Careers Newsletter

November 2019

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"Your career choice doesn't come to you in a bang. It comes in a whisper"

Steven Spielberg



What is a "Food Technologist"

Food Technologists develop and improve existing food products (test flavour, colour, taste, texture and nutritional content) and set standards for producing, packaging and marketing food. They use chemistry, microbiology, engineering and other scientific methods to study the process of food deterioration.

A bachelor degree in science majoring in food science, food technology, nutrition, chemistry or a related field is needed to work as a Food Technologist. Some Food Technologists complete postgraduate studies.

For more information on this career go to: https://www.joboutlook.gov.au/Occupation?search=Career &code=234212



Information and Membership with the Australian Institute of Food Science and Technology is available at www.aifst.asn.au

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Don't miss out - Now is the time to apply for work over the summer holidays!

Many companies/employers are taking applications and hiring now ready for the busy season. Consider the below for your best chance at gaining employment in a highly competitive environment.

Preparing Written Job Applications

Job Applications/Cover letters are very important. No matter how impressive your resume is, a poorly written cover letter can be the undoing of any chance of acquiring an interview. However, don't underestimate the power of providing a cover letter.

This should be a single page letter at the front of your resume and you should use a different one for each job application.

There are different kinds of cover letters depending on your needs. See some examples below.

Cover letter when you have no work experience https://www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au/jobs-and-careers/applying-for-a-job/what-is-a-cover-letter/sample-cover-letters/cover-letter-no-work-experience

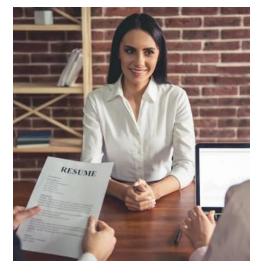
Cover letter when you have some work experience https://www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au/jobs-and-careers/applying-for-a-job/what-is-a-cover-letter/sample-cover-letters/cover-letter-some-work-experience

Cover letter when no resume is required https://www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au/jobs-and-careers/applying-for-a-job/what-is-a-cover-letter/sample-cover-letters/cover-letter-when-no-resume-is-needed-no-paid-work-experience

Cover letter when there's no job advertised https://www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au/jobs-and-careers/applying-for-a-job/what-is-a-cover-letter/sample-cover-letters/cover-letter-when-no-job-is-advertised

Important steps to keep in mind when writing a cover letter:

- Address the letter to the name of the person hiring and include their position and title. If you don't have this information, endeavour to find it out.
- 2. Introduce yourself.
- 3. Show that you meet the job requirements by reflecting on the actual job advertisement and highlighting the skills you have that meet these requirements. For example, if the job involves customer service, you may highlight certain communication skills.



4. Be specific. For example, rather than making a general comment: "I have strong skills in Word" say "I have 2 years' experience using Word in my previous employment at Shelly's café typing and designing weekly menus."

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5. Don't just focus on yourself, that is what your resume is for. Show that you meet their requirements, but also highlight why you would be a valuable part of their team or organisation. Research the company, so that you can demonstrate a genuine interest in the position.

- 6. Make it clear you want this job and give reasons why.
- 7. Check spelling and grammar! Perhaps have someone proofread it for you.

Creating a Cover Letter, Resume or e-Portfolio has been made easy for you!

Just go to your School Careers Website and under the "For Students" menu is the "Student Secure Area" – here you can create your own account so that all your documents are automatically saved. You can log in any time and update, download or print them off as required.

Why have a Summer Job?

There are 2 very good reasons:

- 1. Financial That extra cash is always a motivator and the main reason most of us go to work.
- 2. Experience Work Experience is beneficial on both a personal and professional level. Learning new skills is paramount in gaining todays job and career opportunities.

The Griffith University Careers and Employment Service have written a great article on:

The Ten Things to Learn from Your Christmas Casual Job

They state that: Over the summer period, Australia will see a 170% increase in casual positions available, and 87% of those jobs are created by the retail industry. Experience gained from Christmas casual work can set you up for an ongoing position with the company that employed you and can arm you with transferable skills that you can apply to virtually any career you embark on after.



Where to look:

- Google "Christmas holiday jobs"
- https://myfuture.edu.au/career-insight/details?id=11-places-to-search-for-jobs#/
- Go to your School Careers Website > For Students > Job Vacancies

For Students or Parents wanting to weigh up the pros and Cons of Afterschool Jobs for teens go to: https://www.verywellfamily.com/the-pros-and-cons-of-afterschool-jobs-for-teens-2610471

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Finding a Career that Suits Your Personality

This article by ABC life explains why passion for the subject matter and only considering your skillset is not enough. They provide some great tips and point out the importance of asking yourself whether your career choice:

- energises and interests you;
- is sustainable (meaning someone will pay you to do it);
- is one you'll be good at.

Read the article **HERE**



Social Enterprise – Is it for you?

Is there an issue you care deeply about? The Future of Young Australians describes a Social Enterprise as "kind of like a non-profit or charity, but with one key difference. Rather than collecting money from sponsors and donations, a social enterprise takes the same approach to making money as a business. That is, they sell a product or service and then spend their profits on the supporting a cause."

For their 5 tips For Starting A Social Enterprise go to:

https://www.fya.org.au/2016/01/05/our-top-5-tips-for-starting-a-social-enterprise/



Does school-based Vocational Education and Training payoff in the long-run?

The latest report published by the University of Melbourne shows that upper secondary VET participants earn extra earnings of \$26,408, for VET without workplace learning, \$39,954 for VET with workplace learning, and \$60,294 for apprenticeships/traineeships (equivalent to receiving a one-off payment at the time of leaving school).

Some are not aware that the financial and employability outcomes of VET (Vocational Education and Training) are sometimes higher than university. The report by Grattan which was released in August showed that there is no single, clear pathway that benefits all students.

For those who want a more practical approach to learning and education, and are reluctant/unable to access university, VET is a viable solution. To find out more about this report, click here.



To find out more about school-based apprenticeships and for additional career research tools, visit the AAPathways website.

About the Australian Apprenticeships and Information Service (AATIS)

The Australian Apprenticeships and Traineeships Information Service (AATIS) offers pathway information to students, job hunters, career advisors and employers. Their website, app and resources are used and recommended by schools, parents, friends and other careerinfluencers. To learn more, visit their website.



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BE SAFE AND WATCH YOUR MATES

Schoolies is traditionally a time to celebrate all your hard work and many of you may be heading off with friends to various 'Schoolies' locations for a well-deserved break.

Whilst Schoolies is all about having fun with your friends, it also brings with it responsibility and risks. The "Safer Schoolies" website is here to help you plan ahead to safely navigate the risks associated with Schoolies and make your end of year celebrations safe, fun and memorable for all the right reasons.

To help you make the most of your Schoolies experience, make sure you check out all the important info and tips at

https://www.saferschoolies.qld.gov.au/information/schoolies

Rotary Youth Exchange Australia

Applications are open for the <u>Rotary Youth Exchange</u> program for 2021.

As a Rotary Exchange student, you'll spend up to one year living as a full-time student in a foreign country, immersing yourself in a new culture.

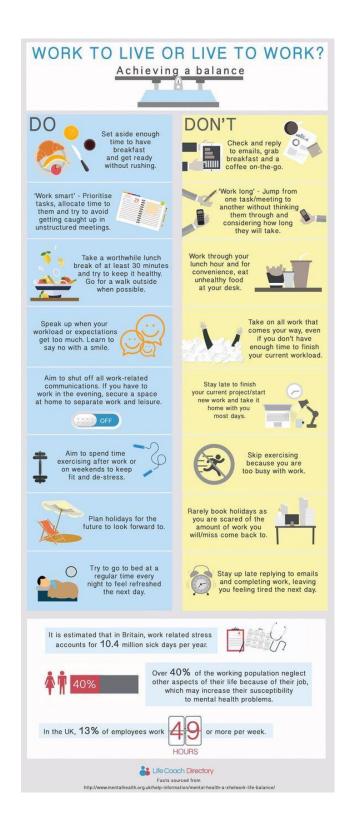
Senior high school students are selected by their Rotary district as an ambassador of Australia. The student travels to another country where they live and go to school for a year.

A host Rotary family in your selected country becomes your host family.

Students who would like to participate in the program should contact their local Rotary Club and start to work on their application.

You can discover more information HERE.

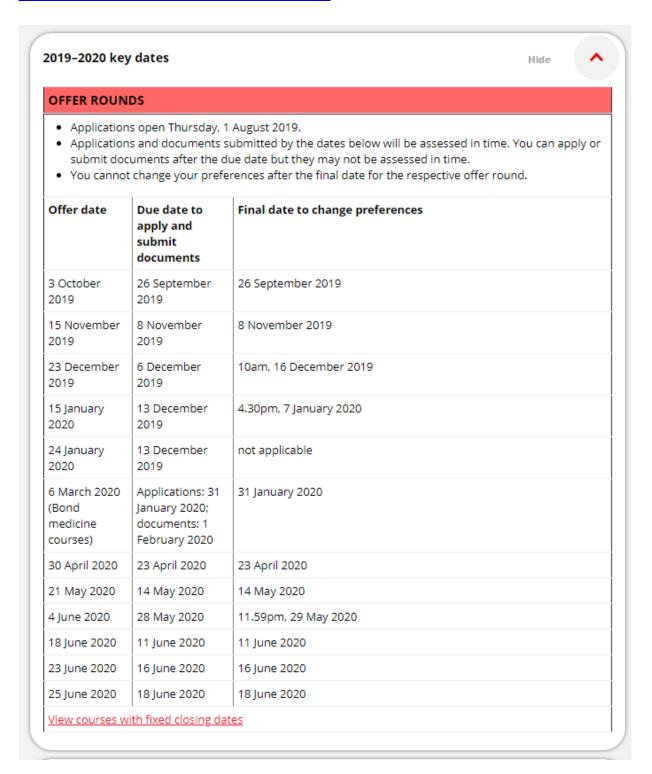




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QTAC Important Dates

https://www.qtac.edu.au/key-dates-fees



Courses with fixed closing dates

https://www.qtac.edu.au/key-dates---fees/fixed-closing-dates