



Australian Government
Department of Education and Training

real skills for
real careers



FACT SHEET

WHAT STUDENTS NEED TO KNOW

Vocational education and training (VET) is a tertiary education pathway that school students need to know about. They also need to know about My Skills – the national directory of VET courses and training providers – because it can help them make choices about their training options and careers.

QUICK FACTS

Vocational education and training (VET)

- Equips you with real world skills
- Helps you find your place in the workforce
- Gives you the industry experience needed by employers

VET + YOU = A REAL WORLD CAREER

STARTING YOUR CAREER

If you're still at school, just about to finish your studies or taking some time out on a gap year, you're probably thinking about a future career. Whatever stage you're at, it's a good time to consider vocational education and training (VET) as the next step to a fulfilling and well paid career.

WHAT IS VET?

VET is a tertiary education pathway that enables individuals to gain qualifications for employment. It is designed to deliver workplace-specific skills and knowledge-based competencies in a wide range of occupations.

Diversity and choice

VET offers nationally recognised training and qualifications across a range of industry sectors, including information technology, avionics, small business management, nursing, fashion and floristry – just to name a few.

There are thousands of qualifications to choose from, and unlike other learning options, VET lets you undertake partial qualifications, short courses, skill sets and units of competency, allowing you to gain the specific skills you need, when you need them.

VET qualifications are available through registered training organisation (RTOs), which are also known as *training organisations* or *training providers*.



Australian Apprenticeships

Gaining a VET qualification through an Australian Apprenticeship (also known as an apprenticeship or traineeship) gives you the opportunity to train, study and earn an income at a variety of qualification levels in most occupations. Apprenticeships and traineeships combine time at work with training, and can be full-time, part-time or school-based.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF VET?

VET will give you the skills you need for the career you want. If you want to get into the workforce and follow a long-term career, think about this:

- VET isn't just for trades – it's for careers and options you may not have thought of
- VET qualifications are nationally recognised, transferable and valued by employers
- VET will equip you with skills for the real world

As a VET student, you'll be trained in real workplace situations and taught by industry professionals. VET is also a great way to start your education journey if you are thinking about continuing on to a university degree.

STEPS TO SUCCESS

If you work through the following steps, you will increase your competitive edge for today's competitive job market.

Think

Think about what you're good at; what you're passionate about; what you enjoy doing.

Talk

Talk to people about the careers that have always interested you – your friends, parents, grandparents, teachers and career advisors.

My Skills

Use My Skills to find a qualification to give you the hands-on knowledge and experience necessary to help achieve your career goals.

MY SKILLS

The My Skills website is the national directory of VET courses and training providers. If you've made a career choice, My Skills will help you find a qualification to match. You can search VET courses and compare information such as fees, durations, graduate satisfaction and available subsidies

myskills.gov.au

RESOURCES

With so much information about careers, it's hard to know where to start or where to look. Here's a few sites that you may find useful once you've found the right VET course and training provider on My Skills:

- Australian Apprenticeships
<https://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au/>
- Job Jumpstart - <https://www.jobjumpstart.gov.au/>
- Job Outlook - <https://joboutlook.gov.au/>
- Study Assist - <https://www.studyassist.gov.au/>
- Unique Student Identifier - <https://www.usi.gov.au/>
- WorldSkills Australia
<https://www.worldskills.org.au/>

CAREER STORIES

VET can lead to fantastic employment opportunities for its graduates – read the following stories and see for yourself. Be inspired to enrol in a qualification and get the skills you need to start your career.

HANNA'S STORY

VET Qualification: Diploma of Marketing
Career: Marketing Manager

Upon graduating from Year 12, Hanna Darmody already had one nationally recognised qualification to her name – a Certificate III in Agriculture. With a taste for vocational education and training as a learning pathway, Hanna decided to gain further qualifications to play a more effective role in her family businesses. To achieve this, Hanna completed a Certificate IV in Marketing and a Diploma of Marketing.

I would recommend vocational education and training to anyone. I think the experience that you gain and the skills that you learn is something you can implement in your everyday life.

**I WILL
SUCCEED
MY WAY.**

There are many ways to succeed. Do it your way with Vocational Education and Training.



JOEL'S STORY

VET Qualification: Certificate III in Automotive Mechanical Technology

Career: Diesel Mechanic

Joel Schwarz has always been fascinated with agricultural machinery. Growing up on a vineyard, he witnessed mechanics working on the equipment – this is when he started to envision his future career in the industry. Joel wanted a head-start on his career, so he started an Australian School-based Apprenticeship in Automotive Mechanical Technology. He is now a fully qualified diesel mechanic.

There really are a lot of doorways that you can take, but it's all based around having that basic trade qualification. So the possibilities will be endless.





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FAQS

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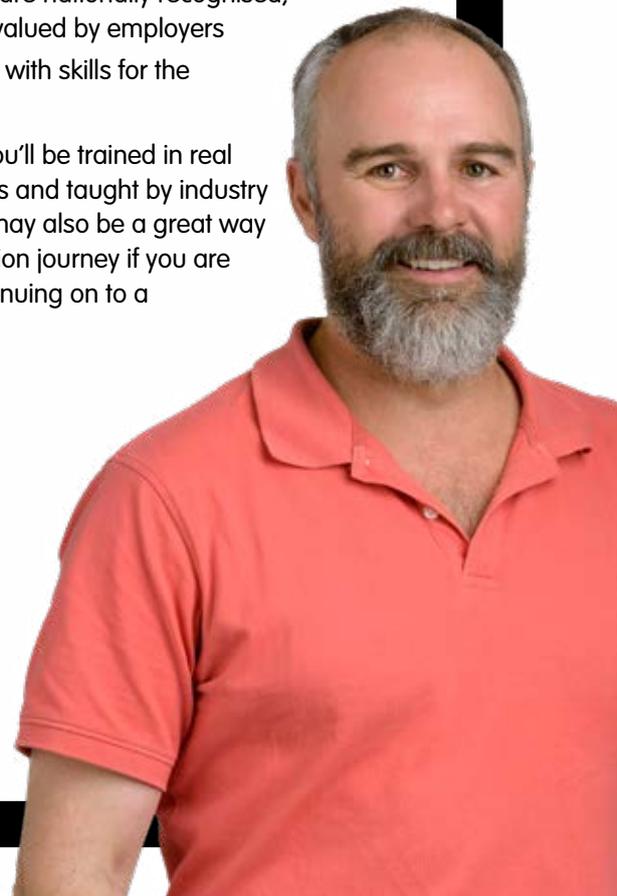
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