



AMELIA FORSON

PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANT

What was your experience transitioning from the job that you held in your late teens to the job that you acquired in your early twenties?

Going into your first “real job” can be intimidating at first and it can take a while to get into the routine. Initially I found myself envious of my friends still at uni who could go out for brunch on a thursday afternoon but now that I know that my Saturdays can’t be messed with, i’m all good.

Do you think it makes a difference graduating at the same time as your peer’s vs 1, 2 or 5+ years later?

I think it’s very easy to get caught up in comparisons and feel as though delays make you less successful. I don’t think it matters when you graduate at all - I think what matters is if you have a sound understanding of what you’d like your next steps to be and that you’re passionate.

There are hundreds of degrees on offer, what made you choose professional accounting, and did you have another course in mind prior to commencement?

I knew that I wanted to work in the area of finance from roughly year 9 onwards. It was probably initially because I googled “Top paying jobs in Australia” but the more I learned the more I understood that my passion was in business! I chose Professional Accountancy at RMIT specifically because it offered one year of Work Integrated Learning. I knew that experience was valuable and I figured the sooner I get it, the better.

You’ve been at AASO for quite some time now, What kind of impact do you think the organisation has had on your youth?

I’ve been volunteering from a young age in a lot of different organisations. AASO specifically has had a huge impact on me professionally and personally, it’s helped me to recognise and reaffirm my values.

What are your recommendations/tips for future graduates?

- Don’t put too much pressure on yourself - you have time!
- Get experience where you can - volunteering can open up so many doors
- Have a mentor that you can catch up with a few times a year