career information & exploration service providing current career information, articles and links to many resources  
[www.myfuture.edu.au](http://www.myfuture.edu.au)
- ✓ **Careers Online** – career research, resume help, job hunting tips, job links, etc.  
[www.careersonline.com.au](http://www.careersonline.com.au)
- ✓ **Job Search Australia** – free online jobsite, searches can be made by region and state, occupational category, type of employment – casual, part-time, or full-time, and covers a range of occupations.  
[www.jobsearch.gov.au](http://www.jobsearch.gov.au)
- ✓ **Victorian Government Vacancies** – find out about government jobs and careers available at the Victorian Government of Australia.  
[www.careers.vic.gov.au](http://www.careers.vic.gov.au)



AUSTRALIAN  
WATER  
ASSOCIATION

### Careers in Water

The H<sub>2</sub>Oz *careers in water* is managed by the [Australian Water Association](#), and the aim is to generate awareness and provide information on the unique aspects of the Australian water industry. This website provides access to students keen on finding out more information about the Australian water industry, including how one would start their 'water career'.

This is certainly one of Australia's most important industries providing essential services and direct benefit to all Australians and the environment.

Water industry employees look after all aspects of the water cycle: water supply, water treatment, wastewater treatment, water resource planning, policy and law and research. Work with organisations involved in water provision, research, regulation, consultancy, manufacturing and supply, across the government, private and not-for-profit sectors.

Find out more by browsing [H2OZ Careers in Water](#)



## Useful Tips for Successful Interviews



Many candidates lose the job in the first minute of the interview by not thinking carefully about their initial impact. *John Lees* shares his expert interview tips.

### **1 Don't waste the opening moments**

Many candidates lose the job in the first minute of the interview by not thinking carefully about their initial impact. Interviewers make a quick initial decision about your personality from the moment you arrive, based on how you look and sound. Dress as if you already work there and you've just been promoted. Make those initial seconds relaxed and upbeat as you can, even if you're just talking about your journey.

### **2 Don't over-deliver**

Most candidates say too much. Interviewers are not that interested, and will usually accept a short, positive answer and move on. Practise compressing your evidence into good short stories no more than 3 minutes long setting out what problem you were handling, what you did, how you did it, and what the result was.

### **3 Don't act like a stranger**

Leave your coat, umbrella and bag in reception. Just take in a slim folder into the interview room containing the documents you need, and you will look like an employee rather than a visitor.

### **4 Don't try to wing difficult questions**

Don't duck predictable questions about your know-how and skill level – think carefully about good examples. Equally predictable questions cover things like strengths (talk about qualities that match the job) and weaknesses (talk about skills you are improving, and make it clear that you're a fast learner).

*John Lees has written a wide range of careers books. His 2013 titles are Just The Job!, his first systematic guide to job searching, and Knockout CV, a comprehensive guide to writing a winning CV.*



An important tip for school leavers for getting a job is to create yourself a **LinkedIn** profile. LinkedIn is like a professional Facebook account where you can blog, comment on professional discussions, and build a professional portfolio that aligns with your resume. This needs to be developed over a period of years before graduating from university, so start soon, and continue to work on it during university.

[www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com)

### ***Top Tips shared by the head of LinkedIn, Cliff Rosenberg***

#### **PICK A PROFESSIONAL SHOT**

Including a profile picture in your profile is a must. Putting a face to your name makes it 21 times more likely to be viewed, but first impressions last, so make sure your profile picture is professional.

#### **INCLUDE A SUMMARY**

Clearly outline your professional story; what your aspirations are and what qualifications you have to offer that others do not. This is your opportunity to demonstrate how your unique qualities make you perfect for your dream role. This is your elevator pitch.

#### **BUZZWORDS ARE BUZZKILL**

Are you motivated, creative, passionate? Great. So is everyone else on LinkedIn. Do yourself a favour — delete every single one of these buzzwords from your profile and replace them with keywords.

#### **HIGHLIGHT YOUR EXPERIENCE**

Illustrate your unique professional story and achievements by adding pictures, compelling videos and innovative presentations to your experience section. If you are just graduating, include your school history.

#### **SHOWCASE YOUR SKILLS**

Maintaining a relevant list of at least five skills on your profile will help others understand your strengths and match you with the right opportunities. Also add other certifications that highlight important skills.

#### **STAY ACTIVE**

Share content that excites you, such as a gripping video, a well-written news story or a particularly impressive presentation through status updates.