



Australian Government

A U S T R A L I A N A P P R E N T I C E S H I P S

Your Life. Your Career. Your Future.

ABOUT Australian School-based Apprenticeships



Young Australians can get a head start on their careers by beginning an Australian Apprenticeship while they are still working towards their senior secondary school certificate. Australian School-based Apprenticeships are a great career option as they can get credits towards a vocational qualification while completing their senior secondary certificate and earn a wage, all at the same time.

What is an Australian School-based Apprenticeship?

An Australian School-based Apprenticeship is a mix of academic, vocational education and training, and paid employment. A student's school studies, training and work all fit together. It provides students with valuable employment skills and hands-on industry experience and is an integral part of their school program.

Australian School-based Apprenticeships lead to nationally recognised qualifications, normally at Certificate II, III or IV level. For many students, it is also a good way to keep open the options for further education and training.

What will it involve?

You will take part in a combination of school, paid work with your employer and training. Your training arrangements could involve on or off-the-job training or a combination of both so that you can do the type of training that suits your learning needs.

You will learn a trade or occupation at Certificate II, III or IV level depending on where you do your Australian School-based Apprenticeship. You will continue your normal studies as part of your senior secondary school certificate.

How long will it take?

Australian School-based Apprenticeships generally take 18-24 months to complete, but with the opportunity to work extra hours after school, on weekends and during school holidays, you may become qualified even sooner. A Certificate III or IV level qualification may require further study and work with your employer after you complete Year 12. A Certificate III or IV qualification may take three to four years full-time to complete.

13 38 73

www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au

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Will I be paid?

Australian Apprentices are employed under a federal or state award or agreement. As an Australian School-based Apprentice you will be paid a training or apprenticeship wage for the time you spend training on the job with your employer.

How do I find an Australian School-based Apprenticeship?

Decide which career path best suits you – Australian Apprenticeships are available in over 500 occupations. You could do some vocational work experience in an industry you may be interested in to help you decide which occupation to follow. You may be able to convert any current part-time job you have into a school-based apprenticeship, provided this is an integral part of your school program.

Discuss Australian School-based Apprenticeships with your career advisers or teachers and ask them to help you investigate your training and career options. They are there to help you develop a structured career development program.

Write or brush up your resume and find an employer willing to take you on as a school-based apprentice or trainee. Your local Australian Apprenticeships Centre will be able to help you as well.

Where can I do an Australian School-based Apprenticeship?

Your school career advisers and teachers will be able to tell you if you are able to do an Australian Apprenticeship at your school or college. For commencements or recommencements on or after the 31 March 2009, Australian Apprentices who are undertaking a certificate III, IV or selected diploma or advanced diploma while also completing their senior secondary certificate in a non-school environment may be eligible.

Case study

Kiera Dodds – Australian School-based Apprentice Heavy vehicle mechanic

Kiera Dodds believes that being able to take part in the Australian Apprenticeship scheme has really improved her chances of having a great career that she loves – in heavy vehicle mechanics. And being able to begin her apprenticeship while completing her HSC was a great way to kick start her career.

During her Australian School-based Apprenticeship, Kiera spent around 20 hours a week working with her employer – earning a wage and learning about life in the workforce while continuing her school studies. After completing her secondary schooling, Kiera moved from her part-time school-based apprenticeship to a full-time Australian Apprenticeship with the same employer. She is now in the final year of her apprenticeship, expecting to complete it at the end of 2008.

"This was a field that I was personally interested in and I love that it is so hands-on," Kiera says.



For more information

Contact your Australian Apprenticeships Centre, call the Australian Apprenticeships referral line on 13 38 73, visit the Australian Apprenticeships website at www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au

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