



National Disability Coordination Officer Program
AN AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE

This information has been designed to assist people with a disability who are making the transition to Tertiary Education study.

People with a disability have the same right to do all the things in adult life that other people in the community enjoy, including the opportunity to access lifelong learning and engagement in meaningful careers. Transition from school can be an exciting time. Deciding on a career path, choosing the right educational options can seem confusing and may seem overwhelming for both young people and their families. We suggest you first look at the person, the goal and then the supports and resources available. You can individualise supports and access a range of services. To make the process easier it's important to start planning as early as possible.

Planning for the future involves 4 key steps:

Self-awareness/ knowing yourself: for a young person this includes what you like (interests), what you are good at (skills and abilities) and what is important to you (values), your assets and resources (what and who can help).

Explore possibilities and become aware of opportunities: this can include exploring the world of work, work experience, volunteering, researching and finding out what are the options, narrowing down your choices and finding a fit that suits you.

Making a choice: Learning how to make informed decisions, developing ability to self-determine your future, developing a plan and setting goals for your path that will take you where you want to go.

Putting the plan into action: learning along the way and achieving your goals, below are some links to support your journey.

Pathways planning: schools can help you prepare for what you would like to do after school through Career Action Plans and the school Careers Coordinator. All students will develop a Career Action Plan at school, to assist students to explore a range of things that they may like to undertake as they make the transition to life after school. These Plans help you to identify the things that they are good at, interested in, enjoy doing and the type of supports that might be needed to achieve post school goals. [For Further information on careers and transition planning](#)

Get Ready for Study and Work: these student workbook and parent guides contain information, contacts and activities to help students make a successful transition from school into tertiary study. [Download](#)

Myfuture: an online career service designed to help you explore and plan your career. myfuture has a personal career exploration and decision making tool, as well as providing information about various occupations, scholarships, study and training options. [Website](#)

Job Outlook: can help you make decisions about study and training the site covers information on 350 individual occupations. [Website](#)

Skills and Jobs Centres: based in TAFEs across Victoria, Skills and Jobs Centres provide expert advice on training and employment opportunities. Visit the [Website](#) to find Skills and Job Centre locations.

Disclosure: for many students disclosing a disability or medical condition can be tricky and stressful. It is important to remember that it is your right to choose whether you disclose your disability (unless there is a safety concern for you or other people). However, if you would like reasonable adjustments to be made you will need to disclose. [For more information](#)

What is Tertiary education? Accredited education that follows secondary school completed at universities, TAFEs (Technical and Further Education) or RTOs (Registered Training Organisations)

The Tertiary education provides a number of options including:

- university
- vocational education and training (VET)
- apprenticeships and traineeships
- adult community education

The '**beyond school study guide**' will help you make important decisions about your future studies, with factsheets on each of the HELP loans, different pathways to university, and compare what study might look like in higher education and vocational education and training (VET). [Download](#)

NDIS Pre-planning Toolkit for people with disability entering Higher Education or Vocational Education and Training the NDIS Pre-planning Toolkit is for people with disability entering Higher Education or Vocational Education and Training is designed to be used before you start a tertiary course at university or with a vocational education and training provider. [Download](#)

How to Transition to Tertiary Education, Helpful hints for people with Autism Spectrum Disorder These booklets discusses many changes to expect, but cannot predict all possible changes you may experience. Each university or TAFE is different; each campus is different; the staff are different; the students are different; and the way you experience it may be different as well. [Download](#)

Australian Disability Clearing house on Education and Training (ADCET) provides information, advice and resources to Disability Practitioners, Teachers and Students on inclusive practices within the post-secondary education sector. [Website](#)

Worksheet: Understanding Your Study Requirements will help you to understand your study requirements. It will also help you to understand how comfortable you are about disclosing your disability to other people. In addition the worksheet will help you to think about the impact that your disability may have on your studies and to identify services that you may want to access. [Download](#)



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Transitioning to University

The Good Uni Guide: find courses and places to study, and check out how the universities rate. [Website](#)

Whether you are currently studying Year 12 or applying as an adult, you may be eligible for support when applying **VTAC's Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS)** If there have been circumstance that have made it hard for you to do your best at study, you should consider putting in a special consideration application via The Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS) is designed to make sure institutions get a sense of your full potential and it enables institutions to consider the circumstances you have experienced and their impact upon your studies when making selection decisions. [For more information](#)

When enrolling you may want to have a conversation regarding accessing support. Universities provide support to students with disability to ensure they can access and participate in university courses and programs. Individual Universities will provide different support. [For more information](#) about how to access disability support services at the different universities in Victoria or find information on the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre

Federation University Foundation Access Studies (FAST) Program if you have finished year 12 or do not have the entry requirements you need to start a degree, FAST may be the pathway for you. Satisfactory completion of the six month FAST program will guarantee entry into a wide range of Federation University Australia Higher Education programs at degree level. Graduates will also receive credit for one university level first year subject (course) from some faculties. [For more information](#)

Gippsland East Higher Education Study Hub Bairnsdale will support students to complete this and other tertiary programs. [For more information](#)

Transitioning into vocational education and training (VET)

All education providers within Australia are legally obliged to provide support to students with disability. Not all RTOs will have dedicated staff to provide support services, however this does not mean an RTO is exempt from providing support and reasonable adjustments.

Search for TAFE courses on the **Victorian Skills Gateway** [Website](#)

There are a number of private registered training organisations (RTOs) which deliver a huge variety of VET courses. [Search for an RTO](#)

Transition into Adult Community Education There are a range of government registered Learn Local providers across Victoria that offer a range of education and training programs designed to meet your learning needs. [Find a Learn Local](#)



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Transitioning into apprenticeships and traineeships

Apprenticeships and traineeships combine on-the-job and formal training for qualifications in a wide range of industries. [Find out more](#) about apprenticeships and traineeships

Disabled Australian Apprentice Wage Support Program (DAAWS) The Australian Government provides additional support to Australian Apprentices with disability to help them reach their full potential as skilled workers. [For more information](#)

The Australian Apprenticeships Pathways website has tools & resources to assist students researching apprenticeship & traineeship career pathways. [Website](#)

Literacy & Numeracy Quizzes General industry-based literacy & numeracy quizzes illustrating the levels required when undertaking Australian Apprenticeships qualifications. [Download](#)

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