VET in Schools Programs 2015

What is VET in Schools?
Vocational Education and Training (VET) in the VCE is a Government initiative that offers students an option to complete VCE at school while undertaking vocational studies.

VCE VET programs are vocational training approved by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA). They offer students the opportunity to gain both the VCE and a nationally recognised VET qualification.

Selected programs offer scored assessments for Units 3 & 4. They are fully recognised within the Units 1 to 4 structure of the VCE and can contribute towards satisfactory completion of the VCE.

VCE VET units have equal status with other VCE studies. They can also contribute to the satisfactory completion of the VCAL.

What are block credit programs?
Students who undertake VET or Further Education (FE) qualifications that are not included in the suite of approved VCE VET programs may be eligible for credit towards their VCE. This credit is called Block Credit Recognition.

Credit is awarded in the VCE on the basis of achieving units of competence. The level of credit is determined by the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) level at which the units of competence are recognised.

For more information regarding Block Credit Recognition, refer to the VCAA website: www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Pages/vet/index.aspx

Why choose VET training in the VCE?
Students who successfully complete a VCE with a vocational component have distinct advantages that are worth considering:

- two certificates – VCE and a nationally recognised vocational qualification
- direct articulation into further study such as Certificate III, Certificate IV or Diploma course
- improved opportunities for employment by providing links with industry.

Employability skills
Employability skills are generic skills which contribute to a graduate’s effective and successful participation in the workplace. Employability skills are embedded in each unit of competency within the programs. The application of each skill and the level of detail in each unit will vary according to industry requirements and the nature of the unit of competency.

Why choose Swinburne?
Swinburne is the highest-rated university in Melbourne for graduate satisfaction and generic skills according to The Good Universities Guide 2013. Swinburne offers both Vocational Education (VE) and Higher Education qualifications, making it easy for you to pathway from VE into a university degree and receive maximum credit for your previous studies.

Courses offered in 2015
Certificate II Building and Construction (Bricklaying) – partial
Certificate II Building and Construction (Carpentry) – partial
Certificate II in Conservation Land Management
Certificate II in Electrotechnology Studies (pre-vocational)
Certificate II in Engineering Studies
Certificate II in Horticulture
Certificate II in Integrated Technologies
Certificate II in Plumbing (pre-apprenticeship)
Certificate II in Sustainable Energy (NEW)
Certificate III in Design Fundamentals (NEW)
Certificate III in Health Services Assistance
Certificate III in Laboratory Skills
KIOSC trade training centre

KIOSC is a $10.3 million high-tech learning facility that gives students the opportunity to develop the ‘green skills’ that are essential for success in the workplace of the future. With a focus on environmentally sustainable skills and technologies, KIOSC provides a learning environment where students can make more informed decisions about their future, build their skills for employment and improve their career prospects. Located at Swinburne’s Wantirna campus, KIOSC is a joint initiative of Swinburne and seven secondary schools in the City of Knox.

The VE environment

Secondary school students entering Vocational Education (VE) for the first time need to understand that they are entering an adult learning environment. Students at Swinburne have either made a conscious decision to learn about a new field of study, or to improve their employability skills. The atmosphere at Swinburne has a flavor of relaxed yet purposeful learning.

Swinburne reserves the right to exclude students from classes in situations where the student behaves in a manner that is inappropriate in an adult learning environment. There will be no refund of enrolment fees in these circumstances. Policies and procedures relating to student misconduct are located on the Swinburne website.

Application procedure

Students will require counseling and guidance by their careers teacher or VET in VCE coordinator. It is important that all students indicate a genuine interest in their preferred vocational area. In addition the student must:

- be at least 15 years of age
- currently enrolled in a Year 10, 11 or 12 program
- return the application by 14 November 2014

Secondary schools will be notified of successful applicants and also if any classes have been cancelled. Classes will run subject to sufficient enrolments.

Successful applicants will receive a letter from Swinburne about the procedures for enrolment.

Structured Workplace Learning

Structured Workplace Learning (SWL), formerly known as work placement, is a valuable component of the VET in the VCE program. Under the SWL arrangements outlined in Ministerial Order 723, secondary students must have undertaken Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) training before they commence SWL. The finding and management of the SWL is the responsibility of the secondary school.

Fees

A student must have officially withdrawn from the course in accordance with Swinburne’s 2015 withdrawal rules in order for schools not to be charged, except when the course is cancelled by Swinburne. However, a refund of a materials fee may need to be negotiated with the department depending on whether materials have been issued to that student. For current fee information visit www.swinburne.edu.au/fees

Missed classes and assessments

Students who miss VET in the VCE/VCAL classes are required to notify Swinburne of their absence prior to class commencement. Make-up classes may be offered if available. The VET in the VCE program often has unique units of competence or assessments which cannot be replicated in a make-up class. In this situation, there will be additional charges incurred for additional teaching and/or assessment that involves Swinburne staff, to ensure students meet their VCE requirements.

Equity and disability

Swinburne’s Student Equity Unit ensures that all students have equal access to education, however secondary school students who currently have access to disability support or assistance at school are expected to attend the VET in the VCE program with their designated aid or support worker. For more information visit www.swinburne.edu.au/disability

For more information

1300 275 794
VETinschools@swin.edu.au