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 lower costs.
- Ensure you and your family will have access to 24-hour telephone support during your placement (volunteering).
- Ask if you can email 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 where you live.
- 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)

**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)

**Latitude Global Volunteering:** You can undertake activities such as community service, medical assisting, outdoor recreation assistant, or teaching in countries such as Africa, Mexico, Spain, Poland, Japan, England etc., [www.lattitude.org.au](http://www.lattitude.org.au)

**Camp Counsellors USA:** You have three options.
- Camp counsellor leading children in various sports and outdoor adventures in America, Russia, Canada or Croatia over the summer break.
- 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.
- Volunteering in one of over 50 projects in Africa, Latin America or Asia.

For information, go to [www.ccusa.com.au](http://www.ccusa.com.au)

**Antipodeans Abroad:** You will work with other young people 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 etc. 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)

**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)

**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)

**The Working Holiday Club:** You can work in the UK, Japan or Canada. Jobs are in industries such as resorts, ski slopes, hospitality, education, and outdoor recreation etc., [https://bit.ly/2Yn2VWg](https://bit.ly/2Yn2VWg)
Work Experience - Overseas

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

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, http://bit.ly/2oH48Ze

Study at Cambridge University, England during a school break

Cambridge is one of the most prestigious universities in the world.

Students between the ages of 13 – 18 years have the opportunity to study intensive subjects over the summer break at Cambridge, staying at the Queens College.

Some of the themed summer schools that are running include Mathematics, Medicine, Law, Economics, History and International Relations, Technology, Architecture, Computer Science, Biology, Chemistry, Graphic Design, Engineering etc.

For information on the program and to enrol, go to www.immerse.education

Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA)

Have you considered studying at ADFA? The following information has been copied from a Defence Force Recruiting Newsletter.

ADFA is situated in Canberra and is a university like no other, offering combined military and leadership training, with a world-class degree from the University of New South Wales (UNSW). It has the best university-student-to-teacher ratio in the country, amazing sports and recreational facilities and is one of Australia’s most respected universities.

Why ADFA?

• The education and experiences of ADFA will equip you to deal with the professional and personal challenges of your chosen career
• Be trained in the art of leadership by experienced military professionals
• Access exceptional sporting and recreational facilities and be a part of a wide variety of sports and special-interest clubs
• Earn your degree from UNSW
• Choose from a range of degrees - Arts, Business, Engineering, Information Technology, Science and Technology
• Enjoy free medical and dental, subsidised food and accommodation
• Receive a starting salary of over $40,000 plus super while studying and no Higher Education Loan Program (HELP) fees.

For more information on ADFA call 13 19 01 or visit http://bit.ly/1d0fiI6

UCAT Simulation Day

Students in Year 12 interested in applying for medicine, dentistry, or oral health may need to sit the compulsory UCAT examination (University Clinical Admissions Test). National Institute of Education (NIE) will be conducting a UCAT preparation workshop on Saturday 8 June at a Melbourne venue to be advised. Students in Years 10 and 11 can also register, but it’s important to note they cannot sit the UCAT until they are in Year 12, www.nie.edu.au Information on the UCAT – next column.

Applying for Medicine or Dentistry?

Are you sitting the UCAT in July? Students applying for selected medicine, dentistry and health science degrees will need to undertake the University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT). Students have until the 17th of May to register for the test and select the date, time and testing centre they wish to sit the test.

For information on the test and to access free preparation materials, go to http://bit.ly/1n91ebA

You will need to sit the UCAT to be eligible for entry into the following courses:

Victoria
• Monash University, Medicine
• The University of Tasmania, Medicine

New South Wales
• The University of New South Wales, Medicine
• Charles Sturt University, Dental Science
• University of Newcastle/ University of New England, Joint Medical Program
• Western Sydney University, Medicine

South Australia
• The University of Adelaide, Medicine, Dentistry, Oral Health
• Flinders University, Medicine, Clinical Sciences

Western Australia
• Curtin University, Medicine
• The University of Western Australia, Medicine (Direct Pathway), Dental Medicine (Direct Pathway)

Queensland
• The University of Queensland, Medicine (Provisional Entry), Dental Science

New Zealand
• The University of Auckland, Medicine
• University of Otago, Medicine, Dental Surgery
Skills shortage area: oral health

Are you interested in health and science? Have you thought about dentistry but concerned you won’t receive the required ATAR? You may be interested in exploring the following occupations:

- **Dental Nurse/Assistant**: assists dental team, supports patient, sterilisation of equipment, prepares dental materials, maintains client records etc.
- **Dental Hygienist**: educates patients about prevention of disease, treats oral diseases, and provides dental treatments.
- **Dental Therapist**: examines and treats diseases of the teeth in children and adolescents under the supervision of dentists.
- **Dental Technician**: designs and constructs dentures, crowns, impression trays, oral splints etc.

For information on these career areas, go to the Australian Dental Association - [www.ada.org.au](http://www.ada.org.au/)

Careers With STEM - Magazines

Careers With STEM have a range of career magazines you can either download online for free or pay for hard copies.

2019 Magazines released so far are:

- Maths: careers that count
- Economics: change the world
- Science: big career potential
- Data Science: data jobs need you

You can also download past magazines in areas such as coding, cybersecurity, engineering, and health science. You can view the magazines at this link - [https://bit.ly/2Os7gCR](https://bit.ly/2Os7gCR)

Careers in Teaching & Education

The following articles are from The Footnotes website:

- How much money do teachers actually make?
- On the phone with: A primary school teacher
- Interview with an Aussie working at a school in London
- Considering Childhood Education & Care?
- 6 students talk pros and cons of a Bachelor of Education
- Why I chose teaching
- Why I love primary teaching
- Which qualifications do you need for teaching
- Special/Inclusive Education: What they don’t tell you


Galuwa Engineering & IT Experience

The Galuwa Experience is a fantastic opportunity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high school students in years 10-12 to gain first-hand university experience in this fully-funded engineering and IT program.

The experience is coordinated by the University of Technology Sydney and will run between 15 – 19 July. All meals, transport and accommodation will be covered. Applications close 2 June 2019. For information and to apply, go to [https://bit.ly/2PX00QS](https://bit.ly/2PX00QS)

Dates for Your Diary

**MAY**

- 25, 26: UCAT 2-day preparation course, National Institute of Education, Melbourne, [www.nie.edu.au](http://www.nie.edu.au)

**JUNE**


**JULY**


Work Experience

If you would like to undertake work experience this year, you can search the Work Experience Directory. Employers advertised work experience opportunities. To search for positions, go to [https://bit.ly/2JeeRGP](https://bit.ly/2JeeRGP)