Dear Year 12 Student

Congratulations on the successful completion of your secondary education. I hope that you are feeling relaxed and that you are satisfied with your efforts. I am writing to advise you of a few things you need to remember with regard to your course and career options for 2015. By now, you will have completed your VTAC Course Preferences and paid online. Although you may have completed the application process, you still have an opportunity to change your preferences once your results have been received. During Change of Preference time - (from now until 22 December 12 noon for local students and 16 December 4.00pm for International Students), you can visit your VTAC user account on the VTAC website (www.vtac.edu.au) to change the order, add or delete preferences. By using the Change of Preference (COP) period wisely, you can maximise your chances of being selected into the tertiary course of your choice.

Take note of the information in this newsletter about the use of Negotiated Offers and how to contact Selection Officers. A little planning and organisation now that you have the time will help to ensure that you are successfully placed in a course or employment. For information about new, cancelled and amended courses, visit www.vtac.edu.au/courses-inst/courseupdates.

Check the VTAC website for any other information that you may require during Change of Preference. Most universities also have a section of their website dedicated to COP. Remember that there is useful information in the ABC of Applying Booklet that you have all received. This is also available in the publications section of the website.

I will be available for student counselling on Monday 15, Tuesday 16 & Wednesday 17 December during Change of Preference week between 10.00am & 3.00pm and by email at all other times. Be sure to ring 9581 1285 or email to make an appointment otherwise you may have to wait a while. I will be in the School Library during the Change of Preference period.

In the event that we do not speak during COP, I would like to congratulate you on achieving your VCE and wish you fulfilment in whatever path you choose. Please keep in touch and email me about your experience of study, work or travel from time to time.

Kind regards

Annie Dawson

ps you relaxing!! -->
2014 VCAA Results

Year 12’s, and other students who may have sat Unit 3/4 exams, are reminded that the study scores are released on Monday 15 December 2014. To access these results students should do as follows:

Log on to resultsandatar.vic.edu.au any time from 7.00am, Monday 15 December to 12 noon on Monday 19 December 2014 (AEDST). This service is free and operates 24 hours a day.

Type in your VCAA student number and where a PIN is required, Year 12 students type in the PIN you chose, and whilst Year 10 and 11 students should type in the first four digits of your birth date, e.g. 22 August = 2208

Accessing VCE Results via SMS

Students must pre-register if they wish to receive their results by text message. To pre-register students will need to send a message to 19 787 888 with their student number (just the eight digit number, not including the letter on the end) then a space and then their PIN (4 digits). This SMS will cost $1.10 max (incl. GST). Students must send this message from the mobile number to which they want the results delivered. Registrations open from 9.00am on Monday 10 November until 12 midnight Sunday 14 December. The results and ATAR will then be sent to the registered mobile number at approximately 7.00am Monday 15 December 2014.

Students who will be overseas as this time should NOT register to have their results sent by SMS, but rather access them on the internet.

Students encountering problems should please contact the helpline on 1800 501 083. Instructions on registering for SMS are also available on the VTAC website at www.vtac.edu.au/sms.

ATAR Wizard

If planning to study at La Trobe University, the ATAR Wizard is a way of finding out which courses you are likely to be able to access with your ATAR (based on 2013 ATARs): http://www.latrobe.edu.au/school/apply/atar/atar-wizard

The Monash 'SEAS' Estimate Calculator is live

The Special Entry Assess Scheme (SEAS) provides consideration in admissions for students who have experienced disadvantage. SEAS adds points to the aggregate study score, based on the type/level of difficulty experienced. The ATAR score is then recalculated with the additional points included. See: www.monash.edu/seas

Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 Dec</td>
<td>VCE Results &amp; ATAR website service released (7.00am)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Dec</td>
<td>Results &amp; ATAR in the mail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Dec</td>
<td>Change of preference closes (12 noon)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Jan</td>
<td>Round 1 Offers (2pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Feb</td>
<td>Round 2 Offers (2pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late Feb</td>
<td>Supplementary Offers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Post Results & ATAR Service (PRAS)

If you have any questions once you have received your ATAR and VCE results you may contact the PRAS. PRAS is a joint information service offered by VTAC and VCAA for any questions you have, not for accessing your VCE results or ATAR.

You can access PRAS by;
Telephone 9032 1717 or 1800 653 080 (toll free)
Email: pras@vcaa.vic.edu.au
7.00am - 5.00pm Monday 15 December
9.00am - 5.00pm Tuesday 16 - Wed 17 December

Enquiries: pras@edumail.vic.gov.au
No VTAC offer received, what can you do?

- Apply for a Negotiated Offer (see page 62 of the VTAC Guide or website)
- Enquire about Foundation Programs and Pathways at your university of choice.
- Apply through direct entry to Holmesglen, Chisholm or other TAFE Institute
- Undertake a part-time course (sometimes these are direct entry, i.e., contact college direct) or gain short-term employment then apply for mid-year intake.
- Open Universities distance education
- Single subject enrolment (full fee) available at most universities, e.g., CAP at Uni of Melb.
- Independent Colleges, e.g., MIBT, Monash College, JMC and SAE
- DoTS program at Monash (more detailed information on Monash section of the VTAC Guide and website).
- Await Round 2 and Supplementary Offers
- Pre-Apprenticeship Courses at TAFE—apply direct
- Investigate Associate Degrees on websites of your preferred institution.
- Contact interstate universities in your field of interest. Uni of Tasmania has direct entry applications on line and low ATARs
- Check out online Monash College, MIBT, Independent tertiary Providers that charge full fees.

Step 1: Gather information

Now you have your ATAR you need to gather information to help you re-assess your preferences.

Some helpful information sources include:

- VTAC, VTAC Website, VTAC on Twitter, Facebook and the VTAC Blog
- Historic clearly-in ATARs from 2013/14 and beyond. ATARs change from year to year, so they should only be used as a guide
- The Internet - most universities have a dedicated Change of Preference (COP) section with information about sessions etc.
- Course Guides and pamphlets from relevant institutions.

Step 2: Assess your list

Be Realistic: Include realistic course choices you are likely to be selected for based on previous ATAR scores.

Be Informed: Make sure you’ve got the prerequisites and extra requirements required for any new courses you’re listing (as listed on the website in CourseSearch).

Be Safe: Put your dream on top, realistic chances in the middle and include at least two courses that have previously been well below your ATAR as lower preferences.

Be Honest: Make sure you are willing to study ALL the courses you include on your list.

Step 3: Get Advice

This step is important to ensure you maximise the effectiveness of your preference choices. Most institutions are available during the Change of Preference period to give you advice about their programs. Are you still unsure of what you want to do? Ask people in your family, people working in the industry you are interested in or ring for an appointment with me.

Step 4: Revise Preference List

You have researched the options available to you and sought advice from various people. You are now in a position to revise your original preferences and make any changes. Enter your changes in your user account on the VTAC website once you feel confident about your new revised list. Ensure your final preference is likely to be much lower than your ATAR.

Five Steps To Changing Your Preference

If you are not happy with the preferences you currently have you may make changes during this time. It makes sense to wait until you have received your results. You may add, remove and change the order of your preferences as you see fit. Always make sure that you include several preferences well below the ATAR you achieve so that if ATAR’s rise you are well covered. It is wise to leave your dreams on top as ATARs vary from year to year and sometimes they fall.

And it’s free to do! No extra charges will be incurred.

To access your preference list simply login to your VTAC user account on the VTAC website.
Step 5: Contact VTAC via Your User Account

You will need to change your preferences online through VTAC website – the User Account section. Ensure you have checked the pre-requisites and extra requirements for any program you are adding to your preference list. The online process provides you with prompts along the way.

Additional Tips: Offers

- Always accept your first offer - you can reject it later in subsequent rounds if offered something at a later date. You may not get a second offer as normally fewer than 10% of places are allocated in this round. Read offer letters carefully for enrolment and deferral instructions.
- If you have been offered a place you will find your name in the paper, surname first, and second initial and postcode to identify you.
- If you have indicated on VTAC application that you didn’t want your offer published it will not appear in the papers.

Negotiated Offers

You can apply for a Negotiated Offer if you have:

- Received an offer but want to be considered for a course lower down on your preference list.
- Received an offer but want to apply for a course not on your preference list, and for which you have met the requirements and ATAR.
- Not received an offer and want to apply for courses not listed on your preference list, but for which you have meet the requirements and ATAR.

NOTE: To understand how to use your Negotiated Offer check page 62 in the VTAC Guide.

Foundation Courses

The Southbank Campus of Unimelb, Victorian College of the Arts and Music, delivers short courses over summer in film etc and runs Year 13 Foundation courses in some study areas.

Swinburne conducts a Unilink course that pathways into second year of a degree and Monash conducts the Diploma of Tertiary Studies and a Diploma of Higher Education. These courses are aimed to assist students who achieved an ATAR over 50 but did not perform optimally in their final year Associate Degrees at a University or TAFE. Other universities also offer similar programs.

What is an Associate Degree?

An associate degree is a two year university qualification. They are a relatively new qualification in Australia.

What students would benefit from an Associate Degree? Associate degrees are ideal for students who may not be confident they can complete a 3-4 year degree but are interested in a career in Engineering, Early Childhood, IT, Design and several other fields. Students can build up to a bachelor degree and develop research and independent learning skills that are required at a bachelor level. Suitable for students who would like to qualify and enter the workforce in a shorter timeframe. Most universities and TAFEs now offer Associate Degrees and scores for these courses are lower. Check the websites.

Open Learning

www.open.edu.au - a flexible way of studying a degree off campus.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INSTITUTION</th>
<th>CONTACT DETAILS</th>
<th>TIMES</th>
<th>DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Australian Catholic University | 1300 275 228  
Change of Preference Info Day (Melbourne)  
Change of Preference Info Day (Ballarat)  
www.acu.edu.au | 12.00pm – 6.00pm  
6.00pm – 7.30pm | Dec 16 (Tues)  
Dec 17 (Wed) |
| Box Hill TAFE                  | 1300 269 445  
Study Options Information Evening  
www.boxhill.edu.au | 4.00pm – 7.00pm | Dec 17 (Wed) |
| CQU (Melbourne)                | 13 CQU (13 2786)  
National Online Information Session  
http://www.cqu.edu.au/calendar | 4.00pm – 7.00pm | Dec 2 (Tues)  
Dec 22 (Mon) |
| Deakin University              | Online Live Chat Sessions  
Change of Preference hotline:  
1300 DEGREE - 1300 334 733  
Melbourne Campus at Burwood - Information Evening  
Warrnambool Campus - Walk & Talk Tours  
Geelong Waurn Ponds Campus - Walk & Talk Tours  
Geelong Waterfront Campus - Information Evening  
Warrnambool City Centre – Drop In Session  
Werribee Learning Centre – Drop In Session  
http://choose.deakin.edu.au/ | 9.00am – 5.00pm  
9.00am – 5.00pm  
9.00am – 12.00pm  
5.00pm – 7.00pm  
11.00am – 1.00pm  
11.00am – 2.00pm  
5.00pm – 7.00pm  
3.00pm – 7.00pm  
3.00pm – 7.00pm | Dec 15 – 19  
Dec 15 – 21  
Dec 22 (Mon)  
Dec 16 (Tues)  
Dec 16 (Tues)  
Dec 17 (Wed)  
Dec 17 (Wed)  
Dec 18 (Thurs)  
Dec 18 (Thurs) |
| Federation University          | 1800 FED UNI (1800 333 864)  
https://federation.edu.au/ |                         |                  |
| Holmesglen Institute           | 1300 693 888  
Change of preference information sessions  
For more details refer to  
www.holmesglen.edu.au/open | 9.00am – 5.00pm  
Throughout day  
please refer to website for specific sessions | Dec 17 - 20  
Dec 17 (Wed) |
| La Trobe University            | 1300 135 045  
Extended call centre and chat hours  
Monday 15 December, 7 am - 7 pm  
Tuesday 16 December, 7 am - 7 pm  
Wednesday 17 December, 9 am - 5 pm  
Thursday 18 December, 9 am - 5 pm  
Friday 19 December, 9 am - 5 pm  
Saturday 20 December, 10 am - 3 pm  
Sunday 21 December, 10 am - 3 pm  
Monday 22 December, Change of Preference closes 12pm  
Change of Preference Advisory Day – Melbourne Campus  
Change of Preference Advisory Day – Bendigo Campus  
www.latrobe.edu.au/study | 7.00am – 7.00pm  
7.00am – 7.00pm  
9.00am – 5.00pm  
9.00am – 5.00pm  
9.00am – 5.00pm  
10.00am – 3.00pm  
10.00am – 3.00pm  
CoP closes 12pm | Dec 15 (Mon)  
Dec 16 (Tues)  
Dec 17 (Wed)  
Dec 18 (Thur)  
Dec 19 (Fri)  
Dec 20 (Sat)  
Dec 21 (Sun)  
Dec 22 (Mon)  
Dec 16 (Tue)  
Dec 16 (Tue) |
| MIBT                           | (03) 9244 5600  
www.mibt.vic.edu.au |                         |                  |
### CHANGE OF PREFERENCE (COP) DATES AND CONTACTS 2014

This information is only a guideline and it is important that you check dates and times yourself

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Contact Details</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monash University</strong></td>
<td>1800 666 274 hotline hours&lt;br&gt;Change of Preference Expo&lt;br&gt;Building H, Caulfield Campus, 900 Dandenong Road&lt;br&gt;One on one appointments for Peninsula / Caulfield / Clayton (Registration required)&lt;br&gt;www.monash.edu.au/cop</td>
<td>Dec 15 - 19&lt;br&gt;Dec 20 - 21&lt;br&gt;Dec 22 (Mon)&lt;br&gt;Dec 17 (Wed)&lt;br&gt;Dec 18 (Thurs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Navitas College of Public Safety</strong></td>
<td>1800 783 661&lt;br&gt;Info Evening&lt;br&gt;123 Lonsdale Street Melbourne&lt;br&gt;www.ncps.edu.au</td>
<td>Dec 15 - 19&lt;br&gt;Dec 18 (Thur)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NMIT</strong></td>
<td>(03) 9269 1200&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:info@nmit.edu.au">info@nmit.edu.au</a>&lt;br&gt;www.nmit.edu.au</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RMIT University</strong></td>
<td>Hotline (03) 9925 2260&lt;br&gt;Change of Preference Expo&lt;br&gt;RMIT Building 80 (Swanston Academic Building)&lt;br&gt;445 Swanston St, Melbourne&lt;br&gt;<a href="http://www.rmit.edu.au/cop">http://www.rmit.edu.au/cop</a></td>
<td>Dec 15 - 19&lt;br&gt;Dec 22 (Mon)&lt;br&gt;Dec 17 (Wed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Swinburne University</strong></td>
<td>1300 275 794&lt;br&gt;One-on-One Appointments&lt;br&gt;COP Expo (Hawthorn)&lt;br&gt;<a href="http://www.swinburne.edu.au/change-of-preference/events/">http://www.swinburne.edu.au/change-of-preference/events/</a></td>
<td>Dec 15 – 19&lt;br&gt;Dec 20 -21&lt;br&gt;Dec 22 (Mon)&lt;br&gt;Dec 15 – 19&lt;br&gt;Dec 22 (Mon)&lt;br&gt;Dec 17 (Wed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>University of Melbourne</strong></td>
<td>13 63 52&lt;br&gt;Course Information Day Parkville Campus&lt;br&gt;www.cop.unimelb.edu.au/2014</td>
<td>Dec 15 –22&lt;br&gt;Dec 17 (Wed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Victoria University</strong></td>
<td>1300 842 864&lt;br&gt;CHAT AND HOTLINE&lt;br&gt;Course Information Event at Footscray Park Campus&lt;br&gt;1 ON 1 COURSE ADVICE&lt;br&gt;www.vu.edu.au/change</td>
<td>Dec 15 - 19&lt;br&gt;Dec 22 (Mon)&lt;br&gt;Dec 17 (Wed)&lt;br&gt;Dec 15 – 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>William Angliss Institute</strong></td>
<td>1300 264 5477&lt;br&gt;Experience Angliss Day&lt;br&gt;One-on-one Consultations Available&lt;br&gt;<a href="http://www.angliss.edu.au/">http://www.angliss.edu.au/</a></td>
<td>Dec 18 (Thurs)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
News from the University of Melbourne

- **Pre-Vet Club**
  
  *If you are interested in becoming a veterinarian, or want to explore what it is to be a veterinarian, then the Pre-Vet Club is for you!* Once enrolled in a Science degree at a university, and if intending studying post graduate veterinary science, students are invited to join the **Pre-Vet Club.** Visit [Pre-Vet Club](#)

- **Pathway to Veterinary Science**
  
  Students often ask if **Bachelor of Agriculture** is a pathway option to the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM). The answer is yes! Students who complete a major in Production Animal Health in their Bachelor of Agriculture degree can receive credit for up to 30 per cent of the first year of the four-year DVM. A study plan for the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine can be found at [Study Plan](#)
  
  This, and other pathways to studying Veterinary Medicine at Melbourne can be found at [Pathways to Veterinary Medicine](#)

- **Diploma of General Studies**
  
  *Your pathway into a degree at the University of Melbourne!* The **Diploma in General Studies** is available to CSP students and provides a guaranteed entry into a University of Melbourne degree based on graded average scores. Full-time students undertake four subjects per semester for two semesters; part-time students undertake two subjects per semester for four semesters. There are two semesters each year. All students must complete the compulsory subject Academic writing and communication in their first semester. Completion of the Diploma in General Studies gives students guaranteed entry into the Bachelors of Agriculture, Science, Environments, Commerce and Biomedicine at the University of Melbourne. The Diploma of General Studies is a one-year full time course offered at Melbourne’s Dookie Campus. **To find out more visit** [Diploma of General Studies](#)

**UniLink Diplomas**

In 2015 **UniLink diplomas** will offer both Commonwealth supported places (CSP) and direct full-fee paying (DFP) places to students.

CSP will be merit-based for students who achieve a minimum 50 ATAR and meet the prerequisites for the course. Year 12 students are reminded that CSP course code in VTAC ends in '1'.

Students are guaranteed entry into a DPF UniLink diploma as long as they achieve a minimum 50 ATAR and meet the prerequisites for the course. The DFP course code in VTAC ends in '2'.

Students are encouraged to include both course codes in their list of preferences if they wish to study a UniLink diploma. **All UniLink courses are listed on the** [VTAC Course Search](#)
ANU Change of Preference Advisory Day

Year 12 students who have applied to study at ANU in 2015 might like to take up an opportunity to attend an Advisory Day in Melbourne and speak one-on-one with the ANU staff.

**Date:** Tuesday 16 December,

**Time:** 10.00am–2.00pm

**Venue:** Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI), Federation Square, Flinders Street in Melbourne

To register for a one-on-one appointment visit [ANU Melbourne Advisory Day](#)

For more information about change of preference at ANU visit [ANU COP](#)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates of Main Round Tertiary Offers for all States</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| **VTAC**                                     | International students – Friday 9 January 2015  
Local students – Monday 19 January 2015 |
| **SATAC**                                    | Thursday 15 January 2015 |
| **UAC**                                      | Wednesday 21 January 2015 |
| **QTAC**                                     | Thursday 15 January 2015 |
| **TISC**                                     | Friday 16 January 2015 |

**NMIT Primary Industries**

**COMING SOON!**

Associate Degree in Veterinary Nursing at NMIT

This exciting new program has been designed to produce work-ready graduates with a high level of clinical skills and an associate degree level of knowledge and understanding in veterinary nursing.

**Duration:** 2 years full time; 4 years part time

**Entrance requirements:**
Satisfactory completion of Year 10 with English (20)
AND either Maths OR Biology OR Chemistry;
OR satisfactory completion of a TAFE Diploma Course in Veterinary Nursing (or equivalent);
OR relevant industry experience defined as professional engagement for a minimum of two years.

Applicants who require a refresher in Maths, Biology or Chemistry can complete a free online bridging course provided by Carnegie Mellon University to satisfy the basic knowledge requirements.

All applicants will be required to submit a written application detailing their animal care experience and reasons for applying, and to undertake a formal interview.

**Recognition of prior learning**

Graduates of the Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing will be able to apply for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) if they can demonstrate competence in the required areas.

**Curriculum**

The Associate Degree in Veterinary Nursing offers a flexible approach for students, with the provision of online materials to prepare for the active learning workshops on campus. This offers students the flexibility of preparing at home at their own pace and at a time that suits them.

Clinical placements throughout their study will give students excellent real world experience. In addition, the final semester of the degree offers students an internship-like six-month period, where they will undertake placements in areas of interest.

[Logo for NMIT Primary Industries]
**Law Scholarships**

Introduced in 2012, the Thomas More Academy of Law Academic Excellence Scholarship reflects ACU's commitment to academic excellence in the undergraduate law program.

Two scholarships, valued at $20,000 each, are available. The scholarships are paid as one instalment per semester for the duration of the course.

- $2,500 per semester for a four year program
- $2,000 per semester for a five year program

See full details on eligibility and how to apply at [Law Scholarships](#).

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**MONASH University**

**News from Monash University**

- **Diploma of Tertiary Studies (DoTs)**
  
  The Diploma of Tertiary Studies (DoTs) is designed as an alternative pathway to university study. The program is particularly suited to students requiring additional learning support in their first year of study. The DoTs pathway equips students with the skills to write essays, undertake research, solve problems, think critically, develop projects, and communicate their ideas more effectively. This pathway opportunity is offered at the Peninsula campus and the Berwick campus of Monash University. Providing a direct pathway to Monash University, successful completion of DoTs allows students to apply to progress to the second year of over 30 Monash University degrees. Students will have the flexibility to choose a stream that interests them from Arts, Business, Education or Nursing. It is this stream that forms the first year of their degree, and determines which Monash degree they can pathway into.

**The advantages of the DoTs pathway:**

- it’s a pathway into the second year of your chosen degree
- it’s an opportunity to explore academic options if you are uncertain about future career directions

**Entry requirements**

To be considered for entry, applicants must have successfully completed the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE), or equivalent, and have attained a minimum English score of 25 (or 30 in EAL) and a minimum ATAR score of 50. Depending on the DoTs stream, there may be additional pre-requisites. [Visit DoTs to find out more!](#)

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- **Business and Economics**

1+1 doesn’t always = 2! Everybody knows one plus one equals two. But, when we’re talking about a double degree at Monash, the maths is even simpler.

A standard bachelor degree is three years, but in most cases students can graduate from a double degree in four years. Combining a Bachelor of Commerce, Bachelor of Business or Bachelor of Economics with another degree, opens up a world of possibilities. Students can study a language, a second profession, a completely different area of business, or other areas they may be interested in, such as engineering, medicine, arts, law, and more.

So how does it work? All Monash courses include compulsory core units (which students must do) and electives (which students can choose based on their interests). In a double
degree, the compulsory units in one degree make up the electives in the other, and vice versa. So students will still study the core units to complete each course, but the units they study will count towards both degrees.

Monash offers combined degrees across all faculties and disciplines. Some examples of popular combinations include Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Engineering; Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Commerce; and Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Business.

For more information on the double degree offerings visit Business & Economics

➢ Diploma of Higher Education

This is a one year full-time course. If you successfully complete the course you can apply for entry to several Science related courses and gain credit from the Diploma. This alternative entry pathway into Monash University is offered at the Clayton campus.

➢ Monash College

Monash College diplomas provide a pathway into the first or second year of selected courses. These include courses in: art, design and architecture; arts; business; or engineering. There are scholarships available for domestic students to cover the course fees of a Monash College diploma. These diplomas are full fee options.

➢ Single Units

If you don’t meet minimum academic entry requirements, you can apply to do single units (subjects). Completion of two university units makes you eligible to apply for entry into a large range of undergraduate courses.

ACUcom at the Australian Catholic University

ACUcom is a department of the Australian Catholic University that delivers TAFE-level courses. These courses are complete qualifications but are also pathway programs into bachelor degrees at ACU. While the pathways are not guarantees, students who do well in the ACUcom courses are usually offered places in relevant bachelor programs.

ACUcom courses are suited to students who –

✓ Want a TAFE level qualification
✓ Do not get the required ATAR to go straight into their chosen bachelor degree
✓ Want to use the TAFE to university pathway to a bachelor degree
✓ Want to try an area of study but are not sure they want to commit to a 3-year course

ACUcom offers three courses suitable for school leavers:

Diploma of Nursing – (Pathway into Bachelor of Nursing)
Certificate in Exercise Science – (Pathway into Bachelor of Exercise Science)
Certificate III in Educational Support – (Pathway into Bachelor of Education)

For more information on these courses, the cost and how to apply email acucom.melbourne@acu.edu.au or call (03) 9953 3321.

News from Victoria University
- **New Bachelor of Commerce (Applied Finance) in 2015**

  *Are you interested in finance?* The new Bachelor of Commerce (Applied Finance) to be offered at the City Flinders Campus could be the ideal course! The course gives students the opportunity of undertaking an overseas study tour, industry placements, workplace-based projects with authentic case-based scenarios, and the opportunity to take part in a mentoring program. The VCE prerequisite studies are Units 3 and 4: study score of at least 25 in English (any); and 30 in Further Maths or 25 in Methods and Specialist Maths, and it is anticipated that the clearly-in ATAR will be around 75. **Find out more by visiting Applied Finance**

- **Bachelor of Youth Work**

  *Youth Workers make a difference in young people’s lives!* Graduates of Youth Work at VU gain employment in a wide range of jobs including juvenile justice, housing, local government, community recreation, outdoor education, drug & alcohol services, and alternative education programs. **Find out more about this course at Youth Work**

### What if you think you won’t get a place at university?

There are many alternatives. Some suggestions are:

- Contact me by email
- Apply for a related TAFE course if you have not done so already
- Apply for a course at Monash College or MIBT (see VTAC Guide)
- Complete a Diploma in Tertiary or Foundation Studies – e.g. at Monash University, RMIT and Victoria University
- Nursing - complete a Diploma of Nursing at TAFE
- Try for a Negotiated Offer in January (see VTAC website)
- Aim for a Supplementary Offer in January (see VTAC website)
- DOTS at Monash, ACUCOM at ACU, Dip of Higher Ed at Monash
- Associate Degrees normally will accept ATARS from 50

### University Terms

When students are looking in to university study, they often come across words or terms they are unfamiliar with. So, here are a few of the more commonly used terms to help students understand what is being talked about!

**Associated Degree** - an associate degree is generally a two-year qualification that is made up of two-thirds of a bachelor degree, and may be offered by both TAFEs and universities. Students often use this as a stepping stone to the full Bachelor Degree.

**Assumed knowledge** – refers to subjects the university recommends or prefers a student to have studied at school before starting the course

**ATAR** – Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank – the figure used by UAC and VTAC to calculate the entrance ranking for a university course

**Bachelor Degree** – the award/qualification a student gains when they have completed studies in an undergraduate course, which takes between 3 or 4 years of full-time study. This is the traditional starting point of a university qualification.

**Bridging Course** – an introductory course to help students achieve the preferred entry level to a degree, e.g. a bridging maths course for students who do not have the preferred maths but need it to access a course
Census Date – the last day a student can withdraw from their university course and not owe fees

Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP) – a student’s enrolment in a university degree for which the Commonwealth government makes a contribution towards the cost of that student’s education (formerly known as a HECS place)

Credit – if a student has previously studied – perhaps at TAFE – and has Recognised Prior Learning (RPL), the student may be able to receive credit for a subject or subjects in their course. Also often referred to as Advanced Standing.

Double degree – a student can choose to complete a double degree – this integrates studies in two degrees resulting in an award of two degrees, usually after a minimum of 4 years of study. Often also referred to as Combined Degrees.

Defer – a student may choose to delay starting their course. Deferring an offer of a place might mean delaying for 6, 12, 18 or 24 months. Deferment ensures the student is guaranteed their place in their selected course

Elective – a subject that is not core to the degree and is often from another faculty, e.g. a commerce student might choose psychology (from the Arts Faculty) as an elective

Faculty – a department within a university devoted to a particular area of study – so, Faculty of Arts or Faculty of Science

HECS-HELP – a loan scheme that assists students with a CSP place to pay their contribution. Students may choose to pay their fees upfront and receive a 10% discount, or choose to defer payment via the HECS-HELP loan scheme

Honours – many Bachelor degrees offer a fourth year – called an Honours year. The Honours year allows students to further focus on a particular area of interest. The Honours year can either be integrated into a 4-year Bachelor degree or be offered as a separate year after completion of a 3-year Bachelor degree

Lecture – a period of teaching given by a lecturer to a large group of students in a lecture theatre; can often be as many as 300 students in a lecture

Major study – an area within a course that allows in-depth study in a particular field. More than one major may be allowed in some courses

Minor study – a grouping of subjects allowing a broader understanding of a few subjects, with less emphasis on in-depth study

Prerequisite – a set of conditions – usually a completion of a subject – that must be met before enrollment in a subject or course is allowed.

Transcript – this is the university academic record each student receives, like a school report

Tutorial – a period of teaching given to a small group of students – involving discussion and participation

UAC – Universities Admissions Centre (UAC) – all students wishing to study at universities in ACT and NSW must apply online through UAC

Undergraduate – a student studying at university for a first level degree, e.g. a Bachelor degree

VTAC – Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) – all students wishing to study at universities Victoria must apply online through VTAC

Workplace learning – practical training in a workplace, such as internships or practical work experience. This is a hands-on experience – some universities call it Industry Based Learning or Work Integrated Learning
Bachelor of Education (P – 6)

Federation University has partnered with Melbourne Institute of Technology (MIT) to offer the VIT accredited Bachelor of Education (P – 6) at the MIT campus in Melbourne. The four year Bachelor of Education program will prepare students for the new and broader roles expected of professional educators, now and into the future. It will provide a qualification to teach in primary schools (P-6).

The VCE entry requirements are: Units 1 and 2: satisfactory completion in two units (any study combination) of General Mathematics or Maths: Mathematical Methods or Units 3 and 4: any Mathematics; and a study score of at least 30 in English (EAL) or at least 25 in English other than EAL. Application is through VTAC at [www.vtac.edu.au](http://www.vtac.edu.au).

To find out more about this course visit [Bachelor of Education](#)

For any further information please don't hesitate to contact me by email.

Enjoy your Christmas and know that things have a habit of working out the way they should!

Regards

Annie Dawson