

What is Career Start?

Career Start provides individuals with the skills and support to start their career.

The program provides training to help individuals find a job and supports those already employed to move into more skilled roles or full-time employment, including after completing an apprenticeship or traineeships.

Career Start supports delivery of entry level training to students, apprentices and trainees aligned with the skill outcomes required by industry.

Career Start offers either a general training pathway or employment-based apprenticeship or traineeships pathway.

Under Career Start, an individual may access up to two subsidised training places through one of the following options:

- A general qualification at certificate III & an apprenticeship/traineeship, noting that if the apprenticeship/traineeship is done first, the individual is no longer eligible to access a general qualification under Career Start
- Two apprenticeship/traineeships at either certificate I or II, including school-based (SATs)

In addition, under Career Start, individuals may access one subsidised introductory level skills set. An individual cannot do two general pathway qualifications under Career Start.

What qualifications are subsidised?

Under the Career Start Funding, the Queensland Government provides a subsidy for a range of priority certificate III level vocational qualifications. Foundation skills training and lower-level vocational qualifications may also be subsidised in certain circumstances.

Are you eligible to participate?

To access a subsidised training place under Career Start, a student must meet the following criteria:

- aged 15 years or older;
- not be a school student;
- permanently reside in Queensland;
- be an Australian citizen, or Australian permanent resident (includes humanitarian entrant), or a temporary resident with the right visa and work permits on the pathway to permanent residency, or a New Zealand citizen;
- not already have a certificate III or higher qualification completed within the last 10 years (qualifications completed as a school student and foundation skills qualifications do not count);
- not be enrolled in another qualification, even if it is on hold or deferred, whether funded by DTET or not (foundation skills qualifications do not count).

Along with the eligibility criteria above, specific entry restrictions or exemptions may apply to certain subsidised qualifications and skill sets.

These are set by industry or sector requirements, as well as national training package guidelines.

How can you participate

It is important you choose the right course for you to take full advantage of the program.

The Queensland Skills Gateway displays all qualifications currently available under the Career Start and provides information about what they cover, the careers they can lead to, and the training providers registered to deliver them visit www.skillsgateway.training.qld.gov.au/.

Individuals are free to choose their preferred training provider from the list. However, the only qualifications subsidised through this program are those:

- listed on the Priority Skills List;
- and delivered by a training provider who is a pre-approved Skills Assure Supplier (SAS).

Co-contribution fees

General Training Pathway Co-contribution fee amount
Given the benefits of training, including improved job opportunities and higher earnings, students enrolled in certificate III qualifications and skill sets, and non-concessional students in lower-level qualifications, are required to contribute to the cost of training through a co-contribution (student) fee.

This fee can be paid by an employer, a family member, a friend, or another organisation, but it cannot be paid or waived by the SAS or any person or entity connected to the SAS. The fee amount is a decision for the SAS.

As part of receiving a subsidised training place, students may be asked to complete a DTET survey.

Student Support

You are entitled to a concessional rate if you:

- Hold a Health Care, Veteran or Pensioner Concession card; or
- Are the partner or dependent of someone with such a card and are names on the card
- Have a commonwealth form confirming eligibility for concession under Health Care, Veteran or Pensioner Concession Card
- Identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (First Nations people)
- Have a disability

For more information

Prospective apprentices, trainees, students and employers can call 1300 369 935.