Australian Government
Department of Education and Training

SUCCEED

WHAT IS VET?
THE FACTS

I WILL SUCCEED MY WAY
REAL LIFE SUCCESS STORIES

PLUS

HELPFUL HINTS

QUALIFICATION PATHWAYS

INDUSTRY INSIGHTS

APPRENTICESHIPS & TRAINEESHIPS

YOUR CAREER YOUR WAY

real skills for real careers

Vocational Education and Training Information Guide

YOU ARE...

AMBITIOUS
POSITIVE
PROUD
ENTHUSIASTIC
FUNNY
INDEPENDENT
DETERMINED
CREATIVE
CARING
OUTGOING
LOYAL
OPEN-MINDED
ENERGETIC
HAPPY
PERSISTENT
RESILIENT
GENUINE
MOTIVATED
PRACTICAL
HONEST
PASSIONATE

THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO SUCCEED.

DO IT YOUR WAY WITH VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

Knowing you're on your way to finishing school is exciting. You'll soon be free of the constraints of teachers, uniforms and homework. Knowing what step to take next however, is not always so easy.

Should I keep learning? Go travelling?
Start my career now?

Whatever your goals, vocational education and training is an opportunity to be in control of your future.

Succeed will take you through some of the options available to you, and give you a sneak peek into where your vocational education and training could take you.

I felt that I had made the right decision in my life and that what I was doing was going to be worthwhile for my future.

HANNA
MARKETING MANAGER
VET GRADUATE

I always knew what I wanted to do, and I was true to myself.

RACHEL
INTERNATIONAL SALES AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER
VET GRADUATE

Success, to me, means waking up every day, being happy that you get to go to your career.

TYRONE
BROADCAST OPERATOR
VET GRADUATE

I get to wake up every day, and I'm not just going to a job. I get to go and do something that I love.

JESSICA
MASTER STYLIST
VET GRADUATE

My only regret is that I didn't choose to do it earlier.

SHANE
CARPENTER, BUILDER, CADET BUILDING CERTIFIER
VET GRADUATE

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WHAT IS VET?

Vocational education and training (VET) works with both industry and government to offer qualifications and training that are recognised nationally.

VET provides all of its graduates with relevant, transferable and innovative skills – all qualities that today's employers are looking for. When you start learning through VET, you can be safe in the knowledge that you are on a fast and cost-effective path to gaining your qualifications and entering the workforce.

There are thousands of courses available across a huge range of industries, from information technology to avionics, business management to nursing, industrial design to landscape gardening.

VET providers range from TAFEs to private colleges, secondary schools and even some universities. When you enrol in a VET course, it's not just an opportunity to learn, but a chance to make new friends and connections, get real insights into working life, and step out of your comfort zone. You can train directly through a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) or you can earn while you learn through an apprenticeship or traineeship. You can also use VET as a pathway to other modes of learning, such as university.

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM A VET COURSE

Every VET course is taught by professionals who have been there and done it, which means that not only do you get the chance to learn from the experts, but learning is tailored to focus on what is actually useful and necessary in the workforce (that means most of you get to say goodbye to algebra!). VET works with employers to help understand which qualifications are needed most by their industry, and the Government helps too by indicating which fields are required in Australia now, and into the future. This ensures that VET courses are highly relevant for today's marketplace.

All VET courses are outcome-focused. They are designed to deliver skills and knowledge specific to a wide range of occupations, which means that if you study through VET, you can gain the real world skills and hands-on experience that employers are looking for. This is why VET graduates have great employment outcomes.

VET courses are highly flexible. There's not one pathway that you have to follow through to your qualifications, there are lots of options designed to best suit you as an individual. You could enrol in qualifications, accredited courses, industry-recognised skill sets or units of competency – allowing you to gain the skills you need, when you need them.

Qualifications in the VET system are quality assured and nationally recognised. This is taken care of by the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) which is the national body for regulated qualifications in Australia. The training and assessment of VET courses is consistent Australia-wide, so wherever you study, you can be confident that you're getting the best education and training possible.

VET OUTCOMES

VET offers courses, apprenticeships, and traineeships in over 500 careers, so whether you already know what your dream job looks like, or you're waiting for inspiration to come, chances are a VET qualification can take you where you want to go.

Qualifications range across four levels of certificates (Certificate I, II, III and IV), as well as Diploma courses and Advanced Diploma courses. Each course is competency based which means you can complete them at your own pace.

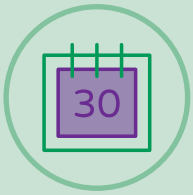
VET courses cover a huge array of industries including some you may not realise, such as arts & culture, business, education, defence industry, design, government, engineering, science & technology.

THE FACTS

VET is nationally regulated, meaning training quality is consistently high, no matter where you go to learn.

There are currently around 750 accredited VET courses on offer from more than 4500 Registered Training Organisations (RTOs).

Many VET courses have the option to move through them quickly, so you can start earning as soon as you are ready.



Apprenticeships can take between one and four years to complete, depending on the training and qualification involved. Because they are competency based you may be able to finish earlier or take a little longer – it's up to you.

Two thirds of the most sought after skills in Australia right now are taught through VET.

Many VET courses are subsidised by the Government, so training in your chosen career might be more affordable than you think.

The average full-time income for a VET graduate is comparable to that of a university graduate on completion of their qualification.

CHOOSING VET

VET PUTS YOU IN CONTROL

With VET, you can choose to undertake partial qualifications, short courses, skill sets and units of competency, which means you can gain the skills you need, when you need them.

VET courses give you industry experience along the way, which means that you can test out your skills and work out what kind of career you're best suited to whilst you learn.

What's more, many VET courses, including apprenticeships and traineeships give you the chance to earn whilst you learn, so you can build your bank balance and the career of your dreams at the same time.

TYPES OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING

All VET courses are designed to deliver the knowledge and skills employers are looking for, so no matter which type of course you choose you can be certain you'll have the best outcome for your chosen career.

APPRENTICESHIPS & TRAINEESHIPS

- Apprenticeships usually take 3 to 4 years to complete, whilst traineeships usually last 1-2 years[1]
- Apprenticeships allow you to learn a trade or workplace skill while receiving a nationally recognised qualification in careers such as carpentry, electrical, hairdressing or plumbing
- Traineeships provide training in vocational areas not usually covered by apprenticeships and are available for a wide range of careers in most sectors of business and industry.

CERTIFICATES I-IV

- Certificates typically take from 6 months to 2 years to complete[2]
- Certificates range from I to IV, so they're a great place to kick start your higher education and future career no matter what your current knowledge levels are
- Certificate courses can be studied full-time, part-time or even online and cover a wide range of topics including business, nursing and mechanical engineering.

DIPLOMAS

- Diplomas typically take between 1-2 years to complete[3]
- Diplomas focus on the more complex and technical areas of a chosen field
- With a Diploma, you'll also hone important skills relevant to all workplaces, such as effective communication, decision making and problem solving.

ADVANCED DIPLOMAS

- Advanced Diplomas typically take between 1.5 – 2 years to complete[4]
- An Advanced Diploma qualifies you as a highly skilled worker with specialised knowledge
- Through an Advanced Diploma, you can gain the knowledge required to take your career to the next level.

GRADUATE CERTIFICATES & GRADUATE DIPLOMAS

- Graduate Certificates typically take between 6 months – 1 year to complete, whilst Graduate Diplomas typically take 1 – 2 years to complete[5]
- Graduate education and training can give you further, specialised knowledge in your chosen field, or you could choose to equip yourself with a vocational skill in a different area
- Graduate Certificates & Diplomas equip you with the tools to think critically, find solutions to more complex problems and be able to transmit knowledge and skills to others.

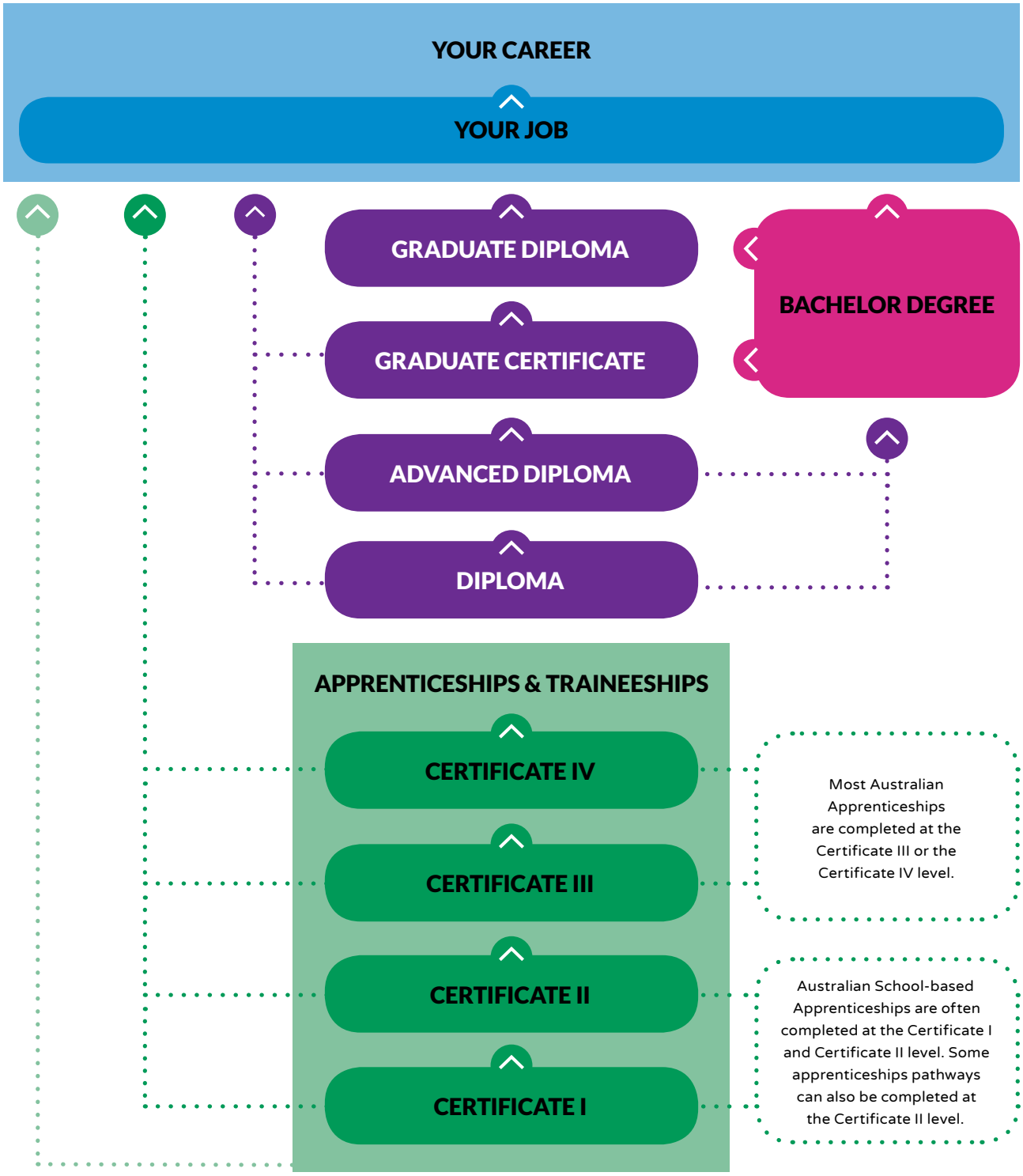
[1-5] The timeframes are a guide only as courses are competency based, meaning you can set your own pace.

QUALIFICATION PATHWAYS

VET recognises that people learn differently, and at different times of their lives. This is why VET gives you the flexibility to gain new knowledge and skills when it best suits you.

There are many points in which you can enter VET, or exit and choose to seek full-time employment as a qualified graduate. For example, you could gain a Certificate II in Printing and Graphic Arts and become a Digital Printing Assistant, or you could go on to gain an Advanced Diploma of Visual Arts and become an Illustrator.

With VET, whichever level you graduate at, you can be confident that you'll be gaining the right knowledge and skills for your chosen career.



PROVIDERS & OPPORTUNITIES

Vocational education and training is taught through Registered Training Organisations or RTOs. Each one is registered through a regulatory body, which allows them to deliver and assess training, and issue qualifications that are recognised nationally.

Training providers can be private colleges, TAFE institutions, community or non-for-profit RTOs, enterprise RTOs and even schools and universities.

When choosing an RTO, here are some questions to consider:

- Where will I need to go to attend classes/workshops?
- Is it full-time or part-time?
- When does it start? How long does the course go for?
- How is the course delivered – face to face, online or a mix?
- How many students are in each class?
- Do they teach on industry standard equipment i.e. a simulated workplace environment?
- What course electives do they offer?
- How will I be assessed?
- Who is the trainer and what experience do they have? How long have they been delivering the course? What industry and employer links do they have?

THE FACTS

There are more than 4500 training providers in the VET system.

RTOs deliver training in a number of different ways, so you could learn full-time, part-time, online, via distance, or through your employer.

Some universities are also RTOs and offer VET qualifications.

TIP: Don't get overwhelmed...a handy training provider comparison chart can be found at myskills.gov.au, just hit the help tab.

COURSE FEES & STUDENT LOANS

THE COST OF YOUR COURSE

The cost of completing a VET course will differ depending on the type and level of qualification the course is aimed at, the subject matter you are studying and can even vary from provider to provider. Some courses are subsidised by your state and territory government, which means that they pay a part of your course fee for you (usually direct to the training provider).

YOUR STUDENT LOAN

If you enrol in a Diploma level course or above, you may be eligible for a VET student loan. These are also called income contingent loans because the debt repayments are taken out of what you earn through the tax system once you're earning over a certain threshold.

OTHER SUPPORT

If you're thinking of completing an apprenticeship you could be eligible for a Trade Support Loan to cover the costs of both living and learning. This type of loan gets paid to you monthly, and you can choose to take out a loan for as little as $1,000.

Centrelink also offers support for some eligible students who are studying full-time, or taking on an apprenticeship. You can find our more at humanservices.gov.au – just hit the Centrelink button.

Head to myskills.gov.au to find:

- which providers can offer VET Student Loans (look out for the VSL icon)
- the maximum amount available under VET Student Loans for the course you choose

HOW TO APPLY

STEP 1 – SEARCH

Head to myskills.gov.au to search over 4500 training providers and hundreds of courses. If you're struggling to work out which courses you could be interested in, head to pages 22—53 of this guide to learn more about which industries would best suit you.

STEP 2 – REACH OUT & ASK QUESTIONS

You might think your homework days are over, but you should definitely do yours when it comes to finding the right RTO for you. Ask around amongst older friends and siblings and don't be afraid to contact the RTOs you're interested in to get more details on the aspects that are most important to you.

STEP 3 – ASSESS YOUR ELIGIBILITY

Some courses have entry requirements, or minimum qualifications, knowledge or skills and experience you need to be able to show you have, before applying. The entry requirements for each course should be clearly displayed in the course information on My Skills, so make sure you read through the details carefully.

STEP 4 – ORGANISE A VISIT OR ATTEND AN OPEN DAY

Often, you need to see something for yourself to work out if it's going to be right for you. Ask the RTOs you're most interested in if they have an open day coming up, or see if you can arrange a visit to get a feel for the campus, staff and fellow students.

STEP 5 – OBTAIN YOUR USI

My what?! A Unique Student Identifier (USI) is a way of linking the studies you complete, with you. It's made up of 10 numbers and letters and gives you access to all of your completed training records. You need a USI to study at any training provider, to get yours visit usi.gov.au.

STEP 6 – REGISTER & APPLY

Every training provider and course will have their own process, so find out from your chosen course provider the details of their enrolment process – they'll be more than happy to talk you through it. Check if places are available in the course of your choice, when applications need to be submitted, and what steps you need to go through to submit your application. Some courses require you to register your interest first and then attend a pre-enrolment session. For some courses you may be asked to attend an interview, submit a portfolio, sit a test or take part in an audition.

WHERE TO NEXT?

To find the right training provider for you, head to myskills.gov.au. You can search by location, and find all the RTOs in your area, or you can hit the courses tab and find out which RTOs offer the courses you're most interested in.

Visit: myskills.gov.au

THE ONE REALLY REWARDING ASPECT OF THE OPPORTUNITY FOR ME WAS MY TEACHERS THROUGHOUT THE PROGRAM. [THEY] PROVIDE YOU WITH A COURSE, BUT THEY ALSO PROVIDE SOMEBODY THAT WALKS THE JOURNEY WITH YOU, AND THAT'S THE WAY OF THE FUTURE, I THINK.

INDI
MANAGER
VET GRADUATE

I WILL SUCCEED MY WAY

MANY VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (VET) GRADUATES REPORT FEELING THE SAME WAY BEFORE THEY TOOK ON THEIR QUALIFICATION – THEY HAD NO IDEA JUST WHAT WAS POSSIBLE OR WHAT THEY WERE CAPABLE OF BEFORE THEY STARTED.

The next few pages will introduce you to three graduates. Each of these people have a number of things in common – they have all graduated from VET, each one has found a career that they love and they all feel fulfilled knowing they are doing something they are pretty good at. Each one of them is living proof that there are many ways to succeed.

We speak to Australian VET Alumni Tyrone, Rachel and Jessica about what life is like in the real world after graduating, discovering passions, and what is really means to be successful.

After completing a traineeship with television network SBS, Tyrone now works as a Broadcast Operator, filming, editing and working in the studio.

Tyrone finished high school knowing that he loved creating, but with no expectation that he could actually get paid for doing it.

TYRONE,
BROADCAST OPERATIONS
GRADUATE, CERTIFICATE IV
IN SCREEN AND MEDIA

Q: Can you tell us a bit more about what you do?

A: A Broadcast Operator can range from studio work to editing to camerawork. I am trained in all three of those. I've been lucky enough to be employed as a Broadcast Operator for three departments – in studio work, editing, and camerawork.

Q: And you landed this job out of high school. So was it an apprenticeship?

A: It was a traineeship. I had to study while I was working here full-time, and that lasted 12 months. It was really great, and I got to learn a lot of hands-on things, not only at SBS but at TAFE, which was just up the road. What I learned at SBS, I could apply to what I was doing at TAFE, and what I was doing at TAFE, I could easily apply to what I was doing at SBS. So it was a real success, and I think I was the first – I am the first – indigenous trainee that they've employed. Not only indigenous trainee, but I was one of the first broadcast operations trainees that they've rolled out, so it was a real honour to be that.

Q: Did you always know that filming and editing were what you wanted to do?

A: Growing up, I knew that I wanted to do something creative. I liked cooking, I liked painting, I liked architecture. I started doing photography and I got hooked on the fact that I could see something, visualise it, take a photo, and you could relive that moment in whatever you are seeing with your eyes. So, when it came to filming, it was sort of the same thing, but just with moving pictures. The more I did the traineeship, I sort of fell in love with media. In high school, I didn't really get the chance to study media in-depth, because I was in such a small school. We didn't have all the resources for photography or videography or cinematography. So it was a huge shock when I started the traineeship. I was already in love with cameras, but the fact that I got to see what the news cameras do and what they do in studio and the whole workflow of a television station, was just amazing.

Q: Would you recommend this style of learning to your friends or family?

A: Some 19-year-olds are at uni and that's how they're working towards their future career or goal. I guess that makes them happy, in that they know they're learning for something. But in the position that I'm in, it's practical. I'm already in my career, in my field, and I'm practically doing it, not just in the way that I should be doing it in the future. Every day when I come into work, pick up a camera and start recording, I think to myself, this is it. Here we are.

Q: At the age of 19, would you describe yourself as a successful person?

A: Success, to me, means waking up every day, being happy that you get to go to your career. Success is waking up and knowing that what you're doing is contributing to your future self. I'm happy to say that I get to do that every day.

Q: Is there any advice you'd give to young people who are choosing what to do next?

A: The possibilities are endless. While you are young, take those options. Take any opportunity that comes your way and run with it to the best of your ability, and see where that takes you. If it doesn't take you to the right path, start again.

Jessica is adventurous, funny and relatable. After high school, she moved from the relative quiet of Kangaroo Island to the city of Adelaide in the name of her career.

After getting used to the traffic lights and all the people, Jess has gone on to lead a team in her role as a High Voltage Electrician.

JESSICA
ELECTRICIAN TEAM LEADER
GRADUATE, CERTIFICATE III
IN ELECTROTECHNOLOGY

Q: Hi Jess, can you tell us a bit about yourself?

A: I'm an Electrician Team Leader. I'm 24 years old, I'm from Kangaroo Island originally, and I've moved to Adelaide to pursue my career in electrotechnology.

Q: Can you tell us a bit more about your move to Adelaide?

A: I'd just been at school for 12 years, sitting in a classroom, and as much as I was good at it, I didn't necessarily enjoy it. In high school, I was very outdoorsy. I rode motorbikes, I did a lot of camping and outdoorsy stuff in my personal life and then at school, I really liked my practical subjects, so when I was about 16 and a half, Dad suggested maybe you should do an apprenticeship. I thought, why not, and that's pretty much when my whole life changed.

Q: So it was your dad's suggestion to do an apprenticeship. Did your parents have a big influence on your decision on what to study?

A: My dad was a linesman on Kangaroo Island, so he fixed all the lines in storms and did a lot of repair work, and my mum is a nurse. My dad inspired me to be an electrician. When the power went out he was the one that fixed it, and I always wanted to be that person. I think I owe a lot of credit to my dad for suggesting the job to me. Without him saying, "you can actually just apply and see what happens." I probably wouldn't have even considered it an option.

Q: So you've gone from being in high school which you didn't really love to taking on a new job as an apprentice, to now being a team leader. Would you say you love what you do?

A: I love that every day is different with being an electrician. One day you'll be fixing things, one day you'll be wiring things, and the next day you'll be fault finding and you'll never actually figure out what's wrong. You have to know how to be a problem solver. Any job has its bad days, but if you have a positive attitude and you think that you're good at it, you can make anything what you want to do, so I just make the most out of every day.

Q: So as someone that's very happy, and successful in your career, what advice would you give to people who are wondering where to go with their education, or what their career might be?

A: I would probably say jump at any opportunity that is thrown at you, you never know what can happen. If a door opens, walk through it. That's the advice that was given to me by my dad, and that worked out well for me, but I definitely also say, don't sweat it on the small things, you know, you only live once, just do it.

RACHEL,
INTERNATIONAL SALES AND
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER
GRADUATE, DIPLOMA IN AEROSKILLS (AVIONICS),
DIPLOMA IN MANAGEMENT,
DIPLOMA OF AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE ENGINEERING

Rachel is ambitious, tenacious, driven and incredibly focused on what she wants out of life.

A smart child, Rachel's parents had set their sights on her being a doctor, but a passion for aeroplanes and engineering meant that Rachel had other ideas.

Q: How would you describe your working life right now?

A: I'm very happy. I'm really lucky to be doing something that I absolutely love every day. It's a joy to wake up in the morning and put on my workwear and go to work. Most people would be like "oh, can't believe it's Monday", but I'm there thinking "I can't wait for the new week to start".

Q: That is an incredible place to be, to be doing something that you really love. Has it always been that way for you?

A: When I was a little girl growing up in Hong Kong, my parents told me I should be a lawyer or a doctor or an accountant, and because I didn't know any better, that's what I thought I wanted to be. So when I was in high school and had to choose what I wanted to do afterwards, I pretty much did what my parents wanted me to do, which as I found out the hard way, wasn't what I wanted to do.

I studied a Bachelor of Engineering, Megatronics at university. When I was at university, I really enjoyed it however, I just realised it wasn't for me. I was always wanting to do something a little more involved. The moment when it clicked for me was when someone told me to pursue something that I was really passionate about, because if I had to do something for the rest of my life and it was something that was going to be a chore, then I wouldn't enjoy it.

Q: Deep down, did you always know what you wanted to do?

A: I wanted to work at the airport. I loved aeroplanes. When I was little; we grew up in an apartment building, very close to the flight path at Kai Tak International Airport and so aircraft would constantly fly past on their way into the airport, and I remember running up to the windows, pressing my nose against the glass and watching the planes come in. In hindsight, I'm like, "oh yeah, that was something I really loved for a long time".

Q: So you were at university and you discovered that your passion is aeroplanes. What did you do next?

A: I was looking at other opportunities to study in aviation and I attended a careers fair at Southbank (Brisbane). I got talking to one of the people at the stalls. They said, "would you ever consider doing an apprenticeship?" When I found out a little bit more, I couldn't believe that the job I wanted to do, was actually a vocation.

So, I studied a Certificate IV in Aeroskills (Avionics). It was a very intensive course where we did all our theory up front, but there was also some practical [course elements] involved. After completing my course, I did a four-year apprenticeship, which I managed to finish in three, because it is competency based and I was able to tick off all of those competencies within a short period of time.

Q: Can you tell us a little bit more about the transition from university to vocational education and training?

A: The vocational pathway that I took was definitely quite academic. There was a lot of maths, physics, aerodynamics involved. A lot of people have a lot of misconceptions about vocational education and training. It's in parallel with a tertiary qualification and in fact, it gave me the launching pad for a very successful career.

So, having done both, I found that my vocation has provided me with the best opportunity and training for what I wanted to do in my career.

Q: Can you tell us a bit about getting your first job after completing your training. What advice would you give to people trying to get a start in their career?

A: You've got to be really proactive when you're looking for jobs and opportunities. I know a lot of people in my class were just sitting back waiting for these opportunities to come knocking for them and I was the opposite. I had my resume in my hand and I approached everyone and anyone and said "hey, this is me. I'd love a job, I'd love an opportunity." Some of the best advice I received was "make yourself indispensable and so when you're not around, they'll miss you". So, that was the attitude that I went with when I gained my apprenticeship.

Q: So when you did land a job, what was your first day like?

A: My first day on the job as a new graduate, daunting I guess, to know that here you are all of a sudden, having this opportunity to work on a piece of machinery that's worth millions of dollars and potentially having the lives of over 200 people in your hands. It definitely was not what I was expecting, but in a good way. It was a lot more challenging, you'll get your ups and your downs, your good days and your bad days, but it's all part and parcel of the job.

Q: Can you tell us a bit more about your current role as an International Sales and Business Development Manager?

A: I've always been ambitious. After completing my apprenticeship I actually went on and studied my Diploma of Aircraft Maintenance Engineering, so I became a licensed Aircraft Maintenance Engineer, and then I went on and did a Diploma of Management. While [I am] an Aircraft Maintenance Engineer by trade, I now work as an International Sales and Business Development Manager for the registered training organisation (RTO) that I trained with. An opportunity came up. I'd been in that area and I had a good reputation and I was just really fortunate. I'm so incredibly lucky to work in the aviation industry. Every day it's new, it's exciting. I'm definitely more passionate, more driven, more determined to succeed because I'm in an area that I love.

STUDENT LIFE

You may be thinking, "Okay, so I get what VET is and I understand where it can take me, but what does it look like to study within the VET system? What does a typical day and/or campus look like?"

The great thing about VET is there isn't a typical day, campus or course. There is, however, freedom for you to discover flexible learning options and freedom to find a course and location that works for you and all of your requirements.

What this means is that VET courses are offered in many different formats.

A combination of on the job and at a campus

This is commonly what an apprenticeship/traineeship looks like. It combines regular hours at work learning on the job with day/afternoon and/or evenings on campus within a more traditional classroom set-up.

Full–time

Full-time is likely to be up to 5 days per week at a campus. This is often appealing to people who want to move through their course quickly.

Part–time

This is usually a few days a week allowing you to also hold a part-time job or tend to other life commitments.

By correspondence: online — in your own time

Many RTOs provide the ability to do an online course. Taking this option means you can hold a part-time or even full-time job during your study and learn during the hours that suit you. This is one of the most flexible ways of learning. Courses are offered through online portals with content delivered via readings and videos, with a teacher available for correspondence.

What I loved about it the most, and where the penny dropped and I knew this was for me [was], when you're putting that theory that you've learned into the practical application. You know what you're doing, you're contributing to the team, and you're actually fixing things. I was sold on it. I loved my four years throughout my apprenticeship, and it set me up for so much success post my apprenticeship too.

BRENDAN,
ELECTRICAL INSTRUMENTATION TECHNICIAN
VET GRADUATE

THERE IS NO TYPICAL DAY

With many varied options and combinations, as a student, you are able to tailor the course to fit into your lifestyle. In many of the options, you have the ability to attend a campus and spend time with people also studying the same subjects, which means you can interact with and learn from your peers. Just like at high school, you will make friends through VET, only here, you have the ability to make industry contacts and begin to create your own network.

VET is focused on practical learning and providing real-world skills that make you truly ready to do the job. You can expect, in many cases, for your classroom to look like your work environment. So if you are looking at a trade, be prepared to learn your way around tools. If you're studying nursing, get ready to see and use medical equipment. If you're thinking about studying photography, get your camera ready.

You can expect your teachers to be industry professionals. They will have had years of experience in exactly what they are teaching you. They are likely still working in the industry and have a wealth of up-to-date knowledge and, more importantly, experience in the practical day to day elements of your course.

You have the freedom to make your next educational and career decisions work for you. One single day or course in VET does not look the same for each student and that is exactly what is great about it.

LIFE OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

So you've heard all about the studying side of things, but what about the fun part? Don't worry, VET has got you covered on that aspect too! Here are some perks of studying through VET that don't necessarily have anything to do with study, or your career:

- Many campuses are a bit like traditional uni campuses, with regular social events and activities to welcome new students and of course, plenty of places to catch up over a coffee.
- You can choose to study away from home, and depending on your course, may even be given an allowance to do so. This is a great way to gain a little more freedom to be an adult, throw yourself in to the deep end and expand on those important life skills such as cooking, cleaning and doing your own washing (okay, maybe not fun exactly).
- Alternatively, you can choose to study close to home, so not too much needs to change at all. You get to keep some of your routine, your friends and a familiar environment, whilst expanding your skills at the same time.
- You'll get the chance to make new friends with the people on your course, especially those you're assigned to complete group assignments with.
- Your course is flexible around you, so you could choose to take a day off mid-week and catch up at the weekend if you'd prefer. Who doesn't love a mid-week shopping trip or opportunity to have the gym to yourself?

WHAT IS AN RTO?

A Registered Training Organisation or RTO is registered by a state or territory or national recognition authority to deliver training and/or conduct assessments and issue nationally recognised qualifications.

Only RTOs can:

- Deliver nationally recognised courses and accredited Australian Qualifications Framework VET qualifications
- Apply for Australian state and territory funding to deliver vocational education and training.

An RTO is an organisation that provides VET qualifications which includes:

- technical and further education (TAFE) institutes
- adult and community education providers
- agricultural colleges
- industry skill centres
- commercial and enterprise training providers
- some universities, higher education providers, and high schools.

While I was studying my Certificate III in Carpentry, I also completed my Certificate IV in Building, and the teachers there made it known to me that if I was to do a bit more study, I'd be able to get a Diploma, which I ended up doing. Combined with my experience in carpentry on site and the Diploma, that allowed me to apply for my SAT building license. Getting my license was sort of a final touch, if you like, on the end of a lot of study. It was the end goal and encompassed a lot of work.

SHANE,
CARPENTER, BUILDER, AND CADET BUILDING CERTIFIER
VET GRADUATE

EARN WHILE YOU LEARN

AS AN APPRENTICE OR TRAINEE

Australian Apprenticeships include both apprenticeships and traineeships, and offer opportunities for people to train, study and earn an income at a variety of qualification levels in a huge range of occupations including the traditional trades. Apprenticeships combine time at work with formal training, and can be either full-time, part-time or school-based.

Australian Apprenticeships are available to anyone of working age. There aren't specific school levels, certificates or other qualifications needed to start an apprenticeship, and apprentices and trainees can still be at school or can have finished. Apprenticeships aren't also just for the young, people re-entering the workforce after a break, or those looking to change careers can also train as an apprentice.

Apprenticeships and traineeship are offered across a range of industries throughout the country. If you're keen on practical learning and want to get qualified, taking on a trade-based apprenticeship or traineeship could be a great option for you. Many trades in Australia are facing a nation-wide skills shortage, which means that finding a job in your industry of choice could be easier than you think.

AS AN APPRENTICE YOU CAN:

- Earn a wage while you learn
- Develop practical skills specific to the occupation or industry you are interested in
- Complete hands-on training in the workplace and learn in a classroom
- Gain a nationally recognised qualification
- Potentially be eligible to access Government financial support and other benefits to help with the costs incurred while you are undertaking your training
- Keep your skills up to date
- Increase your employability with an industry-approved qualification
- Start your journey to a great career, with excellent prospects and a good salary
- Be on a path to own your own business.

IS AN APPRENTICESHIP OR TRAINEESHIP FOR ME?

We know that when it comes to working out what to do next, it feels like there is so much information to take in, and a lot of pressure to make the right decision. That's why we've answered some of the most common questions people ask when thinking about taking on an apprenticeship or traineeship.

1. **Am I eligible?**

   Australian Apprenticeships are available to anyone of working age. You can do an Australian Apprenticeship if you are a school leaver or re-entering the workforce or simply wishing to change careers or gain new skills. You can even start an Australian Apprenticeship while you are still at school. To learn more about your eligibility, visit your local Australian Apprenticeship Support Network (AASN) provider.

2. **Will I be qualified when I finish?**

   Yes. An apprenticeship typically involves up to four years of hands-on work experience, plus a certificate course in your chosen trade (eg. a Certificate III in Engineering) through a registered training organisation (RTO). Remember, it's competency based so it's up to you how long it takes.

   For example, you might work four days per week and spend the fifth day at your RTO or you might undertake your off-the-job training in blocks, where you might be at your RTO for a week at a time. This can vary depending on the job and the industry. Once you achieve all of the competencies, you're fully qualified to work in that occupation.

3. **How much will I earn as an apprentice?**

   This differs for each industry. As an apprentice or trainee, you will be paid the award rate of pay within your industry. You can find out the award rate you're entitled to as an apprentice in your field at www.fairwork.gov.au – just hit the Apprenticeships & trainees button in the 'Find help' section.

4. **Where can I learn more?**

   There are many tools online to help you explore potential career options, find the industries that best suit you and help prepare and build your resume. Here are a few to get you started:

   - www.aapathways.com.au
   - www.myskills.gov.au
   - www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au
   - www.training.gov.au

5. **How do I apply?**

   Before applying for jobs, understanding your interests will help you identify the industries you might want to start researching. The Work Type Explorer and the Career Interest Explorer on www.aapathways.com.au are great places to start.

   You can also do an aptitude quiz to test the level of general based literacy and numeracy required to undertake Australian Apprenticeships qualifications.

   By getting to know the industry you want to work and train in you will have a better idea of the standards and commitment expected of you.

   You'll also have more confidence when speaking with potential employers or going for an interview, so do your research.

   Just like applying for any job, you'll need to create a resume and cover letter. The resumes and cover letters page at www.aapathways.com.au has some great resources to help you get started.

   Finding an apprenticeship or traineeship is much like finding any type of job, there are many different ways. Job advertisements for apprenticeships and traineeships can be found on the internet, on community bulletin boards and in newspapers. Using contacts you already have can be a very effective way of finding opportunities. One handy tip is to reach out to employers directly, write them a letter, provide your CV and let them know you'd like an opportunity – you never know where it could lead.

   Your local Apprenticeship Support Services Network provider can help you find more information and may even have a jobs board where you can apply for local apprenticeships opportunities.

   Once you land that opportunity, you must be signed up into a formal training contract. This ensures that all parties are aware of their responsibilities and understand what it means to commence an Australian Apprenticeship. Once signed up, your employer can then pay apprentice or trainee wages and you can be enrolled into the appropriate course with a training provider.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR YOUR CAREER

As an apprentice, you might be eligible for a Trade Support Loan and when you successfully complete your apprenticeship or traineeship, you'll receive a 20% discount on your loan amount.

You can learn more by contacting your local AASN or visiting www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au/trade-support-loans.

As a full-time apprentice you might be eligible for fortnightly Centrelink support through Youth Allowance, Austudy or ABSTUDY.

You can find out more about this type of support at www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/students-and-trainees.

DID YOU KNOW?

These are just some of the careers you can enter into:

- Aircraft Maintenance Engineer (Avionics)
- Arborist
- Automotive Electrician
- Baker
- Bricklayer
- Cabinetmaker
- Carpenter and Joiner
- Chef
- Hairdresser
- Panel Beater
- Stonemason
- Child Care
- Real Estate
- Hospitality
- Defence Industry
- Beauty Therapy
- Business Administration

I think my first day that I started my apprenticeship I was very nervous. But at some point, you just gotta step in and take the opportunity and see what happens.

I realised that I could do more than I thought I could. It was a big deal being a young team leader. When you're in school, you never know the possibilities of where you could end up. Now, I'm in that place where I never thought I'd be, never even considered that I'd be there.

JESSICA,
ELECTRICIAN TEAM LEADER
APPRENTICESHIP GRADUATE

When I was a kid in school, I wanted to be a carpenter. I even used to come home from school and watch 'Grand Designs'.

I'm passionate about carpentry and building because I feel it gives you an avenue to be creative and practical at the same time, and you can get a lot of satisfaction from the work you do. I love the sense of achievement, being able to see something for the work you've put in.

SHANE,
CARPENTER, BUILDER, AND
CADET BUILDING CERTIFIER
APPRENTICESHIP GRADUATE

INDUSTRIES & COURSES

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IF YOU LIKE:

- Agriculture, hospitality, chemistry, biology, technology or environmental studies
- Nature
- Working outdoors
- Working with your hands
- Animals
- New technology
- Having an eye for detail

CONSIDER VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING IN:

AGRICULTURE & FOOD PROCESSING

The way our food is cultivated and processed is vital for our health and economy. The process of turning our natural resources into the food and beverages we consume every day requires an impressive feat from a wide range of specialists. These include farmers, process workers, business owners, quality assurance officers and salespeople. Agriculture & food processing jobs often involve having a breadth of knowledge across several fields including technology, business, science and farming. This makes for interesting and rewarding work across the industry, and new technology is creating exciting opportunities.

WHICH LEADS TO THESE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

1. Landscape Designer
2. Oyster Farmer
3. Forestry Ranger
4. Fishing Master
5. Animal Technician (Breeder)
6. New Technology Specialist – Aquaculture
7. Food Testing Manager
8. Agribusiness Enterprise Manager

The Agriculture and Food Processing industry is high-tech and evolving with new technology.

Landscape designers make a big impact on how happy people are in cities.

Jobs in this industry are in high demand such as agricultural consultants, bakers, butchers and smallgoods makers.

EXPLORE EDUCATION & TRAINING PATHWAYS

Below is a sample of just some of the career pathways you could take in agriculture & food processing.
There are so many courses on offer. Visit the My Skills website at www.myskills.gov.au to find the career for you.

AGRICULTURE

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Crop Farming	Cert III in Agriculture Diploma of Organic Farming	Farmhand Organic Farm Production Manager (Grain Crops)
Rural and General Operations	Cert IV in Agribusiness Advanced Diploma of Agribusiness Management	Agribusiness Administrator Agribusiness Enterprise Manager
Retail Nursery	Cert II in Retail Nursery Cert IV in Retail Nursery Advanced Diploma of Horticulture	Nursery Sales Assistant Retail Nursery Supervisor Horticulture Business Manager
Livestock	Cert III in Agriculture Diploma of Agriculture	Dairy Farmhand Station Manager (Sheep and Grain)
Gardening	Cert II in Landscaping Diploma of Landscape Design Diploma of Sports Turf Management	Landscaper Assistant Landscape Designer Sports Turf Manager

AQUACULTURE

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Aquaculture	Cert II in Aquaculture Diploma of Aquaculture	Deckhand (Aquaculture) New Technology Specialist – Aquaculture

FORESTRY AND LOGGING

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Forestry Growing and Management	Cert II in Forest Growing and Management Advanced Diploma of Forest Industry Sustainability	Plantation Forest Officer Forestry Manager

FISHING, HUNTING AND TRAPPING

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Fishery	Cert II in Fishing Operations Cert IV in Fishing Operations	Deckhand Fishing Master
Mobile Plant Operator	Cert III in Agricultural Mechanical Technology	Agricultural Mechanical Technician
Shearing & Wool	Cert III in Shearing	Shearer (Professional)

FOOD PRODUCT MANUFACTURING

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Baker	Cert III in Baking (Retail Baking)	Retail Baker
Butcher	Cert III in Meat Processing (Retail Butcher)	Retail Butcher
Food Safety	Diploma of Food Science and Technology	Food Testing Manager

BEVERAGE MANUFACTURING

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Beverages	Cert IV in Food Processing	Production Supervisor

VET offers qualifications that are shaped and driven by industry needs. This means that what's on offer can vary based on what's required by industry. These qualifications are correct at time of publication, however, head over to My Skills for the most up to date information on these qualifications.

IF YOU LIKE:

- Art, music, media and theatre subjects
- Creating, attending and experiencing the arts
- Being self-driven
- Collaborating with a network of interesting people
- Working outside office hours
- Variety and change

CONSIDER VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING IN:

ARTS & CULTURE

The arts are a crucial part of our culture; they tell our nation's stories. There are so many ways to work in the industry, including as an artist, in the administration and maintenance of venues, or as a specialist who works behind-the-scenes. The arts contribute to a range of other industries, including design, tourism, media, IT and education, which opens a variety of career pathways. The industry is full of passionate people who create, run and manage the arts. Together they work to entertain, challenge and change us. Many artists you recognise began with vocational education and training. You would be surprised at where it could take you.

WHICH LEADS TO THESE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

1. Artistic Director
2. Choreographer
3. Fashion Photographer
4. Library Technician
5. Visual Artist
6. Stage Manager
7. Television Production Coordinator
8. Music Marketing Manager

Every day when I come into work, it's crazy just to pick up a camera and start recording and think to myself that this is what it's going be like, this is it. Here we are.

TYRONE,
BROADCAST OPERATOR
VET GRADUATE

Annually visual art exhibitions draw a larger crowd than the footy.

Communities with great art and music programs are proven to be healthier and happier.

Australian households spend 6.5 million a year on the arts. That's more than on household appliances, or dairy products.

EXPLORE EDUCATION & TRAINING PATHWAYS

Below is a sample of just some of the career pathways you could take in arts & culture. There are so many courses on offer. Visit the My Skills website at www.myskills.gov.au to find the career for you.

LIVE PERFORMANCE AND ENTERTAINMENT

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Choreographer	Certificate IV in Dance	Dancer / Choreographer
Performer	Diploma of Musical Theatre Cert III of Live Production and Services Cert IV in Live Production and Technical Services	Musical Theatre Artist Stage Manager Stage Production and Lighting Assistant
Community Dance Theatre & Events	Cert III in Community Dance, Theatre and Events Diploma of Live Production and Technical Services	Performer for Aboriginal Community Theatre Performing Arts Workshop Technician

MUSIC

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Music Business Manager	Cert IV in Music Industry	Music Marketing Manager
Music Industry	Cert IV in Music Advanced Diploma of Music Industry	Singer / Songwriter Sound Engineer

SCREEN AND MEDIA

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Directors and Production	Advanced Diploma of Screen and Media Cert IV in Screen and Media	Screen Writer / Producer Television Director

VISUAL ARTS AND CRAFT

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Ceramics	Diploma of Ceramics Advanced Diploma of Visual Arts	Ceramics Studio Assistant Sculptor
Photography	Diploma of Visual Arts (General)	Commercial Photographer
Printing and Graphic Arts	Cert II in Printing and Graphic Arts	Screen Printing Assistant

LIBRARY SERVICES

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Library	Cert III in Library and Information Services Diploma of Library and Information Services	Research Information Officer Library Technician

ARTS ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Program Administrator	Advanced Diploma of Program Management	Arts Centre Program Manager
Community Dance, Theatre and Events	Cert II in Visual Arts Cert IV in Community Culture	Community Arts Trainee Production Manager

ARTS EDUCATION

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Dance Teacher	Cert IV in Dance Teaching and Management Diploma in Dance Teaching and Management	Dance Fitness Instructor Dance Studio Manager

VET offers qualifications that are shaped and driven by industry needs. This means that what's on offer can vary based on what's required by industry. These qualifications are correct at time of publication, however, head over to My Skills for the most up to date information on these qualifications.

IF YOU LIKE:

- Business, english, maths, debating, history & IT
- Leadership
- Being self-driven or working in a close team
- Meeting new people
- Negotiating and problem solving
- Competition
- Helping others

CONSIDER VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING IN:

BUSINESS, EDUCATION & TRAINING

This fast-paced industry is evolving as we spend more time online. Business delivers the services we need, and supports our economy by managing our organisations, our wealth and our financial security. Education and training gives our workforce the skills they need to develop as professionals. It is a broad industry and encompasses everything from teachers and project leaders to salespeople, accountants, human resources staff and of course managers and CEOs. These roles often require a mix of logic, creativity, strategy, maths and people skills. You could work anywhere from a small business to a large-scale organisation. The skills you gain from qualifications in Business, Education & Training are transferable to just about all other industries.

WHICH LEADS TO THESE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

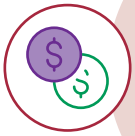
1. Executive Officer
2. Project Manager
3. Advertising Accounts Director
4. IT Sales Agent
5. Human Resources Strategist
6. Accountant
7. Workplace Training Officer
8. Vocational Education and Training Teacher

To be able to see how the industry is evolving, the new technologies, the new people coming through, and knowing that you're a part of shaping the future is a fantastic, rewarding experience.

RACHEL,
INTERNATIONAL SALES AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER
VET GRADUATE

In sales, you could be influencing the world's biggest businesses.

Qualifications in business are very versatile and can lead you to a range of different pathways.



People qualified in accounting, advertising and administration are increasingly sought after.

EXPLORE EDUCATION & TRAINING PATHWAYS

Below is a sample of just some of the career pathways you could take in business, education & training.
There are so many courses on offer. Visit the My Skills website at www.myskills.gov.au to find the career for you.

BUSINESS SERVICES

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Business Services	Cert III in Business	Office Assistant
	Cert III in Business Administration	Accounts Payable Clerk
	Cert III in Events	Event Administrative Assistant
	Cert IV in Business Administration	Project Officer
	Cert IV in Business Sales	Sales Agent
	Diploma of Business	Executive Officer
Advertising & Marketing	Cert IV in Marketing and Communication	Marketing and Communications Consultant
	Diploma of Marketing and Communication	Advertising Accounts Director
	Advanced Diploma of Marketing and Communication	Global Account Manager
Project Management	Cert IV in Project Management Practice	Project Administrator
	Diploma of Project Management	Project Manager
	Advanced Diploma of Project Management Practice	Program Manager
Human Resources	Cert III in Work Health and Safety	Work Health and Safety Assistant
	Cert IV in Human Resources	Payroll Officer
	Diploma of Human Resources Management	Human Resources Manager
	Advanced Diploma of Management (Human Resources)	Manager, Human Resources (Strategist)
Manager	Cert IV in Leadership and Management	Team Leader
	Diploma of Leadership and Management	Sales Team Manager
	Advanced Diploma of Business	Executive Director

FINANCIAL SERVICES

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
General	Cert IV in Financial Markets Operations	Financial Markets Administrative Officer
	Diploma of Financial Markets	Client Adviser
	Diploma of Financial Services	Financial Services Manager
	Advanced Diploma of Integrated Risk Management	Financial Risk Manager
Accounting	Cert III in Accounts Administration	Accounts Clerk
	Cert IV in Bookkeeping	Bookkeeper
	Advanced Diploma of Accounting	Accounting Manager

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Vocational Education and Training	Cert IV in Training and Assessment	Enterprise Trainer and Assessor
	Diploma of Education and Training	Senior Trainer and Assessor
Training Design and Development	Diploma of Training Design and Development	Training Lesson Designer

VET offers qualifications that are shaped and driven by industry needs. This means that what's on offer can vary based on what's required by industry. These qualifications are correct at time of publication, however, head over to My Skills for the most up to date information on these qualifications.

IF YOU LIKE:

- Maths, chemistry, business, design and technology
- Learning how things work
- Working with your hands
- Details and logic
- Helping others
- Working alone or in a team
- Solving problems

CONSIDER VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING IN:

CONSTRUCTION & MINING

Looking to make an impact? The Construction & Mining industry supports the very existence of our society. It provides all the vital infrastructure we depend on. The industry is broad and flexible, and there are many dynamic career pathways. You could gain a trade in a wide range of areas including carpentry, robotics, plumbing and engineering, and work in a variety of environments. Jobs in construction and mining are highly valued, well paid and plentiful. Many skilled workers gain their qualifications on the job. A career in this diverse industry can lead to so many careers including design, logistics, management and business.

WHICH LEADS TO THESE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

1. Construction Manager
2. Hydraulic Design Consultant
3. Electrician
4. Fine Furniture Maker
5. Civil Engineering Technician
6. Plumber
7. Underground Mine Surveyor
8. Aeronautical Engineer Associate

Carpentry and building gives me an avenue to be creative and practical at the same time.

People think, with doing a trade, it stops at being a tradesman. The truth is, many people in the industry have started off as an apprentice and have become project managers, certifiers, even engineers. It encompasses a whole range of avenues that you could possibly take.

SHANE,
CARPENTER, BUILDER,
CADET BUILDING CERTIFIER
VET GRADUATE

Construction & Mining is one of the highest earning industries in Australia.

There are many roles in the industry that need to filled, and qualifications may be subsidised.

You can become a specialist in sustainability.

EXPLORE EDUCATION & TRAINING PATHWAYS

Below is a sample of just some of the career pathways you could take in construction & mining. There are so many courses on offer. Visit the My Skills website at www.myskills.gov.au to find the career for you.

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Electrician	Cert II in Data and Voice Communications Cert III in Electrotechnology Electrician Cert IV in Mechanical Rail Signalling Cert IV in Large Scale Wind Generation – Electrical	Communications Cabler General Electrician – Special Class Train Controller Electrical Fitter – Wind Generation
Electronic Trades Worker	Cert III in Engineering – Fabrication Trade	Boilermaker
Plasterer	Cert III in Wall and Ceiling Lining	Plasterer
Plumber	Cert III in Plumbing Cert IV in Plumbing and Services	Builder's Labourer Plumber – Gas Fitter Fire Services Supervisor (Plumber)
Carpenter and Joiner	Cert II in Shopfitting Cert III Carpenter and Joiner	Trades Assistant Shopfitter
Cabinet Maker	Cert IV in Cabinet Making	Furniture Designer
Building and Construction Management	Cert IV in Building and Construction Advanced Diploma of Civil Construction	Building Site Manager Senior Civil Construction Manager

CIVIL ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Civil Engineering Technician	Advanced Diploma of Engineering – Technical Cert IV in Civil Construction Operations	Engineering Associate – Avionics Road Construction Supervisor
Rail Operations and Rail Infrastructure	Cert II in Rail Infrastructure	Track Worker
Civil Engineering Draftsperson	Certificate III in Civil Construction Plant Operations Advanced Diploma Senior Civil Construction Design	Civil Construction Plant Operator Senior Civil Construction Designer

MINING

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Drilling	Cert II Drilling Operations Cert IV Drilling Oil & Gas (On Shore)	Driller's Assistant Senior Driller – Mineral Exploration
Shotfirer	Cert III in Drilling Operations	Blast Hole Driller
Mining	Cert II in Surface Extraction Operations Cert III in Mine Emergency Response and Rescue Cert IV in Surface Extraction Operations Diploma of Minerals Processing	Open Cut Coal Mining Operator Mine Rescue Worker Quarry Manager Minerals Process Plant Manager
Metal Fitting and Machinists	Cert III in Engineering – Fabrication Trade Diploma of Engineering – Advanced Trade	Metal Machinist (First Class) – Engineering Advanced Engineering Tradesperson – Mechanical
Electrician	Cert III in Electrotechnology Cert III in Engineering – Electrical/Electronic Trade	Telecommunications Technician – Data and Voice Industrial Electrician Electrical Equipment and Systems Technician

VET offers qualifications that are shaped and driven by industry needs. This means that what's on offer can vary based on what's required by industry. These qualifications are correct at time of publication, however, head over to My Skills for the most up to date information on these qualifications.

IF YOU LIKE:

- Science, mathematics, chemistry, IT, design & technology
- Working in a team
- Travel
- Knowing how things work
- Helping others
- Ships, aircrafts and vehicles

CONSIDER VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING IN:

DEFENCE INDUSTRY

This industry encompasses the workforce behind the Australian Defence Force (ADF). Working in the defence industry means performing in a role that supports the ADF with trades, business skills and technology. These important roles provide technical skills and knowledge to the ADF while providing career pathways that can lead to lifelong fulfillment. Careers in the ADF can often involve working on interesting projects and with cutting-edge machines and technology. You don't have to commit to the ADF to work in the defence industry. There are lots of opportunities to work with large multi-national companies or with Australian businesses in the supply chain, providing you with a career pathway in the specialised area you enjoy.

WHICH LEADS TO THESE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

1. Airforce Maintenance Engineer
2. Network Security Specialist
3. Intelligence Analyst
4. IT Project Manager
5. Boat Builder
6. Radio Frequency Technician
7. Architectural Draftsperson
8. Industrial Designer

Working for the defence industry doesn't mean you have to commit to the Australian Defence Force.

Defence requires a large industry to support them, and is predicted to grow significantly over the next few years.

You can train in a specialty area you're interested in such as business or a particular trade.

EXPLORE EDUCATION & TRAINING PATHWAYS

Below is a sample of just some of the career pathways you could take in the defence industry. There are so many courses on offer. Visit the My Skills website at www.myskills.gov.au to find the career for you.

BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Business and Management	Cert IV in Project Management Practice Cert IV in Marketing and Communication	Project Administrator Marketing and Communications Consultant
Intelligence Operator	Cert IV in Intelligence Operations	Defence Intelligence Operator
Contract Management	Diploma of Procurement and Contracting	Contract Manager
Building and Construction	Cert IV in Building and Construction (Estimating) Advanced Diploma of Building and Construction (Management)	Building Estimator Construction Manager

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Software Maintenance and Support	Certificate III in Information, Digital Media and Technology Advanced Diploma of Information Technology Project Management	ICT Technician IT Project Manager
ICT Client Support	Cert II in Information, Digital Media and Technology Cert III in Information, Digital Media and Technology Cert IV in Information Technology Diploma of Systems Analysis and Design	Junior Support Worker Help Desk Officer Computer Technician Systems Analyst
IT Security	Cert II in Technical Security Advanced Diploma of Network Security	Security Technician Network Security Specialist
Telecommunications	Cert III in Electronics and Communications Diploma of Telecommunications Engineering	Telecommunications Technician Radio Frequency Technician
Electronics	Cert II in Electrotechnology Cert IV in Electrotechnology – Electrical Contracting Diploma of Computer Systems Engineering	Electrotechnology Career Start Trainee Electrical Contractor Technical Officer –Electrical Engineering

DESIGN

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Design	Diploma of Industrial Design Advanced Diploma of Building Surveying	Industrial Designer Building Surveyor

OPERATIONS

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Operations	Cert III in Construction Crane Operations Cert IV in Cleaning Management Cert III in Warehouse Operations	Licenced Crane Operator Cleaning Manager Warehouse Operator

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IF YOU LIKE:

- Art, mathematics, design & technology
- Lateral thinking
- Communication
- Making things
- Drawing
- Working in a team
- IT and computers

CONSIDER VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING IN:

DESIGN

Designers are the brains behind so many facets of our society. They make decisions that directly affect the way we live, think and interact with each other. Designers are the creators behind everything from our computer networks, the buildings we live in, signage, our clothes, our games and entertainment and the furniture we sit on. Designers help businesses look the part and communicate effectively. A career pathway in design offers a balance of practical thinking and creativity to come up with simple solutions to complex problems. If you're creative and like seeing an idea come to life, the design industry could be for you.

WHICH LEADS TO THESE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

1. Games Designer
2. Web Developer
3. Boutique Jeweller
4. Fashion Designer
5. Architectural Technician
6. Film Animator
7. Interior Designer
8. Advertising Creative Director

Designers are both problem solvers and communicators.

Almost everything you own was designed by someone.

One of Australia's biggest fashion designers, Alex Perry, started with vocational education & training.

EXPLORE EDUCATION & TRAINING PATHWAYS

Below is a sample of just some of the career pathways you could take in design. There are so many courses on offer. Visit the My Skills website at www.myskills.gov.au to find the career for you.

COMPUTER SYSTEM DESIGN

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Systems Design	Cert III in Computer Systems Equipment	Electronic Equipment Tradesperson – Computer Systems
	Diploma of Computer Systems Engineering	Technical Officer – Computer Systems Engineer
Web	Diploma of Website Development	Web Developer

ENGINEERING DESIGN

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Architectural	Diploma of Building Design	Building Designer
Surveyor	Cert II in Surveying and Spatial Information Services	Trainee Field Hand
	Cert IV in Surveying	Surveyor's Assistant
	Advanced Diploma of Building Surveying	Building Surveyor
Draftsperson	Cert III in Engineering	Mechanical Draftsperson
	Cert IV in Engineering Drafting	Engineering Draftsperson

SPECIALISED DESIGN

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Digital Media Design	Cert IV in Digital Media Technologies	Assistant Digital Media Developer
	Diploma of Digital and Interactive Games	Animator
Fashion	Cert III in Applied Fashion Design and Technology	Fashion Design Assistant (Digital Printing)
	Diploma of Textile Design and Development	Textile Designer
	Advanced Diploma of Applied Fashion Design and Merchandising	Senior Fashion Designer
Florist	Cert III in Floristry	Florist
Furniture	Cert II in Furniture Finishing	Furniture Finishing Worker
	Cert III in Furniture Making	Furniture Maker
	Cert IV in Furniture Design and Technology	Furniture Designer
Games Designer	Cert IV in Digital and Interactive Games	Assistant Games Programmer
Graphic Design	Certificate II in Printing and Graphic Arts (General)	Digital Print Assistant
	Diploma of Graphic Design	Graphic Designer
	Advanced Diploma of Visual Arts	Illustrator
Interior Decorator	Cert III Interior Decorating Retail Sales	Interior Designer Sales Assistant
	Diploma of Interior Design and Decoration	Interior Decorator
Jeweller	Cert III in Jewellery Manufacture	Jewellery Tradesperson
	Advanced Diploma of Jewellery and Object Design	Jewellery Designer
Multimedia Designer	Cert III in Print Communications	Multimedia and Content Author
	Diploma of Printing and Graphic Arts	Media Developer
Signwriter	Cert III in Signs and Graphics	Signwriter

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IF YOU LIKE:

- English, history, geography, politics, economics
- News and current affairs
- Helping the community
- Negotiating
- Volunteering
- Law and order

CONSIDER VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING IN:

GOVERNMENT, SAFETY & ENVIRONMENT

The Australian Government is responsible for the physical, economic and general wellbeing of our citizens, our assets and our resources. Roles in government exist to develop the policies we live by and provide the services that keep us safe and well. This industry offers a diverse range of career pathways that make and implement important decisions to ensure our country runs well on a federal, state and local level. Roles includes police, fire, and emergency services as well as administration and decision making roles. Working in government means you could affect change and make a lasting impact on your community.

WHICH LEADS TO THESE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

1. Mayor
2. Politician
3. Forensic Investigator
4. Policy Maker
5. Animal Welfare Officer
6. Paramedic
7. Police Officer
8. Fire Investigator

Four of Australia's prime ministers began by working in their local council.

Government roles allow you to work on subject matters that affect everyone.

Those qualified in this area are in high demand in administration and local government.

EXPLORE EDUCATION & TRAINING PATHWAYS

Below is a sample of just some of the career pathways you could take in government, safety & environment. There are so many courses on offer. Visit the My Skills website at www.myskills.gov.au to find the career for you.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Contract Administration	Cert IV in Project Management Practice	Contracts Officer
	Diploma of Procurement and Contracting	Procurement and Contracting Manager
Program Administration	Cert III in Government	Administrative Assistant
	Cert IV in Government	Administration Officer
	Cert IV in Community and Post Disaster Program Management	Disaster Relief Administrator
	Diploma of Project Management	Project Manager
	Diploma of Government	Policy Manager

PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Police Officer	Diploma of Policing	Police Officer
	Advanced Diploma of Police Intelligence Operations	Police Intelligence Operations
Security	Cert III in Security Operations	Tactical Investigator
	Cert IV in Government Security	Government Fraud Prevention Officer
Fire Fighter	Cert II in Fire Protection Inspection and Testing	Fire Protection Equipment Service Technical
	Cert III in Public Safety (Firefighting and Emergency Operations)	Assistant Fire Fighter and Emergency Worker
	Advanced Diploma of Public Safety (Fire Investigation)	Fire Investigator
Emergency Services	Cert II in Public Safety (Aquatic Rescue)	SES Rescuer – Aquatic
	Cert III in Ambulance Communications	Non-Emergency Patient Transport Assistant
	Cert IV in Public Safety (SES)	SES Leader
	Cert IV in Health Care	Ambulance Support Officer
	Diploma of Paramedical Science	Paramedic
Corrective Services	Cert III in Correctional Practice	Youth Custodial Officer
	Diploma of Correctional Administration	Corrections Intelligence Officer

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Regulatory Office	Cert IV in Animal Control and Regulation	Animal Control Officer
	Cert III in Public Safety (Biosecurity Response Operations)	Health and Safety Inspector
Administration	Cert II in Local Government	Local Government Administration Assistant
	Cert IV in Local Government Administration	Electoral Officer
	Diploma of Local Government	Local Government Assistant Planning Manager
Environmental Manager	Cert III in Local Government (Health and Environment)	Health and Environment Officer (Water)
	Diploma of Environmental Monitoring and Technology	Environmental Technician
	Cert IV in Environmental Management and Sustainability	Environmental Management Officer

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IF YOU LIKE:

- Chemistry, biology, psychology, english and maths subjects
- Making a difference
- Caring for others
- Working outside office hours
- Meeting interesting people
- Problem solving
- Health and wellbeing

CONSIDER VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING IN:

HEALTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES

This industry is responsible for the health and wellbeing of all Australians. Sometimes we think about health and community services as healing services, but the industry also focuses on keeping us well in the first place. As one of our biggest industries, there are many career pathways in care, mental health and disability. To support the changes that are occuring in our society, such as an ageing population and more parents opting to work, as well as new medical advancements, there are new and exciting opportunities available across the field. Health and Community Services offer a range of rewarding careers that allow you to make a difference every day.

WHICH LEADS TO THESE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

1. Nurse
2. Welfare Rights Officer
3. Counsellor
4. Childcare Education Manager
5. Relationship Educator
6. Operating Theatre Technician
7. Dental Prosthetist
8. Medical Practice Manager

People view me as a leader in the department, and as someone who is going to stand up for the rights of children and families.

DAWN,
SENIOR ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY WORKER,
VET GRADUATE

This industry is the second largest industry in Australia and is still growing.

Nurses are regarded as one of the most trusted professions.

There are many high demand professionals in this industry such as nurses, personal care workers and child care workers.

EXPLORE EDUCATION & TRAINING PATHWAYS

Below is a sample of just some of the career pathways you could take in health & community services.
There are so many courses on offer. Visit the My Skills website at www.myskills.gov.au to find the career for you.

MEDICAL CARE SERVICES

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Nursing	Diploma of Nursing	Enrolled Nurse
Nursing Support	Cert II in Health Support Services Cert III in Health Services Assistance	Ward Hand Operating Theatre Technician
Ambulance	Cert IV in Ambulance Communications (Dispatch) Diploma of Paramedical Science	Ambulance Dispatcher Paramedic
Health Practice	Cert III in Health Administration Cert IV in Health Administration Diploma of Practice Management	Health Administrative Worker Medical Record Team Leader Practice Manager
Dental	Cert III in Dental Assisting Advanced Diploma of Dental Prosthetics	Dentist Assistant Dental Prosthetist
Massage Therapist	Diploma of Clinical Aromatherapy Diploma of Remedial Massage Advanced Diploma of Ayurveda	Clinical Aromatherapist Remedial Massage Therapist Ayurveda Therapist

RESIDENTIAL CARE SERVICES

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Aged Care	Cert III in Aged Care Diploma of Leisure and Health Advanced Diploma of Community Sector Management	Aged Care Activity Worker Diversional Therapist Disability Services Manager
Home Support	Cert III in Individual Support Cert IV in Coordination of Volunteer Programs Cert IV in Leisure and Health Cert IV in Disability	Accommodation Support Worker (Disability) Volunteer Coordinator Leisure and Therapy Assistant Disability Officer – Day Support

SOCIAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Childcare	Cert III in Early Childhood Education and Care Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care	Preschool Assistant Childhood Education Manager
Education Aide	Cert III in School Age Education and Care Cert III in Education Support Cert IV in Education Support	Childhood Educator Assistant Education Assistant at a culturally diverse school Education Support Officer
Welfare	Cert II in Community Services Cert III in Community Services Cert IV in Community Services Advanced Diploma of Community Sector Management	Assistant Community Services Worker Migrant Support Worker Welfare Rights Officer Community Development Manager
Counselling	Diploma of Counselling	Counsellor

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IF YOU LIKE:

- Maths, science, IT, design & technology subjects
- Knowing how things work
- Making things
- Working with your hands
- Design
- Teamwork

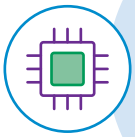
CONSIDER VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING IN:

MANUFACTURING & ENGINEERING

Manufacturing is a key part of Australia's economy. It involves producing, maintaining and managing the products we make, such as building materials, shoes, clothes, furniture, pharmaceuticals, paper, textiles, vehicles and vessels. Technology is changing the way the global manufacturing industry works at a rapid pace. These changes require an engaged, flexible and forward-thinking workforce who can take on new ideas and technology. Skills in maths, science, engineering and technology are highly valuable, and the skills you gain in this industry will be transferable to a range of other areas. It is an exciting time to become involved in this high-tech industry.

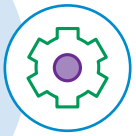
WHICH LEADS TO THESE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

1. Mechanical Engineering Draftsman
2. Embroiderer
3. Textiles Team Leader
4. Mechatronics Technician
5. Clothing Sample Machinist
6. Production Manager
7. Recreational Vehicle Manufacturer
8. Aeronautical Engineer



The manufacturing industry is evolving for a high-tech future.

Many trades in manufacturing are highly valued in the defence industry.



There are a range of qualified professionals that are in high demand, such as aircraft engineers, locksmiths and metal workers.

EXPLORE EDUCATION & TRAINING PATHWAYS

Below is a sample of just some of the career pathways you could take in manufacturing & engineering.
There are so many courses on offer. Visit the My Skills website at www.myskills.gov.au to find the career for you.

MANUFACTURING (TRADES)

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Metal Fitter & Machinist	Cert II in Engineering Cert III in Engineering Cert IV in Engineering – Mechanical Trade	Equipment Maintainer Metal Finisher/ Blaster Advanced Mechanical Maintenance Technician
Printer	Cert II in Printing and Graphic Arts (General) Cert III in Printing	Bench Hand Digital Print Manager
Aircraft Manufacturing	Cert II in Aircraft Line Maintenance Cert IV in Aeroskills (Mechanical) Diploma of Aeroskills (Avionics)	Aircraft Line Maintenance Worker Aircraft Maintenance Technician Licensed Aircraft Maintenance Engineer (Mechanical)
Clothing	Cert II in TCF Production Support Cert III in Digitising and Computerised Embroidery Cert IV in Textile Design, Development and Production	Clothing Production Assistant Embroiderer Textile Design Team Leader
Engineering	Cert III in Automotive Body Repair Technology Cert III in Engineering – Technical Advanced Diploma of Engineering	Vehicle Body Repair Technician Draftsperson (Mechanical Detail) Engineering Associate – Aeronautical
Upholstery	Cert III in Upholstery	Upholsterer
Leather	Cert II in Leather Production	Leather Goods Production Operator
Locksmith	Cert III in Locksmithing	Locksmith (Electonic Systems or General)
Woodwork	Cert II in Timber Manufactured Products Cert III in Woodmachining	Manufacturing Assistant (Timber Products) Saw Doctor

MANUFACTURING (OPERATIONS)

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Production	Cert II in Automotive Manufacturing Production – Bus, Truck and Trailer Cert IV in Clothing Production Diploma of Engineering – Technical	Bus, Truck, Trailer Production Worker Sample Machinist Mechatronics Technician
Plastics	Diploma of Polymer Technology	Polymer Technologist
Mineral Products	Cert II in Manufactured Mineral Products Cert III in Manufactured Mineral Products Cert IV in Manufactured Mineral Products	Brick Kiln Operator Ceramics Mould Maker Plant Coordinator

MANUFACTURING (MANAGEMENT)

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Production	Cert III in Recreational Vehicle Manufacturing	Recreational Vehicle Manufacturer
Management	Cert IV of Leadership and Management Diploma of Leadership and Management	Team Leader Business Manager

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IF YOU LIKE:

- English, debating, history, geography, theatre, art, mathematics
- Meeting interesting people
- Negotiating and problem solving
- Setting goals
- Hair and beauty
- Cars
- Fashion and shopping

CONSIDER VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING IN:

RETAIL, HAIR & BEAUTY SERVICES

As one of Australia's largest industries, retail makes a huge impact on the way we live. Our economy depends on our ability to attain and sell the goods and services that support our way of life. This industry is broad and encompasses hair and beauty salons, supermarkets, service stations, chemists, car retail, florists, department stores and all online retail too. This industry depends on people and their capacity to build strong relationships. If you're a people person, the retail and beauty sector provides many interesting and varied career pathways with the ability to evolve as you go, or even own your own business.

WHICH LEADS TO THESE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

1. Merchandise Photographic Stylist
2. Car Dealership Manager
3. Small Business Owner
4. Specialist Florist Designer
5. Salon Manager
6. Runway Make-up Artist
7. Retail Area Manager
8. Real Estate Agent

In 5 or 10 years I definitely want to see myself as my own salon owner. It's always been a goal of mine ever since I started my apprenticeship.

JESSICA,
MASTER STYLIST
VET GRADUATE

One in ten Australians work in retail.

Qualified professionals in this industry are in high demand in Australia, such as pharmaceutical retailers and beauty therapists.

Hairdressers and beauticians are often voted the happiest jobs in the world.

EXPLORE EDUCATION & TRAINING PATHWAYS

Below is a sample of just some of the career pathways you could take in retail, hair & beauty services.
There are so many courses on offer. Visit the My Skills website at www.myskills.gov.au to find the career for you.

RETAIL AUTOMOTIVE

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Automotive Sales & Administration	Cert IV in Automotive Management Cert III in Automotive Sales Diploma of Automatic Management	Car Dealership Administration Assistant Vehicle Salesperson Dealership Manager
Motor Vehicle Parts Interpreter	Cert III in Automotive Sales	Parts Interpreter

RETAIL FLORISTRY

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Floristry	Cert II in Floristry (Assistant) Cert IV in Floristry Diploma of Floristry Design	Floristry Assistant Online Florist Specialist Floral Designer

RETAIL GENERAL

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Retail	Cert III in Retail Operations Cert III in Customer Engagement Cert III in Retail Baking (Cake & Pastry) Cert III in Business to Business Sales Diploma of Retail Leadership Diploma of Visual Merchandising	Store Supervisor Sales Consultant Pastry Cook (Retail baking) Business Sales Representative Cluster Supermarket Area Manager Visual Merchandiser
Pharmacy	Cert II in Community Pharmacy Cert IV in Community Pharmacy	Pharmacy Sales Assistant Pharmacy Manager
Nursery	Cert III in Retail Nursery Diploma of Retail Nursery Management	Retail Nursery Tradesperson Garden Centre Manager

HAIRDRESSING

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Hairdressing	Cert II in Hairdressing Cert III in Barbering Cert IV in Hairdressing Diploma of Salon Management	Salon Assistant Barber Senior Stylist Salon Manager

BEAUTY SERVICES

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Beauty Therapy	Cert II in Retail Cosmetics Cert III in Make-up Diploma of Beauty Therapy	Retail Cosmetic Assistant Make-up Artist Beauty Salon Manager
Laser Hair Removal Therapy	Graduate Certificate in Intense Pulsed Light and Laser Hair Reduction	Laser Treatment Therapist
Nail Technology	Cert III in Nail Technology Diploma of Salon Management	Nail Technician Nail Salon Owner

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IF YOU LIKE:

- Mathematics, chemistry, biology, physics, IT & agriculture subjects
- Medicine
- Computers
- Helping animals and people
- Following a method or detailed instructions
- Working with your hands
- Working towards tangible outcomes

CONSIDER VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING IN:

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

This broad and specialised industry offers a wide range of opportunities for a rewarding and interesting career. The industry requires a range of qualified people that have technical scientific and information technology (IT) skills. The science and technology industry is made up of laboratory technicians, animal carers, and information and telecommunications technology experts to perform a range of critical roles that help society. These include taking care of our food, our network security and our pets. A career in science and technology offers the ability to specialise in a meaningful field and use a balance of analytical and practical skills.

WHICH LEADS TO THESE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

1. Veterinary Nurse
2. Horse Breeder
3. Pathology Laboratory Assistant
4. Audiologist
5. IT Project Manager
6. Business Analyst
7. Software Developer
8. Telecommunications Business Manager

IT systems can make a great impact on other industries like health and agriculture by making them more efficient.

Medical technicians must be flexible to adapt to rapid advances in medicine.

Those qualified in telecommunication services are in high demand.

EXPLORE EDUCATION & TRAINING PATHWAYS

Below is a sample of just some of the career pathways you could take in science & technology. There are so many courses on offer. Visit the My Skills website at www.myskills.gov.au to find the career for you.

ANIMAL CARE

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Veterinary Nursing	Cert IV in Equine Dentistry Diploma of Veterinary Nursing (Emergency and Critical Care)	Equine Dental Service Provider Veterinary Surgical Nurse
Pet Care	Cert II in Animal Studies Cert IV in Veterinary Nursing Cert IV in Companion Animal Services	Assistant Dog Groomer Veterinary Nurse Companion Animal Trainer / Behaviourist
Farriery	Cert III in Farriery Cert III in Horse Breeding	Farrier Horse Breeding Assistant

LABORATORY TECHNOLOGY

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Agricultural Technician	Cert III in Laboratory Skills Diploma of Laboratory Technology Diploma of Food Science and Technology	Dairy Food Laboratory Assistant Food Laboratory Technical Officer Food Testing Manager
Medical Technician	Cert III in Sterilisation Services Cert IV in Community Pharmacy Dispensary Cert IV in Audiometry Diploma of Anaesthetic Technology Advanced Diploma of Laboratory Operations	Sterilisation Assistant Pharmaceutical Dispensary Technician Audiologist Anaesthetic Technician Pathology Laboratory Technician Officer
Science Technician	Cert II in Sampling and Measurement Cert III in Laboratory Skills Diploma of Laboratory Technology Advanced Diploma of Laboratory Operations	Air Quality Sampler School Laboratory Assistant Food Laboratory Technical Officer Water Laboratory Supervisor

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Software and Applications Programming	Cert III in Information, Digital Media and Technology Diploma of Software Development Advanced Diploma of Information Technology Project Management	ICT Technician Assistant Software Developer IT Project Manager
ICT	Cert IV in Web-Based Technologies Diploma of Systems Analysis and Design Advanced Diploma of Information Technology	Website Administrator Systems Analyst Software Manager

TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Telecommunications Trade Worker	Telecommunications Trade Worker	Broadband Network Installer Telecommunications Fibre Splicer
Network Engineer	Diploma of Telecommunications Engineering Advanced Diploma of Telecommunications Network Engineering	Radio Frequency Technician Network Engineering Technical Officer
Telecommunications Technical Specialist	Cert IV in Telecommunications Network Design Diploma of Telecommunications Engineering	Telecommunications Technician Designer Telecommunications Business Manager

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IF YOU LIKE:

- Sport, health, biology, psychology and chemistry subjects
- Learning how the body works
- Playing and following sport
- Working outside office hours
- Being outdoors
- Developing strong relationships
- Working towards tangible results

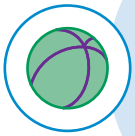
CONSIDER VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING IN:

SPORTS & RECREATION

Sports and recreation are a fundamental part of Australia's identity. As a sporting nation, we take great pride in playing, spectating and following sports. Sports and recreation play a significant role in our wellbeing. Not only is it crucial for our physical health but it can also help our mental health by uniting teams and giving people a sense of belonging. Careers in this industry include highly skilled coaches, managers and facilitators to help us engage in a wide range of recreation and amusement activities. Often, people who work in the sport and recreation industry report having a high level of job satisfaction as these careers are social, results focused and often involve being physically active.

WHICH LEADS TO THESE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

1. High Performance Coach
2. Personal Trainer
3. Outdoor Guide
4. Sports Event Manager
5. Jockey
6. Sports Program Coordinator
7. Track and Facilities Manager
8. Competition Coordinator



The sport and recreation industry supports our wellbeing by providing social inclusion.

Fitness instructors report high work satisfaction because they help people meet their potential every day.

Careers in sports and physical recreation activities are popular.

EXPLORE EDUCATION & TRAINING PATHWAYS

Below is a sample of just some of the career pathways you could take in sports & recreation. There are so many courses on offer. Visit the My Skills website at www.myskills.gov.au to find the career for you.

SPORT AND RECREATION (INSTRUCTION)

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Sports Coach	Cert III in Sport Coaching Cert IV in Sport Coaching Diploma of Sport Coaching	Community Swimming Coach Sports Development Officer High Performance Golf Coach
Fitness Instructor	Cert III in Fitness Cert IV in Fitness Diploma of Fitness	Aqua Exercise Instructor Personal Trainer Fitness Service Coordinator
Outdoor Recreation Instructor	Cert III in Outdoor Recreation Cert IV in Outdoor Recreation Diploma of Outdoor Recreation	SCUBA Diving Instructor Rock Climbing Instructor Outdoor Guide

HORSE RACING

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Racing	Cert IV in Racing Services (Racing Administration) Diploma of Racing Services (Track Management) Diploma of Racing (Racehorse Trainer)	Racing Administrator Track and Facilities Manager Racehorse Trainer

SPORT AND RECREATION (FACILITATION)

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Community Recreation Centre	Cert II in Sport and Recreation Cert III in Sport and Recreation Cert III in Aquatics and Community Recreation Cert IV in Sport and Recreation Diploma of Sport and Recreation Management	Customer Service Assistant Recreation Officer (Disability) Pool Lifeguard Swim School Coordinator Sports Centre Manager
Greenkeeper	Cert III in Sports Turf Management Diploma of Sports Turf Management	Greenkeeper Sports Turf Manager
Recreation Officer	Cert II in Sport and Recreation Cert III in Sport and Recreation Cert IV in Sport and Recreation Diploma of Sport and Recreation Management	Community Activities Assistant Leisure Services Officer Recreation Co-ordinator Sports Program Manager
Sports Development	Cert IV in Sport Coaching Cert IV in Sport Development Diploma of Sport Development	Coach Sports Development Officer High Performance Coach

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IF YOU LIKE:

- Hospitality, geography, history and business subjects
- Food and beverages
- Travel
- People and other cultures
- Working outside office hours
- Meeting interesting people
- Organising and running events

CONSIDER VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING IN:

TOURISM & HOSPITALITY

This fast paced and exciting industry is all about providing excellent experiences for others to enjoy. Tourism encourages and creates leisure activities for travellers in new places while hospitality includes all accommodation, food and beverage services. Together it is a large and very important industry for Australia's economy. It includes careers such as travel agents, tour guides, restaurant managers, hotel managers, chefs and event organisers. This industry is expected to grow significantly over the next few years with more people travelling and eating out. Careers in tourism and hospitality are diverse, creative and people-centred so they offer a wide variety of interesting roles.

WHICH LEADS TO THESE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

1. Head Chef
2. Travel Agency Manager
3. Tour Operations Owner
4. Hotel Manager
5. Events Coordinator
6. Cafe Owner
7. Holiday Park Operator
8. Adventure Tourism Guide

Working in the industry, it is absolutely brilliant. It's everything that I ever wanted it to be. Knowing that you're actually putting your heart and soul into what goes on to someone's plate...it's absolutely wonderful. I couldn't ask for anything more.

MATT,
HEAD CHEF
VET GRADUATE

Travel Agents often get to travel the world as part of their job.

The tourism and hospitality industry is expected to grow considerably over the next three years.

Chefs are currently in high demand.

EXPLORE EDUCATION & TRAINING PATHWAYS

Below is a sample of just some of the career pathways you could take in tourism & hospitality. There are so many courses on offer. Visit the My Skills website at www.myskills.gov.au to find the career for you.

TOURISM

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Tourism	Cert III in Guiding	Nature Tour Guide
	Cert IV in Guiding	Driver Guide
	Diploma of Travel and Tourism Management	Tour Operations Manager
	Cert III in Tourism	Visitor Information Officer In-bound Tour Coordinator International Online Travel Consultant
Travel	Cert III in Travel	International Corporate Travel Consultant
	Cert IV in Travel and Tourism	Senior Retail Travel Consultant
	Advanced Diploma of Travel and Tourism Management	Travel Agency Senior Manager

HOSPITALITY

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Hospitality	Cert II in Hospitality	Bar Attendant
	Cert III in Hospitality	Barista
	Diploma of Hospitality Management	Restaurant Manager
Catering	Cert III in Catering Operations	Hospital Cook
	Cert IV in Catering Operations	Caterer
	Diploma of Hospitality Management	Sous Chef
Cook	Cert II in Kitchen Operations	Breakfast Cook
	Cert IV in Patisserie	Chef Patisserie
	Cert IV in Commercial Cookery	Chef de Partie (Large Hotel)
	Advanced Diploma of Hospitality Management	Executive Chef
Accommodation	Cert II in Holiday Parks and Resorts	Housekeeping Attendant
	Cert IV in Hospitality	Concierge
	Diploma of Hospitality Management	Motel Manager
Holiday Parks and Resorts	Cert II in Holiday Parks and Resorts	Junior Handyperson
	Cert III in Holiday Parks and Resorts	Holiday Park Grounds Person
	Cert IV in Holiday Parks and Resorts	Resort Assistant Manager
	Diploma of Holiday Park and Resort Management	Holiday Park Operations Manager
Events	Cert II in Tourism	Events Receptionist
	Cert III in Events	Resort Conference and Events Assistant
	Diploma of Event Management	Conference Coordinator
	Advanced Diploma of Event Management	Event Manager

VET offers qualifications that are shaped and driven by industry needs. This means that what's on offer can vary based on what's required by industry. These qualifications are correct at time of publication, however, head over to My Skills for the most up to date information on these qualifications.

IF YOU LIKE:

- Geography, science, maths, technology, hospitality and business subjects
- Aircraft, trains and motor vehicles
- Travel
- People and other cultures
- Working outside office hours
- Knowing how things work
- Change
- Working on your own

CONSIDER VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING IN:

TRANSPORT

We depend on the transport industry to carry out our business every day. We rely on air, road and train travel to transport people and commodities across Australia and around the world. This industry includes planning and logistics, drivers, deliverers and the maintenance of trucks, trains, boats and aeroplanes. Progress in technology means this industry is changing rapidly as robotics and automation shift the way we work. This means careers in transport require flexibility and skills in engineering, maths and science. A career in transport is engaging and can provide great opportunities to travel.

Most industries, particularly construction & mining, and manufacturing depend on a strong transport industry.

There are 905,000km of roads, 33,000km of rail and 60,000km of coastline to navigate in Australia.

Automotive electricians, mechanics, panel beaters and vehicle painters are in high demand.

WHICH LEADS TO THESE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

1. Flight Instructor
2. Supply and Distribution Manager
3. Train Driver
4. Marine Engineer
5. Heritage Locomotive Assistant
6. Commercial Pilot
7. Heavy Commercial Vehicle Technician
8. Logistics Manager

EXPLORE EDUCATION & TRAINING PATHWAYS

Below is a sample of just some of the career pathways you could take in transport. There are so many courses on offer. Visit the My Skills website at www.myskills.gov.au to find the career for you.

MANAGEMENT AND LOGISTICS

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Supply and Distribution	Cert II in Warehousing Operations	Freight Handler
	Cert IV in Warehousing Operations	Warehouse Supervisor
	Diploma of Customs Broking	Customs Broker
Logistics	Cert IV in Logistics	Logistics Coordinator
	Diploma of Logistics	Logistics Manager
	Advanced Diploma of Deployment Logistics	Deployment Program Manager

ROAD TRANSPORT

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Driving Operations	Cert II in Driving Operations	Express Driver
	Cert IV in Transport and Logistics	Heavy Vehicle Driving Instructor

RAIL TRANSPORT

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Rail Operations	Cert II in Tram or Light Rail Infrastructure	Track Protection Worker
	Cert IV in Train Driving	Freight Train Driver
	Diploma of Rail Operations Management	Passenger Service Manager

WATER TRANSPORT

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Water Transport	Cert II in Maritime Operations (Linesperson)	Linesperson
	Cert III in Maritime Operations (Marine Engine Driver Grade 2 Near Coastal)	Marine Engine Driver (Near Coast)
	Advanced Diploma of Maritime Operations (Marine Engineering Class 1 or 2)	Marine Engineer

AIR AND SPACE TRANSPORT

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Air and Space Transport	Cert II in Aviation Transport Protection (Checked Baggage Screener)	Checked Baggage Screener
	Cert III in Aviation (Rescue Crewman)	Helicopter Rescue Crew
	Cert IV in Aviation (Aviation Supervision)	Cabin Service Supervisor
	Advanced Diploma of Aviation (Pilot in Command)	Pilot in Command

WAREHOUSING, SUPPORT AND OPERATIONS

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Operations	Cert III in Forklift Technology	Forklift Technician
	Cert IV in International Freight Forwarding	Operations Supervisor – Freight Forwarding

AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Automotive Maintenance	Cert II in Automotive Manufacturing Production – Bus, Truck and Trailer	Automotive Body Builder (Buses, trucks and trailers)
	Cert III in Heavy Commercial Vehicle Mechanical Technology	Heavy Commercial Vehicle Technician

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IF YOU LIKE:

- Chemistry, geology, maths, technology, engineering and business subjects
- Working outside the office
- Knowing how things work
- Working towards tangible outcomes
- Problem solving
- Organisation and logistics
- New technology and sustainability

CONSIDER VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING IN:

UTILITIES

This industry is responsible for providing Australia with electricity, gas, water and waste removal services. Without the highly skilled professionals maintaining our power stations, electricity grids and water, we would live a very different life. People who work in the utilities industry manage endless kilometres of pipes, poles and wires to provide the right distribution of power, pressure and water for 24 million Australians every day. Careers in this industry include renewable specialists, electricians, gas operators, earth science technicians and managers. Changes in technology mean the industry is evolving and requires more people with skills in science, maths and engineering. A career in utilities could allow you to make a strong impact on the future of your community's health and environment.

WHICH LEADS TO THESE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

1. Renewable Energy Specialist
2. Hydrographer
3. Electrical Engineer
4. Process Plant Manager
5. Remote Community Utilities Operator
6. Process Plant Project Coordinator
7. Landfill Rehabilitation Officer
8. Tanker Logistics Manager

I really liked my practical subjects. So, when I was about sixteen and a half, I think that's when Dad suggested maybe you should do an apprenticeship. And I thought, why not? And that's pretty much when my whole life changed.

JESSICA,
ELECTRICIAN TEAM LEADER
VET GRADUATE

Australia is becoming more energy efficient all the time thanks to new technology.

Skills gained in the utilities industry are transferable across several industries including construction & mining and defence.

Electrical line workers are currently in high demand.

EXPLORE EDUCATION & TRAINING PATHWAYS

Below is a sample of just some of the career pathways you could take in utilities. There are so many courses on offer. Visit the My Skills website at www.myskills.gov.au to find the career for you.

ELECTRICITY

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Electrical Distribution	Cert III in ESI – Power Systems – Distribution Overhead Diploma of ESI – Power Systems Advanced Diploma of ESI – Power Systems	Electrical Powerline Worker Electricity Supply Technician Technical Officer Power Systems Operations
Electrical Transmission	Cert II in ESI – Powerline Vegetation Control Cert III in ESI – Remote Community Utilities Worker Cert IV in ESI – Power Systems Substations Advanced Diploma of Industrial Electronics and Control Engineering	Powerline Vegetation Control Worker Remote Communities Utilities Worker Substations Technician Electrical Engineer
Renewable Energy	Cert II in Electrotechnology (Career Start) Cert III in Renewable Energy – ELV Cert IV in Energy Management and Control Advanced Diploma of Engineering Technology – Renewable Energy	Electrotechnology Career Start Trainee Renewable Energy Tradesperson Energy Management and Control Technician Senior Technical Officer – Renewable Energy
Power Plant Operator	Cert II in ESI Generation – Operations Support Cert III in ESI Generation – Operations Diploma of ESI Generation – Operations	Power Plant Operational Support Operative Power Plant Systems Operator Power Plant Operations Technical Officer

GAS

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Chemical	Cert II in Process Plant Operations Cert III in Process Plant Operations Diploma of Process Plant Technology	Chemical Process Plant Operator Emergency Support Operator Process Plant Project Coordinator
Hydrocarbons	Cert III in Process Plant Operations Advanced Diploma of Process Plant Technology	Process Plant Operator (Hydrocarbons Extraction) Process Plant Operations Manager
Operations	Cert III in Gas Supply Industry Operations Cert IV in Driving Operations Diploma of Deployment Logistics	Gas Fitter Fuel Tanker Driver Tanker Logistics Manager

WATER

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Operations	Cert II in Water Industry Operations Cert III in Water Industry Operations Cert IV in Water Industry Treatment Diploma of Water Industry Operations	Surface Water Operator Assistant Hydrographer Drinking Water Treatment Coordinator Senior Hydrographer

WASTE MANAGEMENT

CATEGORY	QUALIFICATIONS	CAREER POSSIBILITIES
Waste Management	Cert II in Waste Management Cert III in Waste Management Cert IV in Waste Management	Stores and Dispatch worker Recycling Officer Landfill Rehabilitation Supervisor

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YOUR CAREER
YOUR CHOICE

DO IT YOUR WAY WITH VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING

For more information visit myskills.gov.au

YOU COULD BE A...

MANAGER
HEAD CHEF
ADVOCATE
PHOTOGRAPHER
NURSE
BUILDER
GARDENER
CAREGIVER
ELECTRICIAN
STYLIST
SOCIAL WORKER
RETAIL ASSISTANT
CARPENTER
MARKETER
HAIRDRESSER
DESIGNER
MECHANIC
THERAPIST
TEACHER
ENGINEER

HELPFUL HINTS FOR STARTING YOUR CAREER

1 SEE THE FUTURE

Deciding what it is you want to do in your career can be a big decision. One you have probably thought about many times. If you are still working it out remember every career path starts somewhere. Many people make a number of career changes throughout their lives. A great starting place is asking yourself what are you good at? What do you love to do? List those things out and then move to step 2.

2 DO YOUR RESEARCH

Exploring My Skills is a great place to start researching. Arm yourself with information and knowledge. Find the job you want to aspire to, one that you believe you will be great at and more importantly love to do. Work backwards from there. Find out what type of education or experience is required, and you'll start to map out a pathway towards that career. You may do this multiple times until you find the right fit for you. The end 'job' is only a part of the picture, having an understanding of the whole journey is incredibly important. You may think you want a particular career, however, with research you may discover the way to get there is different than you imagined.

3 GIVE IT A GO

Try before you buy. It's important to know exactly what you are working towards. Once you have decided on a career think about gaining some work experience, finding a mentor, seeing if a schools-based apprenticeship is possible, or simply meeting someone who is currently in your dream job. These are all great ways to test a career out, and best of all, you can add these experiences to your resume.

4 THINK ABOUT THE $$ AND CENTS

We know, this is where it gets heavy. But it's important to think about and shouldn't be avoided. How much is it going to cost to study? How much can you earn whilst studying and how? What is the average salary for your dream job? What are the entry-level wages you can expect? These are all questions you should try and find an answer to (see point 2!).

5 BE PROACTIVE

When the time comes, be really proactive when you're looking for jobs and opportunities. Don't sit back and wait for things to come to you. Get your resume ready and your references organised. Pick up the phone, send emails, reach out to people you know and let them know who you are, your strengths and what you are looking for. This is relevant whether you're looking for part-time, full-time or casual work, looking to complete an Australian Apprenticeship, while you are studying and after your graduate. Remember, each person you are talking to or reaching out to has been in your position before.

6 PRESENTATION

Yes, we have all heard people say "put your best foot forward", "presentation is key", but you keep hearing these for a reason. Take pride in who you are and what you have to offer. Carry yourself with confidence and know that attention to detail is REALLY important. Perfect that resume and cover letter, and if you get a face to face meeting, come dressed for the part. People will notice.

7 BE DETERMINED

Luck is opportunity and hard work. Most of the world's most successful people have worked incredibly hard to create opportunities for themselves. However, they have also had a lot of knock backs along the way. Knowing that the path is not always easy and that there are tough days for everyone, means that when things don't go perfectly – you'll keep showing up and stay focused on what you want out of life.

8 BE HUMBLE

Being ambitious is great but you will not be running the show on the first day of any job. Remember to learn from those around you. Be prepared to do the entry-level jobs, get the experience and one day in the not too distant future you may find yourself training the next person coming into your industry. Know that wherever you find yourself, you will, and should, always be learning.

THE AUSTRALIAN VET ALUMNI

Every person featured in this publication is part of the Australian VET Alumni. Australian VET Alumni members comprise Australia's best VET students, businesses, registered training organisations, teachers and leaders; they know first-hand the value in investing in VET as either a career, to grow their business or to enhance their training services.

You can connect with, and learn more about, over 400 Australian VET Alumni across Australia, all of whom are ambassadors, eager and willing, to share their VET success story by visiting:

www.australiantrainingawards.gov.au/vetalumni

FIND OUT MORE

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