



### Welcome to the third edition of the Careers News for 2024!

#### SACE

I've had several conversations recently with both parents and students about SACE: what it is, how it works, and its importance in the final years of schooling. The South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) is a modern, internationally recognised secondary school qualification designed to equip you with the skills, knowledge, and personal capabilities to successfully participate in our fast-paced global society. A student will be awarded their SACE if they successfully complete requirements that include a range of skills and subjects they may study at school or may have acquired through other education, training, or experience. Please see the last 2 pages of this edition for an infographic about the structure of SACE.

### Study Tips – 7 smart study tips for high school students

Navigating the demands of high school can be tricky, particularly when it comes to study. It can seem like a daunting task, especially if you don't have any study techniques to rely on yet. Whether you're gearing up for exams, tackling a challenging subject, or simply looking to improve your study habits, you've come to the right place.

#### **Be organised**

You still need to study in the lead-up to an exam or test, but don't leave all your studying until the last minute. Studies have proven that the best way to understand what you're learning and remember that information long-term is by spacing out your studies and revision. So instead of leaving everything to the last minute and cramming, create a study schedule. Keep track of important dates and deadlines using a planner or calendar (physical or digital) so you know what you need to study and when. It's also a good idea to set some goals for yourself at the start of the year, term, or semester – having a clear objective in mind will help you stay focused and motivated, particularly for days when you don't really feel like studying.

#### **Practise makes perfect**

Okay, not necessarily perfect, but definitely better.

Say you wanted to learn how play the guitar. You might go onto YouTube and watch hundreds of tutorials or read

a whole book about music theory. No matter how much preparation you do, the first time you pick up a guitar and play, it's probably not going to sound great. Realistically, you need to practise what you've learned lots of times before you're expected to get it right. Why not treat your studies the same way? You could:

- Incorporate past practise tests into your study schedule.
- Write your own flash cards with questions on one side and answers on the other.
- Test yourself often, or have other people test you on the information.
- Ask your teachers to write you some example or revision questions.

#### **Make it visual**

Textbooks, notes, Word documents, hundreds of facts and figures to read... Sometimes they just make your eyes swim, and you lose concentration as well as understanding. If you're finding it hard to read for long periods of time, you could try using diagrams, graphs, and other visual material as a basis for your revision instead. Then, if you need to, add notes or explanations to help you expand your learning. Make it as intricate or simple as you like; the important thing is finding a way to represent information that you can recognise at a glance.

## **Mix it up**

When you're planning your study schedule, it's tempting to revise each subject in a block, move on to the next, and never look back. But imagine you're learning to play tennis, and for the first four months all you do is learn forehand. Next you learn backhand. Then finally you're onto learning volleys. This style of learning is called "blocking". Sure, you'll eventually learn all the skills...but it can get kind of boring, and it's not reflective of what an actual tennis game involves.

This is where another learning technique called "interleaving" comes in. Studies have suggested interleaving can produce much better and longer-lasting benefits. It involves switching between related topics, training your brain to not only learn the information, but making connections between it all too. Not convinced? In one study, students were given homework sheets using either the blocking or interleaving methods. When they were tested one day later, the students trained with interleaving scored 25% better. When they were tested one month later, the interleaving advantage grew to a massive 76%.

Go over material you've learned at different times throughout the term, instead of revising once and leaving it behind until exam time. For example, each time you learn a new topic, put a reminder in your calendar or phone to go over the material again in 2, 4, and 6 weeks down the track.

## **Mistakes can help you learn**

Everyone makes mistakes, especially when you're learning new things. But instead of letting it get you down, you can turn your mistakes into a learning tool. Understanding where you went wrong and how to make

your answers right is a great way of focusing in on your problem areas. Keep time in your study plan to go over material and check for mistakes. When you do homework or practice tests, ask your teacher for feedback – they can help you better understand exactly how to complete a specific task or give you ways to improve your responses.

## **Ask questions**

Simply reciting long lists of facts and figures off by heart doesn't necessarily show deeper understanding of a topic, which is often what teachers want to see in your exams. But if you give those facts and figures some more context, it could make things easier to remember and improve your answers. The simplest way of doing this is to just ask questions. Ask your friends what they know about the topic, quiz your parents, or even do some searching online (just don't get too distracted). Doing this will expand your knowledge of a topic beyond simple recall and might even expose you to concepts or interpretations you hadn't thought of before.

## **Seek help when needed**

Don't hesitate to reach out for help if you're struggling with a concept or subject. We get it, asking for help isn't always easy, especially if there are high expectations of you or you're too embarrassed to admit you don't understand something. But even though school is important, your health and wellbeing always comes first, and it's not worth the stress and anxiety. If you're feeling unsure, don't leave it to the last minute to ask for help. Whether it's letting your teacher know you're struggling, joining a study group, or seeking tutoring assistance, there are heaps of people out there who are more than happy to help you – all you need to do is ask.

# Future Study

## **5 things to think about when looking for a course.**

Planning on doing some more study in the future? You might be feeling a bit overwhelmed by the thousands of course choices out there. If you're looking for some guidance, we've got some things you might like to think about when looking for a course – it could help you make your decision.

### **Study location**

This is one of the most important things you'll need to consider first. Would you be willing to move to another city (or even state or country) to study your chosen course? Or perhaps you're unable (or unwilling) to move and you'd like to study online instead.

### **Flexibility and access**

As well as location, look at different universities, vocational institutions, and private providers and compare your options. Take a tour of the campus (in person or virtually), browse accommodation options, and read about on-campus clubs, facilities, and activities. See if you can read student reviews about their experience or talk to someone you know has studied there in the past.

### **Entry requirements**

One of the key things you'll need to know about a course is whether you're eligible to apply. Make sure you read and meet any academic requirements and have the needed subject prerequisites before you apply. If you're not eligible through the standard pathway, look at their alternative pathway options and see if there is another way you might be able to receive an offer instead.

### **Course fees**

Unfortunately, not a lot of things in life are free – and this includes most tertiary courses. Look at not only how much the course will cost, but what your options for payment are. Common finance options include loans, payment plans, scholarships, and even government assistance. But in some circumstances, you might be expected to pay your course fees upfront, so make sure you know exactly what you'll owe and how you'll pay for it before signing up.

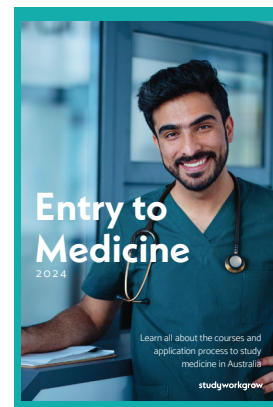
## Career pathways

If you're looking into further study, it's probably because it will eventually lead you to a particular job or career. So, ensure the course you're looking at will qualify you for future jobs. Look at job sites and see what qualifications employers are looking for in roles you'd like to have one day. In some cases, you might be required to have a specific degree to start in your chosen career (if you want to be a doctor, for example, you'll need to follow a set study pathway).

Also consider other jobs and pathways the course could take you in case you find your career goals change over time or don't pan out how you expected.

## Entry to Medicine Guide

Gaining entry to medicine at university in Australia is a complex process – so a 'how-to' guide has been created by the team at Studyworkgrow to make it easier for students to prepare, find, and apply for a course in medicine. If you would like a PDF copy of this guide, please see Mrs Shivvaan.



## Upcoming Events

### Adelaide Careers & Employment Expo 2024

May 10 to May 11

South Australia's largest Careers & Employment Event is open on May 10 & 11, 2024 at the Adelaide Showground. The Expo will host over 130 organisations and employers with career opportunities for all ages. Entry is free.

The event is for school students, parents, teachers, graduates, job seekers, people looking for courses and workers seeking new opportunities.

[Find out more](#)

## Job Spotlight

### Urban Planner

Urban planners develop and implement plans and policies surrounding the development and use of land. They work on a variety of projects, including designing new neighbourhoods, revitalising existing infrastructure, and even zoning areas of ecological and environmental importance. If you are creative, innovative, and great at solving problems, becoming an urban planner could be a rewarding career to consider.

#### About You

- Innovative & forward-thinking
- Analytical & thorough
- Good research skills
- Eye for design
- Excellent problem-solver
- Great communicator
- Can work in teams.
- Organised & precise.

#### Common Tasks

- Collect data on land use factors.
- Carry out site surveys & inspections.
- Consult with stakeholders.
- Create detailed plans & designs.
- Present plans to stakeholders.
- Mediate planning issues & disputes.

- Ensure laws & regulations are followed.
- Advise on resource use & planning.

#### Things you can do now

1. Focus on English, Maths, and Design at high school.
2. Find work experience or volunteer in a relevant industry.
3. Build skills through short courses and micro credentials.
4. Research qualifications and requirements.
5. Talk to an urban planner to see what a day in their life is like (Whyalla City Council have Urban Planners within their organisation)

#### Future study ideas

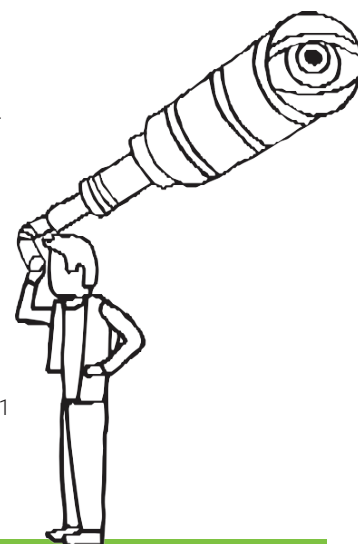
To become an urban planner, you typically need a bachelor's or master's degree in urban or regional planning, geography, or another related field. Many programs also include internships or practical components that provide hands-on experience in the field. Additionally, some countries and states require urban planners to be licensed, which may involve passing an exam and/or meeting certain education and experience requirements.

A large portion of the information contained within the Careers News has been provided by third parties. Samaritan College does not accept responsibility for the accuracy of this information. Parents and caregivers need to make their own enquiries and assessments about the suitability of these events and services for their needs and those of their children.

# Welcome to the SACE

The South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) is a modern, internationally-recognised secondary school qualification designed to equip you with the skills, knowledge, and personal capabilities to successfully participate in our fast-paced global society.

The SACE has evolved to provide you with **more flexibility** to choose subjects that reflect your interests, skills, and career goals, using a combination of SACE subjects, vocational education and training (VET), community learning, university, and TAFE studies. SACE subjects are made up of investigations, performances, and other assessment tasks to demonstrate your skills, knowledge, and personal capabilities throughout the year. Some subjects will have an end-of-year exam worth a maximum of 30% of the overall grade.



## Your SACE journey

To complete the qualification, you will need to attain **200 credits** from a selection of Stage 1 and Stage 2 subjects. A 10-credit subject is usually one semester of study, and a 20-credit subject is usually over two semesters. **Here's how it works.**

### COMPULSORY SUBJECTS

#### 50 credits

- Exploring Identities and Futures (EIF) (10 credits)
- Literacy requirement (20 credits) demonstrated from a range of English subjects at Stage 1 or Stage 2
- Numeracy requirement (10 credits) demonstrated from a range of Mathematics subjects at Stage 1 or Stage 2
- The Research Project (10 credits) (Activating Identities and Futures from 2025)



### STUDENT SELECTED SUBJECTS

#### 90 credits

Choose and successfully complete a selection of Stage 1 and Stage 2 subjects, recognised VET courses, or community learning.



#### 60 credits

Choose and successfully complete a selection of Stage 2 or VET subjects worth at least 60 credits in total.

Stage 2 subjects are externally assessed by the SACE Board of South Australia.

The SACE is flexible and your schedule may differ depending on your school. The majority of students in South Australia will start their journey with **Exploring Identities and Futures in Year 10**, their chosen **Stage 1 subjects in Year 11** (including the compulsory Maths and English choices), and their chosen **Stage 2 subjects in Year 12** plus the Research Project (Activating Identities and Futures from 2025). To view all subjects offered by SACE visit [sace.sa.edu.au](http://sace.sa.edu.au)

### EXAMPLE OF ACHIEVING A MINIMUM OF 200 CREDITS

#### 50 credits - compulsory

- Exploring Identities and Futures** (10 credits)
- Stage 1** General Mathematics (10 credits – one semester)
- Stage 1** Essential English (20 credits)
- Stage 2** Research Project (10 credits) (Activating Identities and Futures from 2025)

#### Min. 90 credits

- Stage 1** Biology (20 credits)
- Stage 1** Italian continuers (20 credits)
- Stage 1** Food and Hospitality (20 credits)
- Stage 2** Food and Hospitality (20 credits)
- Stage 1** VET: Certificate II in Food Processing (min. 40 credits)

#### Min. 60 credits

- Stage 2** Biology (20 credits)
- Stage 2** Italian continuers (20 credits)
- Stage 2** Essential English (20 credits)



How to get an ATAR

You are eligible for an Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR) if you achieve 90 credits in Stage 2 (see above example). The South Australian Tertiary Admissions Centre (SATAC) has responsibility for calculating the ATAR. For more information about the ATAR (including scaling), visit [satac.edu.au](http://satac.edu.au)

# What kind of learner are you?

The SACE caters for practical and theory, hands-on and action-based learning both in and outside school.

You are encouraged to choose subjects that suit you and will open doors to a range of careers within your area of interest.

**Exploring Identities and Futures** will provide you with the opportunity to explore areas of personal value and interest, and prepare you for a different way of thinking and learning in senior school.

VET options are available at both Stage 1 and Stage 2 and include a wide range of industry areas, including construction, automotive, electrotechnology, hospitality, community services, health and information technology.

In negotiation with your school, you can choose to combine study and part-time work, a traineeship, or school-based apprenticeship.

The SACE Board offers **Modified Subjects** at both Stage 1 and 2 for eligible students with identified significant disabilities.

## Making sure it's fair

Your work is assessed against the performance standards outlined for each subject.

Teachers and assessors use these standards to determine how well you have demonstrated your learning, and apply a grade:

**From A to E for Stage 1** (C or higher to pass)

**From A+ to E- for Stage 2** (C- or higher to pass)

To ensure your work is marked fairly, thousands of samples of student work are reviewed to ensure that assessment decisions are consistent with the performance standards for the subject across the state. These processes are called **marking** and **moderation**.

## If something happens during your journey

If your learning is significantly disrupted, special provisions may be granted by your school, on a short-term or long-term basis, to allow for adjustments in assessment so you can demonstrate the required knowledge and performance standards to complete the subject.

The SACE Board and schools work in partnership to ensure **special provisions** are available for exceptional circumstances.



You will develop 7 capabilities that equip you to live and work successfully in the 21st century.



LITERACY



NUMERACY



INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY



CRITICAL AND CREATIVE THINKING



PERSONAL AND SOCIAL



ETHICAL UNDERSTANDING



INTERCULTURAL UNDERSTANDING

## Need more information?

The SACE Board provides detailed information on subjects, assessment, modified subjects, special provisions, and results. Visit [sace.sa.edu.au](http://sace.sa.edu.au) for more information.

Your school's SACE coordinator and other school leaders can offer advice and information on subjects being offered that best suit your interests and your plans for further education and training.

