



**ASPIRING
CONNECTED
UNLIMITED**

So much more

A culture of life-long learning

By studying at ACU, you'll join a diverse community of students with a range of beliefs, backgrounds and ages. In fact, more than half of our current student cohort are non-school leavers, meaning they have not come to university straight out of high school.



What is a non-school leaver?

You are considered a non-school leaver if it has been more than three years since you completed Year 12, or you are over the age of 21.

Acknowledgement of Country

We recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' deep spiritual connection to Country and thank them for their continued custodianship.

We acknowledge the importance of Indigenous knowledges and pay respect to the Traditional Custodians of the unceded lands and waterways where we work, learn and live.





Applying to ACU

We know that applying for a uni course can seem a bit confusing at times. So, we've broken it down into three easy steps.



1.

Choose the course you'd like to study, and check the entry requirements

Visit acu.edu.au/courses



2.

View our entry and pathway programs

Visit acu.edu.au/pathways



3.

For some ACU courses, you can apply directly to ACU – our course browser has your application options listed for each course. If you have to apply through a Tertiary Admissions Centre, you will apply based on which state you plan to study:

- UAC (NSW and ACT) at uac.edu.au
- QTAC (Qld) at qtac.edu.au
- VTAC (Vic) at vtac.edu.au

Increase your chances of receiving an offer by including a backup preference with lower entry requirements.



Fees and financial assistance

Fees shouldn't be a barrier to achieving your dreams. We've worked hard to make our fees simple and transparent, with a range of financial assistance options. Visit acu.edu.au/fees

There is also a range of generous government funding initiatives available for students looking to study at ACU.

acu.edu.au/government-funding-opportunities



Depending on your course, you can study online, on campus, or a mix of both.

acu.edu.au/apply

Embarking on a career change

There's a time in almost everyone's career when things don't seem quite right. Maybe you want to launch or advance your career by upskilling, or you feel the urge to pursue a path more aligned with your passion.

But how do you know if a career change is right for you? And what do you do next?

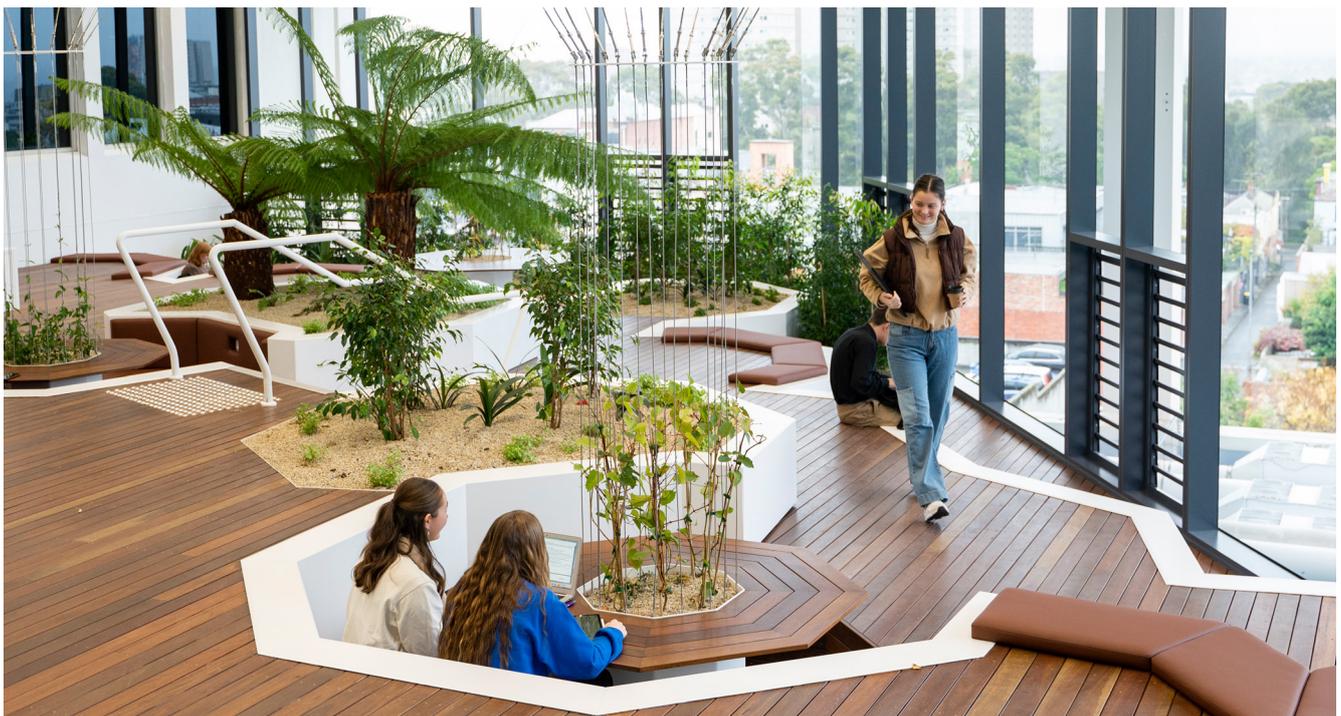
1 Is a career change an option?

Don't let fear of change make your decision for you. Career changes are more common than you may think. Job mobility makes a great deal of sense in today's world, where one graduate can expect to work in 18 jobs and go through six career changes in their lifetime.*

2 Is a career change for me?

Chieh Huang, an entrepreneur, identifies three things to consider while deciding if a career change is a good idea.

- 1. Are you still learning?** If you're not being given the opportunities to learn, or you simply don't have the care factor to get better at your job, it's time to consider moving on.
- 2. Trust your gut.** If you find yourself waking up in the morning with butterflies in your stomach at the thought of heading to work, there's a good chance your gut is trying to tell you something.
- 3. Pain shouldn't be a factor.** If the problem is short-term, like a boss or a colleague who you don't get along with, or a project that is causing you grief, that's probably not a good reason to change careers. All jobs have pain points.



*McCordle (2019), 'Gen Z and Gen Alpha Infographic Update'



3 Where do I want to go?

This is the big question. Once you've identified a career change is for you, you need to decide what career you want to change to.

Think about: What do you enjoy? What are you passionate about? What are you good at (or could learn to be good at)? And what do you want a career change to bring to your life?

There are a lot of reasons you may want a change. Maybe you want more money, more independence, more seniority, less stress, a better work/life balance or more purpose. There is no right or wrong choice, it all depends on where you want to go, and why you want to get there.

4 How do you get there?

There are a lot of paths you can take to a new career. You can apply for internships or mentorships, or just take a plunge and apply for jobs.

Most careers, however, require qualifications. Once you've identified your goal – look at what education paths are available to give you the skills and qualifications you need to succeed.

A university degree is an excellent way to learn new skills and gain qualifications vital to many roles.



Widening the path to uni

Everyone should have the opportunity to study at university. At ACU, we have initiatives to help students from a range of backgrounds and experiences gain access to uni and thrive during their studies.

Visit acu.edu.au/our-values to learn more.

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER STUDENT SUCCESS

We support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' university journey through entry programs, culturally safe spaces, academic support, scholarships and Away from Base programs.

ACCESS AND DISABILITY SERVICE

ACU is committed to fostering an inclusive learning environment. If you have a disability, are neurodivergent, have a temporary or ongoing medical or mental health condition, or carry significant carer responsibilities, our team can support you throughout your studies.

We'll work with you to create an Education Inclusion Plan (EIP), which outlines reasonable adjustments, such as flexibility with deadlines, extra time in exams, or the use of assistive technology. We also support the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower initiative and provide low-sensory spaces for when you need time out. Support is confidential, and you can access our services at any time during your studies.

ACU ALLY NETWORK

The ACU Ally Network is a visible network of staff who support our pastoral commitment to providing a safe, inclusive and respectful university environment for people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, gender diverse, intersex, queer and asexual (LGBTIQ+).

The network promotes understanding and awareness of LGBTIQ+ issues that affect staff and students.

ACU THRIVE

We are committed to your success and wellbeing from day one. That's why we've specifically designed your first year at ACU to ensure a smooth transition into university life, helping you build confidence and thrive academically, personally and socially. You'll be supported with both independent and collaborative learning, the opportunity to prepare for classes in advance, and receive real support from your teaching staff.

Our thoughtfully designed approach to university focuses on helping you grow without overwhelming you. You'll experience a blend of on campus and online learning, opportunities to assess your progress and seek support when needed, and interactive on-campus classes to connect with other students and make the most of your time on campus.

acu.edu.au/acu-thrive

WIDENING PARTICIPATION PROGRAMS

ACU is committed to increasing participation in higher education for students from under-represented groups. We are taking a whole-of-institution approach to reduce systemic barriers and deliver targeted initiatives for students from regional and remote areas, low socioeconomic backgrounds, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

THE CLEMENTE AUSTRALIA PROGRAM

The Clemente Program provides access to university for people aged over 18 who have experienced barriers or disruptions in their lives. Within small, collaborative learning groups, Clemente students work towards a Certificate of Liberal Arts. The course aims to provide space and support for students to rediscover their passion for learning, hone critical thinking, communication and study skills, and strengthen their confidence to re-imagine future possibilities such as further university studies, a desired job or other opportunities.

STUDENT VETERAN SERVICES

Empowering Defence connected students to lead successful and rewarding lives after military service is a mission-aligned priority for ACU. We support the continuing education of current serving and former-serving Australian Defence Force members by offering programs and services to help them achieve their educational and vocational ambitions.

We also work with industry partners and government to undertake research focused on improving outcomes for all Defence connected students. Through these activities, ACU has become recognised as the Australian university that is committed to serving those who have served.

A culture of support and excellence



IN AUSTRALIA

1st RESEARCH QUALITY

Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2025



1st EMPLOYERS' OVERALL SATISFACTION

Employer Satisfaction Survey 2024



95% GRADUATES EMPLOYED

Graduate Outcomes Survey - Longitudinal 2024, overall employment for domestic undergraduate students and domestic postgraduate coursework students in the labour force

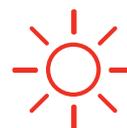


No. 1 ENERGY EFFICIENT UNIVERSITY

Tertiary Education Facilities Management Association Annual Survey 2023



100% POWERED BY RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY ON AUSTRALIAN CAMPUSES



IN THE WORLD

6th GOOD HEALTH AND WELLBEING

SDG 3, Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2025



Top 10 CATHOLIC UNIVERSITIES

Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2026, ranked IFCU members



17th RESEARCH QUALITY

Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2026



Gaining entry to your course

There are many ways you can be assessed for entry to a course at ACU. While each applicant is unique, and your selection rank can be calculated from a variety of factors, below are some of our common admission pathways and entry programs.

ADMISSION PATHWAYS	
Year 12 results	<p>Even if you completed Year 12 many years ago, your results will still be valid and can be used to calculate your selection rank. In fact, Year 12 results are valid indefinitely.</p> <p>Whether this result is considered for an offer to a course will depend on whether you have additional qualifications (including other recognised qualifications completed while at school or after school).</p> <p>acu.edu.au/undergraduate-entry-requirements</p>
Vocational Education and Training (VET)	<p>Your vocational education and training (VET) studies could offer a pathway into ACU. We recognise a range of VET qualifications, including Certificate III, Certificate IV, diplomas and advanced diplomas, which may provide entry to an undergraduate degree. Plus, we have partnership agreements with some TAFE and other VET providers which may give you a guaranteed pathway and/or credit towards your degree. Visit our website to find out more.</p> <p>acu.edu.au/vet</p>
Previous higher education	<p>If you have completed a minimum of two units at another recognised higher education provider, these studies can be used as part of your application to study with us.</p> <p>You will be assigned a selection rank based on this previous study level, duration and your grade point average (GPA). Your selection rank is applied during the admission process. You don't need to fill out any additional forms with us – you simply need to apply via a TAC or directly with ACU.</p> <p>acu.edu.au/undergraduate-entry-requirements</p>
Skills for Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT)	<p>If you are 21 years or older and have no formal education qualification, you should consider sitting the Skills for Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT).</p> <p>The STAT is an aptitude test that helps applicants demonstrate their potential for tertiary study. The test can be a multiple choice test or a written English test, but please note ACU accepts only the multiple choice test results.</p> <p>The test is widely accepted and used by many Australian institutions and a STAT result may improve your chances of selection for your course. Please note: the STAT is only run on specific dates. Please check the schedule to ensure you get your results in time to apply.</p> <p>acu.edu.au/stat</p>
Pathway programs	<p>These include courses such as diplomas and certificates, and can help you into a bachelor's degree when you don't meet the admission requirements. By completing one of our pathway programs in a field similar to the degree you'd like to study at ACU, you may be able to apply for a Commonwealth supported place (CSP), and gain credit towards your ACU degree. For example, our pathway diplomas will allow you to go straight into the second year of the relevant undergraduate degree.</p> <p>acu.edu.au/pathways</p>
Work and life experience	<p>Your work and life experience can help you gain entry to a university course. To be eligible for a selection rank based on your employment history, you must have been in paid employment for a minimum of six months full-time (or equivalent). This might be continuous employment with one employer, or periods of employment doing the same job with different employers.</p> <p>You will need to provide a statement of service from your employer about the role performed and the length of time you have been employed. If you were self-employed or had periods of self-employment, you must provide a statement from your accountant, solicitor or tax agent confirming the role performed and the duration you were self-employed in this role.</p> <p>acu.edu.au/work-and-life-experience-pathway</p>

<p>Foundation Studies</p>	<p>The Foundation Studies Program is your pathway to an undergraduate degree at ACU if you don't have a recognised Year 12 qualification. The program builds your academic skills, confidence and readiness for university study.</p> <p>Whether you study online or on campus, you'll receive personalised support and all necessary resources – including textbooks, lab equipment, and access to ACU systems and facilities.</p> <p>The curriculum covers English and academic skills, mathematics, science, humanities, law and business. You'll gain familiarity with university expectations and build meaningful connections within the ACU student community.</p> <p>The program is offered as accelerated (one semester) or full (two semesters), depending on your prior education. Study options include on campus (Blacktown or Melbourne), fully online or a mix of both. Completion guarantees entry into most ACU undergraduate degrees, provided you meet the entry requirements.</p> <p>acu.edu.au/fs</p>
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ENTRY PROGRAMS

<p>Veteran Entry Program (VEP)</p>	<p>If you are a current or former member of the Australian Defence Force (ADF), or a family member of ADF personnel, you may be eligible for ACU's Veteran Entry Program (VEP). We'll assess your service in the military and convert it to a selection rank, so you can gain entry to an ACU program. You may also be eligible for credit towards your university degree through our recognition of prior learning program. Spouse, partners and children of past and present ADF personnel can apply for the VEP family pathway in recognition of the sacrifices you have made to support your loved one's service.</p> <p>acu.edu.au/veterans</p>
<p>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Admission Process</p>	<p>As an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, you may be eligible to apply for entry to ACU through our specialised admission process, which considers more than just your ATAR. This process involves meeting with a member of an Indigenous Higher Education Unit and a faculty representative to evaluate your potential based on your previous studies, life experiences, and achievements. Most course applications are submitted through the relevant state Tertiary Admissions Centre (UAC, QTAC, or VTAC). For more information, please contact the Indigenous Higher Education Units.</p> <p>acu.edu.au/atsi</p>
<p>Elite Athlete and Performer Program (EAPP)</p>	<p>As an elite athlete or performer, you're always reaching for the top. And we'll help you get there. The Elite Athlete and Performer Program (EAPP) is designed to help you balance elite sporting and performance commitments with your studies and university life. Program benefits include access to priority allocation status for preferential class selection, flexible study options, academic support, financial scholarships, representative subsidies and gym access on eligible campuses. EAPP eligible students also qualify for course entry assistance to study at ACU. Learn more about the EAPP and apply on our website.</p> <p>acu.edu.au/eapp</p>

WHAT IS A SELECTION RANK?

Your selection rank is essentially an entry score – it is calculated by TACs (QTAC, UAC or VTAC) and used to determine if you are eligible for entry to an undergraduate degree. For example, if you have an ATAR or OP from Year 12 studies, your selection rank will be your ATAR/OP combined with any adjustment factors you are eligible for. VET courses, work experience and STAT tests can also be used to calculate a selection rank. Most universities will assess you for entry to a course based on your selection rank.

Please note, Year 12 students no longer graduate with OPs in Queensland, but with ATARs – so most documents now only list ATAR requirements.

If you have an OP, you can find OP to ATAR conversion tables on QTAC's website. If you need more help, contact AskACU.

acu.edu.au/askacu



Recognition of prior learning (RPL)

If you have already studied at university level or have significant relevant work experience, you might be eligible to have your prior learning recognised.

Prior learning may include:

- formal learning undertaken at an accredited education provider that leads towards a formal qualification
- non-formal learning that takes place through a structured program but does not lead to an officially accredited qualification
- informal learning gained through work, social, family, hobby or leisure activities.

Prior learning can be considered when you are applying for a place in a course. Or you may be able to apply for credit towards your ACU degree. Credited units replace units you would otherwise study, so you can finish your course sooner.

acu.edu.au/priorlearning

Life at ACU

**Find your place
in a place that cares.**

Your wellbeing is our biggest priority. And we know the support of a caring community will help you achieve your best.

At ACU, you'll join a vibrant campus community, make friends for life, and have the support you need to thrive during, and after, your studies.



Get involved



ORIENTATION

Before you start classes, make sure you head to your campus orientation. Get a feel for uni life, join your campus student association, take a campus tour, join some clubs, meet your peers, talk to your course coordinators, eat lots of free food, listen to bands, and generally get a feel for where you'll be enjoying the next few years.

orientation.acu.edu.au



STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Our student associations are run by students, for students, and provide services, activities and representation for you. Each campus has its own student association including First Peoples, postgraduate and international representatives. Involvement in student associations – whether as a member or as a member of the executives, councils and committees – provides great opportunities for leadership development, networking and friendships that will last a lifetime.

acu.edu.au/student-association



STUDENT LIFE

Our weekly on-campus and online activities will help you stay connected, supported and inspired outside of the classroom. Have fun, try something new or join our Student Life team on adventures such as picnics, BBQs, trivia nights, trips to the footy or camping trips.

acu.edu.au/student-life



CAMPUS MINISTRY

Our Campus Ministry teams work to bring the distinctive Catholic identity and mission of ACU to life. Offering a range of activities and services, our teams help build an inclusive student community, care for your pastoral needs and spiritual wellbeing, and encourage you to see the world in new and different ways.

campusministry.acu.edu.au



GIVE BACK WHILE GETTING AHEAD

At ACU, we want to equip you to thrive in an interconnected and changing world. While you're studying, you'll have opportunities to learn alongside local, national and global communities. Community engagement is a great way to grow personally and professionally, while helping to make the world a better place.

acu.edu.au/acuengagement



STUDENT ACCOMMODATION

Everything about our accommodation is designed to help you make the most of your university experience. Our Residential Life Program helps to create welcoming and enriching communities to ensure each resident feels included. Located near transport links, campuses and social centres, and providing 24/7 support, our residences allow students to find a healthy balance between their studies, fun and relaxation. We also offer a range of accommodation scholarships.

acu.edu.au/studentaccommodation



JOIN A CLUB

One of the best ways to make friends, learn skills and develop your leadership potential is by getting involved in clubs and societies. We have more than 60 clubs nationally for you to choose from: sport, culture, ethnicity, faith, social justice, faculty, professional, special interest and more. And if you can't find a club that suits your needs, you can start a new one.

acu.edu.au/clubs-activities-and-student-associations



SPORT AND FITNESS

Enjoy the many opportunities available on your campus to get active. Join a sport club or social sport program, represent ACU at UniSport and intervarsity events, take part in daily sport, health and wellbeing activities, watch live sport on campus, or play with your mates at our facilities. You can also join ACU Active, our facilitator of health, fitness and wellbeing programming, and access health clubs, group fitness classes and personal training services at on-campus gyms in North Sydney and Melbourne.

acusport.acu.edu.au



SPACE FOR ALL FAITHS

You don't need to be Catholic to study with us. Across our university, staff and students of all faiths – and of none – find a home at ACU. Our chapels and multifaith prayer rooms are for students and staff of all faiths, offering a quiet and welcoming space to pray or reflect.

acu.edu.au/all-faiths

Be supported



ACU THRIVE

Our first-year success model will smooth your transition into university life. It's thoughtfully designed to ensure you thrive not only in your studies, but also personally and socially. For more information, see page 19.

acu.edu.au/acu-thrive



ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER STUDENTS

Every campus has an Indigenous Higher Education Unit (IHEU) for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. Drop in to meet staff and other students, build connections, and access support whenever you need it. For more information, see page 16.

acu.edu.au/indigenoussupport



SAFETY

We want you to flourish on campus. That's why we're committed to making our university a place of safety and respect for all students and staff. Initiatives include our SafeZone app, which provides campus security at your fingertips.

acu.edu.au/student-safety



ELITE ATHLETE AND PERFORMER PROGRAM

We offer a range of academic and financial support to help elite athletes and performers balance their commitments with studies and uni life.

acu.edu.au/eapp



CAREER ADVICE

Enhancing your employability is our job. Access career advice, application and interview assistance, workshops and professional development. We'll also help you engage with employers, seek a student job on campus or develop your entrepreneurial skills.

acu.edu.au/careersupport



STUDENT ADVOCACY

We offer an information, advice and referral service to help you understand and navigate the university's policies, procedures and academic regulations. This service is free and confidential.

acu.edu.au/student-advocacy



ACADEMIC SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Build your academic skills and reach your potential with help from our academic skills development team. Take part in workshops, explore online resources or have a one-on-one consultation. Plus, first-year students can take part in PASS: free weekly peer-led study groups for units that students can find challenging.

acu.edu.au/academic-skills-development



DISABILITY AND CARER SUPPORT

If you have a disability, are neurodivergent, have a temporary or ongoing medical or mental health condition, or carry significant carer responsibilities, we're here to support you. Our advisors can work with you to create a plan that helps you manage your studies. We are also proud to support the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower initiative and offer low-sensory retreat spaces for students.

acu.edu.au/disability



FIRST YEAR STUDENT MENTORING

Starting university for the first time can be both exciting and overwhelming. With ACU's student mentoring program, you can begin your journey a step ahead. Our program is social, informative and accessible to all students.

As a first-year student, you'll be matched with a student mentor and can connect with your peers before classes begin and throughout your first semester. Together, you'll explore common challenges, discover tips for succeeding at uni, and become part of the ACU community.

One-on-one support is also available to help navigate university systems, answer questions and connect you to further help if needed.

acu.edu.au/connect2uni



COUNSELLING

We offer free and confidential counselling to students experiencing personal, mental health or general wellbeing concerns that are affecting their life or studies. Our counsellors provide a safe and supportive environment so that you can discuss these concerns and develop the tools you need to build resilience and achieve your goals.

acu.edu.au/counselling-services



MEDICAL SERVICES

We have medical centres on our Brisbane and Melbourne campuses. They offer comprehensive, high-quality healthcare services to students, staff and the local community. Bulk billing is available.

acu.edu.au/medical-centres



RENTAL ADVISORY SERVICE

Get help with any accommodation-related matters, including moving out of home for the first time and rental tips.

acu.edu.au/rentaladvisory



STUDENT VETERAN SUPPORT PROGRAM

If you're a current or former member of the Australian Defence Force, or you're in the reserves or Defence connected, we offer a range of support services and academic resources to help ease the transition into uni life.

acu.edu.au/svsp

Facing challenges and making changes

Author: Kristy Porter



Victoria Vartuli had always wanted to be a teacher, but it wasn't until the Covid-19 pandemic changed her circumstances that she took the plunge and followed her passion.

"I had a well-established career as a senior executive assistant, supporting C-suite executives," said Victoria.

"During the Covid-19 pandemic, my employer made changes and I took a redundancy. It was then I decided to take the plunge and follow my passion for education."

PURSUIING HER PASSION

Once she had decided to pursue teaching, Victoria still had to choose where to study. Taking the chance to access a new campus with state-of-the-art facilities, Victoria started her Bachelor of Education (Primary) at ACU's Blacktown Campus in 2021.

"I originally chose another university but, while considering embarking on a career change, I sought the advice of a well-regarded teacher at my children's school," she explained.

"They recommended I change my preference to ACU because of its great reputation in education and the fact students start practical teaching placements a lot sooner than in many other teaching degrees.

"I absolutely love studying at ACU. The university isn't as large as some others, which enables me to have better relationships with my lecturers and tutors. I can engage in meaningful conversation with them, knowing they know me by name and I'm not a random student number.

"The tutorial classes are a great size, enabling quality learning time and collaboration among peers and the benefits of a small tutor-to-student ratio. And ACU invests heavily in resources and facilities to ensure students get a quality education and first-rate experience."

SEEKING SUPPORT

Victoria jumped wholeheartedly into campus life and participated in a community engagement program with the



Your guide to professional experience placements

Many university degrees require that you gain work experience in a professional setting as part of your degree.

This professional experience – also known as a professional experience placement, professional practice placement or work-integrated learning – is any clinical, counselling, teaching or field practicum, or other assessable professional or practical experience unit, you'll complete during your studies. It will equip you with valuable hands-on knowledge and is highly valued by employers.

If your degree includes a practical component, here are answers to some commonly asked questions to help you better understand what to expect.

Solomon Islands – virtually, of course, given the lockdowns and international travel restrictions of the Covid era.

She has also taken advantage of the Academic Skills Unit, a team of educational experts on each campus who support students transitioning to university and throughout their degree.

“The Academic Skills team have been fantastic,” she said. “They facilitated the workshops that have really enabled me to transition back to education. I had been employed in a corporate environment for many years so having access to support for writing, referencing, study and exam preparation has been enormously beneficial.

“The academic and support staff have always been available and knowledgeable when I’ve needed some guidance on a particular topic or clarity about anything. The support for students is amazing and valuable in so many ways.”

But she said it hasn’t always been smooth sailing.

“Semester 2 was difficult. As a full-time uni student and mother of two children, I had to juggle home-schooling both my sons, who were in Year 1 and Year 2, during the day and then leave my own studies until the evening. The days were long and tiresome – and the nights were exhausting. Trying to juggle my children’s home-schooling timetables with that of my own was a mammoth task, but with organisation, determination, persistence and definitely resilience, we all made it to the other side successfully.”

And her advice for starting uni later in life?

“Don’t be afraid to put yourself out there and meet new people. The diversity of students from different backgrounds is amazing and everyone is there for the same reason: to get an education and have some fun along the way.”



READ THE FULL STORY ONLINE

[impact.acu.edu.au/future-student/
facing-challenges-and-making-changes](https://impact.acu.edu.au/future-student/facing-challenges-and-making-changes)

Finding out what fits

Author: Christina Sexton



The path to university isn’t always a straight one. And sometimes, it’s all for the best.

University wasn’t something Caitlin Meany thought much about during her senior high school years. Looking for a way into the Australian Public Service, Caitlin

completed a Certificate III in Business Administration while she was still at school and began working in a government office as part of an apprentice program.

She quickly found out that working in an office was not for her. Becoming a teacher had always been in the back of Caitlin’s mind and she decided to look into studying a Bachelor of Education at ACU.

“The advantage of completing my ASbA (Australian School-based Apprenticeship) was it became so much clearer to me about what I wanted out of my career,” she said. “I haven’t looked back once since starting my degree.”



READ THE FULL STORY ONLINE

[impact.acu.edu.au/future-student/
three-students-three-change-of-
preference-stories](https://impact.acu.edu.au/future-student/three-students-three-change-of-preference-stories)

1. CAN I COMPLETE THE PRACTICUM/S AT MY WORKPLACE?

No, you will do your professional experience with one or more of ACU’s partners. Our placement team source and allocate placements based on where you’re located.

2. CAN I MODIFY THE AMOUNT OF PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE I NEED TO DO?

To gain a qualification that includes practical components, you must complete all required practicums in accordance with the standards of the Australian Qualifications Framework.

3. CAN I COMPLETE ALL THE THEORY FIRST AND THEN COMPLETE MY PLACEMENT/S?

Placements must follow the structure outlined in your course handbook. This is important, as it allows you to apply newly acquired knowledge in real-world settings as you learn, helping you to develop practical skills and adapt effectively in the field.

4. WHEN DO PLACEMENTS START?

It depends on what you’re studying, but placements typically commence in the first or second years of your degree. Your course will be structured to ensure that academic coursework will prepare you for your placement/s.

5. WILL I RECEIVE RECOGNITION OF PRIOR WORK EXPERIENCE?

No, typically you won’t receive recognition of previous work experience for your practicum/s.

6. CAN I SOURCE MY OWN PLACEMENT?

ACU has a dedicated team that organises placements and sources opportunities for students within our partner industries. Once you receive an offer to do a placement, you may submit a request for consideration. This will be subject to approval by the course coordinator and the placement team.

7. WILL I GET PAID DURING MY PRACTICUM PLACEMENT?

If you are completing a nursing, midwifery, social work or teaching degree at a bachelor’s or master’s level and meet the eligibility criteria, you can apply for the Commonwealth Prac Payment (CPP). The CPP is government funding to help you support yourself during your placement period. If your application is approved, you will receive \$331.65 each week while you are on placement.

You will be required to pay your own way during other placements.

More information

We've created a dedicated space on our website for non-school leavers, featuring everything you need to know – plus inspiring stories from ACU students who joined us later in life.

acu.edu.au/nonschoolleaver

One-on-one consultations

Book a one-on-one consultation with us for an opportunity to discuss your study options and find out how to reach your career goals.

acu.edu.au/one-on-one-consultations

Join us at Open Day

Every year we throw open our doors and invite you to join us on campus. If you've got questions, we'll be waiting with the answers at Open Day.

openday.acu.edu.au

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