1. OPEN DAY REMINDER – University and TAFE Open Days are just around the corner. These are an opportunity to check out campuses and courses which interest you. Year 10 is a great time to commence these visits. Some students will spend more time checking out a $5,000 used car than checking out an investment in education which may cost $20,000 or more....

Some Open Day Dates for 2016:
- Sun 31 July – Swinburne University
- Sat 6 Aug – Monash (Peninsula)
- Sun 7 Aug – Deakin University (Warrnambool); La Trobe University (Bundoora); Monash University (Caufield & Clayton)
- Sun 14 Aug – Australian Catholic University (Melbourne), La Trobe University (Bendigo); RMIT University; William Angliss Institute
- Sun 21 Aug – Box Hill (Lilydale campus); Deakin University (Waterfront & Warrnambool); University of Melbourne; Monash (Parkville)
- Sun 28 Aug – ACU (Ballarat); Box Hill Institute (Box Hill); Deakin University (Burwood); Federation University; Victoria University (Footscray campus)

2. GET THE MOST OUT OF OPEN DAYS – Don’t wander aimlessly....try these ideas:
- Get an Open Day Guide, eg from www.deakin.edu.au/openday, or www.openday.unimelb.edu.au, and be there when relevant information sessions are on
- Allow enough time for your visit, eg two hours
- Speak to staff/students about courses which interest you - note your questions beforehand
- Collect information/brochures
- Are there Industry based-learning (IBL) opportunities?
- Ask about international study opportunities
- Consider transport issues
- Check the environment where you will study; will you be happy there for three/four years?

3. YEAR 12’s – APPLYING FOR COURSES - Applications are usually made on the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) website, and open on Mon 1 August, with timely applications closing on 29 Sept (see www.vtac.edu.au). You can apply for up to eight courses, placing them in the order you most want them. You will be offered a place in the highest course in your list where you meet ATAR/Selection/pre-requisite requirements.

As we know, some circumstances can spoil a student’s academic achievement. Tertiary institutions know this and offer alternative entry schemes taking into account short- and long-term disadvantage. While many are offered through the single Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) SPECIAL ENTRY ACCESS SCHEME (SEAS) application process, others require application to the institution.

Note: SEAS applications cannot be completed until a VTAC course application is made. See: www.vtac.edu.au/applying/seas.html

4. MONASH UNIVERSITY NEWS –
- MONASH GUARANTEE AND SEAS FOR YEAR 12 STUDENTS – Monash operates two access schemes, the Monash Guarantee and the SEAS that can help students enter a preferred course, even if your ATAR is below the clearly-in ATAR. It is possible to be eligible for one or both schemes. The Monash Guarantee can get you into a course even if you don’t reach the course’s clearly-in ATAR. You could be eligible if you have experienced financial disadvantage or if you are an Indigenous Australian (Note: the Monash Guarantee also applies to students who attend a Monash under-represented school). Every course has a Monash Guarantee ATAR. For Info: http://www.study.monash/how-to-apply/entry-schemes/monash-guarantee/

SEAS adjusts your ATAR in recognition of circumstances that may have affected your education. See: http://www.study.monash/how-to-apply/entry-schemes/special-entry-access-scheme.
• **MONASH ART, DESIGN & ARCHITECTURE (MADA)** is holding workshops which offer a way to get tips on the application process for MADA courses. **When:** 26 & 27 Sept; **Where:** MADA (Caulfield campus); **For:** Year 11 & 12 students; **Book:** [www.monash.edu/mada/workshops](http://www.monash.edu/mada/workshops).

• **NEW VERTICAL DOUBLE ARTS DEGREES** – This will mean you can get a Bachelor of Arts degree and relevant Master’s degree in four years. The offering will be accessed, either commencing directly into a planned vertical course program or electing to move into the double degree structure while undertaking the Bachelor’s degree. Students will need to achieve a 75% average in their first two years (full-time) to progress to Master’s level.

• **NEW PATHWAYS INTO LAW** – For students with the determination to succeed in the B. Laws but just miss out on the clearly-in ATAR, and identify as an Indigenous Australian, live in a low socio-economic area OR have experienced financial hardship. The new courses allow students to study law units from day one so they can try law before committing to the full degree. New courses:
  - Bachelor of Arts (Law pathway)
  - Bachelor of Commerce (Law pathway)
  - Bachelor of Science (Law pathway)
In the first year they will study four first-year law subjects along with four Arts, Commerce or Science subjects. Students who pass all eight units with a credit (60%) average in all four law units and a credit (60%) average overall, will be guaranteed a place in either B. Laws/B. Arts, B. Laws/B. Commerce or B. Laws/B. Science OR second year of the B. Laws (Honours) single degree. Information and eligibility: [www.monash.edu/law/future-students/undergraduate/pathways](http://www.monash.edu/law/future-students/undergraduate/pathways).

• **MONASH BUSINESS SCHOOL** – has a City location at Level 7, 271 Collins St Melbourne. Learn about their B. International Business degree at Open House, Sun 14 Aug. Register: [www.business.monash.edu/programs/undergraduate/e-programs/find-out-more/business-open-house](http://www.business.monash.edu/programs/undergraduate/e-programs/find-out-more/business-open-house).

5. **LA TROBE UNIVERSITY’S ASPIRE PROGRAM** – Applications are open. The program recognises the positive impact a student has had on their local community. To help you apply, La Trobe has updated the ‘How to Apply’ page with tips and a sample application. Frequently asked questions:
  - What ATAR must I achieve for the Aspire program? Most courses have a minimum ATAR of 50, although some professional degrees have higher requirements
  - Do I have to arrange anything for my school recommendation? No, La Trobe will contact the school so you only need to advise which school you attend
  - Do I still have to apply through VTAC if I get an Aspire offer? Yes – your Aspire course should be your highest eligible preference. If you list a different course that you are eligible for above your Aspire offer, you will be made an offer into the different course and your Aspire offer will become void.

For Info and to apply: [www.latrobe.edu.au/aspire](http://www.latrobe.edu.au/aspire)


7. **MORE THAN YOUR ATAR AT ACU** – ACU’s new Passion for Business (P4B) and Passion for Law and Commerce (P4law-commerce) programs are not just about your ATAR; they are about providing a unique opportunity for students with a passion for business or law. If you are in Years 11 or 12 and you want to get an early competitive edge with a guaranteed entry to ACU, see [www.acu.edu.au/P4B](http://www.acu.edu.au/P4B) or [www.acu.edu.au/p4law-commerce](http://www.acu.edu.au/p4law-commerce).

8. **ARE THERE REGULATIONS WHEN EMPLOYING A CHILD?** Yes! Some people are unaware that employing a child under 15 years of age involves strict regulation, with heavy penalties (up to $10,000) for breaching them (for the employer or the parent/guardian who allows it). If a child is offered work, it would be wise to be aware of, and follow, these regulations. See: [www.workforce.vic.gov.au](http://www.workforce.vic.gov.au) – go to Hiring and Managing Staff, then to Employing Children, OR call a Child Employment Officer on 1800 287 287.

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