



MEDIA RELEASE - EMBARGOED UNTIL 12:01AM 13 JANUARY 2026

13,830 more students headed to tertiary study as VTAC releases January offers

13,830 offers for courses at universities, TAFE institutes, and independent tertiary colleges for study this year have today been issued to domestic students by the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC). Including offers previously made in November and December, a total of 65,156 domestic offers have now been released for study commencing in 2026, 0.6% more than the 64,744 domestic offers issued by this time last year. 2,327 course offers for international students studying an Australian year 12 program have also been released today.

VTAC CEO Teresa Tjia congratulated all those receiving an offer today: “Whether you have just finished year 12 or are returning to study after some time, the offer you have received today is a wonderful first step on your path to tertiary study.”

Course offers are emailed to offer recipients from the morning of Tuesday 13 January, with all offers released and available online by 2pm. Those receiving an offer should follow the instructions provided by the tertiary institution to accept the offer and enrol in the course.

Today’s offers: further offers for year 12 students and other cohorts

In December, VTAC released 47,168 offers to year 12 students in Victoria and other states where year 12 results were available. Today’s offers include further offers for these students, as well as offers for year 12 students from Queensland and Western Australia whose results are now available, mature age applicants and other non-year 12 applicants who were not included in the December round. Applicants who have received an offer in a previous round are eligible to receive new offers for any courses listed as a higher preference.

In addition to further offers for courses which made offers in November and December, this offer round includes a small number of courses making their first offers for 2026 today, including undergraduate medicine.

The 2,327 offers made to international students studying an Australian year 12 program reflect an 18.9% increase from last year’s 1,957 offers. This year’s international offers figure approaches the number of offers made in 2022-23 (2,448 offers), reflecting fluctuations in the number of international senior secondary students during and after the pandemic.

Health courses grow share of offers by 0.8% since last year

Across all offer rounds since November, the largest areas of study making offers are Health (20.7% of offers), Society and Culture (19.3%), Management and Commerce (15.1%), and Natural and Physical Sciences (15.1%).



The largest proportional increase for an area of study this year is for Health, which is up 0.8% to comprise 20.7% of offers, with 16,068 total Health offers made. The largest proportional decrease is for the Information Technology field of study, which has fallen 0.9% to comprise 3.8% of all offers (2,959 total offers made).

Interest in Education courses remains strong, with the share of applications growing 0.2% from last year and share of offers growing 0.1% from last year to make up 4.7% of all offers. 3,686 Education offers have been made so far, up 6.5% from the 3,462 total offers made by this time last year.

More offers to come later in January and February

VTAC advises applicants who are yet to receive an offer to seek support from their school, tertiary institutions, and VTAC ahead of the next change of preference deadline at 2pm on 14 January. Prospective students who have not yet applied can submit a new application through VTAC until 5pm on 13 January 2025 for consideration in the remaining offer rounds in January and February.

Offers released after today's round are subject to availability of places, and not all courses will make further offers. VTAC will release the next round of offers on Tuesday 27 January 2026, followed by three additional offer rounds in February.

In addition to further rounds of preference-based offers, in February VTAC will commence making supplementary offers to applicants who have not yet received any offers.

Quotes attributable to VTAC Chief Executive Officer Teresa Tjia:

“VTAC is proud to connect students from across the country with Victorian universities, TAFE providers and independent tertiary colleges. 88% of VTAC applicants have already received at least one course offer, with more offers to come in January and throughout February.”

“It's not too late to start studying in 2026. You can apply online through VTAC until 5pm, 13 January for offers later in January and February, or submit a mid-year application in April.”

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Attached:

- 2026 applications and offers to date statistics
- Next steps guide for students

2026 applications and offers to date statistics

Data on this and following pages reflects all applications and offers for this intake to date, i.e. applications since 4 August 2025 and offers since November round.

1. Areas of study (Australian Standard Classification of Education — ASCED)

| First preference applications by ASCED | | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| ASCED Broad field | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | % change |
| Natural and Physical Sciences | 9,355 | 9,747 | +4.2% |
| Information Technology | 3,029 | 2,504 | -17.3% |
| Engineering and Related Technologies | 6,329 | 6,656 | +5.2% |
| Architecture and Building | 2,673 | 2,564 | -4.1% |
| Agriculture, Environmental and Related Studies | 561 | 568 | +1.2% |
| Health | 19,714 | 21,063 | +6.8% |
| Education | 3,719 | 3,971 | +6.8% |
| Management and Commerce | 10,405 | 10,745 | +3.3% |
| Society and Culture | 13,777 | 14,177 | +2.9% |
| Creative Arts | 6,103 | 5,881 | -3.6% |
| Food, Hospitality and Personal Services | 99 | 128 | +29.3% |
| Mixed Field Programs | 196 | 294 | +50.0% |
| TOTAL | 75,960 | 78,298 | |

Courses with multiple ASCED categories (such as double degrees) are counted in multiple categories.

| First preference applications by ASCED — proportion of all applications | | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| ASCED Broad field | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | % change |
| Natural and Physical Sciences | 12.3% | 12.4% | +0.1% |
| Information Technology | 4.0% | 3.2% | -0.8% |
| Engineering and Related Technologies | 8.3% | 8.5% | +0.2% |
| Architecture and Building | 3.5% | 3.3% | -0.2% |
| Agriculture, Environmental and Related Studies | 0.7% | 0.7% | 0.0% |
| Health | 26.0% | 26.9% | +0.9% |
| Education | 4.9% | 5.1% | +0.2% |
| Management and Commerce | 13.7% | 13.7% | 0.0% |
| Society and Culture | 18.1% | 18.1% | 0.0% |
| Creative Arts | 8.0% | 7.5% | -0.5% |
| Food, Hospitality and Personal Services | 0.1% | 0.2% | 0.0% |
| Mixed Field Programs | 0.3% | 0.4% | +0.1% |

Courses with multiple ASCED categories (such as double degrees) are counted in multiple categories.

| Offers by ASCED | | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| ASCED Broad field | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | % change |
| Natural and Physical Sciences | 11,225 | 11,760 | +4.8% |
| Information Technology | 3,581 | 2,959 | -17.4% |
| Engineering and Related Technologies | 6,859 | 7,151 | +4.3% |
| Architecture and Building | 2,484 | 2,611 | +5.1% |
| Agriculture, Environmental and Related Studies | 649 | 651 | +0.3% |
| Health | 15,069 | 16,068 | +6.6% |
| Education | 3,462 | 3,686 | +6.5% |
| Management and Commerce | 11,608 | 11,751 | +1.2% |
| Society and Culture | 14,748 | 14,959 | +1.4% |
| Creative Arts | 5,697 | 5,278 | -7.4% |
| Food, Hospitality and Personal Services | 116 | 161 | +38.8% |
| Mixed Field Programs | 390 | 610 | +56.4% |
| TOTAL | 75,888 | 77,645 | |

Courses with multiple ASCED categories (such as double degrees) are counted in multiple categories.

| Offers by ASCED — proportion of all offers | | | |
|---|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| ASCED Broad field | 2024-25 | 2026-26 | % change |
| Natural and Physical Sciences | 14.8% | 15.1% | +0.3% |
| Information Technology | 4.7% | 3.8% | -0.9% |
| Engineering and Related Technologies | 9.0% | 9.2% | +0.2% |
| Architecture and Building | 3.3% | 3.4% | +0.1% |
| Agriculture, Environmental and Related Studies | 0.9% | 0.8% | -0.1% |
| Health | 19.9% | 20.7% | +0.8% |
| Education | 4.6% | 4.7% | +0.1% |
| Management and Commerce | 15.3% | 15.1% | -0.2% |
| Society and Culture | 19.4% | 19.3% | -0.1% |
| Creative Arts | 7.5% | 6.8% | -0.7% |
| Food, Hospitality and Personal Services | 0.2% | 0.2% | 0.0% |
| Mixed Field Programs | 0.5% | 0.8% | +0.3% |

Courses with multiple ASCED categories (such as double degrees) are counted in multiple categories.

2. VTAC applications and offers

| Applications | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | Change from 2024-25 |
|------------------------------------|---------|---------------|---------------------|
| Total applicants | 66,284 | 68,116 | +2.8% |
| Domestic applicants | 63,951 | 65,347 | +2.2% |
| Year 12 applicants | 53,253 | 55,066 | +3.4% |
| Non-Year 12 applicants | 13,031 | 13,047 | +0.1% |
| International (Year 12 applicants) | 2,333 | 2,769 | +19.4% |

| Results | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | Change from 2024-25 |
|--|---------|---------------|---------------------|
| Victorian ATARs calculated | 47,461 | 49,310 | +3.9% |
| Victorian IB Admissions Scores (IBAS) calculated | 741 | 721 | -2.7% |

| Offers by round | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | Change from 2024-25 |
|--|---------|---------------|---------------------|
| Total undergraduate offers issued to date | 66,701 | 67,483 | +1.2% |
| January domestic offers issued | 12,904 | 13,830 | +7.2% |
| December domestic offers issued | 47,491 | 47,168 | -0.7% |
| November domestic offers issued | 4,349 | 4,158 | -4.4% |
| Total domestic offers issued to date | 64,744 | 65,156 | +0.6% |
| International Year 12 offers issued | 1,957 | 2,327 | +18.9% |
| Individual applicants with at least one offer | 56,075 | 57,406 | +2.4% |

NB: Offer round totals are updated from previous media statements to account for offers rescinded since publication.

3. Domestic applications and offers by course type

Higher education

| Includes higher education courses at TAFE institutes, universities, and independent tertiary colleges | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | Change from 2024-25 |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------------|
| First preference applicants | 61,208 | 62,718 | +2.47% |
| Total offers | 61,104 | 61,869 | +1.25% |
| January offers | 12,331 | 13,411 | +8.76% |
| December offers | 44,599 | 44,462 | -0.31% |
| November offers | 4,174 | 3,996 | -4.26% |

VET

| Includes VET courses at TAFE institutes, dual-sector universities and independent tertiary colleges | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | Change from 2024-25 |
|---|--------------|--------------|---------------------|
| First preference applicants | 2,697 | 2,625 | -2.67% |
| Total offers | 3,706 | 3,579 | -3.43% |
| January offers | 598 | 698 | +16.72% |
| December offers | 2,930 | 2,708 | -7.58% |
| November offers | 178 | 173 | -2.81% |

Direct entry VET applications are not included in this data.

4. Domestic applications and offers by sector

| University course applications and offers | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | Change from 2024-25 |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------------|
| First preference applicants | 64,927 | 66,814 | +2.91% |
| Total offers to date | 62,731 | 63,937 | +1.92% |
| January offers | 12,890 | 13,973 | +8.40% |
| December offers | 45,584 | 45,897 | +0.69% |
| November offers | 4,257 | 4,067 | -4.46% |

| TAFE course applications and offers | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | Change from 2024-25 |
|-------------------------------------|------------|------------|---------------------|
| First preference applicants | 264 | 243 | -7.95% |
| Total offers to date | 390 | 406 | +4.10% |
| January offers | 61 | 128 | +109.84% |
| December offers | 302 | 258 | -14.57% |
| November offers | 27 | 20 | -25.93% |

| Independent tertiary college course applications and offers | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | Change from 2024-25 |
|---|--------------|--------------|---------------------|
| First preference applicants | 1,151 | 1,058 | -8.08% |
| Total offers to date | 2,048 | 1,987 | -2.98% |
| January offers | 346 | 292 | -15.61% |
| December offers | 1,633 | 1,585 | -2.94% |
| November offers | 69 | 82 | +18.84% |

Next steps for students

If you received an offer:

- Accept the offer you have received before the deadline listed in the enrolment instructions.
- If you are planning to take a gap year, check with the institution offering the course to make sure you can defer your course offer and follow their instructions to do so.
- Ensure your preferences still reflect your most-wanted courses. If needed, make adjustments to your preferences by 2pm, Wednesday 14 January.
- If you are hoping for a higher preference offer, check your VTAC account at 2pm on Tuesday 27 January 2026 for offer advice.

If you did not receive an offer:

- Consider adding additional courses to your preferences list to increase your chance of receiving an offer in the next round.
- Contact the courses you are interested in to see if they can recommend any pathway courses which can assist you in reaching your course and career goals.

COURSE ADVICE AND CHANGE OF PREFERENCE

The lowest selection rank required for course entry changes each year due to shifts in course demand, so we encourage students to aim for their dream course – even if they are unsure that their ATAR is high enough.

- The VTAC preference system allows students to remain in consideration for their dream course without reducing their chance of an offer for any lower preferences or pathway courses.
- Students can visit vtac.edu.au to access their VTAC application and add or change courses as they like, reviewing their course preferences with their results on hand.
- Any changes must be finalised before 2pm, Wednesday 14 January for consideration in the next round of offers which will be released on Tuesday 27 January 2026.
- Students are encouraged to check the essential requirements and admission criteria for each course using VTAC CourseSearch as they will only be eligible for an offer if they meet these requirements.