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UNDERSTANDING MYSELF AND MY OPTIONS



# How To Explore Post-School Courses



## Learning Outcomes

The information in this career resource will build your:

- Understanding of the importance of exploring post-school courses.
- Knowledge of different ways to explore courses.
- Strategies for general and more detailed course exploration.

During Year 12 many students apply for the post-school courses they hope to study at TAFE, university or private colleges the following year. Most Year 12 students apply for post-school courses between the beginning of August and the end of September. However, some education and training providers accept early applications for courses, sometimes as early as March-May in the year prior to anticipated course commencement. Some courses have special requirements that must be met well before applications open, e.g., sitting UCAT for those wishing to gain entry into undergraduate medicine.

What this means for Australian students is that well in advance of opening dates for applying for tertiary education courses in Australia, it is important that students research courses so they can make informed choices and be clear about their course preferences. Notably, recent research has found a positive correlation between in-depth course research and study choice confidence (Parks et al., 2018). Yet these authors note that many students do not undertake in-depth course research.

There are many Australian websites and other techniques that you can access to research courses. Some of these are briefly explained here.

