

Australian School-based Apprenticeships



Fast track your career with an Australian School-based Apprenticeship and combine paid part-time work with formal training – all while you complete secondary school!

How do School-based Apprenticeships work?

In addition to your secondary school qualification, as an Australian School-based Apprentice you will gain valuable workplace experience and a nationally recognised qualification at Certificate I, II, III or IV, Diploma or Advanced Diploma level.

① Explore different industries	② Discuss options with your teacher	③ Apply for an apprenticeship or traineeship	④ Get started!
Have a think about what you are good at and what interests you – ask family, friends and teachers too! A good place to research is: yourcareer.gov.au	Talk to your VET Coordinator or Careers Advisor about apprenticeship options and work experience opportunities. Work experience helps you get an idea of what it's like to work in the industry you've chosen and helps you build your connections.	Make sure your resumé is up to date and start applying for jobs! MEGT have a range of templates and tools to help you with your application. Search for jobs on MEGT's Job Board and approach employers or ask family or friends for referrals.	Once you've found a job, your employer can contact MEGT. We'll sign you up as an apprentice or trainee, register your Training Contract with the relevant State Training Authority and get your future underway!

An apprenticeship can be a stepping stone to university. Many successful apprentices can receive Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and use their qualification to pursue a university degree.

Who can be a School-based apprentice?

To be considered 'school-based', traineeships or apprenticeships must have some impact on the school timetable with regular time taken for the apprenticeship or traineeship, either for work or 'off-the-job' training.

The student must also be:

- 15 years of age or over at commencement of their apprenticeship or traineeship; **and**
- Undertaking an Australian School-based Apprenticeship which has been endorsed by the School Principal, or equivalent for non-secondary school education providers, as an integral part of the school program; **and**
- An Australian citizen, foreign national with permanent residency status or a New Zealand passport holder resident in Australia for at least six months; **and**
- Attending on-the-job training as per state-specific requirements (see below).

ACT	Combined work and training hours: Certificate II – a minimum of 11 hours per week, maximum 20 hours per week Certificate III – a minimum of 15 hours per week, maximum 20 hours per week
New South Wales	Minimum of 7.5 hours per week. While at school, the School-based Apprentice must complete a specified number of days of paid employment. For many trades the minimum requirement is 100 days for the duration of the School-based Apprenticeship, but for some trades (e.g. electrical and electronics trades) it may be as high as 180 days.
Queensland	Employers are required to provide the student with a minimum of 375 hours (50 days) – 600 hours (80 days) for the electrotechnology industry – of paid employment over each 12-month period of the Training Contract. Over each three-month period, the student must work an average of 7.5 hours per week as a minimum.
Victoria	Minimum 13 hours per week, averaged over three periods of four months in each year of the programme and undertaking at least seven hours of employment (including a minimum of one hour per week release for structured training) and six hours training per week via the training provider.
Western Australia	Minimum of 7.5 hours per week. The hours can be averaged over six months e.g. at least 195 hours of paid work every six months.