

VET CHEATSHEET

Vocational Education & Training

Vocational courses in Australia, called VET (Vocational Education and Training), are training courses offered by accredited Australian educational bodies. They have strong practical content and are oriented to train you for a specific profession.

Registered Training Organisation

Registered Training Organisations: train apprentices and trainees in nationally recognised qualifications.

Group Training Organisation

Group Training Organisations: recruit apprentices and trainees and matches them with host employers. They provide ongoing support to all parties to the contact.

Australian Apprenticeship Support Network

The Australian Apprenticeship Support Network (Apprenticeship Network) is your first point of contact for all queries about apprenticeships. Apprenticeship Network providers give personalised advice and support services from pre-commencement to completion. You cannot start an Australian Apprenticeship without an Apprenticeship Network provider.

Pre-apprenticeship

A pre-apprenticeship is entry-level training which can provide a pathway into the industry of your choice. Some employers in certain trades, especially the licenced trades such as electrical and plumbing, prefer apprentices to have completed a pre-apprenticeship so that they have basic skills before they begin work however they are not required prior to commencing your Australian Apprenticeship.

Pre-apprenticeship

A pre-apprenticeship is entry-level training which can provide a pathway into the industry of your choice. Some employers in certain trades, especially the licenced trades such as electrical and plumbing, prefer apprentices to have completed a pre-apprenticeship so that they have basic skills before they begin work however they are not required prior to commencing your Australian Apprenticeship.

VET CHEATSHEET

What's the difference between an apprenticeship and a traineeship?

The difference between a traineeship and an apprenticeship is that traineeships usually have a duration of one to two years whereas apprenticeships usually last for three to four years. Generally traineeships are in non-trade related areas whereas apprenticeships are based in traditional trades.

Can I do an apprenticeship or traineeship without a job?

Apprenticeships and traineeships combine on-the-job and formal training for qualifications in a wide range of industries. You must have paid employment to complete your Australian Apprenticeship.

Can I still do an apprenticeship and stay at school?

Australian School-based Apprenticeships (ASbA), also known as school-based apprenticeships and traineeships, are similar to any apprenticeship or traineeship but commenced part-time as part of your secondary schooling. You will earn a wage, train with an employer, and work towards an accredited qualification while undertaking your high school certificate.

What is a training contract?

At the beginning of an apprenticeship or traineeship, the employer and an apprentice or trainee enter into a training contract, which outlines each party's responsibilities. After employing an apprentice or trainee, the employer has 14 days to contact an Apprenticeship Network provider to initiate the signing and registration of the training contract. The Apprenticeship Network provider will contact us to register the training contract.

Can I do an apprenticeship if I'm over 21?

There is no upper age limit for the commencement of an apprenticeship or traineeship, however, there are some limiting factors which should be taken into consideration. There may be 'adult apprentice' wage rates that apply to apprentices and trainees over 21 years old. Wages may be lower than your current or previous wage, so all potential adult apprentices and trainees need to consider if they can live on an apprentice wage over the period of training.

I'm not from Australia, can I do an apprenticeship?

You must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident. There are also some visas which allow you to undertake an Australian Apprenticeship if you are not a resident, however it is best to check with Home Affairs for eligibility.