INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CAREER SNAPSHOT

Study Opportunities

Considering studying Computing and IT at JCU? Then check out:
Information Technology - JCU Australia

Clarify your study goals

Prepare yourself for the new world of work by exploring the careers that match your skills and interests.
 The Good Careers Guide

Graduate Opportunities

The Australia Computer Society's (ACS) annual snapshot of trends in the Australian digital economy and workforce identifies Australia having over 870,000 technology workers with a growth of 8% year on year and predictions the workforce will grow to 1.2 million by 2027.

Source ACS Australia's Digital Pulse 2022 Feb 2023

JCU Information Technology students gain the latest knowledge and skills in gamification and games design, information security and data mining. Students can choose optional areas of specialisation including the Internet of Things (IoT), Computer Science and Networking, Human-Computer Interaction and Games Design, and Education Curriculum. Graduates may work for multi-national corporations, government departments, small to medium sized enterprises (SME), freelance, start-ups or your own business in Australia or overseas.

There are a wide variety of positions that your degree in Information Technology will equip you for, including:
- Network Administrator
- Designer
- Systems Analyst
- Software Developer

Source: JCU Bachelor of Information Technology (Retrieved January 2024).

It will be imperative to keep on top of Technology trends.

McKinsey Technology Trends Outlook 2023 | McKinsey. (January 2024)

JCU Graduates Employment Data

The Graduate Outcomes Survey 2020-2022 reported the following findings.

	JCU	National Average
Full-time employment	66.1% 56 responses	72.3%
Overall employment	80.3% 61 responses	80.7%
Continued to Full-time study	10.5% 57 responses	10.8%

Retrieved ComparED, 15 January 2024

Explore more about our Labour markets.

Jobs and Skills Australia -- Home

The **JCU LinkedIn** page provides information on over 3,400 JCU alumni who have listed Information Technology within their **LinkedIn profile**.

You can drill down to alumni with your major. Investigate their profiles to identify their career paths, including job titles and current and past employers.

Key employers of JCU IT graduates on LinkedIn include
- James Cook University;
- Queensland Health;
- Queensland Department of Education;
- University of Queensland

The top five fields JCU IT graduates on LinkedIn are employed in are: Information Technology,
- Healthcare Services
- Business Development,
- Education,
- Operations.

Source: James Cook University LinkedIn (Retrieved January 2024)

Professional Associations

Graduates are eligible to become Associate Members of the **Australian Computer Society (ACS)**.

Consider applying for **student membership** of the ACS. The benefits include access to their digital learning assets, latest news, innovations and trends, special interest groups, professional development, and networking events.

Membership in a professional organization is a clear signal to employers about commitment to your future profession and ongoing professional development.

Get involved

Employers want to know you can offer more than your educational qualifications. **Be proactive, get involved** and demonstrate your **initiative**.
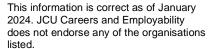
- Attend relevant professional development opportunities. Keep a record of attendance on your LinkedIn profile and resume.
- Investigate joining the Australian Computer Society Mentoring Program – the program connects students with industry leaders and experts.
- Compete in student Information Technology and/or interdisciplinary related competitions and challenges such as the **JCU Technology Design Thinking Sprint,** to develop skills, show initiative and demonstrate ability to collaborate with students in other discipline areas.
- Explore innovation opportunities through JCU Connect
- Become involved in community activities, organisations, and events. Employers value community engagement work.
- Gain leadership skills, become a JCU Student Mentor.

JCU Careers and Employability

CRICOS Provider No. 00117J
January 2024

jcu.edu.au/careers
careers@jcu.edu.au
Ph: 1800 246 446 (option 5)

@ jcucareers

This information is correct as of January 2024. JCU Careers and Employability does not endorse any of the organisations listed.

Workplace Experience

Employers value evidence of relevant experience and often prefer to recruit omeone they know, have seen perform or has been strongly recommended.

Employers want to know that you have put the skills and knowledge you have been developing into practice. Prioritize gaining as much career relevant experience as is possible.

The Bachelor of Information Technology final year **Work Integrated Learning (WIL)** subjects including the **Professional Internship, Multidisciplinary Project or Independent Project** are designed to enable you to put theory into practice as part of your degree to reinforce your academic learning while developing essential employability skills.

Additional workplace opportunities include:

Vacation programs are generally offered to students in the penultimate (second last) year of their degree.

Cadetships or employment may also be offered to students to work part or full time while completing their university studies.

NOTE - Check with your College if any of these options can be recognised as your WIL experience.

Volunteering, particularly in an Information Technology role is a great way to form professional networks, develop work skills and gain referees. Volunteering opportunities are listed on:

- SEEK Volunteer – IT & Web Development
- Go Volunteer - IT & Web Development
- FNQ Volunteers
- Volunteering North Queensland

Job Opportunities

Online job boards, graduate directories and employer websites and social media accounts, all provide information on job opportunities and employer expectations.

Job vacancy listings will also give you an understanding of **employer expectations** for various positions.

It is important you work towards **gaining the skills, knowledge or experience** identified to ensure you are competitive when entering the graduate labour market.

Online Job Boards

- SEEK
- JCU CareerHub
- LinkedIn Jobs
- Australian Job Search
- Queensland Government Jobs
- Hays Technology
- Hudson – IT & Technology Recruitment

Graduate Recruitment Sites

The following sites provide information on graduate jobs, graduate programs, internships, vacation programs and job application advice.

- Prosple
- GradConnection
- Queensland Government Graduate Portal
- Australian Government Graduate Programs

Graduate Programs

While the majority of graduates will find employment with small or medium size employers, a number will enter **Graduate Programs** offered by large organisations (e.g. OPTUS, IBM, Technology One, Telstra, Google) or government departments.

Graduate programs are paid structured professional development positions where successful applicants are provided on the job training and mentoring within the organization.

These organisations generally **recruit students throughout their final year of study** for commencement of employment in the following year. Applications open as early as February.

- Prosple
- GradConnection

Starting a Business

If you are interested in establishing your own business venture, the Australian and State governments have grants, programs, and other forms of support to help business to innovate, compete and grow.

- Australian Government New Business Assistance
- Australian Government Entrepreneurs' Programme
- QLD Government Starting a Business
- Social Enterprise Grants Program

JCU Careers Resources

As a student, consider accessing JCU Careers resources and be job ready by developing your Employability skills.

Careers and Employability - JCU Australia

Build you employability skills and fine tune your Application Skills

- **Résumés**
- **Application Documents**
- **Interviews**
- **LinkedIn**

For further ideas access
Career Ready Plan