

Information about Apprenticeships

This information sheet has links, resources and support about apprenticeships, in-school apprenticeship pathways, support for apprentices at Swinburne University of Technology and a list of pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship courses offered at Swinburne.

What is an apprenticeship?

An apprenticeship is a structured training arrangement of usually 3 or 4-years duration. The training combines practical experience at work with complementary off-the-job training with a Registered Training Organisation (RTO). In this case Swinburne University of Technology.

On successful completion, students are issued with a nationally recognised qualification as a qualified Tradesperson.

There is a high demand for apprentices in the Outer East, in carpentry, plumbing, electrical, horticulture, and bricklaying. Completing an apprenticeship is a great start to your career. It provides a solid foundation, regardless of whether you change your career direction later.

- **Which apprenticeship will suit me?** – take the quiz [Apprenticeship Support Australia | What Would Suit Me](#)
- [Apprenticeship Support Australia | How Do I Start](#) - Who is involved – apprentice, employer and training provider

Information, resources and support

The Australian Apprenticeships and Traineeships website has lots of information. [Australian Apprenticeships and Traineeships Pathways - AAPathways](#) For example:

- The students tab [Australian Apprenticeships Information For Students - AAPathways](#) has resources, videos and tools about Australian Apprenticeships and career options
- What are Australian Apprenticeships, who can do one and what are the benefits? [What are Australian Apprenticeships and Traineeships? - AAPathways](#)
- Steps to an Apprenticeship [Steps to an Australian Apprenticeship - AAPathways](#)
- Readiness for an Apprenticeship [Apprenticeships & traineeships career information & resources - AAPathways](#)
- Job pathways for Australian Apprentices [Apprenticeships and traineeships job pathway charts - AAPathways](#)
- Frequently Asked Questions [Student FAQs - AAPathways](#)

Financial Support for Australian Apprentices

- [Financial Support for Australian Apprentices | Australian Apprenticeships](#) This includes Australian Government support for apprentices with disability.
- Pay rates - Fair Work Ombudsman [Apprentice & trainee pay rates - Fair Work Ombudsman](#)

In-school pre-apprenticeship (Certificate II) pathways include:

- **SBAT – School Based Apprenticeship or Traineeship** – on-the-job training with employer + structured training at RTO. Can then move to a full-time apprenticeship. Also, get paid. + [Apprenticeship Support Australia | School-Based Apprenticeships](#)
- **VETDSS program** (Vocational Education Training Delivered to Secondary Students). Attend Swinburne one day a week over a 2-year period. Talk to your school VET Coordinator.

Swinburne Skills and Jobs Centre offers free, independent and person-centred services. If you are thinking about an apprenticeship and want to talk to a qualified careers counsellor, contact us on **03 9726 1450** or email skillsandjobs@swin.edu.au

Our qualified careers counsellors:

- Provide career guidance and career path exploration
- Provide course and apprenticeship information
- Link jobseekers with local employers - carpentry, plumbing, electrical, bricklaying, horticulture and engineering (high industry demand)
- Offer job readiness support: cover letter, resume and interview preparation
- Work closely with student success coaches to re-engage out of trade apprentices with new employers

Swinburne Student Success Coaches

Student Success Coaches support vocational education students to better succeed in their studies. They work with students to assess their individual needs and design strategies to help students overcome challenges and to access the right support. For more information [Student Success Coach | Swinburne](#)

VCE VM (Vocational Major)

- VCE VM replaces VCAL which retires at end 2022. Students who want vocational learning should ask for the Vocational Major (VCE VM) course
- In 2023 Swinburne Secondary Programs will deliver VCE VM, Units 1-4. They are VM Literacy, VM Numeracy, VM Personal Skills Development, VM Work Related Skills
- VCE VM is a 2-year VCE certificate. It has no end of year exams and does not produce an ATAR
- Available at Croydon and Wantirna

For inquiries – please email vcevm@swin.edu.au

FREE TAFE pathway courses. (Certificate II (pre-apprenticeship)) [Free TAFE for lots of jobs | Victorian Government \(www.vic.gov.au\)](#)

See below for pre-apprenticeship, apprenticeship and other related certificate and diploma courses

You can contact the Skills and Jobs Centre if you need assistance enrolling in a pre-apprenticeship

Pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship courses offered at Swinburne

- Links to apprenticeship information on Swinburne's website
 - [What is a Trades Short Course? | Swinburne](#)
 - [Apprenticeships & Traineeship Programs in Melbourne | Swinburne](#)
 - [Building & Construction Apprenticeships & Courses | Swinburne](#)

Pre-apprenticeships (Certificate II)

- Pre-apprenticeship (Certificate II) in **Carpentry**
 - [Certificate II in Building and Construction Pre-apprenticeship - Carpentry | Courses | Swinburne University | Melbourne, Australia](#)
- Pre-apprenticeship (Certificate II) in **Bricklaying**
 - [Certificate II in Building and Construction Pre-apprenticeship - Bricklaying | Courses | Swinburne University | Melbourne, Australia](#)
- Pre-apprenticeship (Certificate II) in **Electrical**
 - [Certificate II in Electrotechnology \(Career Start\) | Courses | Swinburne University | Melbourne, Australia](#)
- Pre-apprenticeship (Certificate II) in **Plumbing**
 - [Certificate II in Plumbing \(Pre-apprenticeship\) | Courses | Swinburne University | Melbourne, Australia](#)

Apprenticeships (Certificate III)

- **Carpentry**
 - [Certificate III in Carpentry | Courses | Swinburne University | Melbourne, Australia](#)
- **Bricklaying**
 - [Certificate III in Bricklaying and Blocklaying | Courses | Swinburne University | Melbourne, Australia](#)
- **Horticulture**
 - [Certificate III in Horticulture | Courses | Swinburne University | Melbourne, Australia](#)
 - [Certificate III in Landscape Construction | Courses | Swinburne University | Melbourne, Australia](#)
- **Plumbing**
 - [Plumbing Apprenticeships & Courses | Swinburne](#)
- **Electrical**
 - [Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician | Courses | Swinburne University | Melbourne, Australia](#)

Certificate IV in Building and Construction (Building) – Free TAFE

Designed for tradespeople working in the construction industry who want to start their own business or for those seeking to apply for builder's registration. Students will learn how to manage a successful building business through best practice in estimating, contracts management and site supervision.

[Certificate IV in Building and Construction \(Building\) | Courses | Swinburne University | Melbourne, Australia](#)

Diploma of Building and Construction (Building) Free TAFE

Covers building theory and practice related to residential, industrial and commercial building.

[Diploma of Building and Construction \(Building\) | Courses | Swinburne University | Melbourne, Australia](#)