### Dates to Diarise in Term 4

- **Year 12 VTAC late applications** – October and early November

### Reminder: VTAC 2020 Key Dates

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<td>VTAC Personal Statement</td>
<td>Friday 6 December 2019</td>
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<td>ATARs Released</td>
<td>Thursday 12 December 2019</td>
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<td>CoP for December Round Offers closes</td>
<td>Saturday 14 December 2019</td>
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<td>December Round Offers</td>
<td>Wednesday 18 December 2019</td>
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<td>Change of Preference (COP) closes</td>
<td>Friday 20 December 2019</td>
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<td>January Round International Offers</td>
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<td>February Offer Rounds</td>
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For a full list of cancelled, amended, and new courses, visit [VTAC Course Updates](https://www.vtac.edu.au)

### Tax File Number

Year 12 students are reminded yet again that they cannot enrol in a CSP (Commonwealth Supported Place) university course next year without a Tax File Number (TFN). Students who do not have one are reminded to apply for a TFN online and have their identity verified through an interview at a participating Australia Post office.

To apply and also to find out about participating Post Offices, visit [TFN Application](https://www.tfn.gov.au)
Low Income Healthcare Card for Australian Students

Once you have finished school you are no longer a student and you may be eligible for a Low Income Health Care Card. This card gives access to a range of concessions, not only on some health care items and possible concession fares on Victorian public transport services, but also on a range of other goods and services if you are on a low income.

In particular, some TAFE and other short courses offer discounts for cardholders. You may also be eligible for public transport concessions (note that if you are studying interstate you are not eligible for public transport concessions in Victoria). Eligibility for a Low Income Health Care Card is based on YOUR income over the previous 8 weeks. As long as your income is less than $4488 over that period (or $561 per week) you should qualify. You will maintain the Low Income Health Care Card as long as your income does not exceed $5,610.00 (or $701.25 per week) in any 8 week period.

It is highly recommended that all graduating Year 12 students consider applying for this card once the exams are over.

Visit Low Income Healthcare Card and find out more.

News from Monash University

➢ Monash Maths Bridging

Monash Maths Bridging is available for students who narrowly miss the required study score in the mathematics prerequisite subjects for a Monash Engineering, Science, Business and Economics, Information Technology, or Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Science undergraduate degree.

Students who receive a study score of 20-24 in VCE Mathematical Methods Units 3 and 4 are eligible to apply. Students must meet all other entry requirements for their preferred course.

Students will study face-to-face for 16 days, five hours a day. Expert tutors will be there to guide them along their learning journey. Background knowledge and skills in algebra, graph sketching, elementary functions such as polynomial and trigonometric functions, and introductory calculus are essential. Time will not be spent introducing background knowledge and skills. The course will focus on immediate application and development.

Monash Maths Bridging is only accepted by Monash University. It does not provide credit for other institutions. Once students have successfully passed the
Monash Maths Bridging course, they will be considered to have met the mathematic prerequisite for the selected courses listed above.

Should students receive a main round offer prior to completion of the Monash Maths Bridging course, they are encouraged to accept that offer to ensure they do not lose their place. Should a further round offer be made, students can choose to withdraw from their earlier offer and take this offer.

For more information visit Monash Maths Bridging

➢ Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Science Bridging

What options do students have if they don’t meet the maths or chemistry VCE prerequisites to get into pharmacy or pharmaceutical science?

Mathematical Methods VCE prerequisite

- Applicants could study maths higher level units over their first year in a tertiary course. They can then apply to transfer into pharmacy or pharmaceutical science if they have achieved a minimum 70% average in the first year of the tertiary degree. Please note that credit is not currently given for transfers into pharmacy.
- The Open Universities Australia offers math units that may prove acceptable. Students are encouraged to visit Open Universities directly for advice.
- Overall, the maths must meet higher level maths equivalencies which applicants must investigate, and faculty course advisers should be able to assist here.

Chemistry VCE prerequisite

- For students who have not met the chemistry prerequisite, Monash recommends they study two VCE equivalent chemistry units over their first year in a tertiary course to be considered as meeting the prerequisite. They can then apply to transfer into pharmacy or pharmaceutical science. They would also have to achieve a minimum 70% average in the first year of the tertiary degree. Please note that credit is not currently given for transfers into pharmacy.

In summary, students really wanting to study pharmacy or pharmaceutical science at Monash University but do not meet the maths or chemistry VCE prerequisites, are encouraged to enrol in a tertiary course that gives them access to higher levels of maths and/or chemistry, with the aim of transferring across after one year. Students can also consider Graduate Entry Pharmacy (3 years) after completion of a Biomedical, Science or Pharmaceutical Science undergraduate degree.

Find out more about pharmacy and pharmacology at Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Science at Monash
Study Assist

Students are encouraged to browse the following link as the website provides information to students about Australian Government assistance for financing of tertiary study. There is very useful information on study loans, how one pays back those loans, scholarship opportunities, etc. A useful PDF titled Beyond School Study Guide published in September last year can also be found at - Beyond School Study Guide
Visit Study Assist

Useful links to Victorian University Support Services

Australian Catholic University –
ACU Student Support Services

Deakin University -
Deakin Student Support Services

Federation University of Australia -
Federation Student Support Services

La Trobe University -
La Trobe Student Support Services

Monash University -
Monash Student Support Services

RMIT University -
RMIT Student Support Services

Swinburne University -
Swinburne Student Support Services

University of Melbourne -
Melbourne Student Support Services

Victoria University -
Victoria Student Support Services
Swinburne University offers a **maths bridging program** called **MathsLink**.

**MathsLink: Methods** is a bridging program for students needing VCE Units 3 and 4 of Mathematical Methods to study at Swinburne.

Mathematical Methods is a prerequisite for many bachelor degrees in **aviation**, **engineering**, and **information and communication technology**. This bridging program is designed to help students who have not studied Mathematical Methods as part of their VCE to meet the prerequisite for entry into their chosen course.

**MathsLink: Methods** is taught predominantly online, however there are three day sessions that students must attend during Summer Term, plus a Test Session:

- Tuesday, 7 January 2020, 9:30am - 3:30pm
- Tuesday, 21 January 2020, 9:30am - 3:30pm
- Tuesday, 11 February 2020, 9:30am - 3:30pm
- Monday, 17 February 2020, 9:30am - 12:30pm (test session)

**MathsLink: Methods** incurs a one-off $400 fee**, payable within the time frame as specified in the Swinburne University of Technology Academic Dates.

** refunded as a credit to a course at Swinburne**

On successful completion of this course, students will be eligible to make a direct application to Swinburne University for entry in 2020.

Applications for **MathsLink: Methods** close Friday 20 December 2019.

Find out more at [Maths Link Bridging Program: Methods](#)
VCE Extension Studies in 2020

**Deakin University – Deakin Accelerate**

*Deakin Accelerate* is a distinctive VCE higher education program that allows students to study two first-year university subjects during Year 12. Studying one subject per trimester, this selective program gives students a head-start into university studies and also provides a potential boost to their all-important ATAR score. Besides the challenge of taking on a university subject, this subject will also count as part of the VCE and contribute towards the ATAR as the fifth or sixth subject. There are no tuition fees for Deakin Accelerate.

Find out more, including the subjects on offer, at [Deakin Accelerate](#)

**La Trobe University - VCE Plus Program**

*VCE Plus* is an opportunity for high achieving Year 11 VCE students to complete a pair of first-year university subjects in their Year 12 and have them recognised as part of their VCE. Students enrolled in VCE Plus choose one subject per semester. *VCE Plus* is offered at all La Trobe campuses and subjects are delivered online, face-to-face, or a combination of both. There are fees associated with the VCE Plus Program.

Find out more, including the subjects on offer at [VCE Plus Program](#)

**RMIT University – VCE Extension**

RMIT’s *VCE Extension* allows Year 12 students to undertake university subjects while completing their VCE. These courses are VCAA-accredited towards VCE results and students may be eligible for credit in a related RMIT program. Students will get a taste of university life, they attend lectures and study on campus with full access to all the services and facilities enjoyed by RMIT students. *VCE Extension* subjects are taught at the City campus and are counted towards students VCE and provide a boost to their ATAR. RMIT charges no fees for RMIT Extension courses.

Find out more, including the subjects on offer, at [VCE Extension](#)

**University of Melbourne – Extension Program**

The *Extension Program* is an opportunity for high achieving Year 12 students to study a university subject whilst at school which counts towards their ATAR, as well as experience university life. The University of Melbourne does not charge any fees for participation in the Extension Program. However, some School Centres where an Extension subject is taught may charge a reasonable fee to cover teaching and administrative costs.

Find out more, including the subjects on offer, at [Extension Program](#)