An overview of VET in the VCE and VCAL

Vocational Education and Training (VET) in the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) or Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) allows students to include vocational studies within their senior secondary certificate. Students undertake nationally recognised training that contributes to their VCE or VCAL.

Why choose VET?

VET offers students the opportunity to:
• combine general and vocational studies
• explore career options and pathways
• undertake learning in the workplace
• gain a nationally recognised qualification or credit towards a qualification that contributes to the VCE or VCAL
• develop skills that equip students for the workforce and further study.

Where can VET be undertaken?

Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) are responsible for the delivery, assessment and certification of VET qualifications. An RTO may be a TAFE, Adult and Community Education (ACE) provider, group training company, private provider or school.

How does VET contribute to the VCE?

VET may contribute to the VCE at the Units 1 and 2 or Units 3 and 4 level, and may also contribute to the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).

How does VET contribute to the VCAL?

VET contributes to the VCAL through satisfying the requirements of the Industry Specific Skills or Work Related Skills strands. Each completed 90-hour block of VET equals one VCAL unit.
How is VET undertaken as part of the VCE/VCAL?

There are three ways to undertake VET.

1. **VCE VET programs**
   VCE VET programs are put together by the VCAA, lead to nationally recognised qualifications and provide credit towards the VCE or VCAL.
   A list of VCE VET programs is provided below. Programs with an asterisk (*) offer scored assessment in 2018 for Units 3 and 4:
   - Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management
   - Animal Studies
   - Applied Fashion Design and Technology
   - Applied Language
   - Automotive
   - Building and Construction
   - Business*
   - Cisco
   - Community Services*
   - Creative and Digital Media*
   - Dance*
   - Electrical Industry
   - Engineering*
   - Equine Studies*
   - Furnishing*
   - Hair and Beauty
   - Health*
   - Hospitality*
   - Information, Digital Media and Technology*
   - Integrated Technologies*
   - Laboratory Skills*
   - Music Industry*
   - Small Business
   - Sport and Recreation*

2. **Apprenticeships and traineeships**
   Students can undertake an apprenticeship or traineeship while still at school as either a:
   - school-based apprentice or trainee, or
   - part-time apprentice or trainee.
   Apprenticeships and traineeships provide credit towards the VCE or VCAL.
   **School-based apprenticeships and traineeships** are available in many industry areas and allow students undertaking the VCE or VCAL to be employed part-time while completing a VET qualification. Students are released from school for a minimum of one day per week to undertake training and/or paid employment.
   **Part-time apprenticeships and traineeships** involve students undertaking an apprenticeship or traineeship that is not integrated into their school timetable.

3. **Block Credit Recognition**
   Students who undertake qualifications not included in the suite of approved VCAA VCE VET programs may be eligible for credit towards their VCE through Block Credit Recognition. VCE/VCAL credit is determined by the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) level and the nominal hours of the units of competency.

How does VET contribute to the ATAR?

The contribution of VCE VET programs to the ATAR is as follows:

- Where a scored Units 3 and 4 sequence is available it will contribute directly to the ATAR, either as one of the student’s primary four studies or as a fifth or sixth study. Students must complete additional scored assessments and an exam.
- For unscored VCE VET programs, students who successfully complete a Units 3 and 4 sequence can receive a 10% increment towards their overall ATAR.
- The Victorian Tertiary Admission Centre (VTAC) may award students who receive a Units 3 and 4 sequence through Block Credit Recognition a 10% increment towards their overall ATAR.

Learning pathways

Incorporating a VCE VET program into your VCE or VCAL will allow you to achieve your learning goals.