



Australian School-based Apprenticeships

Australian School-based Apprenticeships are a great career option, allowing young Australians to commence training for a vocational qualification and earn a wage while completing their secondary certificate.

What is an Australian School-based Apprenticeship?

An Australian School-based Apprenticeship is an Australian Apprenticeship undertaken part-time while the Australian Apprentice is at school.

An Australian School-based Apprenticeship provides students with hands-on industry experience and the ability to work towards or complete a nationally recognised qualification while they complete their secondary school certificate.

What does an Australian School-based Apprenticeship involve?

An Australian School-based Apprentice undertakes a combination of secondary school subjects, paid work and vocational training undertaken on or off the job. An Australian School-based Apprentice can undertake training in a traditional trade or other occupation at the Certificate I, II, III, IV, Diploma or Advanced Diploma level.

Australian School-based Apprentices will need to negotiate time-release from their school subjects to attend work and training.

The number of hours an Australian School-based Apprentice needs to be employed per week differs between States and Territories. Some Australian School-based Apprentices can undertake their paid employment outside of school hours, however others must take time during school hours to work.

How long does an Australian School-based Apprenticeship take?

An Australian Apprenticeship can take from one to four years to complete. Some Australian School-based Apprentices will be able to complete their training when they finish their secondary schooling, while others will need to finish their training after they graduate from secondary school. This depends on the qualification undertaken and the speed at which they progress through their training.

Australian School-based Apprentices may be granted credit for any skills they already have and any prior experience in the workplace, potentially reducing their training time.

How are Australian School-based Apprentices paid?

Australian Apprentices are usually employed under a federal or state award or agreement. They are paid a wage which varies depending on a number of factors including which year of their training they are in, the type of Australian Apprenticeship they are doing and the industry or occupation.

Australian Apprentices have the same rights to superannuation, workers' compensation and other entitlements or requirements as all other workers in Australia. Awards and conditions are set independently of the Australian Government by the Fair Work Commission.

How do I find an Australian School-based Apprenticeship?

Preparation

Australian Apprenticeships are available in over 500 occupations.

If you are still at school discuss Australian Apprenticeships with your career advisers or teachers.

Investigate your training and career options at:

- www.myskills.gov.au
- www.myfuture.edu.au
- www.aapathways.com.au
- www.naen.com.au

Write or brush up your résumé. Don't forget to include:

- your contact details; and
- your school studies, achievements and work experience.

Action

Visit your local Australian Apprenticeship Support Network (Apprenticeship Network) provider who can provide advice and assistance to help you find an apprenticeship. Alternatively, you can find an employer willing to take you on as an Australian Apprentice by:

- looking in the job vacancy ads in your local paper or on the web
- contacting a jobactive organisation in your region
- contacting employers in the industries you'd like to work in; and
- contacting a Group Training Organisation.

Once you've found an apprenticeship, ask the employer to call their local Apprenticeship Network provider. The Apprenticeship Network provider will work with you and your future employer to identify the training and support you may need throughout your apprenticeship, help you to sign-up to the training contract, and assess your eligibility for an Australian Government incentive or Trade Support Loans.

Can I, or my employer, receive any financial support during my Australian School-based Apprenticeship?

You may be eligible for a Trade Support Loan.

Employers may be eligible to receive incentive payments under the Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Program.

Both the Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Program and the Trade Support Loans Program are subject to eligibility criteria.

To find out more about incentives or loans contact your local Apprenticeship Network provider.

Where can I find out more?

For more information about Australian School-based Apprenticeships visit

www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au

For general employment information:

- To find a jobactive organisation visit <https://jobactive.gov.au/>
- To find a Group Training Organisation visit <https://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au/gto-listing> or www.naen.com.au
- For wages information visit the Fair Work Ombudsman website www.fairwork.gov.au
- For Superannuation information visit www.ato.gov.au
- For information on Youth Allowance, Austudy or ABSTUDY visit www.humanservices.gov.au
- Information on assistance for people with disability visit www.jobaccess.gov.au