

WHAT STUDENTS NEED TO KNOW

QUICK FACTS

VET:

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

VET + YOU = A REAL WORLD CAREER

STARTING YOUR CAREER

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

WHAT IS VET?

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

Diversity and choice

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

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

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

Australian Apprenticeships

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

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF VET?

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

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

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

STEPS TO SUCCESS

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

Think

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

Talk

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

My Skills

Use My Skills to learn more about what courses and qualifications are available to give you the hands-on knowledge and experience to help achieve your career goals.

MY SKILLS

The My Skills website is the Australian VET sector's authoritative source for information and the national directory of VET courses and training providers. If you've made a career choice, My Skills will help you find a qualification to match. You can search VET courses and compare information such as fees, durations, graduate satisfaction and available subsidies. You will also find career and industry landing pages to help discover how you could succeed through VET.

RESOURCES

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

- Australian Apprenticeships
<https://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au/>
- Australian Apprenticeships and Traineeships Information Service
<https://www.aapathways.com.au/>
- Job Jumpstart - <https://www.jobjumpstart.gov.au/>
- Job Outlook - <https://joboutlook.gov.au/>
- My Skills
<https://www.myskills.gov.au/>
<https://www.myskills.gov.au/career-info/starting-your-career/>
- Study Assist - <https://www.studyassist.gov.au/>
- Unique Student Identifier - <https://www.usi.gov.au/>

- WorldSkills Australia
<https://www.worldskills.org.au/>

CAREER STORIES

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

JENNIFER'S STORY

VET Qualification: Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing
Career: Veterinary Nurse

A lifetime love of animals and the hope of pursuing a career she loved led her to undertake a Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing at The Gordon Institute of TAFE.

Guided by her teachers, Jennifer was able to study part-time while working in her chosen field without a heavy study load. Work placement gave her the opportunity to practice her skills and gain the experience and knowledge she needed to begin her career.

Jennifer is now a confident, capable and qualified veterinary nurse working at the OurVet Geelong and Point Cook clinics.

"Vocational education and training took my passion and gave me the tools to find a meaningful career path in veterinary nursing; everyday I help and care for animals and I love it."

