Get VET

PASSION
JOB OPPORTUNITIES
FLEXIBILITY
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Foreword

In building the Education State, the Victorian Government is investing $8.5 billion to provide school students with the knowledge, capabilities and attributes that will equip them with the skills that industry needs and employers expect.

Vocational Education and Training (VET) is an important component of both of Victoria’s senior secondary qualifications, the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) and the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL).

VET opens up many future career opportunities in areas with increasing employment demands. For example, VET offers nationally recognised qualifications that create pathways to over 500 careers in a diverse range of industries including health, technology, robotics, engineering, food, science, construction and IT.

For this reason, the Victorian Government will invest $76 million over the next four years to increase the opportunities for you to include VET in your senior secondary program of study. This includes $26 million to improve the quality and availability of vocational pathways for secondary students and $50 million to support the roll out of Head Start Apprenticeships and Traineeships in 100 government schools. Head Start is designed to make students career and employer-ready, with increased time on the job, stronger student support and improved quality of training.

I encourage every student deciding on their senior secondary program to consider including a VET component.

The practical nature of VET allows you to develop valuable skills and knowledge and gives you the opportunity to apply them in the workplace. VET also develops your employability skills, which is an advantage when joining the workforce.

VET can make a valuable contribution to your education and your future.

This publication provides you with details of the wide range of opportunities that are available to you, to help you make the most informed decisions about your future.

Whether you plan to enrol in university, TAFE, complete an apprenticeship or traineeship, or enter the workforce, I encourage you to explore VET and see how it can support your short-term and long-term goals.

The Hon. James Merlino MP
Deputy Premier and Minister for Education
Introduction

Is being passionate about your work important to you?
Vocational Education and Training (VET) can give you workplace skills and knowledge for a career you are passionate about. Every year more than 50,000 secondary students across Victoria explore their passion through VET.

Are job opportunities important to you?
VET can give you training that is directly connected to employment.

Is flexibility important to you?
VET offers you a flexible pathway to achieve your goals. If your goals change, your pathway can change too. The employability skills you develop with VET can give you extra flexibility to explore multiple opportunities and interests.

Top to bottom, left to right.
Engineering, Ringwood Secondary College/Ringwood Training
Hospitality, St John’s Regional College
Animal Studies, Box Hill Institute
Integrated Technologies, Bendigo Senior Secondary College
Cisco®, Ringwood Secondary College/Ringwood Training
Myth: University graduates earn more than VET graduates.
Fact: University and VET both offer a wide range of qualifications that lead to a wide range of salaries. The salary you earn is a result of your qualification and what you do with it – not where you get it.

To put this into perspective, the highest average starting salary for a university graduate is $78,300 (Dentistry) (The Social Research Centre 2018). The highest average starting salary for a VET graduate is $91,000 (Certificate IV in Hazardous areas – Electrical) (myskills 2018).

Myth: There are fewer job opportunities for VET graduates.
Fact: More than half of all new jobs projected to be created by 2022 will be achievable with a VET qualification.

57% of new jobs projected by 2022 will be achievable with a VET qualification (Labour Market Information Portal 2017).

Myth: VET is only for VCAL students.
Fact: VET is for VCE and VCAL students.

VET can provide credit towards the VCE and VCAL. It is important to choose studies that complement your pathway.

Myth: You cannot go to university if you do VET at school.
Fact: You can still go to university if you do VET at school.

If you are a VCE student, VET can be used in the calculation of your Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).

If you do not achieve the ATAR you need, or if you are a VCAL student, undertaking a VET qualification may give you an alternative pathway to university.

Myth: VET courses delivered to secondary students are not the same as VET courses delivered to everyone else.
Fact: VET courses delivered to secondary students are identical to VET courses delivered to everyone else.

VET has national standards. The same standards apply to everyone undertaking a qualification.
This is how VET is different

Here are the top five differences between a VCE VET program and a VCE study or a VCAL unit.

1. **An extra qualification**
   You can gain a nationally recognised VET qualification while undertaking your VCE or VCAL. You receive the VET qualification from a Registered Training Organisation, such as a TAFE.

2. **Connected to the workplace**
   VET qualifications give you industry exposure and experience in the workplace that reinforces your skills development. This connection also makes for a smooth transition between training and work.

3. **Practical**
   VET can strengthen your education by giving you the opportunity to gain practical skills and knowledge that complement your VCE studies. For example, if you want to be an engineer and you are studying VCE Physics and VCE Mathematical Methods, you can develop practical skills, technical knowledge and industry insight by doing VCE VET Engineering.

4. **Units of competency**
   Units of competency are the building blocks that make up a VET qualification. Each unit of competency includes specific skills and knowledge.

5. **Competency based assessment**
   VET students are assessed as ‘competent’ or ‘not yet competent’ in each unit of competency. To be assessed as competent, you must show a consistent application of skills and knowledge to the standard required in the workplace.

To make sure you are ready to begin your career or continue with further study, assessments take place in a real or simulated workplace environment.
This is what you get from VET

**Nationally recognised qualification**
VET is a national system with qualifications that are recognised and can lead to employment anywhere in Australia.

**Contribution towards VCE or VCAL**
VET qualifications can contribute towards your VCE or VCAL.

**Skills**

**Technical skills**
Develop technical skills through specialised training for a specific job or industry.

**Employability skills**
Develop non-technical skills that can be applied across different jobs and industries. Skills include:

- communication
- teamwork
- problem solving
- initiative and enterprise
- planning and organising
- self-management
- learning
- technology

**Knowledge**

**Specialised knowledge**
Gain knowledge through specialised training to understand and perform specific workplace tasks.

**Industry knowledge**
Learn how an industry works – see the big picture and learn how to progress your career.

**Employment opportunities**
VET can lead to full-time, part-time or casual employment opportunities. This flexibility may allow you to follow multiple interests at the same time – like employment, education and volunteering.

**Financial outcomes**

**Earn while you learn**
Apprenticeships and traineeships allow you to earn an income as you train, study and work.

**Gain qualified employment to finance further studies**
Once you receive a VET qualification you may be able to gain employment that can finance further studies – like a more advanced qualification.

**Secure income**
A VET qualification in an area with increasing job opportunities may provide you with a secure income.

**Education pathways**
VET can lead to TAFE or university – it is up to you and your goals.
This is how VET can prepare you for the jobs of the future

Technology and globalisation are changing the jobs we do.

To make sure VET graduates are ready for these changes, industry and government work together to make sure VET courses give graduates the skills and knowledge that employers need – now and in the future.

VET prepares you to be an adaptable worker by developing important employability skills.

On average, working or training in one job will provide you with the skills for 13 other jobs (The Foundation for Young Australians 2017).

VET can lead to careers in the fastest growing industries.

Industries with the most new jobs created by 2022 (Labour Market Information Portal 2017):
- health care and social assistance
- professional, scientific and technical services
- construction
- education and training
- accommodation and food services

VET can lead to employment in the fastest growing careers.

Careers with the most new jobs by 2022 (Labour Market Information Portal 2017):
- aged care
- disability care
- nursing
- early childhood education

Starting VET at secondary school can give you a head start on joining the workforce with a qualification directly linked to employment.

90% of all new jobs will require post-school education (Labour Market Information Portal 2017).

VET gives you the opportunity to get experience in the workplace and show employers that you have the right attitude towards work.

The two best ways to improve your job prospects are having experience in the workplace and a good attitude towards work (Australian Government Department of Employment n.d.).

84% of VET graduates achieved their goal for training (NCVER 2017):
- to get a job
- to develop or start their own business
- to try for a different career
- to get a better job or promotion
- it was a requirement of their job
- to gain extra skills for their current job
- as further study to get into another course of study
- as personal development

92% of VET graduates recommended their training (NCVER 2017).
This is what a VET pathway looks like

Creating your pathway
A pathway shows the steps you plan to take to achieve your career goals.
Pathways are flexible – not fixed. If your goals or job opportunities change, your pathway can change too.
Sometimes a course from one institution will provide credit towards a course from another institution, so you do not repeat the same units. This can be between VET courses and in some cases between a higher level VET qualification and a bachelor degree.

Designing your learning program
A VCE VET program can often complement a VCE study. For example, Certificate III in Screen and Media can complement VCE Media.

Flexible pathway
- Marlee included Certificate II in Hospitality in her VCE.
- Marlee gained employment working in the kitchen at an aged care facility. Marlee liked the interaction with the residents and decided to do a Certificate III in Individual Support.
- When Marlee received her qualification she was employed as an aged care worker.
- Marlee went on to undertake a Diploma of Leadership and Management.
- Marlee is now a manager at an aged care facility.

Directional pathways
- Chaun included Certificate III in Allied Health Assistance in his VCE.
- Chaun gained employment as a nursing support worker in disability care. He was able to provide financial support for his family while he undertook a Diploma of Nursing.
- When Chaun received his qualification he was employed as an enrolled nurse. He was also accepted into university to commence a Bachelor of Nursing.
- Chaun graduated and was employed as a graduate registered nurse.

- Emily included Certificate II in Building and Construction in Year 10, 11 and 12.
- In Year 12, Emily commenced a Certificate III in Carpentry as a School Based Apprenticeship in her VCAL.
- After secondary school, Emily continued her apprenticeship full-time.
- Emily worked as a qualified carpenter while undertaking a Diploma of Building and Construction.
- Emily became a Registered Domestic Builder (Unlimited).
7 questions to ask yourself

1. What am I passionate about?
   ‘I’m passionate about good food.’

2. What are my strengths?
   ‘I’m a legend in the kitchen. People all over the world like my food … on Instagram.’

3. What careers will allow me to follow my passion and develop my strengths?
   ‘Hospitality is a huge industry. I need to learn more about the different careers and where they can take me.’

4. How can I get a better understanding of different career opportunities?
   ‘I did work experience at a hotel restaurant during the school holidays. I learnt so much! The food and beverage manager was about to move to Asia and work for a five-star resort. It was really inspiring.’

5. What job opportunities will there be in the future?
   ‘I had a look online and hospitality is one of the fastest growing industries.’

6. What qualification will help me get the job I want?
   ‘I think I’ll start with a Certificate II in Hospitality. I can learn new skills and get more real world experience. Hopefully I can get a good employer reference too.’

7. What are my long-term goals?
   ‘It’s too soon to know exactly what I want to do. I could work, study, travel … and maybe one day run my own food truck. Right now, I just want to keep my options open. I’ll finish year 12 and get my VET qualification at the same time.’
# Which VET are you?

## Step 1. Find your passion

### Animals
- Animal Attendant
- Animal Welfare Officer
- Pet Groomer
- Veterinary Physician
- Veterinary Nurse
- Zoo Keeper

If caring for animals makes you happy, you can develop skills in animal health, welfare and nutrition. When you complete the qualification you will be able to assist with the care of animals in a variety of environments.

### Business and finance
- Administration Officer
- Business Administration Officer
- Financial Administration Officer
- Human Resources Officer
- Franchisee
- Marketing Manager
- Office Manager
- Retail Manager
- Shop Manager
- Small Business Owner
- Small Business Manager

If you want to get down to business, you can learn about business terminology, financial processes, document creation, customers and services. This course will open up opportunities for further study and work in private and public organisations throughout the world.

### Small Business
- Business Franchisee
- Marketing Manager
- Office Manager
- Retail Manager
- Shop Manager
- Small Business Owner
- Small Business Manager

If you want to be your own boss, it’s time to learn what it takes to run your own business. Learn about money, marketing, public relations, product research and development, financial and physical resources and sales. Kick-start your journey into the world of small business.

### Automotive
- Auto Electrician
- Engine Reconditioner
- Marine Engineer
- Mechanic
- Motorsport Technician
- Panel Beater
- Pit Crew

If cars and trucks get you revved up, you can learn how to maintain and repair a range of vehicles. With further training you could go on to become a mechanic, an engineer or technician in a range of industries including motorsport, the military or mining.

### Building and construction
- Bricklayer
- Builder
- Carpenter
- Glazier
- Painter and Decorator
- Plasterer
- Stonemason
- Tiler

If you want to start building your future, you can get hands-on with bricklaying, carpentry, painting and decorating, tiling and more. This course is a pre-apprenticeship, giving you the basic skills and knowledge to move onto an apprenticeship in the building and construction industry.

### Community services
- Child Welfare Officer
- Community Health Worker
- Counsellor
- Disability Support Officer
- Early Childhood Educator
- Residential Carer
- Youth Worker
- Personal Support Worker
- Mental Health Program Coordinator

If you’re passionate about improving the lives of others in the community, you can develop skills in early childhood education and care, and community services work. Learn how to support community development, implement educational programs, understand legal and ethical requirements, and develop knowledge in social welfare and the human services industry.

### Cars, trucks, and anything with an engine
- Cabinet Maker
- French Polisher
- Furniture Designer
- Furniture Maker
- Interior Designer
- Kitchen and Bathroom Designer
- Upholsterer

If you like working with wood and have an interest in making furniture and cabinets, you can learn how to make timber joints using hand and power tools, as well as developing skills in construction, assembly, timber preparation, sustainability and safe work practices. You can also make a piece of furniture to keep.
## Which VET are you?

### Design
- Costume Designer
- Fashion Designer
- Production Manager
- Sales Consultant
- Textile Designer
- Animator
- Digital Designer
- Game Developer
- Graphic Designer
- Multimedia Developer
- Photographer
- Set Designer

If you follow fashion and want to get ahead of the game, you can uncover the trends and technologies shaping the industry. You will develop skills for the design and production of clothing and fabric.

### Applied Fashion Design and Technology

### Creative and Digital Media
- Animator
- Digital Designer
- Game Developer
- Graphic Designer
- Multimedia Developer
- Photographer
- Set Designer

If you want to let your imagination run free, you can develop a broad range of skills in creative design and production. Depending on your interests you can learn 2D digital animation, visual design for broadcast, lighting, animation, digital effects, web design, editing or set construction.

### Electrical Industry
- Flight Surveyor
- Communications
- Electrical Engineer
- Electrician
- Engineering Technician
- Railway Signal
- Electrician
- Technical Officer

If electrical systems ignite your passion, power up with skills across a range of sectors, including electrical, electrotechnology and mechanical engineering. Develop safety practices and other workplace skills that will prepare you for working in the industry.

### Engineering
- Air Conditioning Engineer
- Avionics Technician
- Boilermaker
- Fitter
- Hydraulic Controls Technician
- Mechanical Engineer
- Metal Fabricator

Whether you want to do an engineering apprenticeship or follow a professional engineering career, this course can give you valuable hands-on experience in fabrication, general engineering, machining, producing basic engineering sketches and drawings, handling engineering materials and performing computations.

### Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management
- Agricultural Scientist
- Animal Nutritionist
- Conservation Worker
- Farmer
- Fisheries Officer
- Horticulturist
- Landscape Designer
- Nursery Manager
- Park Ranger

If you want to grow or conserve nature, you can develop skills in farming, animal handling, animal health and feeding, milking, growing plants, restoring natural areas, pest control, agricultural technology, sustainability and much more.

### Food, coffee, restaurants and hotels
- Barista
- Caterer
- Chef
- Event Coordinator
- Guest Services Officer
- Hotel Manager
- Restaurant Manager
- Waiter

Whether you see yourself behind the scenes preparing fantastic food and drinks or front-of-house creating memorable customer experiences, you can develop the cookery and service skills that will prepare you for a career in hospitality. You can learn to prepare food, cook, process payments, and follow hygiene and health and safety procedures.

### Electrical Industry
- A&R Coordinator
- Audio Engineer
- Concert Promoter
- Music Producer
- Music Teacher
- Musician
- Tour Manager

If you’ve got the music in you, get behind the scenes and see what it takes to be successful in an industry that is always changing with new technology and trends. You can study Music Performance or Sound Production, learning about the industry, recording and the music business.

### Entertainment
- Arts Administrator
- Choreographer
- Dancer
- Dance Teacher
- Physical Therapist
- A&R Coordinator
- Audio Engineer
- Concert Promoter
- Music Producer
- Music Teacher
- Musician
- Tour Manager

Whether you dance for fun, fitness or a future career, this course has the versatility to develop your dance techniques, prepare you to work in the industry and develop a range of complementary skills like preparing for auditions.

### Music Industry
- Arts Administrator
- Choreographer
- Dancer
- Dance Teacher
- Physical Therapist
- A&R Coordinator
- Audio Engineer
- Concert Promoter
- Music Producer
- Music Teacher
- Musician
- Tour Manager

Whether you dance for fun, fitness or a future career, this course has the versatility to develop your dance techniques, prepare you to work in the industry and develop a range of complementary skills like preparing for auditions.

### Hospitality
- Barista
- Caterer
- Chef
- Event Coordinator
- Guest Services Officer
- Hotel Manager
- Restaurant Manager
- Waiter

Whether you see yourself behind the scenes preparing fantastic food and drinks or front-of-house creating memorable customer experiences, you can develop the cookery and service skills that will prepare you for a career in hospitality. You can learn to prepare food, cook, process payments, and follow hygiene and health and safety procedures.
Which VET are you?

**Hair and Beauty**
- Barber
- Beauty Consultant
- Beauty Therapist
- Hairdresser
- Makeup Artist
- Salon Assistant
- Salon Manager
- Stylist

If you want to give your subject selections a makeover, you can learn what it takes to stand out from the crowd with an introduction to the hair and beauty industry. You will learn to provide advice to clients, perform a variety of hair and beauty treatments and services, apply makeup, sell hair and beauty products, handle money and keep records.

**Health**
- Allied Health Assistant
- Hospital Orderly
- Medical Practice Assistant
- Nurse
- Nursing Assistant
- Operating Theatre Assistant
- Patient Service Assistant
- Technician
- Therapist’s Assistant

If you see yourself working in a hospital, health clinic, medical facility or lab, you can begin to develop a range of entry level skills in patient care and supporting health services. Learn about medical terminology, infection prevention and control, patient transport, body systems and health support.

**Languages**
- Adult-Education Teacher
- Customer Service Officer
- Interpreter
- Lecturer
- Tour Guide
- Translator

If you love foreign languages and culture or you are thinking about living and working overseas, you can develop your foreign language skills. In your chosen language, you can learn how to listen, speak and write in social, casual and professional situations.

**Science**
- Agricultural Technician
- Field Assistant
- Food Scientist
- Instrument Operator
- Laboratory Assistant
- Metallurgist
- Pathology Collector

If you want to see a career in science under the microscope, you can get technical training in laboratory operations. Carry out laboratory procedures and develop technical skills and scientific knowledge for entry-level positions including laboratory assistant and instrument operator.

**Sports and outdoor activities**
- Aquatic Centre Manager
- Community Sports Manager
- Lifeguard
- Outdoor Adventure Guide
- Personal Trainer
- Sports Administrator
- Recreation Centre Manager
- Sports Coach
- Sports Trainer

If you are sports minded or love physical activities, you can get a new set of skills in sport and outdoor recreation. Develop skills and knowledge in a range of different sports. Learn how to plan and conduct activities, events, warm-ups, cool downs, fitness programs, recreation, coaching and risk assessment.

**Information, Digital Media and Technology**
- Database Administrator
- Game Developer
- Multimedia Developer
- Network Administrator
- Software Developer
- Technical Support
- Web Developer
- Aircraft Electronics
- Computer Systems Technician
- Electronics Technician
- ICT Support Technician
- Robotics Engineer

If you have ever wanted to build computers and networks, now you can. You can also learn to troubleshoot and repair faulty hardware, diagnose malware, maintain software and operating systems, and protect and secure ICT systems.

**Integrated Technologies**
- Hardware Engineer
- IT Support Worker
- Network Systems Engineer
- Project Manager
- Security Engineer
- Technical Specialist
- Learn how to manage and optimise Cisco® systems, and develop the skills and knowledge to undertake the exams for internationally recognised Cisco® qualifications. You will also develop advanced problem solving and analytical skills appropriate for studies in engineering, mathematics and science.
How to do VET in the VCE or VCAL

VCE VET programs

VCE VET programs are VET qualifications that have been packaged so they can contribute to your VCE or VCAL.

A VCE VET program may contain one or more qualifications for you to choose from. For example, VCE VET Hospitality lets you choose from two different qualifications: Certificate II in Hospitality and Certificate II in Kitchen Operations. You can also choose to do both qualifications as a double program, just like doing two subjects from a VCE area of study.

There are currently 24 VCE VET programs that incorporate a total of 42 different qualifications.

Credit towards the VCE or VCAL

All VCE VET programs contribute to VCE Units that provide credit towards the VCE in the same way as a VCE study.

Most VCE VET programs can provide credit for VCE Units 1 to 4. A small number of shorter qualifications can provide credit for VCE Units 1 and 2 only.

VET contributes to VCAL through meeting the requirements of the Industry Specific Skills or Work Related Skills strands. Each completed 90-hour block of VET equals one VCAL unit.

Study scores and ATARs

Some VCE VET programs are scored and some VCE VET programs are unscored.

VCE VET programs with a Units 3 and 4 sequence can be included in the calculation of your ATAR.

Scored VCE VET program

Scored VCE VET programs give you a study score for the Units 3 and 4 sequence that is achieved through school-assessed coursework and an externally set examination.

Scored VCE VET programs provide a study score that contributes directly to your ATAR, either as one of your primary four studies or as a fifth or sixth study increment.

Unscored VCE VET program

Unscored VCE VET programs do not give you a study score but they can still contribute towards your VCE.

When you receive a Units 3 and 4 sequence towards your VCE from an unscored VET program, they may contribute towards the calculation of your ATAR by VTAC. Check with the VET coordinator at your school.

Qualification

Successfully completing most VCE VET programs over two years will give you a full qualification.

Some VCE VET qualifications are too large to be undertaken over the normal two years of a VCE or VCAL. You may be able to complete them by starting in Year 10 or by doing extra training. VCE VET Building and Construction is one such example.
Structured workplace learning

If you are doing a VCE VET program, structured workplace learning gives you the opportunity to get on-the-job training where you can master the skills and knowledge of your qualification.

In some VCE VET programs, structured workplace learning is compulsory. For all other VCE VET programs, structured workplace learning is highly recommended.

Why should I do structured workplace learning?
- master your skills in the real world
- apply your industry knowledge to real world situations
- experience the industry first hand and see if it is for you
- develop your employability skills
- increase your employment opportunities

Structured workplace learning recognition
If you undertake structured workplace learning in a workplace related to your VCE VET program, you can gain additional credit towards your VCE or VCAL by completing the workplace learning record.

The workplace learning record allows you to record your experience and reflect on what you have learned in the workplace.

Credit towards the VCE or VCAL
Successfully completing 80 hours of structured workplace learning and the workplace learning record in one year can provide credit for one VCE Unit at units 1 and 2 or for one VCAL general credit. You can get up to four credits for structured workplace learning recognition towards your VCE or VCAL.
School-based apprenticeship or traineeship

You can commence an apprenticeship or traineeship while you are at school and receive credit towards your VCE or VCAL. Apprenticeships and traineeships give you the opportunity to combine part-time employment with your VET qualification.

Apprenticeships and traineeships combine practical hands-on experience in the workplace with training and assessment from a Registered Training Organisation.

School-based apprenticeship or traineeship (SBAT)

A school-based apprenticeship or traineeship is when you are released from school for a minimum of one day per week to undertake the apprenticeship or traineeship. You will need to complete six hours of training and seven hours of work per week.

Credit towards the VCE or VCAL

All apprenticeships and traineeships can provide credit towards your VCE or VCAL. For every 90 hours of training completed, you will receive one unit towards your VCE or VCAL. VCE credit will be determined by the certificate. Most apprenticeships or traineeships in VCE VET program areas provide credit for VCE Units 1 to 4. Some certificate II qualifications only provide credit towards the VCE at Units 1 and 2. Qualifications at certificate II and above provide credit towards all VCAL levels.

ATAR

When you receive a Units 3 and 4 sequence towards your VCE from an apprenticeship or traineeship, they may contribute towards the calculation of your ATAR by VTAC. Check with the VET coordinator at your school.

Qualification

You will receive a certificate or statement of attainment from your Registered Training Organisation for the VET training you have completed as part of your apprenticeship or traineeship.

Head Start

From 2019, Head Start School-Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships will be available in selected industries. This enables you to spend more time in the workplace to complete your apprenticeship or traineeship as well as your VCE or VCAL.
Other VET qualifications

If you choose to do a VET qualification that is not from a VCE VET program, you may be eligible for credit towards your VCE or VCAL. This is called block credit recognition. To receive block credit recognition, the qualification must be at certificate II level or above.

Credit towards the VCE or VCAL

VCE Credit received for a non-VCE VET program is decided by the level and the nominal hours of the qualification. For each VCE Unit, 90 nominal hours of training is required. A VET certificate at level II can provide credit for Units 1 and 2. A VET certificate at level III or above can provide credit for Units 1 to 4.

These qualifications provide credit towards the VCAL based on the level of the certificate and hours of training completed. A VET certificate at level II or above can provide credit towards all levels of VCAL. A VET certificate at level I can provide credit at Foundation and Intermediate levels.

ATAR

When you receive a Units 3 and 4 sequence towards your VCE, they may contribute towards the calculation of your ATAR by VTAC. Check with the VET coordinator at your school.

Qualification

You will receive a certificate or statement of attainment from your registered training organisation for the VET training you have completed.

VET success stories

VET students across Victoria are creating successful and rewarding futures. Here are just a few examples. Discover their full story, pathway and advice at www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/getvet.

**ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY**

**EMILY,** Geelong High School

*Electrical Apprentice*

‘VET gave me opportunities that I couldn’t find anywhere else. Structured workplace learning got my foot in the door and gave me an understanding of what to expect in the electrotechnology industry. It was the perfect way to decide if this career pathway was right for me. It’s a male dominated industry but I chose to use that to challenge myself and build my confidence by proving that my abilities are no less than the others in my class.’

Salt Electrical, Geelong

**HOSPITALITY**

**HARRISON,** Assumption College

*Apprentice Chef*

‘VET gave me a clear understanding of what was involved in becoming a chef. Completing my VET courses while I was at school has also reduced the time required for me to complete my apprenticeship after secondary school. I was also lucky to have a great teacher who instilled me with a passion for learning. I’ve faced challenges with dyslexia, but I never lost sight of my goals. In 2017 I was awarded Apprentice of the Year for all RACV Clubs across Australia and received the Les Toques Blanches Award for Excellence for Best Dessert.’

RACV City Club, Melbourne
COMMUNITY SERVICES, HOSPITALITY

ALEXANDRA, Firbank Grammar School
Stable Hand, Instructor, Bachelor of Psychology

'Since completing my Certificate II in Equine Studies I have gone on to work as a stable hand and instructor. My qualification equipped me with the essential skills that I needed to enter the equine industry as an informed, competent, and skilled stable hand. The knowledge that I acquired from this certificate has also assisted me in becoming a proficient horse owner and carer. I’m continuing to develop my skills, training to become a qualified Equestrian Australia Introductory Coach and licensed teacher in the School of Légèreté.'

HEALTH

NICOLE, Wanganui Park Secondary College
Registered Nurse

'VET was a great way to experience working in hospitals, around a variety of health professionals, and get a taste of the career I thought I wanted. After VCE I commenced a Bachelor of Nursing and the practical experience I had gained in VET gave me a distinct advantage in my studies. After my first year I was able to gain part-time employment in aged-care. After university I worked at a top Melbourne hospital for two years, before returning to Shepparton to work in the emergency department.'

HAIR AND BEAUTY

KIRALE, Nhill College
Salon Owner

'Ve was never the most academic student so I knew a VET pathway would be perfect for me. It gave me the power to step outside my comfort zone, begin a new journey and work towards my dream career.'

VET was fun, challenging, exciting and interesting because it was a whole new environment and I got to meet other people with the same interests. I found that the balance between school, VET and work placement was great because it gave me a completely different view on school and what my future would look like.'

ENGINEERING, AUTOMOTIVE

MASON, Bright P-12 College
Light Vehicle Automotive Apprentice

'I chose VET because I wasn’t a very academic student and I wanted to learn by being hands on. VET allowed me to explore my abilities and really challenge myself along the way. I was able to choose my career path, develop industry skills and get a lot of experience. With the VET qualifications I received while I was at school, I was accepted into Motorsports Training Australia, where I completed a two year, full-time course in motorsports as a pit crew mechanic. I am currently doing my light vehicle automotive apprenticeship.'
The best ways to get a taste of VET careers and training

There are a number of ways you can explore VET careers and training to help you decide which VET course you would like to do. Speak to the relevant teachers or coordinators at your school to help you plan which opportunities are best for you.

Work experience

Find work experience in an industry that interests you, during Years 9 and/or 10. You can learn about different jobs within the industry and how they relate to each other. Ask questions about what it is like to work in the industry and find out which qualifications are the most valuable.

Volunteer

If you are interested in an industry that needs volunteers, like charities, aged care and community services, you can volunteer to get experience and an inside look at the industry.

Taster programs

VET taster programs are the best way to get hands-on experience across a range of different VET careers. You will also learn about the different training options. TAFE often run taster programs in partnership with schools.

Events

Keep an eye out for events where you can learn about different VET courses and where they lead. There are many events to choose from, including careers expos, open days, industry showcases, information sessions and competitions.

Tour

TAFEs and private training providers have tours where you can explore their facilities and see training in action. Your school might arrange this or you may attend an open day, usually in Term 3 each year.

Visit

Arrange to visit a workplace that you are interested in. Have a look behind the scenes and take the opportunity to ask questions.

Presentations

Many schools host information evenings where you can hear from past VET students, employers, and training providers.
When can I start VET?

You can start your VET program whenever your school thinks you are ready. Most students start in Year 10 or 11.

Where to find more information

Talk to your careers coordinator, VET coordinator or your VCE or VCAL coordinator. There is also a lot of information online:

**Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA)**
www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/vet
Find more information on how VET contributes to the VCE or VCAL. Find more information about each VCE VET program:
- qualifications
- units of competency
- ATAR contribution

**Victorian Skills Gateway**
www.skills.vic.gov.au/victorianskillsgateway
Find information about each VET course, including:
- course overviews
- related jobs
- personal stories
- training providers
- job outcomes: average pay, employment prospects

**My Skills**
www.myskills.gov.au
Find information about each VET course, including:
- course overviews
- career pathways
- student outcomes data: salary, employment, further study

**The Department of Education and Training Victoria**
www.education.vic.gov.au

**Structured Workplace Learning Portal**
www.workplacements.education.vic.gov.au
Find information about structured workplace learning opportunities.

References


Get VET

www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/getvet