

# BGGGS Careers Newsletter

## Issue 7

### Table of Contents

<b>INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>FUTURE EVENTS .....</b>	<b>3</b>
June 11: Unlock Your Career with IT	
July 19-20: Brisbane Tertiary Studies and Careers Expo 2025	
July 21: BGGGS Interstate Uni Expo	
July 21: QTAC Information Evening for BGGGS Year 12 Families	
July 26: Open Day 2025	
July 26: QPS Open Day, Brisbane	
July 27: Open Day 2025	
August 3: Open Day 2025, St Lucia	
August 3: Open Day 2025, Sunshine Coast	
August 9: Open Day 2025, Ipswich	
August 9: Open Day 2025, Springfield	
August 10: Open Day 2025	
August 16: Open Day 2025, Brisbane	
August 17: Open Day 2025, Gatton	
August 24: Open Day 2025, Gold Coast	
September 22 – October 2: Year 12 Academic Bootcamps	
Jan 6 2026: National Youth Science Forum Year 12 Program	
<b>SCHOLARSHIPS.....</b>	<b>8</b>
Melbourne Chancellor's Scholarship	
AIQS Donald Napier Scholarships for Year 12 Students	
<b>COMPETITIONS .....</b>	<b>8</b>
2025 Newcastle Future Entrepreneurs Challenge	
Enterprising Girl of the Year 2025	
<b>UNDERSTANDING ATAR.....</b>	<b>9</b>
Understanding the ATAR – Common questions answered	
<b>PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY, STUDY TIPS .....</b>	<b>11</b>
Learning your way: Study tips for diverse learners in high school	
<b>JOB SPOTLIGHT .....</b>	<b>15</b>

© 2025 Study Work Grow. Member Schools are licensed to use this content within their school community, including in newsletters, social media, websites, virtual notice boards, and print.

## How to become a Genetic Counsellor

## Introduction

Please remember to visit the Tertiary Pathways page of Minerva to explore the range of resources. You can see the [Career Events and Reminders Calendar](#) as well as a range of information related to [universities](#) and [study areas](#).

Year 9 students had their first official Tertiary Pathways lesson this week where they were introduced to the process of career decision making as well as career clusters. Please see the [Year 9 page on Minerva](#) to see the presentation and link to the Career Cluster Quiz. We hope that this will give our Year 9s a valuable framework as they start to consider subjects for next year.

## Future Events

### June 11: Unlock Your Career with IT

**Organisation:** Queensland University of Technology

**Location:** Online 6.00pm

**Date:** June 11, 2025

QUT offers a great opportunity through a webinar for students, parents and teachers to understand the world of IT, the career opportunities, insights into what a day-in-the-life of IT professionals looks like, and QUT's IT courses, such as the Bachelor of Information Technology and postgraduate degrees.

The webinar will bring together a panel of industry leaders, academic experts, and QUT graduates to share insights about IT trends and the diverse career and study options.

[Find out more and register](#)

### July 19-20: Brisbane Tertiary Studies and Careers Expo 2025

**Organisation:** CareersEvent.com

**Location:** Brisbane Showgrounds

**Date:** July 19 to July 20, 2025

The Brisbane Careers Expo (TSXPO) is Queensland's largest and longest-running career fair, connecting students, graduates, and job seekers with top universities, training institutions, and employers. Whether you're exploring tertiary studies, looking for employment opportunities, or seeking career advice, this careers event is your gateway to success.

The Brisbane Careers Expo is your ultimate gateway to:

- Latest Career Opportunities: Connect with 100+ employers, universities, and training providers.
- Tertiary Studies Expo: Compare courses, scholarships, and pathways with leading institutions.
- Expert Guidance: Attend seminars on career paths and emerging industries.
- Real Student Insights: Chat with current undergraduates about courses, workloads, and campus life.

[Find out more and register](#)

### July 21: BGGS Interstate Uni Expo

**Organisation:** BGGS

**Location:** BGGS LMR

**Date:** July 21 3.30pm – 4.45pm

© 2025 Study Work Grow. Member Schools are licensed to use this content within their school community, including in newsletters, social media, websites, virtual notice boards, and print.

A selection of universities and residential colleges from all over Australia will be available for students and parents to speak to in an expo in the Louise McDonald Room, BGGs. Students and parents from all year levels are welcome. No registration is required.

### **July 21: QTAC Information Evening for BGGs Year 12 Families**

**Organisation:** BGGs

**Location:** BGGs Gehrmann Theatre

**Date:** July 21 5.00pm – 6.00pm

Year 12 families are invited to the Gehrmann Theatre to hear about the process of applying for university, including eligibility and merit, responding to offers, pathway options, applying for EAS and more. Invitations have been emailed with registration details.

### **July 26: Open Day 2025**

**Organisation:** Bond University

**Location:** Bond Gold Coast Campus

**Date:** July 26, 2025

Open Day is the perfect way to learn more about everything a university has to offer – whether that's done through meeting students and academics, roaming our beautiful campus, or even testing out our facilities.

[Find out more and register](#)

### **July 26: QPS Open Day, Brisbane**

**Organisation:** Queensland Police Service

**Location:** Bob Atkinson Operational Capabilities Centre

**Date:** July 26, 2025

Are you looking for a challenging and rewarding career? Join us on July 26, at our QPS Open Day to learn all about a career with the Queensland Police Service.

Take this rare opportunity to check out our state-of-the-art training facilities and chat with our specialist units like the Dog Squad, Road Policing Command, Dive Squad, Mounted Unit, Stock Squad, PolAir and many many more.

Policing can be a lifelong career with many different pathways, so take your time touring our training facility, driver training track and firearms range, and drop in to an information session throughout the day where you can ask questions about your future career.

[Find out more and register](#)

### **July 27: Open Day 2025**

**Organisation:** Queensland University of Technology

**Location:** QUT Gardens Point & Kelvin Grove Campuses

**Date:** July 27, 2025

Discover the real QUT — with behind-the-scenes tours, study area advice, talks with students and academics, and the chance to explore campus life and opportunities outside the classroom.

[Find out more and register](#)

### **August 3: Open Day 2025, St Lucia**

**Organisation:** University of Queensland

**Location:** UQ St Lucia Campus

**Date:** August 3, 2025

We can't wait to welcome you to Open Day at UQ's St Lucia campus in Brisbane. Explore your interests and study options, immerse yourself in university life and get answers to all your questions.

What to expect:

- Attend sessions to uncover your study area of interest and find out more about the degrees we offer.
- Enter a competition, grab some freebies, listen to live music, get hands-on in a workshop or come on a tour.
- Get to know UQ. Ask current students and teachers all your questions and find out about student life.

[Find out more and register](#)

### August 3: Open Day 2025, Sunshine Coast

**Organisation:** University of the Sunshine Coast

**Location:** UniSC Sunshine Coast Campus

**Date:** August 3, 2025

UniSC Open Day is all about welcoming community and future students on to campus to check out UniSC's program offerings, meet staff and explore UniSC's world class teaching and learning facilities.

[Find out more and register](#)

### August 9: Open Day 2025, Ipswich

**Organisation:** University of Southern Queensland

**Location:** UniSQ Ipswich Campus

**Date:** August 9, 2025

Open Day is the best way to get a feel for the campus, learn more about your study options, student clubs, sports teams, events, as well as finding out what it's really like to study at UniSQ.

- Take a tour around campus and discover our state of the art facilities. Plus, don't forget to explore our indoor rainforest located in our Library.
- Chat one-on-one with lecturers and current students and learn about the opportunities included in your degree.
- Test your skills as a nurse or paramedic in our nursing wards and emergency training labs, including a simulated ambulance and birthing suite.
- Step into the shoes of a law student, in our modern court room.
- Explore our state-of-the-art simulated learning experiences in our Skillshare simulation studios for social work and human services.
- Learn how to be a change agent with our psychology experts.
- Get a one-on-one career counselling session to help plan your future. It's free but places are limited so make sure to get there early to secure your spot.
- Sit back and relax to live music while you enjoy lunch from our food trucks.

[Find out more and register](#)

### August 9: Open Day 2025, Springfield

**Organisation:** University of Southern Queensland

**Location:** UniSQ Springfield Campus

**Date:** August 9, 2025

Open Day is the best way to get a feel for the campus, learn more about your study options, student clubs, sports teams, events, as well as finding out what it's really like to study at UniSQ.

- Chat one-on-one with lecturers and students and learn about the opportunities included in your degree.
- Get ready for take-off. Be immersed in live demonstrations of our flight simulator. You could even fly the simulator yourself - make sure you arrive early as there are limited spots.
- Tour our multi-million dollar engineering lab.
- Get up close with some of Australia's most unique wildlife with our wildlife and environmental science experts.
- Go behind the scenes and uncover how a live television show is produced or be a part of a live radio program in the studio.
- Heard of the new work order? Learn more with our Business Head of School and find out how we're preparing graduates for the future of business.
- Get a one-on-one career counselling session to help plan your future. It's free but places are limited so make sure to get there early to secure your spot.
- Sit back and relax to live music while you enjoy lunch from our food trucks.

[Find out more and register](#)

### August 10: Open Day 2025

**Organisation:** Griffith University

**Location:** Griffith Nathan & Gold Coast Campuses

**Date:** August 10, 2025

Spanning across Brisbane South (Nathan) and Gold Coast campuses, Open Day will showcase our world-class facilities, unique student life, and give you direct access to students and academics.

[Find out more and register](#)

### August 16: Open Day 2025, Brisbane

**Organisation:** SAE University College

**Location:** SAE Brisbane Campus

**Date:** August 16, 2025

We're opening the doors to the campus for our biggest event of the year – Open Day!

Come and tour our facilities, speak to faculty members, meet current students, and find out everything you need to know about studying at SAE.

If you're considering studying creative media, come along to SAE's Open Day to speak to our experienced team and learn how you can pursue your passion in this dynamic and expanding industry.

[Find out more and register](#)

### August 17: Open Day 2025, Gatton

**Organisation:** University of Queensland

**Location:** UQ Gatton Campus

**Date:** August 17, 2025

Discover your passion for agricultural studies and animal sciences at UQ Gatton Open Day. Explore the heritage-listed campus and world-class facilities.

What to expect:

- Attend sessions to uncover your study area of interest and find out more about the degrees we offer.

- Enter a competition, grab some freebies, listen to live music, get hands-on in a workshop or come on a tour.
- Get to know UQ. Ask current students and teachers all your questions and find out about student life.

[Find out more and register](#)

### August 24: Open Day 2025, Gold Coast

**Organisation:** Southern Cross University

**Location:** SCU Gold Coast Campus

**Date:** August 24, 2025

Open Day at Southern Cross University is a perfect opportunity to discover which courses spark your interest and the campus or study mode that works best for you.

Our friendly study specialists will be on hand to step you through the process of applying for your dream course and answer any questions you have about studying with us.

[Find out more and register](#)

### September 22 – October 2: Year 12 Academic Bootcamps

**Organisation:** Griffith University

**Location:** Griffith Gold Coast & Logan Campuses

**Date:** September 22 to October 2, 2025

Griffith's Academic Bootcamps are highly effective four-day courses run in the September school holidays, designed to help Year 12 students achieve their full academic potential in their final external exams. They aim to improve confidence and understanding in senior science and maths subject areas, reducing anxiety around assessment and preparing students for future tertiary study.

**Week one: 22 - 25 September 2025**

- General Maths
- Maths Methods

**Week two: 29 Sept - 2 Oct 2025**

- Chemistry
- Physics
- Biology
- Psychology

The 2025 Bootcamps will be held on campus at Griffith University Gold Coast and Logan during the September school holidays.

[Find out more and register](#)

### Jan 6 2026: National Youth Science Forum Year 12 Program

**Organisation:** National Youth Science Forum

**Location:** ANU Acton Campus & UQ St Lucia Campus

**Date:** January 6 to January 21, 2026

Are you in Year 11 in 2025? Apply now to join us in January!

The National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) Year 12 Program gives students that are about to start Year 12 a broader understanding of study and career options available in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

Staying on campus at university colleges, students are immersed in science and technology.

Participants:

- participate in tours of science and technology facilities,
- learn about cutting-edge research,

© 2025 Study Work Grow. Member Schools are licensed to use this content within their school community, including in newsletters, social media, websites, virtual notice boards, and print.

- engage with industry partners and research providers,
- learn about university, training and STEM career pathways,
- mix with like-minded students their age from all over Australia,
- participate in social and team building activities, and
- network with former NYSF participants.

In January 2026, the NYSF Year 12 Program will run two summer sessions at:

- The Australian National University, Canberra (6 – 14 January 2026)
- The University of Queensland, Brisbane (13 – 21 January 2026)

As part of the application process, any students experiencing financial hardship or another disadvantage that negatively impacts their ability to attend the program may apply for an [NYSF Access and Equity Scholarship](#).

We also encourage students to seek financial support from NYSF's founding partner, Rotary. Many Rotary Clubs are familiar with the NYSF and able to offer some level of funding or assist students to fundraise to attend. You can use the [Rotary Club Finder](#) to search for your local Club.

**Applications close 20 June 2025. You will be advised of the outcome of your application by mid-August.**

[Find out more and register](#)

## Scholarships

### Melbourne Chancellor's Scholarship

**Organisation:** University of Melbourne

**Location:** Australia

**Value:** Up to \$32,500 AUD

**Open Date:** July 28, 2025

**Close Date:** January 13, 2026

[Find out more](#)

### AIQS Donald Napier Scholarships for Year 12 Students

**Organisation:** AIQS

**Location:** Australia

**Value:** \$5,000

**Open Date:** May 1, 2025

**Close Date:** October 1, 2026

[Find out more](#)

## Competitions

### 2025 Newcastle Future Entrepreneurs Challenge

**Organisation:** University of Newcastle

**Location:** Australia

**Value:** \$2,000 AUD

**Open Date:** May 5, 2025

**Close Date:** August 22, 2025

[Find out more](#)



## Enterprising Girl of the Year 2025

**Organisation:** Academy for Enterprising Girls

**Location:** Australia

**Value:** See details

**Open Date:** May 23, 2025

**Close Date:** October 10, 2025

[Find out more](#)

## Understanding ATAR

### [Understanding the ATAR – Common questions answered](#)

If you're not entirely sure how the ATAR system works, why you might need one, and how they're calculated, you're definitely not alone. The Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (or ATAR) can seem confusing at first, but once you understand the basics, it all starts to make sense. Here are some of the most common questions answered and misconceptions about the ATAR busted.

#### **What is an ATAR?**

Your ATAR is a number between 0 and 99.95 that represents your overall academic achievement at high school compared to the rest of your cohort.

Here's the important bit: it *isn't* a "score" or a "mark", and it doesn't reflect your individual achievements in isolation - which is important to remember. Instead, it shows where you sit compared to everyone else who completed Year 12 in your state or territory.

#### **Can you receive an ATAR of 100?**

Nobody can receive an ATAR of 100, and that's because the ATAR is a rank (not a percentage or mark), measured in increments of 0.05.

The highest ATAR you could get is 99.95 - this signifies you performed better than 99.95% of students in your state, while an ATAR of 80.00 indicates that you sit in the top 20% of your cohort, and so on.

In order to receive a rank of 100, you need to score higher than 100% of your cohort...including yourself!

#### **What's the lowest ATAR that you can get?**

30.00 is the lowest ATAR reported. If you rank lower than that, your results will just say "30.00 or less".

#### **Who needs an ATAR and why?**

If you're in Year 12 and hoping to head to university straight out of high school, applying with your ATAR is the most straightforward way of receiving an offer.

This doesn't mean if you're not ATAR-eligible or receive a low ATAR that you can't go to university. It just means you might have to take a different pathway, and it could take a little longer.

ATARs can also be used as a guide of your performance at university, but it's not always an accurate reflection of how successful you're likely to be. For example, a student with an ATAR of 70.00 who is capable and motivated is more likely to do well in a course than a student with an ATAR of 90.00 who doesn't apply themself.

### **How do institutions use the ATAR?**

Universities often receive many more applications for courses than they have places available, so they need a way to work out who should be admitted first. This is typically done by setting a minimum selection rank (SR) for each course.

As a Year 12 student, your SR is based mostly on your ATAR - so if you receive an ATAR of 79, you know that your selection rank will definitely be at least 79 too (it could even be higher - we'll go into more detail on this soon).

### **Does your ATAR expire?**

No - you can still use your ATAR to gain entry to university even if you graduated 20 years ago. This means you don't need to worry if you're thinking of taking a gap year or aren't sure if you want to head straight to university after school.

Most universities will use your [highest eligible ranked qualification](#) for entry. So, for example, if you go on to complete a Certificate IV qualification, you might also be able to use this for admission. Then once you've finished an undergraduate degree, you'll use that for admission if you want to study a postgraduate qualification, and so on.

### **How and when will I receive my ATAR?**

ATARs are usually released in mid-December, just before TACs send out their first round of university offers to school leavers. You should receive an email from your state or territory's TAC or education department with information on how to view your results.

*Top tip:* Make sure that you register a personal email address instead of your school one, as you may lose access to your school emails once you graduate.

### **Who calculates the ATAR?**

ATARs are calculated by Tertiary Admissions Centres (or TACs) for each state:

- [UAC](#) in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory
- [QTAC](#) in Queensland
- [VTAC](#) in Victoria
- [SATAc](#) in South Australia and the Northern Territory
- [TISC](#) in Western Australia
- [UTAS](#) in Tasmania

### **How is your ATAR calculated?**

While exact calculations can vary a little between states, the process is similar everywhere:

- Your results from a set amount of your best subjects/units are taken
- Your marks are then scaled - more about this next.
- Your scaled results are added together to give an aggregate number.
- Your aggregate results are compared with all other ATAR-eligible students, and your ATAR is based on where you sit in that comparison.

### **What is scaling?**

Scaling is based on the idea that students shouldn't perform better or worse based on the subjects they choose. It accounts for differences between subjects and individual students' abilities to determine what your results would look like if everyone did the same subjects and were all marked the same way.

For example, trying to compare results from dance to physics is challenging. The scaling systems have been developed to iron out these differences so universities can assess applicants from a single source.

### **Can you increase your ATAR once you receive it?**

Technically, no. You might have heard that some universities offer [adjustment factors](#) - but these are only used to calculate your selection rank, not actually change your ATAR.

### **So how do adjustment factors work if they don't increase your ATAR?**

Adjustment factors are the bonus points added to your ATAR to calculate your selection rank. Each university calculates selection ranks individually, and your SR is only valid at that institution.

If you apply to multiple universities, you might find your selection rank is different at each - sometimes there are even differences in how adjustment factors are applied for different courses at the same university.

### **If you meet the minimum ATAR requirement, are you guaranteed entry?**

While the ATAR is important, it's not the only thing universities look at. You might have to complete prerequisite subjects, attend an interview or audition, or provide a portfolio, for example.

Some courses also have caps on the number of students admitted each year (particularly for areas such as medicine, nursing, and other health sciences). This means it's possible you might not receive an offer, even if you meet - or exceed - the minimum ATAR requirement.

### **Do you need an ATAR to go to university?**

Not necessarily - most universities offer alternative entry pathways into their courses. In fact, only around 1 in 4 students (26%) are admitted based on their ATAR alone. The other 74% gain entry using a combination of things, including their ATAR, adjustment factors, entry schemes, portfolios, auditions, interviews, school recommendations, and other additional tests. Other entry pathways include undertaking bridging or foundation programs, completing a vocational course and applying for university down the track, or looking at other internal options to get you where you want to be.

### **The bottom line**

Remember, your ATAR is just a number - it's not a measure of your worth, intelligence, or future success. Whether you receive the ATAR you were hoping for or not, there are always options available to help you reach your goals.

Want to learn more about your study options after high school? You can find information about university courses, alternative pathways, and vocational education [on our website here](#).

## **People with Disability, Study Tips**

### **[Learning your way: Study tips for diverse learners in high school](#)**

High school can feel overwhelming at times for any student, but if you have a learning disability, ADHD, autism, or another condition that affects how you learn, the challenges might seem even bigger. The good news is that with the right strategies and support, you can absolutely thrive in high school and set yourself up for success in whatever comes next. Here are our study tips for diverse learners.

## Understanding your learning style

One of the most powerful things you can do is understand how you learn best. Everyone processes information differently, but this is especially important when you have a disability that affects learning.

Maybe you're a [visual learner](#) who needs to see information in diagrams, charts, or colour-coded notes. Perhaps you learn better when you can move around or fidget while studying. Some students find they understand concepts better when they can discuss them out loud or teach someone else.

Take some time to reflect on when you feel most focused and engaged. Do you [concentrate](#) better in the morning or afternoon? Do you prefer quiet spaces or a bit of background noise? Understanding these preferences can help you create the best possible learning environment for yourself.

## Building your support network

You don't have to navigate high school alone. Building a strong support network is crucial for your success, and there are more people willing to help than you might realise.

### Support from your school

Start with your school's learning support team or disability services coordinator. These professionals are specifically trained to help students with disabilities succeed. They can help you access accommodations like extra time on tests, note-taking assistance, or alternative formats for assignments.

### Support from your teachers

[Your teachers are also key allies](#). Don't be afraid to speak with them about your needs, they genuinely want to help their students succeed. If you're struggling with a particular subject or teaching style, have a conversation about what might work better for you.

### Support from other students

Consider connecting with other students who have similar experiences. Many schools have support groups or clubs where you can meet peers who understand what you're going through. Sometimes just knowing you're not alone can make a huge difference.

## Effective study strategies

Finding [study methods](#) that work with your brain, rather than against it, can transform your academic experience. Here are some approaches that many students with disabilities find helpful.

### The Pomodoro Technique

The [Pomodoro Technique](#) can be particularly useful if you struggle with focus or attention. This involves studying for 25-minute periods followed by 5-minute breaks. It prevents burnout and makes large tasks feel more manageable.

### Note-taking alternatives

If you have difficulty with traditional note-taking, try [alternatives](#) like mind mapping, voice recordings, or drawing diagrams. Some students find that creating visual summaries or using apps that convert speech to text can be game-changers.

## **Audiobooks**

For those who struggle with reading, audiobooks and text-to-speech software can open up a whole world of learning. Many textbooks are available in audio format, and there are excellent free tools that can read web pages and documents aloud.

## **Active learning**

[Active learning techniques](#) often work well for students with learning differences. Instead of just reading your notes, try explaining concepts to a friend, creating flashcards, or finding real-world examples of what you're studying.

## **Managing your time and staying organised**

Organisation and [time management](#) can be particularly challenging when you have a disability, but developing these skills will serve you well throughout your life.

## **Use tools to help**

Consider using digital tools to help keep track of assignments and deadlines. Many students find that having everything in one place – whether it's a smartphone app, computer program, or physical planner – reduces stress and helps prevent important tasks from slipping through the cracks.

## **Break things down**

Break large projects into smaller, more manageable chunks. Instead of "write history essay," your to-do list might include "choose topic," "find three sources," "create outline," and "write introduction." This makes big tasks feel less overwhelming and gives you a sense of progress along the way.

## **Start a routine**

Don't underestimate the power of routines. Having consistent daily and weekly routines could reduce the mental energy you need to spend on planning and decision-making, leaving more capacity for learning.

## **Communicating your needs**

Learning to [advocate for yourself](#) is one of the most valuable skills you can develop. This means understanding your rights, knowing what accommodations help you learn best, and being able to communicate these needs clearly and confidently.

## **Be specific**

When requesting accommodations, be specific about what you need and why it helps. Instead of saying, "I need extra time," try, "I need extra time because my processing speed is slower, and this accommodation allows me to demonstrate my knowledge without being limited by time pressure."

## **It's OK to ask for help**

Remember that asking for help isn't a sign of weakness – it's a sign of maturity and self-awareness. The ability to recognise when you need support and seek it out appropriately is a skill that will benefit you throughout your education and career.

## **Preparing for your future**

High school is not just about getting through each day – it's also about preparing for whatever comes next, whether that's university, vocational training, or entering the workforce directly.

### **Accommodations and support**

Start thinking early about what accommodations and support you might need in your chosen post-school path. If you're planning to attend university, research the [disability support services](#) at institutions you're considering. Many offer excellent support, but services can vary significantly between schools.

If you're thinking about vocational training or apprenticeships, consider how your disability might affect different career paths and what accommodations might be available. Remember, there are successful people with disabilities in virtually every field – from medicine and law to trades and technology.

### **Build a portfolio**

Consider developing a portfolio that showcases your strengths and achievements. This might include examples of creative problem-solving, leadership experiences, or projects you're particularly proud of. Your unique perspective and experiences can actually be significant assets in many careers.

### **Building confidence and resilience**

Perhaps most importantly, work on building your confidence and resilience. Having a disability can sometimes make you more aware of your challenges than your strengths, but it's crucial to recognise and celebrate your abilities.

### **Track your success**

Keep a record of your successes, both big and small. When you master a difficult concept, complete a challenging project, or help a classmate understand something, make note of it. These reminders can be invaluable in tough periods.

### **Don't be afraid to fail**

Remember that everyone faces challenges and setbacks – having a disability doesn't make you any different in this regard. What matters is how you respond to these challenges and what you learn from them.

### **Look for role models**

Consider finding role models who have disabilities and have achieved success in areas that interest you. Seeing others who have navigated similar challenges can be incredibly inspiring and help you envision your own future possibilities.

### **Making the most of available resources**

There are many resources specifically designed to help students with disabilities succeed.

### **Assistive technology**

Take advantage of assistive technology that can support your learning – from simple tools like coloured overlays for reading to sophisticated software that can help with writing and organisation.

### **Local support services**

Many countries have specific programs and support services for students with disabilities. Research what's available in your area and don't hesitate to access these resources. They exist to help you succeed.

### **Advocacy organisations**

Connect with disability advocacy organisations in your community or online. These groups often provide valuable information, support, and networking opportunities that can be helpful both now and in the future.

### **Remember your potential**

High school might feel challenging now, but the skills you're developing – self-advocacy, problem-solving, resilience, and creative thinking – will serve you well throughout your life. Every challenge you overcome makes you stronger and better prepared for whatever comes next.

Your journey might look different from your classmates', but it's important to focus on your own progress, celebrate your achievements, and remember that success comes in many different forms.

We have lots more information on our website on [study tips](#) or [support for students with disabilities](#).

## **Job Spotlight**

### **How to become a Genetic Counsellor**

Genetic counsellors (also known as genomic counsellors) educate and guide individuals or families about genetic factors that might affect them or their loved ones. Their role is to help people understand the medical, psychological, and hereditary impact of genetic conditions, as well as advise them about their options and the outcomes that treatment might have.

If you're empathetic and kind, have excellent communication skills, and are passionate about helping people better understand their genetics, this could be the role for you.

#### **What skills do I need as a genetic counsellor?**

- Fantastic communicator
- Great interpersonal skills
- Critical thinker
- Empathetic & kind
- Strong research skills
- Inquisitive & adaptable
- Emotionally resilient
- Great social awareness

#### **What does the job involve?**

- Interviewing patients & researching family medical history
- Analysing & interpreting genetic tests & results
- Explaining results to patients & families
- Helping patients understand potential impacts
- Offering emotional support to patients
- Advising patients on treatments & outcomes
- Providing referrals to further support options
- Developing treatment plans with other healthcare workers



### **What industries do genetic counsellors typically work in?**

- Health Care & Social Assistance
- Public Administration & Safety

### **What Career Cluster do genetic counsellors belong to?**

Genetic counsellors are mainly [Guardians](#), interested in supporting people's health and wellbeing and willing to work hands-on with clients and patients.

They also have some overlap with the [Informer](#) Cluster, particularly when it comes to communicating and sharing knowledge.

### **What kind of lifestyle can I expect?**

Many genetic counsellors work normal business hours, with only the occasional need for overtime, weekend, or holiday work. There are a few part-time opportunities available, but most genetic counsellors work full-time.

You will be doing most of your work indoors, typically in a healthcare setting - this could be in a hospital, private clinic, community health centre, research institution, or even medical laboratory.

Most genetic counsellors can expect to earn an above average salary throughout their careers.

### **How to become a genetic counsellor**

In order to work as a genetic counsellor, you'll need to obtain an accredited Master's degree in Genetic Counselling, before applying for certification from the relevant board or authority in your country.

The certification process typically involves completing 2-3 years of on-the-job experience and passing an additional examination. To remain certified, you will need to engage in continuing professional development throughout your career.

There are many areas of genetics you might like to specialise in, such as reproduction, paediatric, oncology (cancer), neurology, or cardiovascular.

- Finish high school with a focus on English, Maths, and Sciences.
- Complete an undergraduate qualification - as part of your degree, it's recommended that you complete subjects in:
  - Genetics
  - Biology, biochemistry, or biomedical sciences
  - Psychology
- Gain professional or volunteer experience in healthcare, sciences, or counselling.
- Study an accredited Master's program in Genetic Counselling.
- Start working as a trainee/associate genetic counsellor.
- Apply for certification and register as a fully qualified genetic counsellor.
- Keep updating your skills and knowledge throughout your career.

### **What can I do right now to work towards this career?**

If you're in high school and you'd like to find out if becoming a genetic counsellor is right for you, here are a few things you could do right now:

- Start building important skills by doing volunteer work or participating in extra-curricular activities.
- See if you can find work experience in a healthcare setting. This will help you see if you might enjoy the work, and can help you start building important contacts for the future.



- Talk to a genetic counsellor to see what a day in their life is like. If you don't know anyone, see if you can watch videos or documentaries about a career in genetic counselling.

#### **Where can I find more information?**

- [Human Genetics Society of Australasia](#) (AUS & NZ)
- [Genetic Counsellor Registration Advisory Board](#) (UK)
- [National Society of Genetic Counselors](#) (US)
- [Canadian Association of Genetic Counsellors](#)

#### **Similar careers to genetic counsellor**

- [Medical Doctor](#)
- Nurse
- Nutritionist
- [Counsellor](#)
- [Dentist](#)
- [Lab Technician](#)
- [Computational Biologist](#)
- [Pharmacist](#)

Find out more about alternative careers on [our Job Spotlights page](#).

#### **Created by Study Work Grow in 2025**

Web: [studyworkgrow.com](https://studyworkgrow.com)

Email: [schools@studyworkgrow.com](mailto:schools@studyworkgrow.com)

Phone: +61 7 4039 3862

*This newsletter and its contents are copyright © 2025 Study Work Grow. Member Schools have a limited, non-exclusive licence to use and adapt the content for their school community, in internal and public-facing communications, including newsletters, social media, websites, virtual notice boards, and printed materials. Attribution is not required; however, redistribution to external parties, non-member schools, or use outside the intended school community is not permitted without prior written consent from Study Work Grow. By using this content, schools agree to these terms of use.*