

# Future Careers

## Built on entrepreneurship, innovation and digital technologies

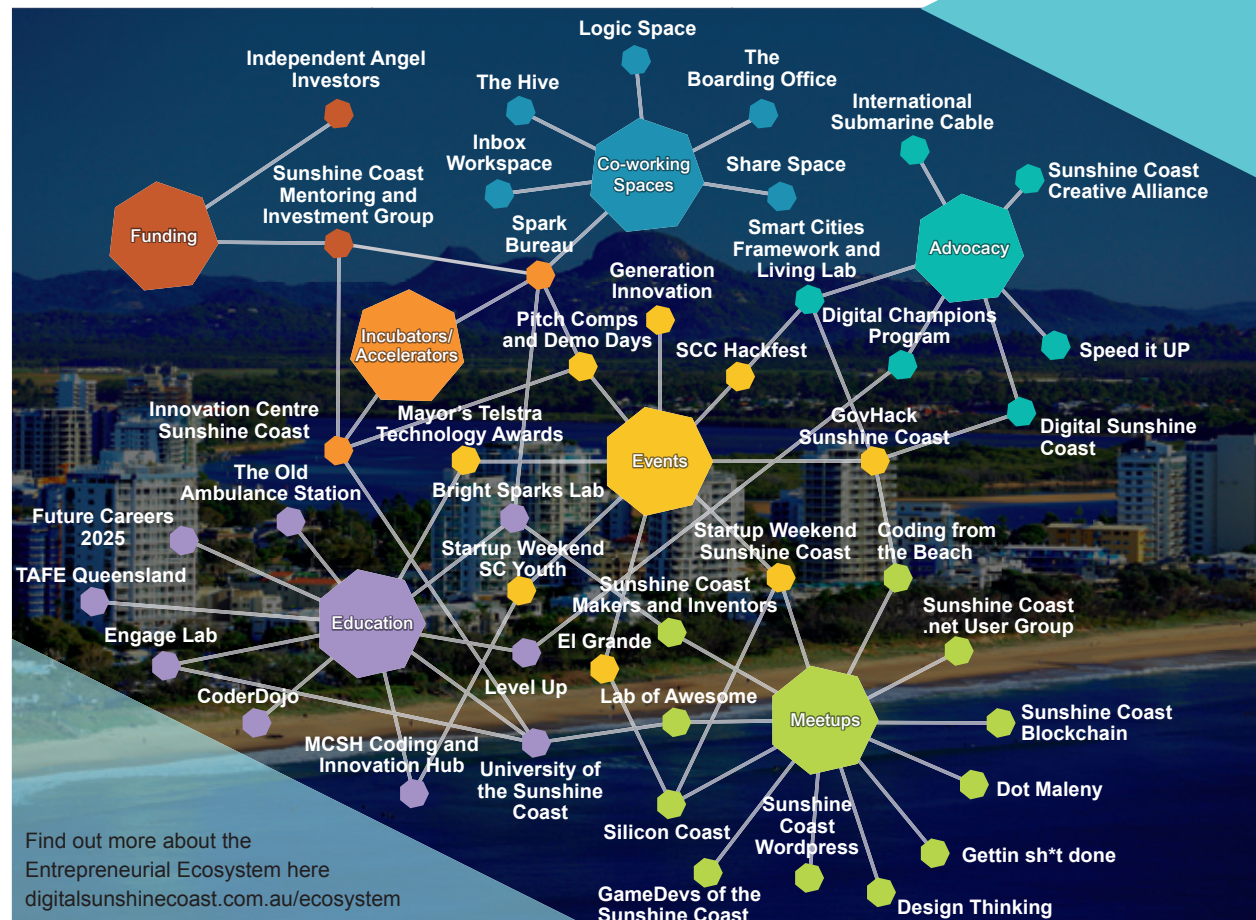
This 4-page feature is an initiative of the Education and Research Industry Taskforce and Education Sunshine Coast Inc, supported by Sunshine Coast Council.

The Sunshine Coast Regional Economic Development Strategy provides a vision and blueprint for sustainable economic growth towards 2033. Education and Research was identified as one of seven high-value industries that offer the greatest potential to succeed as the economy grows. A continued investment in talent and skills is crucial to meeting the needs of the region and preparing our workforce with the knowledge and experience they need to compete in a global marketplace.

The Sunshine Coast has a unique entrepreneurial ecosystem of education programs, business incubators, co-working

spaces, events and meetups, which has developed organically across the community. Council has teamed up with *My Weekly Preview* to highlight to young people, the wealth of information and opportunities that are available to help connect and support them on their journey.

The following pages provide a snapshot of some of the courses, programs, events and organisations that demonstrate the entrepreneurship, innovation and digital ecosystem that exists here on the Sunshine Coast.



Find out more about the Entrepreneurial Ecosystem here [digitalsunshinecoast.com.au/ecosystem](http://digitalsunshinecoast.com.au/ecosystem)

### Message from the Mayor



Our Sunshine Coast is becoming one of Australia's leading city regions for the 21st century. We are experiencing a time of growing prosperity as our community looks forward to what is sure to be a bright future. We are building a new economy based on a clear 20-year economic plan that supports transformational capital investment and encourages growth in seven high-value industries that will provide a platform for enduring employment opportunities for our residents. We have ambitious goals and we are making very significant gains. The development of the new Maroochyodre City Centre, which is underway, the Sunshine Coast Airport expansion, which is also underway, and the new Sunshine Coast University Hospital are among a handful of game-changer projects providing outstanding current and future career opportunities.

We want as many of our young residents as possible to finish their studies on the Sunshine Coast and then pursue a career here, without having to leave their family and friends.

On the back of our game-changer projects and private investment, I am pleased to report our Sunshine Coast now has the second highest percentage of jobs growth across Queensland and an unemployment rate that is a full percentage point below the state average.

In addition to this, the region has again been named as one of the world's Smart21 Communities, recognised for applying digital technology to deliver economic opportunities that lead to jobs, investment and development.

Our region is also pursuing the opportunity to secure an international broadband network, which will connect the region and Queensland directly to international markets.

This will provide the region with a significant competitive edge for businesses operating in a digital environment and potentially generate new employment opportunities within our knowledge, digital and other technology dependent industries.

Investing in our young people and creating more opportunities for all of us is all about building resilience and certainty for the future of our communities.

Here on the Sunshine Coast we are well placed to capitalise on the new opportunities that technology and innovation will enable, and the careers that will result.

I encourage you to take advantage of the various events and programs that will show how you can be part of creating a region that is healthy, smart and creative.



MAYOR MARK JAMIESON  
Sunshine Coast Council

# Innovation Pathways and Programs

The future proofing of the Sunshine Coast will be built on a highly educated workforce and a culture of entrepreneurship and creativity.



### University of the Sunshine Coast

USC is one of Australia's fastest growing regional universities, and one of the world's top 150 young universities. USC offers more than 120 programs, including a range of study options in business, IT, entrepreneurship and social enterprise, and in emerging fields like prosthetics and serious games design. USC is home to some of the most advanced learning facilities in Australia, including simulated health labs, advanced engineering technologies, and a state-of-the-art CAVE2™ 3D visualisation studio – the only one of its kind in the world used for teaching and learning.

USC's Engage Research Lab investigates and develops interactive technologies such as computer games, apps, social media and artworks that involve and inform users. With a mission to empower and inspire people through technology, the Engage Research Lab works collaboratively with local, national and international organisations to develop solutions around social issues that deliver measurable benefits to the community.

All USC programs include a strong focus on the core skills students need in the future workplace. No matter what they study, students learn to communicate, solve problems and think creatively. All programs also include hands-on training, practical experience and internships. [Find out more usc.edu.au](http://usc.edu.au)

### CQUniversity

When it comes to innovation and entrepreneurship, CQUniversity Australia knows what capabilities and technical skills you need to succeed in a future workforce shaped by digital technology. As Australia's largest regional university, you can rest assured you'll get a world-class education when you choose CQUniversity. Students can select from a range of study options, from undergraduate and postgraduate degrees to VET certificates, in technology-focused areas such as Information Technology, Digital Media, Business and Social Innovation.

To find out more, visit [cqu.edu.au](http://cqu.edu.au)

### Study Sunshine Coast

An initiative of Sunshine Coast Council and Education Sunshine Coast, the Study Sunshine Coast program is all about promoting the education, lifestyle and career opportunities that are available in the region to international and domestic students. A Study Sunshine Coast Official Student Guide has been developed which provides a comprehensive source of information for existing and new students to help them understand how they can study, live, work and play on the Sunshine Coast.

For more information visit [studysunshinecoast.com.au](http://studysunshinecoast.com.au)



### TAFE Queensland

TAFE Queensland's East Coast region offers an extensive range of courses across a variety of growth areas, including business, digital and information technology. Fostering innovation and creativity has always been a key focus of TAFE Queensland, with the organisation dedicated to working closely with local industry to ensure the best outcomes for students and the overall community. As an example of this, TAFE Queensland is currently working with Mountain Creek State High School's Department of Innovation and Coding with support from Regional Development Australia to deliver the Entrepreneur and Innovation Program, which aims to equip students with the skills to create their own start-ups. The pilot program is the first of its kind across TAFE Queensland, providing the region's high school students with a Certificate III in Information, Digital Media and Technology with a special focus on entrepreneurship. [For more information, call 1300 656 188.](tel:1300656188)



# Events and Programs

There are many events, programs and organisations which help showcase our people, the innovative and creative industries, the startup support, talent pipeline and career opportunities here on the Sunshine Coast.



**CoderDojo Sunshine Coast**  
For school children, this free coding club is held on Saturdays during the school term. At a Dojo, young people between seven and 17 learn how to code, develop websites, apps, programs, games and much more. In addition to learning to code, members meet like-minded people, show off what they've been working on and learn new things.  
**For more information visit [sunshinecoast.coderdojo.com.au/](http://sunshinecoast.coderdojo.com.au/)**



**Creative Alliance Sunshine Coast**  
The Alliance provides advocacy, networking and professional development, as well as showcases the region's creative and knowledge industries.  
**For more, visit [creativealliance.org.au](http://creativealliance.org.au)**

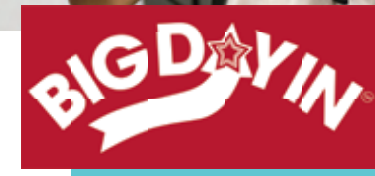


**Innovation Centre Sunshine Coast** - Where Innovation Lives and Entrepreneurs Thrive. Regional Australia's longest running business incubator and accelerator works with technology-based businesses to be a catalyst for their commercial success. Since 2002, the centre has been home to over 200 startup and high growth companies, creating over 890 new jobs, 223 internships and helped to raise \$38 million in venture capital and government grants. **For more, visit [innovationcentre.com.au/](http://innovationcentre.com.au/)**

**Generation Innovation**  
The Generation Innovation Challenge connects budding young entrepreneurs with the marketplace in a way never seen before. By throwing together the old and the new, we're uncovering the next breed of business gurus on the Sunshine Coast. We empower young people to pursue their own path towards a positive future by connecting them to the local business community and providing training, mentoring and seed capital to help fund the initial stages of business start-ups.  
**For more, visit [generationinnovation.com.au](http://generationinnovation.com.au)**



**Coding and Innovation Hub**  
The Coding and Innovation Hub, operated by Mountain Creek State High School, runs a range of activities for schools, teachers and students from across the Sunshine Coast region. The most recent initiative is a global innovation activity called Future Living ([futureliving2018.com](http://futureliving2018.com)), however other areas include robotics, lean startup and Digital Technologies Skills Expos.  
**Find out more here: [codinginnovationhub.com](http://codinginnovationhub.com)**



**BiG Day In**  
The BiG Day In is an annual digital careers conference designed for high school students (Years 9-12) interested in careers in technology. The event features leading speakers from global companies such as IBM, WiseTech Global, Technology One, Youi Insurance and more, all talking about the future of technology & how students can get involved in shaping the future. The BiG Day In is run by the ACS Foundation in conjunction with Sunshine Coast Council and the University of the Sunshine Coast.  
**For more, visit [thebigdayin.com.au](http://thebigdayin.com.au)**

**Startup Weekend Sunshine Coast**  
Startup Weekend Sunshine Coast is a weekend-long, hands-on experience where people meet to share ideas, create teams and build startups. On average, half of Startup Weekend's attendees have technical backgrounds, the other half have a non-technical background, like business or design.  
**Go to [startupweekend.com.au/](http://startupweekend.com.au/)**



**Startup Weekend Youth Sunshine Coast**  
Startup Weekend Youth invites budding entrepreneurs in Years 10-12, to take an idea from nothing to something, pitch to prototype, in just three days.  
**Find out more here: [startupsyouth.com](http://startupsyouth.com)**



**#SCRIPT**  
The Sunshine Coast Regional Innovation Project Team (#SCRIPT) is a collaboration of local entrepreneurs, businesses, government stakeholders and community members dedicated to driving innovation and improving business capacity on the Sunshine Coast. SCRIPT's purpose is to invest in innovative programs that will make a difference to the community. The Steering Committee supports projects which showcase excellence, accelerate new solutions and support entrepreneurs in turning their ideas into commercial realities. If you have a grassroots project which aims to connect, educate and inspire members of the Sunshine Coast in areas such as Smart Cities, Food & Agribusiness, Health & Wellbeing, Sustainability & Environment or Creative Industries, then visit: [sunshinecoastinnovation.com.au](http://sunshinecoastinnovation.com.au)

# Game Changer Projects



**Future Careers**  
The Future Careers Program is an opportunity to highlight the impact that technology and innovation will have on the Sunshine Coast and jobs of the future. These future careers have been mapped against the education pathways across the region's seven high-value industries to help high school students navigate and plan their education.  
**For more information, visit [www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au](http://www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au) and search 'Future Careers'.**

**Smart Cities**  
The Smart Centre and Living Lab showcases real-time results and examples of the smart city technology currently being tested. Technologies range from parking apps and free high-speed public Wi-Fi to transport information and environmental water sensors providing data in real time. The Smart Centre is located at 63 Bulcock Street, Caloundra and open from Monday to Friday 12-4 pm.  
**For more information, visit [sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/SmartCities](http://sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/SmartCities)**

**Sunshine Coast International Broadband Network**  
The Sunshine Coast International Broadband Network project will position the Sunshine Coast as Australia's leading smart city region. Sunshine Coast Council is facilitating investment in a new international broadband network to come ashore on the Sunshine Coast by 2020, which in turn will stimulate local business, generate new investment, and improve telecommunications diversity to Australia's east coast.  
**For more information, visit [sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au](http://sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au)**



**DeLorean Project**  
The DeLorean Project's original and continuing mandate is to provide Year 10 students with the opportunity to engage in authentic, student-directed learning. The goal has always been to develop within students the capacity to work collaboratively, think innovatively and contribute to the world genuinely.  
**For more, go to [deloreanproject.com.au](http://deloreanproject.com.au)**

## 5 Actions for future proofing our workforce

1. Download a Future Careers Pathway brochure which maps the education pathways for future careers. Visit [sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au](http://sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au) and search 'Future Careers'.
2. Visit [studysunshinecoast.com.au](http://studysunshinecoast.com.au) and download the free Student Guide which helps students understand how they can study, live, work and play here on the Sunshine Coast
3. Subscribe to the Monthly Business e-newsletter [sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/Business](http://sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/Business)
4. Check out the Sunshine Coast Youth Action Plan 2018-2021 Visit [sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au](http://sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au) and search 'Youth Action Plan'.
5. Check out the programs and opportunities listed on these pages and start a conversation with the young people in your family about what they may like to investigate further.



**Mayor's Telstra Technology Awards**  
The Mayor's Telstra Technology Awards are an opportunity for students in Years 10 to 12 to showcase their creative and innovative ideas. The competition is focused on bringing creative ideas to life by connecting students with industry mentors to develop entrepreneurial thinking, new and creative uses of technology or a technological idea or product.  
**For more information, visit [sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/techawards](http://sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/techawards)**