

Dates for your Diary

Uni & TAFE Open Days:

16 Aug Holmesglen
TAFE

17 Aug ACU
Melb Uni

Swinburne

20 Aug NMIT (4-
8pm)

24 Aug Deakin Uni

31 Aug La Trobe
(Bundoora)

FHS VTAC Briefing &
Yr 12 3-way confer-
ences: 20 Aug

Tertiary Support
Services for students
with disabilities: 20 &
31 August

1-15 September:
PACTS

18 September: De-
akin University-
Healthier Australia

30 September: VTAC
timely applications
close

2 October: Year 12
Swinburne Uni Dis-
covery Day

Year 12 VTAC Applications 2009

The Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) administers the selection process for courses at universities, TAFE Institutes and independent colleges. All Institutions (universities, TAFEs and private colleges) offering courses appear in alphabetical order in the main section of the **VTAC Guide**, p. 108–462. Information about TAFE Institute diplomas and certificates appear towards the back, p. 463-547.

Some steps in choosing courses

- Visit the **VTAC website** at www.vtac.edu.au, and **register**. Use **CourseSearch** on that site to search for courses in your geographic location and interest area
- **Have a good look at the VTAC Guide** (p. 579 – 668 are an excellent starting point for locating courses that interest you).
- Attend **Open Days**
- **Discuss course options** with friends, family, teachers and career counsellor
- Use Career Voyage (www.careervoyage.com.au) to determine which occupations match your interests and abilities
- Leave your options open by **applying for both university and TAFE**

Application Checks

- I have met **course prerequisites**
- I am aware of the **selection mode and extra requirements** (eg folio presentation, interview, special application form)
- I have **used the correct course codes**
- I have applied for **courses in order**

of preference (most preferred to least preferred) by 5.00pm, Tuesday 30 September, 2008. **NOTE:** Applications for some VCA courses (University of Melbourne) **close on 31 August**. eg dance and film and television. Check carefully. There are now no **full-fee paying courses at university (some at TAFE and Independent Tertiary Colleges)**

Application Number & PIN

When applying you will need your VTAC application number (your Year 12 student number).

You will have to choose a 4-digit PIN before your application is finished. Make sure you do NOT forget it.

Apply on-line

Year 12 student applications must be submitted by using the VTAC On-line Application. This interactive web-based application form guides you through your application and can be accessed 24-hours-a-day by visiting www.vtac.edu.au. Make sure you list any previous studies (eg any Units 3 & 4 completed in 2007).

Costs of Applying

- There is a **\$22.00 processing fee for students who apply by 30 Sept (5pm)** and pay on-line. The charge is \$25.00 if you want an invoice mailed to you. Your application is not processed until payment is made.
- Applying late – **30 Sept (6pm) till 14 Nov (5pm)** – cost: \$79.00/\$82.00
- Applying very late – **14 Nov (6pm) till 12 Dec (5pm)** – cost \$102.00/\$105.00.

- You should print off an Acknowledgement of Application after applying.
- After paying the fee on-line you will be able to immediately access your application details again by logging onto the MyInfo section on the VTAC website.
- Many post-application matters are accessed through MyInfo (eg applying for courses, scholarships, change of address or PIN, results, change of preference, offers); see p 5.
- Also see Special Entry (SEAS), page 13 and Personal Information (Pi) Form, page 27.

Courses

You can apply for **up to twelve courses using a combination of Type 1 (Commonwealth Supported Places (CSP), formerly HECS) and Type 2 (full fee places)**. Costs depend on the type of course and the Bands for 2008 are outlined on page 15. See www.goingtouni.gov.au for 2009 bands (National Priorities now include mathematics and science). You must place the courses **in the order you would most like to do them**; you will be accepted into the first course for which you meet the requirements. You can apply in **other states** as well as applying in Victoria; this is very important for high demand courses. Apply through the appropriate Admissions Centre (eg SATAC). Some

interstate Guides are available in the Careers office and newsagencies stock them.

Course Fees

All Commonwealth Supported Places (CSP) have a **course code that ends in '1'**. The government subsidizes these courses, and the student is required to pay part of the cost, either 'up-front' at the beginning of each semester (with a 20% discount), or pay it off once you are earning a salary in excess of \$39,825 in 2008. If you apply for a course **ending with a '2'**, it means you are **willing to pay the full cost of the course** (eg see p 142, Box Hill TAFE, Music Performance degree). This can be quite expensive. You may be able to receive FEE-HELP from the government. Courses **ending with a '3'** are for **overseas students** studying Year 12 in Victoria only. For information about Fee-Help see: www.goingtouni.gov.au. Once applications have been lodged with VTAC, course authorities at institutions receive all relevant details of applicants. **Selection is the responsibility of the individual course authorities located with institutions.** They advise VTAC of the names of those to whom they wish to make offers. VTAC forwards offer letters to successful applicants and regret to advise letters to unsuccessful applicants.

Change of Preferences

There are **two** periods when preferences can be changed. The first is 9-17 October, and is available because some courses cannot be added in the December change of preference period.

The December period is a time for **review of courses** after receiving results on 15 December. It closes at 12 noon on 22 December 2008 (VCE results and ENTERs are available electronically on 15 Dec). It is a good idea to review your application if your ENTER is different from what you expected, or if you have had a change of plans. You may wish to **consult with Sandra and the Scarlet Team during this time.**

Receiving an Offer

The **first round of offers will available on MyInfo from 20 January 2009** (in the mail and papers). There will be some **second round offers on 5 February** and a small **third round on 17 February.**

There is also the possibility of an **irregular offer**. This is your last chance to reconsider courses. You can **print a personalised form when you log into MyInfo**. An irregular offer form is used to see if there is a place in a course you have **not previously applied for**, or **if there are places in a course lower in your VTAC preferences than the one for which you have received an offer** (see p 31).

There is no negotiation on closing dates for the VTAC Application Process. Do not leave it to the last minute to apply. Be prepared.

Accepting an Offer

To accept an offer you must enrol in the course. You can accept an offer in a later round even if you have already accepted an earlier offer, however, you should withdraw from the original course.

Reminders

- Don't apply for courses **you really don't wish to do** simply to fill the twelve choices
- Look at **all options** – often the required ENTER at a rural campus is lower than a city one for a similar course; if you are looking at this option, apply for accommodation early and visit on Open Day
- Check **clearly-in data from last year** for courses you are applying for and be realistic
- Consider applying **interstate**
- Apply for **both university and TAFE** – remember you can 'articulate' from many TAFE courses to university (two years at TAFE often equals one year at university)
- If you are unsure what to apply for **consider a generalist degree** (eg Arts, Science). You can specialise later.
- **Don't think too long-term.** You are likely to have around six careers in your lifetime, so thinking about what you are 'going to do with the rest of your life' is

unrealistic. Thinking about what you will do for the next five or so years is more realistic.

- Some new courses receive **accreditation too late** for them to be included in the Guide. You will be informed of these through FHS Career News. Applications are made direct to the institution involved – ENTERs are often lower than otherwise.
- If you have **questions about a course** you can: attend Open Day and ask; email the institution; phone the institution. Email and phone no's are provided at the beginning of each institution's entry in the VTAC Guide.
- Read the **information about scholarships, deferment, special entry schemes**, etc on the pages at the beginning of each institution's entry in the Guide.

Deferring your Offer

If you are **considering having a year off from study in 2009**, you are advised to **apply for a course in 2008 and defer acceptance of any offer you receive.**

This means that the university holds a place for you for 12 months. **Most** university courses can be deferred (check this for individual courses); TAFE does not allow deferral. You would have to apply again the following year.

SPECIAL NOTE: The University of Melbourne is undergoing changes to its undergraduate programs and as a result it will not be possible to defer some courses in 2009 (see p 414 – Deferment).

To find out the policy for other universities read the entry at the beginning of each university's section in the Guide (eg RMIT, p 321).

Independent Tertiary Colleges

These are found throughout the Guide. They offer both diploma and degree courses. Be aware that **fees for these courses** can be quite high.

New Zealand Citizens

New Zealand citizens **cannot apply to TAFE courses through VTAC.** TAFE regards you as an international student and therefore you must apply **directly to the TAFE Institutes.** New Zealand citizens **can still apply for university courses through the VTAC** (for CSP places).

Finally...

Make an appointment to see Sandra to discuss your thoughts and options. **You are especially welcome back to school at change of preference time.**

FHS VTAC Briefing

Make sure you attend the **FHS VTAC Briefing**, being held as part of Year 12 3-way conferences and information night on **Wednesday 20 August at 6pm**

The FHS VTAC Briefing for all Year 12 students and their families is being held on Wednesday 20 August at 6pm

Other VTAC News

As mentioned in the FHS Newsletter, 1 August 2008, we received correspondence from VTAC regarding an error printed in Education Age on Monday 28 July in an article entitled 'Future Shock'.

"VTAC wishes to advise you that under the heading 'Top 10 Questions year 10 students ask' incorrect information has been published about the use of English studies in the calculation of the ENTER. The answer to Question 5 is wrong. The question asks 'Can I take more than one English subject?' The correct answer is: Yes, for the purposes of calculating the ENTER, up to three English studies may contribute to the calculation of the ENTER. A maximum of two English studies may contribute to the primary four, the third may contribute 10% as either a fifth or sixth study."

University of Melbourne Access

Year 12 Fitzroy High students can now access special admission requests to the University of Melbourne.

We have received the following information from the Manager, National Admissions at the University regarding the status of Fitzroy High School under the VTAC SEAS underrepresented school category.

Given that the school will have its first Year 12 cohort

in 2008 Fitzroy High School will be classified as underrepresented for the purposes of Access Melbourne in 2009.

Unfortunately at this stage VTAC are unable to add the school to the list of underrepresented schools for the University of Melbourne in the SEAS online application form. However, if Sandra sends the Manager National Admissions the details of our students in October she can ensure that they are considered under the underrepresented school category for Access Melbourne during selection in January.

If any of our students are eligible to apply for Access Melbourne under any other category they are encouraged to apply using the online SEAS form and the University will add their status for the underrepresented school category when it receive their applications.

Access Melbourne is the University's special entry and access scholarships scheme, and attending a school that is underrepresented both in the tertiary sector generally and at the University of Melbourne is one of the eligibility categories.

Applying for Access Melbourne will enhance the opportunities for selection and will also enable consideration for a Melbourne Access Scholarship.

All Year 12 students at our school applying to study at

the University of Melbourne next year should also submit an Access Melbourne application. Further details about Access Melbourne can be found on our website at: www.access.unimelb.edu.au.

Tertiary News

RMIT Program Information

Education now offered at Brunswick—From 2009 RMIT will offer a Bachelor of Education at the Brunswick campus. The program provides a professional qualification in Primary Education with a specialisation in the arts.

Students undertaking the Bachelor of Education at Brunswick will be able to choose from a range of arts specialisations including: print making, painting and drawing, sculpture, short story writing, textiles, photography, graphic design and media and cinema.

Further information, contact Helen Tsui
Tel. 03 9925 7461
Email:
helen.tsui@rmit.edu.au

RMIT students small business heroes

Three businesses run by RMIT graduates and students were part of the recent Small Business Heroes Photographic Exhibition that showcased some of Victoria's most interesting and diverse young business people.

Year 12 FHS students can access special admission requests to the University of Melbourne for entry in 2009

Director of Hippo Jobs and Bachelor of Business (Entrepreneurship) graduate, James Masini was honoured to be nominated. He launched Hippo Jobs in April 2007 after realising that there was a market for a career website that catered for youth.

Jamie Xuereb, another Entrepreneurship student along with his brother Jason launched their business, Mediapoint, which produces banners, retractors, stickers and vehicle wrapping. "We launched the business just before I started studying. It was perfectly timed, as we were going through the start up stage when I was studying that during my first year and now I'm studying the growth stage which is exactly where we are now with the business," said Jamie.

Further information, contact Dr David Gilbert
Tel. 03 9925 5196
Email:
david.gilbert@rmit.edu.au

Sam Yang is one of several final year Bachelor of Arts (Animation and Interactive Media) students at RMIT who created quirky animated content as part of an industry collaboration with Monikker.

Mr Yang's manga-influenced work so impressed Monikker, they immediately began negotiations to buy the distribution rights and commission more of his animations.

"Getting that foot in the door when you graduate can be

tough, so to have work commissioned before I even finish my course is fantastic," he said.

Further information, contact Mark Lycette
Tel. 03 9925 9818
Email:
mark.lycette@rmit.edu.au

Monash University

In 2009, scholarships and bursaries totalling more than \$10m will be offered to students based on academic achievement, student's personal circumstances or a combination of both academic achievement and personal circumstances.

2009 Coursework Scholarships Guide

Details of all the scholarships and bursaries available, including eligibility and selection criteria, can be found in the 2009 Coursework Scholarships Guide or online. For copies of the guide, contact Candice Menidis (candice.menidis@adm.monash.edu.au) in the Coursework Scholarships Unit.

Applications

We recommend that Year 12 applicants use the VTAC form. Students can also apply for a range of scholarships via the Monash application form. Students submitting an application on either form will be considered for the range of merit, equity and merit and equity based scholarships and bursaries at Monash University.

• VTAC applications (open now)
Applications and supporting

documentation close: 5pm (AEST) Friday 10 October 2008

www.vtac.edu.au/scholarships.html

• Monash applications (open now)

Applications close 5pm (AEST) Friday 31 October 2008

Supporting documentation closes 5pm (AEST) Friday 14 November 2008

La Trobe University

New Health Sciences curriculum

Detailed information is available now on La Trobe's innovative new Health Sciences curriculum, which will commence in 2009.v Visit www.latrobe.edu.au/health for a complete rundown, including frequently asked questions and detailed answers.

Guaranteed Entry Scheme

Information for 2009 entry to La Trobe undergraduate courses via the Guaranteed Entry Scheme is now available. The Guaranteed Entry Scheme allows automatic entry into more than 40 selected undergraduate courses at La Trobe. Students are assured a Commonwealth Supported Place in the selected course of their choice, provided they:

- are Year 12 applicants,
- achieve the requisite ENTER(or above),
- meet the course's prerequisites and any other special requirements (as listed by VTAC).

Visit the [Guaranteed Entry](#)

In 2009 Monash University will offer over \$10m in bursaries and scholarships

Free IMVC Career & Transition Support Programs

Swinburne University— Year 12 Discovery Holiday Program

This school holiday program will be of benefit to Year 12 students intending to go on to study at **any** tertiary institution. It is designed to help in the transition from secondary school by guiding and preparing participants for what to expect as a tertiary student.

Participants will gain useful study techniques and advice and learn about the range of student services and facilities that tertiary institutions provide.

When: October 2

RSVP: Email Sandra by September 1

Swinburne University— Year 9 Discovery Program

This program is designed to introduce Year 9 students to the tertiary education environment and how it differs from secondary school. Students will undertake fun, practical workshops in a choice of different study areas and participate in an orientation tour of the campus. Students will learn about the differences between TAFE and university, as well as the options and pathways between the two sectors. Participants will gain an understanding of how to access course information and assistance in the career choice process.

When: Oct16, full day

RSVP: Email Sandra by September 8

Feedback from Open Days

News is starting to filter in from student visits to University & TAFE Open Days. Will and Harry were impressed with the Exercise Science facilities and teaching staff at RMIT Bundoora.

Sean learnt about an International Business course at RMIT City. He could major in marketing, commence learning a language and work overseas as part of his program of study.

Clare visited William Angliss Institute. She was impressed with the friendly and approachable staff and is interested in the patisserie course.

Please note La Trobe (Bundoora) Open Day is Sunday 31 August. This was not posted in the last issue.

Work Experience Presentations

Year 10 students have commenced their Work Experience presentations to Jet students. They are sharing their learning from their Work Experience placements.

History in the Making

Congratulations to Coco, who is our first FHS student to register with on the VTAC website.

Position Vacant

Hairdressing Apprentice

We are currently looking for a young, motivated person who has a real passion for hairdressing.

We need you to share our enthusiasm and passion for keeping our clients looking and feeling their best with our professional attention to detail.

Your key role in our salon is to learn and assist. We will train you in all facets of some of the best hairdressing currently available in Melbourne. We provide extra training 1 evening a week for 2 hours in cut, colour, blow drying and up styling and you will attend Tafe college 1 day a week. You will be required to work 2 evenings and Saturdays but you will have 10 am starts and one late start of 1 pm.

We are a team of 6 hairdressers and we are really excited to be able to offer the successful applicant a fun artistic learning environment to work in.

The traits we are looking for are good communication skills, team player with a happy disposition, good personal hygiene and well organised or the ability to be taught organisational skills. Please send through your resume to jmarkac@bigpond.net.au Looking forward to your response

Jane Markac
Director

Congratulations to Coco, our first FHS student to register of the VTAC website