Thinking of taking a year off after school to volunteer overseas? There are hundreds of gap year companies and programs. To make sure you choose the right company-

- Compare costs between the companies—some will offer similar services and opportunities for varying costs.
- Ensure your parents/guardians and you will have access to 24 hour telephone support during your placement.
- Ask if you can email young people who have participated in the programs so you can gain an independent opinion.
- Ask the company if they will run an information session at your school or in your town/city.
- Make a list of what the expenses cover (e.g., meals, accommodation, flights, VISA)

The following are examples of companies you can explore.

**Cultural Care Au Pair**: You can work as a live in Au Pair in America. You must be at least 18 years old, [www.culturalcare.com.au](http://www.culturalcare.com.au)

**Lattitude Global Volunteering**: You can undertake activities such as community service, medical assisting, outdoor education or teaching in countries such as Africa, Mexico, Spain, Poland, Japan, England etc. Placements range from 3 – 11 months, [www.lattitude.org.au](http://www.lattitude.org.au)

**Letz Live**: You will stay in a boarding school and work as a gap year assistant in countries such as China, Canada, France, India, New Zealand, Singapore, Thailand, UK etc. Placements range from 3 – 12 months, [www.letzlive.org/australia](http://www.letzlive.org/australia)

### Camp Counselors USA
Camp counselors leading children in various sports and outdoor adventures in America, Russia, Canada or Croatia over the summer break. 2) Working up to 12 months in the USA, Canada or the UK in a seasonal resort, English pub or a variety of other hospitality positions. 3) Volunteering in one of over 50 projects in Africa, Latin America or Asia. [www.ccusa.com.au](http://www.ccusa.com.au)

### Antipodeans Abroad
You will work with other young Australians on a sustainable volunteer project in a developing country/area such as Kenya, Nepal, Tanzania, Vietnam, Thailand etc. You can work in volunteer projects such as building/construction, conservation, care work, community work and teaching. [www.antipodeans.com.au](http://www.antipodeans.com.au)

### World Youth International
This is similar to Antipodeans in that you work on sustainable programs. You can undertake placements in the following areas- Kenya, Uganda, Nepal, Cambodia, India and Peru. You can undertake projects in building/construction, care work, community work, health and sanitation and teaching. [www.worldyouth.org.au](http://www.worldyouth.org.au)

### Projects Abroad
You can work in one of 26 developing countries undertaking short and longer term projects such as care work, teaching, conservation/ environment, sports, culture/ community, archaeology, building and performing arts. [www.projects-abroad.com.au](http://www.projects-abroad.com.au)

### International Exchange Programs
You can undertake working holidays in the USA, Canada, Ireland, Britain and volunteer in Cambodia, USA, Peru, and South Africa. Working holiday placements include working in the hospitality industry, summer camps and skiing. [www.iep.org.au](http://www.iep.org.au)
**Work Experience:** If you can raise the funds required, you may be able to participate in work experience overseas. The following are two examples of companies that offer these types of placements:

**Projects Abroad:** Students between 16 – 19 years of age can undertake a two week work experience placement during the mid year holidays in the following project areas: archaeology, building/ construction, care work, conservation & environment, culture & community, law & human rights, medicine & healthcare, and sports, [http://tinyurl.com/m3kd8nl](http://tinyurl.com/m3kd8nl)

**Gap Medics:** This program is for students in years 11 and 12 who are interested in studying medicine, nursing, dentistry and/or midwifery in the future. Placements are offered in Thailand and Tanzania during school holiday periods. You will have the opportunity to shadow highly skilled professionals in a clinic during your placement. [www.gapmedics.com](http://www.gapmedics.com)

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**Amazing science and engineering career guides!** RIAUS has just released the 2015 Ultimate Science Guide and the 2015 Ultimate Engineering Guide.

These booklets are jam packed with profiles on young people working in amazing science and engineering jobs, information on courses and where you can study, emerging jobs, future careers, and information about different types of science and engineering occupations. Download your free guides here- [http://tinyurl.com/pswdf9k](http://tinyurl.com/pswdf9k)

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**Parents-** Keep up to date with news, future events and courses from the following Universities:

- ‘Little Bird’ Parent News Feed, Charles Sturt University, [http://tinyurl.com/pnodzsb](http://tinyurl.com/pnodzsb)
- ‘Your Child, Their Future’ website, Deakin University, [http://tinyurl.com/lnxjg7o](http://tinyurl.com/lnxjg7o)
- La Trobe University, [http://tinyurl.com/lkgc36x](http://tinyurl.com/lkgc36x)
- RMIT, [http://tinyurl.com/nayoy8b](http://tinyurl.com/nayoy8b)
- Australia National University, [http://tinyurl.com/mljgak2](http://tinyurl.com/mljgak2)
- Monash University, [http://tinyurl.com/kdrymsv](http://tinyurl.com/kdrymsv)

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Would you like to work as a counsellor in the future? It is important to know the difference between what a counsellor does and can do compared to a psychologist, so you can choose the right course based on your interests. Australian Catholic University explain the differences in this great article-[www.acu.edu.au/610230](http://www.acu.edu.au/610230)

**New Physiotherapy degree!** Australian Catholic University (ACU) will be starting the Bachelor of Physiotherapy at the Ballarat campus in 2017. The course will have cutting edge facilities such as anatomy wet labs and physiotherapy teaching laboratories and students will complete 1000 hours of work experience. To register your interest in this course, go to [http://tinyurl.com/ldtmk6](http://tinyurl.com/ldtmk6) and to watch a video about Physiotherapy at ACU, go to [http://tinyurl.com/o6uudmh](http://tinyurl.com/o6uudmh)
RiAUS Career of the Future competition:
Thanks to advances in science and technology, it’s estimated that 2 out of 3 students at school now will end up with careers in brand new fields of work that don’t exit today. So what would your ideal job of tomorrow be? An Atmospheric Water Harvester, a 3D Printed Fashion Designer, a Bio-Hacking Inspector or even an Alien Lifeform Translator?

The RiAUS Career of the Future competition give you the chance to tell us what future careers you think will be available for you when you join the workforce. To enter, you need to be in Years 7 – 12. Simply tell us in 400 words or less the name of your future career, a description of the job duties and how it will be important to life in the future. To enter, go to http://tinyurl.com/qb7xe7d

Passionate about maths and science? If you are between the ages of 15 – 17 and receive consistently high marks in science and maths classes, you should consider speaking to your teacher about nominating for the ‘Growing Junior Tall Poppies in Science and Maths’ awards. There will be 6 winners in Victoria and the prizes for students and their schools are amazing. For information and to download a nomination form, go to www.coecxs.org/

Have you considered careers in agriculture and primary industries? The National Primary Industry Centre for Science Education (PISCE) has developed a fantastic resource called ‘Science Taking You Places’. The guide profiles young people working in jobs such as agriculture, marine science, forestry, agribusiness, agricultural economics, and horticulture and aims to give current students an idea of the huge range of jobs available in the primary industries sector. You can download the guide here- http://tinyurl.com/qj5nme5

Interested in careers in the Defence Force?
Keep up to date with upcoming events in your area by liking their Facebook page- http://tinyurl.com/o94m7ko or joining their Twitter feed, http://tinyurl.com/mcepvfn

Rural Careers Guide: Is a website for students interested in careers in the following occupation areas:
- Agriculture and Farming
- Animal Care and Management
- Horticulture and Viticulture
- Rural Services
- Environment and Conservation
- Aquaculture
- Beekeeping
- Greyhound Racing
- Forest and Wood Productions
- Harness Racing
- Thoroughbred Racing

To explore the site, go to www.ruralcareers.net.au/

Passionate about sport science and football (soccer)? Victoria University sports students will gain behind-the-scenes access at Real Madrid Football Club through a new partnership signed early 2015. The five-year deal signed with Real Madrid Graduate School Universidad Europea will see students in selected masters programs travel to Spain where they will be embedded at the school as part of a residential program and have access to the club. For information about the new partnership, go to http://tinyurl.com/qb4v8wu
Learn about courses and careers in natural therapies! Southern School of Natural Therapies and Endeavour College of Natural Health are running open days at their Melbourne campuses on the 2\textsuperscript{nd} and 9\textsuperscript{th} of May respectively.

- Endeavour offer courses in Acupuncture, Homeopathy, Massage, Population Health, Complimentary Medicine, Musculoskeletal Therapy, Naturopathy and Nutritional Medicine
- Southern School offer courses in Chinese Medicine, Western Herbal Medicine, Naturopathy, Nutritional Medicine, Clinical Myotherapy, Massage and Health Science

For more information and to register, go to www.endeavour.edu.au/events/ www.ssnt.edu.au/

Indigenous Student Experience Day at Monash: Indigenous Australian students in Years 9 to 12 are invited to attend and gain hands-on experience through a large range of interactive activities at Monash. The event will be held Friday 1 May. For further information or to RSVP, please contact Kristel Keleher at kristel.keleher@monash.edu or (03) 9905 8699

Latitude Global Volunteering: Are you considering taking a gap year and would like to volunteer overseas? Latitude supports students to volunteer in countries like Canada, China, Ghana, India, Fiji, Vanuatu, and the UK.

There are a number of roles you can apply for such as outdoor activities instructor, schools assistant, care worker, teacher, sports coach and community worker and medical assistant.

Staff from Latitude will be running information sessions at Melbourne and Geelong in May. If you can’t make a session, you can participate in an online information session. To register you interest for either event, go to http://tinyurl.com/ls4q4yq

Upcoming Events: April

- At Monash University Seminars, various dates, http://tinyurl.com/k5fs73x
- 30: Opening a Door into Asia, University of Melbourne, Parkville Campus, http://tinyurl.com/mpfrdpn

Upcoming Events: May

- Focus on Melbourne University Seminars, various dates, http://tinyurl.com/pcscoqf
- 16: Open Day, Academy of Interactive Entertainment, Melbourne, www.aie.edu.au

Upcoming Events: June

- 29: Science in the City & Laboratory Tour, RMIT, Melbourne, http://tinyurl.com/pvsg8fj
- Experience Days, Australian Catholic University, Melbourne (29) and Ballarat (30), www.acu.edu.au/97108