



Australian Government



Vocational placements

What are vocational placements?

- A vocational placement is work experience that is part of an education or training course.
- Vocational placements give you a chance to get the practical skills and experience you need to move from study into work.

Will I be paid?

- For a vocational placement to be lawfully unpaid:
 - it must be a required part of your training course
 - it must be approved by the training provider delivering the course
 - the contract with the host business must not have any pay entitlements.

Are vocational placements worth doing?

- Vocational placements give you an idea of the day-to-day operations of the workplace.
- They help you apply the knowledge and skills you are learning in your studies in a workplace setting.
- They can help you make contacts who may be able to help you find a job in the future.
- In some cases placements may lead to paid work, such as a part-time job while you finish your studies.



When to do a vocational placement?

- Training providers and universities build vocational placements into their students' course work schedule.
- The timing of your vocational placement will depend on your education provider and the type of course you are studying.

How do I organise a vocational placement?

- Your training provider or university will help you organise your own placement.
- Some larger businesses may offer programs to rotate you through different areas of the business. This gives you an idea of the range of jobs that they offer.

Where can I find more information?

- Information about vocational placements is available on the Fair Work Ombudsman's website at [fairwork.gov.au/pay/unpaid-work/student-placements](https://www.fairwork.gov.au/pay/unpaid-work/student-placements).
- Job Jumpstart can also help you understand how to organise work experience. Visit us at [jobjumpstart.gov.au](https://www.jobjumpstart.gov.au).

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