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Media Release

QTAC rewards early applicants

THOUSANDS of applicants have been visiting the Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre online over the past week to meet the initial national due date for tertiary places.

QTAC manager Public Relations and Information Services Pat Smith said applicants should be aware that some courses had early closing dates and it was important for those applicants to get their applications in on time. This was particularly the case with creative and performing arts and medical science programs.

Applicants unsure of a course's closing date should check the course requirements online at www.qtac.edu.au.

Ms Smith said that for non-Year 12 applicants, submitting applications early could lead to early advice regarding course eligibility as well as to early offers for those applicants with a competitive rank from an existing qualification.

"In the past, early offers have been greatly appreciated by adult applicants who had used the additional time to relocate and seek alternative work arrangements if needed," Ms Smith said.

Leading up to today's initial due date, QTAC information staff have been helping nearly a thousand people a day with application enquiries, and QTAC has been receiving about 3000 online applications a day.

Ms Smith said Year 12 applicants appeared particularly organised this year, with more than 22,000 Year 12 applications to date.

QTAC is the central processing agency for tertiary places in more than 1800 courses covering the sciences to the arts, primary industries to business, information technology, health, and law.

Ms Smith reiterated that for all courses it was better to apply early, and said people who submitted their applications now could still change preferences later if they had a change of heart. Year 12s had sufficient time to review their preferences once they received their Senior results in December.

Non-Year 12 applicants could also make an early start with their studies by applying for selected courses for semester 3 (see the QTAC website). Offer rounds for these courses occur in October and November for courses commencing semester 1 next year.

During December, further early offers are issued along with the major release of places for many creative and performing arts courses, graduate diplomas, and Bond University courses starting semester 1.

Most semester 1 places will be released on 12 January, 2012.

Applicants can check if they have an offer and print their offer letter via QTAC's *Current Applicant* online service from 1am on the day offers are released.

"If you are only now starting to consider tertiary study options, don't panic, applicants can apply after the national due date for almost all courses," Ms Smith said.

All QTAC applications are submitted online at www.qtac.edu.au. QTAC has a number of computers available at its Park Road, Milton office to help those making applications. The number to call for telephone enquiries is 1300 467 822 (1300 GO QTAC).