

Defer

Before you defer you need to accept. Understand? No? Well, you better read on ...



before moving on

The pros and cons

Pros ✓

'P' is for pathways – perhaps travel is the perfect thing for you at this time.

'R' is for riches and lack thereof. You may need to work and save money to help pay for your studies.

'O' is for zero, and that's the number of clues you have. You want to do and need some time to come up with a plan.

'S' is for sick of study. Perhaps you want to grow into your study rather than your studying growing into you. Perhaps you are sick of studying and want to experience something different.

Cons ✗

'C' is caught in a trap. Leaving study might mean you get caught up in the rat-race and find it difficult to return to study. You get in debt and then studying is out of reach.

'O' means zero and that might be the number of people you know in your class when you end up going to uni. If all your Year 12 mates skip off to the local Sunny University and you do something else, when you decide to go back to study it might be a bit lonely. You might be on the outside looking in. Sniff.

'N' is for normal and you might find yourself in a world where studying isn't normal. That makes it hard to go back. It's easy to get out of the rhythm, to lose study skills and to step into a world where study is not the norm.

'S' is for sucks and that's what life will be if you shoot off overseas and maybe you're too young – in many countries you might not be able to get a job or even go into a bar!

Deffering means you'll do it later. People are always deferring things. Washing the dishes is a great thing to defer. But deferring your studies is something else altogether.

Official deferment means you have been accepted by a university to study a course and have made a formal arrangement with that university to start studying your course at an agreed date.

Just putting your studies on the backburner isn't deferring. It just means you've decided to do it later. Unless you get official deferment, you'll have to go through the whole process of applying for a course some other time. And that's a pain!

Before you defer, ACCEPT!

1. Accept the place in the course you want. Now!
2. Contact the education institution to check on their rules about deferring. How long you can defer for etc.
3. Apply for deferment.
4. Obtain and keep your official notification safe.
5. Keep in contact with the education institution to ensure you're aware of enrolment procedures.

FYI

- www.goingtouni.gov.au
- www.year12whatnext.gov.au
- Universities – see page 64.
- Gap years on page 86.

Non-uni studies

Deferring is a term usually associated with university. However, many private providers offer deferring options. It's not a term used when you're talking about TAFE. But you should check it out with your TAFE anyway: plenty of TAFEs have courses that are in high demand and so are competitive to get into. If you secure a place in one of these courses and want to put it off for a year, then you may be able to 'defer' (even if they call it something else). Check with your TAFE; contact details on page 56.

Discontinue the discontinuing

Remember, you will be considered to have discontinued your enrolment if you don't defer. You need to defer your studies or take a leave of absence from a course of study with approval. So make it official.

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