

VTAC Bulletin

Bulletin of the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre

APRIL 2013

In this issue:

Move from 5 digit to 10 digit course codes	1
Initiatives for accessing 2014 course data	1
VTAC and CEAV Webinar series	2
Career practitioner briefing seminars	2
Publication ordering	2

Move from 5 digit to 10 digit course codes

VTAC has slowly begun running out of course codes for use by institutions. As a result all course codes have been updated from five digits to ten digits. As a result course codes for 2014 and beyond will look like this:

Broadmeadows: 5300153322 (Domestic fee places)

VET Course Codes

Another change for 2014 is that VET course codes will all end in '4' and be noted as *fee determined by provider*. All current year 12 students who meet residency and are under 20 on January 1, 2014 will automatically be eligible for a government funded place.

Broadmeadows: 5300153324 (Fee determined by provider)

Initiatives for accessing 2014 course data

A revised CourseSearch

As a result of usability testing of CourseSearch by adults returning to study; careers teachers and year 11 students, the following initiatives are planned for the 2014 course list release:

- Quick search function – allows the user to search by code or by key word. Once the list is produced, users will be able to see and sort the output by relevance
- Advanced search function – allows the user to search by one or more criteria including:
 - » Name of institution
 - » Areas of interest
 - » Application method (optional)

Shortlists and email

All users will also be able to shortlist courses of interest via CourseSearch and email the shortlist to whoever they wish i.e. themselves, students, parents, counsellors.

Download your own version of the complete VTAC Guide 2014

All users of the VTAC website will be able to download institutional pages and course entries, including prerequisites, extra requirements, major studies and the like to print or save directly onto their device. This means irrespective of whether you download onto a device or paper the information will be accessible offline.

Quick response codes (QR codes)

Quick response codes (QR codes) are square grids with a white background that store data and enable the quick downloading of information.

The QR code allows data to be stored and downloaded quickly.

In a recent usability test, VTAC asked career teachers to volunteer to pilot this code for Deakin University courses.

- » 80% were able to download the QR application onto their phone
- » 20%, of which 6% of participants did not own a phone could not download the QR application.

When asked how easy it was to access the details for Deakin University courses:

- » 75% answered Very easy and 9% answered Easy once I decided which app to choose.
- » The other respondents either didn't have a phone and didn't participate or didn't respond to this question.

Those participating in the usability test were then asked to email, text and/or message the information to a pretend student. When asked whether the tool was useful:

- » 16.67% said it was very useful; 25% useful and 50% indicated it would be handy.
- » 8.33% of users indicated they wouldn't use it at all.

Important dates

Mon 15 Apr, 9:00am:

Mid-year registrations and applications open for tertiary courses

Mon 15 Apr, 9:00am:

Mid-year Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS) open

Mon 15 Apr, 9:00am:

Mid-year STAT bookings open

Wed 22 May, 5:00pm:

Mid year STAT bookings close

Fri 7 Jun, 5:00pm:

Mid-year course and SEAS applications close

Fri 7 Jun, 5:00pm:

Final date for submission of mid-year personal history forms



40 Park Street,
South Melbourne, VIC 3205

www.vtac.edu.au

Blog/RSS: vtacmedia.wordpress.com

Facebook: facebook.com/vtacguide

Twitter: @vtacguide

Telephone: 1300 364 133

For updates please check:

www.vtac.edu.au

VTAC and CEAV Webinar series

To date VTAC has conducted, in cooperation with the CEAV, two Webinars for 2013.

- The February session was an overview of the 2013 application and selection period.
- The March session was an overview of CourseLink and a kickstart for preparing for SEAS 2014.

A copy of the presentations from the February and March webinars are available for download from the new careers practitioners' website (www.vtac.edu.au/careers).

Webinar May 22, 2013

CourseLink: School data; prerequisite course search and student access.

To ascertain what items or issues you would like addressed in the next webinar on 22 May 2013 VTAC conducted a snap poll and all careers teachers were invited to participate. When asked to indicate the CourseLink topic you would most like covered in the May 22 Webinar the three most popular topics were:

- School data – utilising your reports (30.77%)
- Prerequisite course search on CourseLink (15.38%)
- Revisiting Student Access, its functions and capabilities (15.38%).

For further information about the webinar or to register, please register through the CEAV at: <http://www.ceav.vic.edu.au/catalogue>

Publication ordering

Publication ordering will be open from 12 noon Monday 6 May until 5pm Friday 14 June. Instructions will be sent out in the week beginning 29 April but for reference copies you only need to supply us with your Year 10 student numbers. Publications are calculated automatically based on your school's Year 12 enrolment file with the VCAA. The VTAC Guide 2014 will be \$12 for those schools who wish to purchase the guide.

Publication ordering:

- open via CourseLink at 12 noon on Monday 6 May 2013
- close via CourseLink at 5.00pm Friday 14 June 2013

Career practitioner briefing seminars

A copy of the schedule is available on CourseLink and [the public careers practitioners website](#).

Please note, VTAC is currently reviewing its new careers teachers program. As a result the details of these sessions may change. We will contact careers practitioners as soon as a decision has been made.

Bookings for the annual seminars:

- open via CourseLink at 12 noon on Tuesday 11 June 2013
- close via CourseLink at 5.00pm Friday 5 July 2013

CourseLink

CourseLink pilot for interstate schools

For the 2014 application and selection period, VTAC will be piloting interstate access to VTAC CourseLink. It is anticipated that interstate schools will have access to:

- An overview of who has applied through VTAC and given VTAC permission to use their data on CourseLink
- Student details, as provided by the relevant interstate school authority
- Student preferences and a record of each change
- Student offers (when available)
- Enrolment file (when available)

VTAC will be writing to all schools seeking cooperation in participating in this year's pilot, due for release in August 2013.

For all other updates to CourseLink please refer to your regular updates, copies of which are available from the careers practitioners website [under memorandums](#).