

Career Checklist



A guide to starting your career journey as an international student.



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Explore

Become familiar with BEL Careers and Employability.

Discover the support and resources available to you and stay informed throughout your studies by **following us on Facebook**.

Don't be afraid to ask yourself the challenging questions.

Do you know what career pathways are available after completing your degree? Do those career pathways align with your career goals, values and unique strengths? If you answered no or have doubts, that is okay and you don't need to figure it out alone. Book into a **BEL Career Consult** for a one-on-one chat.

Maximise your study plan.

Find out what experiences you can fit into your study plan by using your elective courses for **BEL's Employability Capstone course, Work-integrated Learning**, or a **Global Exchange**. Contact the **BEL Student Centre** for advice.

Embrace collaboration and learn from others.

Remember, although you may be new to Australia, you are not alone. Many of the best ideas and solutions will come to you by working with others and asking a lot of questions. Get to know your university staff, seek out **peer mentors**, and later in your degree, engage with an **industry mentor or career coach**.

BEL Careers and Employability

T: +61 7 3365 4222
E: careers@bel.uq.edu.au

W: bel.uq.edu.au/careers
A: Colin Clark (Building 39) Room 107

Start building your experience.

Whether it be casual work, work shadowing, **volunteering, student societies, virtual internships, mooting**, the **Student Work Experience Program (SWEP)** or a range of other activities, your first year is the perfect time to engage in a variety of experiences. Your grades are only part of the story – employers look for well-rounded graduates, so it is important to find the right balance between your study and experience. You can find diverse opportunities on **UQ StudentHub**.

Get ready to apply.

Every country is slightly different, so it is important that you understand the recruitment practices and application formats in Australia. Take the time to translate your existing application documents to suit the Australian market, which includes a resume and a cover letter. Learn more by completing our online **Employability Essentials** modules and then join us at the **BEL Career Study Group** to apply what you have learnt.

Reflect on your experiences.

Think about what skills and attributes you used during your experiences, and how you could apply them in future at work. What did you find challenging and how can you bridge any skills gaps? Try **using the Situation, Effect, Action and Learning (SEAL) process** for these reflections.

Set up a LinkedIn profile and start building your networks.

Approximately 75% of job opportunities in Australia are never advertised, instead, they are filled through personal networks. These networks include your friends, social sports teammates, fellow volunteers and more. These connections will also help you to gain greater understanding of Australian culture and make the most of your UQ experience.

Start to explore potential career pathways.

Join **student societies** and **professional associations**, research your industry, and attend **careers and professional development events** to get insider insights into organisations and professions whilst growing your networks. If you are considering working in your home country after graduation, make sure to check out **GoGlobal's Career Guides** for up to date information on top companies and industry trends.

Know your working rights.

Make sure you understand your student visa conditions, and if your goal is to stay in Australia, start exploring the pathways to residency available to you. If you need assistance, reach out to **UQ Union's Student Advocacy & Support Visa Services**. Make sure you also understand your rights at work to ensure you are being treated fairly. For more information visit the **Fair Work Ombudsman** website.

