

WHAT'S NEXT FOR YEAR 12 STUDENTS?

October 2016

THINGS YOU STILL NEED TO THINK ABOUT:

SCHOLARSHIPS

PAYMENT

ATAR RELEASE

CHANGE OF PREFERENCE

OFFERS

WHERE TO GET HELP

This document is designed to help you navigate the VTAC process for gaining a place in a Victorian Uni. If you have other plans and would like help, please talk to Kylie Witt about these on an individual basis.

DISCLAIMER:

This document has been produced to provide you with an overview and understanding of what you still need to know once you leave NHS. It remains your responsibility to double-check everything with VTAC and the unis to make sure you have covered all the bases relevant to your situation. www.vtac.edu.au



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SCHOLARSHIPS

Did you remember the La Trobe Vice Chancellor's Scholarship?

Applications were due:

October 10

It's not too late for VTAC scholarships

October 14

**If you applied for SEAS,
you should be applying for scholarships!**

DON'T FORGET TO PAY!

You need to pay VTAC if you want an offer from a uni in Victoria!

Payment due December 13 (international)

Payment due December 19 (local)



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ATAR RELEASE

You will have access to your ATAR on December 12.

- Via your VTAC account
- Via email
- Via SMS (if you registered for this service on the VTAC site)

What to do on December 12 (everyone)

- ☐ Check your ATAR
- ☐ Check your study scores and check that you have met any prerequisite scores for your preferences. If not, you will not be made an offer for those courses.
- ☐ Check whether you met all the other prerequisites for your listed preferences.
- ☐ Compare your ATAR to the 2016 “Clearly In” scores for your preferences.
- ☐ Make an educated guess as to how likely you are to get in.
- ☐ Do NOT make major changes or wild guesses about this without seeking advice – some ATARs went up or down 10 points in 2016.
- ☐ Always leave your dream course at #1 if it’s still what you want most.
- ☐ Add some pathway options if it doesn’t look like you are close enough to your goal!
- ☐ **Email or ring Ms Witt if you need help with the following:**
 - Interpreting your ATAR in relation to your preferences
 - Working out what your options are
 - Changing your preferences to make them more realistic.

Special note for International Students

**You have a much shorter Change of Preference turnaround.
Your deadline is December 15 – 4.00pm, AUSTRALIAN TIME!**

- ☐ Make sure you access your ATAR as soon as possible, as many of you will be a few hours behind Australia.
- ☐ Go through the same steps as local students – see above.
- ☐ Seek help from Ms Witt immediately if you are worried about getting into your course!

Ring +613 9488 2301 or email witt.kylie.i@edumail.vic.gov.au



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CHANGE OF PREFERENCE

You are already in the zone called “Change of Preference”.

This means you can change your preferences as many times as you like until the final deadline.

Change of Preference closes:

- **For international students** **December 15, 4.00pm**
- **For local students** **December 20, 12.00pm**

The VTAC site will shut down for three weeks during November, so don't be alarmed if it looks like things aren't working. Just try again after November 23.

What to do from December 12 – December 19

International students (Dec 12-15)

All the tertiary institutions run “Change of Preference” events during this week.

Many of them are on December 13.

Download the list of events from myNHS or the e-newsletter (Oct 11)

- ☐ Think about which uni you REALLY want to go to
- ☐ Attend their COP events
- ☐ Sign up for their help sessions
- ☐ If you need assistance, come to school and talk to Kylie Witt – please make an appointment

Still having trouble deciding?

- ☐ Talk to the unis
- ☐ Email or visit Ms Witt if you need help
- ☐ Make your decision
- ☐ Make any appropriate changes to your preferences.
- ☐ PAY if you haven't done so yet!

Rolling Change of Preference (COP)

Change of Preference opens again the day after each offer round. You can move preferences to the top of your list and add new ones before each new round in the hope of being made additional offers. There will be five rounds in total.



UNDERSTAND YOUR PREFERENCE RANK

Do you understand the implications of the ranking you chose?

Here's a little example to get you thinking. Let's pretend these are your preferences.

	Course	Uni	Last year's Clearly In
1	Bachelor of XYZ	Uni A	72
2	Diploma of XYZ	Uni A	NA
3	Diploma of XYZ	Pathway College to Uni B	NA
4	Bachelor of XYZ	Uni B	65
5	Associate Degree of XYZ	Uni B	50
6	Bachelor of ABC (with folio)	Uni B	RC

Using this example - a few scenarios to ponder:

- If you get an ATAR of 80+, you are laughing, you will probably get your first preference. But you have covered your bases with a safe pathway bet at preference 2 as well, so you should be OK.
- If you get an ATAR of 64, it is highly likely you will get offered the Diploma in XYZ at Uni A, even though you probably qualified easily for the Associate Degree at Uni B, which is a higher level of qualification. This is good if you are keener on the institution than the qualification, but it would have been worth considering putting all the Bachelor/Associate wishes higher up if course content is more important to you than the institution.
- What about Preference 6? Did you submit a folio by the due date? If so, and if it was impressive, it's also possible that an ATAR of 64 would have got you over the line for this course.
- Have a look at Preferences 3 and 4 – why did you put the Diploma above the Bachelor? Doing this will almost guarantee that you get offered the Diploma if your marks are good enough (anyone with an ATAR over 50 is a good chance to get into a Diploma course with no ATAR requirement). So, if you have chosen the Diploma because you want it more than the Bachelor, that's good. If you were hoping to get into the Bachelor first go, swap them around. With an ATAR of 64, there's a good chance you'll get in if the Clearly-In is 65.

Remember:

When we talk about ATARs, we are only speculating on the basis of past results. We don't know this year's ATARs until the process is over. **Never cross a dream course off your list – just be sure to have a Plan B.**



HOW CHANGE OF PREFERENCE WORKS

SCENARIO: Let's say you get offered your third preference in Round 1 (see diagram below)

1. ACCEPT IT!

You do this by following the instructions in your offer email.

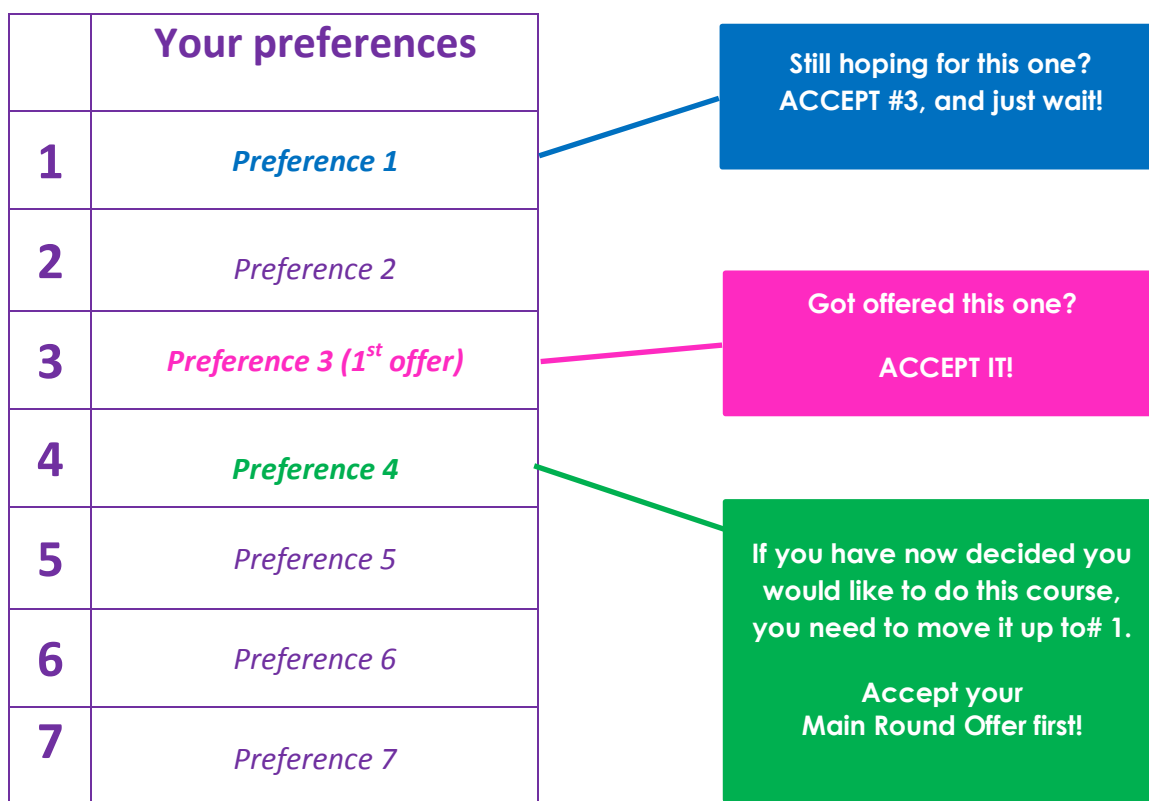
2. THEN think about whether that is still your first choice.

If it is, accept and celebrate.

If not, think about what happens next.

Things you need to know:

- You only get offered ONE course – the highest one on your list for which you qualify.
- You can be offered preferences higher up the list than your first offer in subsequent offers. So, in this example, if you are still hoping for Preference 1 or 2, you accept #3 and just wait.
- If you would now prefer something **lower** on your list, or would like to do something completely different that is not on your original list, you need to change your preferences. After accepting your first offer, move it down the list, and make your new dream course Preference #1



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OFFERS

There will be up to five rounds of offers, but most offers are made in the first or “Main Round”. Do not rely on getting anything in subsequent rounds. In 2016, VTAC made about 80,000 Main Round offers and only 6,000 Round 2 offers. Numbers drop even more in subsequent rounds.

Main Round Offers

- **Early Round for International students** **December 19, 2016**
- **Main Round, International students** **January 9, 2017**
- **Main Round, local students** **January 18, 2017**

What to do with your offer:

- To **accept** an offer, follow the instructions in the offer advice to enrol at the institution.
 - No separate acceptance notification to VTAC is needed.
- To **defer** an offer, contact the institution.
 - Not all courses allow deferment.
- To **reject** an offer, take no action.
 - The offer will automatically lapse if you have not enrolled by the deadline

Further Offer Rounds

You can change preferences between each offer round as follows:

Round	COP closes (4pm)	Offer release
International Early Round	15 December 2016	19 December 2016
International Round 1	15 December 2016 (same as early round)	9 January 2017
Round 1	20 December 2016 (12pm)	18 January 2017
Round 2	31 January 2017	7 February 2017
Round 3 & 4	9 February 2017 16 February, 2017	Not published



WHAT TO DO ON JANUARY 18, 2017

(International Students – January 9, 2017)

If you get an offer:

- ☐ **ACCEPT IT!**
- ☐ Then think about whether that's still your top choice.
- ☐ Go through the Change of Preference process outlined on the previous page to try for additional offers.

If you don't get an offer:

- ☐ Check to see if you still have choices on your preference list that are realistic.
- ☐ You can just wait and hope that you will get an offer in Round 2 or later.
- ☐ Or you can seek help to try and enter new preferences that might give you a better of getting an offer.

Either way:

- ☐ Read VTAC's advice on offers
- ☐ Talk to Kylie Witt if you need help – she will be back at work on January 18.
- ☐ Ring, email or make an appointment to make sure she's actually at her desk!

GOOD LUCK!
&
DON'T BE SHY IF YOU NEED HELP 😊

Contact Kylie Witt

At school: Until December 19, 2017
 From January 18, 2017

By email: Until December 20, 2017 (12.00 noon)
 For international students – also January 9-11, 2017 for your Round 1 offers.
 For all students - from January 18, 2017

Phone +613 9488 2301 or email witt.kylie.i@edumail.vic.gov.au

If in doubt, always contact VTAC direct! 1300 364 133