



Adult education



Education for adults in Australia



In Australia, people see learning as something you do across your whole life.



Even when you are an adult, you can:

- continue to study
- learn
- go to school for the first time



Learning to speak, read and write in English is important.



It will help you:

- take part in Australian life



- feel good about your life in Australia



- find work



- give you better opportunities

Learning English



The Government helps you learn English through the Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP).



It does not cost any money.



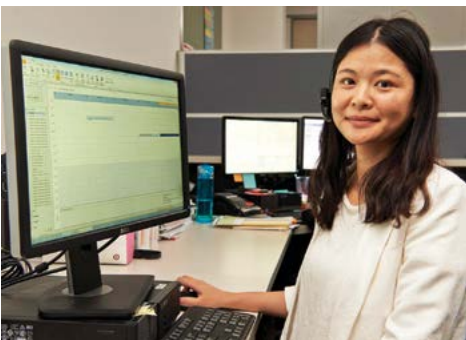
You can study English for up to 510 hours.



You need to register for the AMEP in the first 6 months that you are in Australia.



There is free child care for young children that you can use while you go to class.



There are different ways to take part in the AMEP if you:

- need to work



- have to look after your family



You might be able to:

- study from home



- get a tutor who will visit your home and help you



- go to classes part-time



- go to classes after work hours



You can find more information about AMEP on the Department of Education and Training's website.

www.education.gov.au/amep

Other study



Adults who want to keep studying and learning have lots of options.

People who study are known as students.



You might be able to get help from the Government to pay for the cost of studying.

This will depend on your:

- income – how much money you earn from working
- assets – what you own and how much money you have in the bank.



You can find more information on the Department of Human Services website.

www.humanservices.gov.au

Finishing secondary school

18+

You can still finish secondary school if you are over 18 years old.



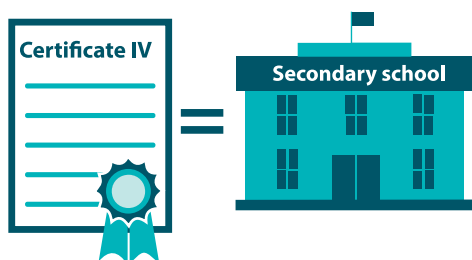
Secondary school is often called high school in Australia.



You can study at a Technical and Further Education (TAFE) college.



You can earn a Certificate IV.



A Certificate IV is equal to a secondary school level of education.

Learning a skill or a trade



Some jobs need you to learn certain skills.

These are called trades.



Trades include:

- carpentry



- plumbing



- hairdressing



- landscape gardening



- working in a business



- tourism



- hospitality



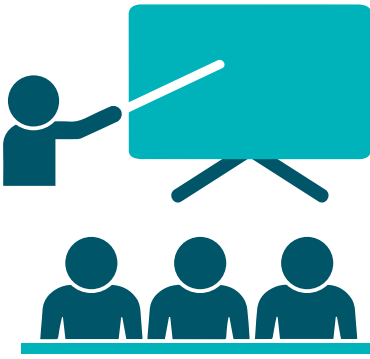
You can learn the skills you need for a trade through Vocational Education and Training (VET).



You can do VET at TAFE colleges.



You need a secondary school certificate.



You will need to pay fees for:

- going to classes



- books you need

Apprenticeships



You can learn a trade through an apprenticeship.



Apprenticeships include:

- working at the job
- training for the skills you need to do that job



You will be able to do an apprenticeship if you have the right skills to get started.



When you finish your apprenticeship you have a qualification that is recognised all over Australia.



An apprenticeship lets you earn money while you are learning.



You need to pay fees for the classes you go to for training. Fees will be different in different places.



You can get more information about the TAFE colleges you could go to from your caseworker or proposer.

Going to university



There are different types of universities in Australia:

- public
- private



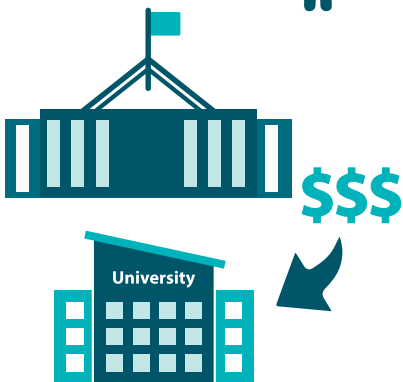
You can go to university as:

- an undergraduate student
- a postgraduate student

Undergraduate students

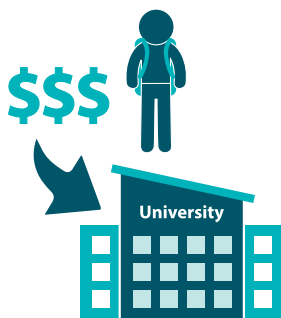


Undergraduate students are students who are going to university for the first time.



Universities have:

- subsidised places – the Government helps pay the cost

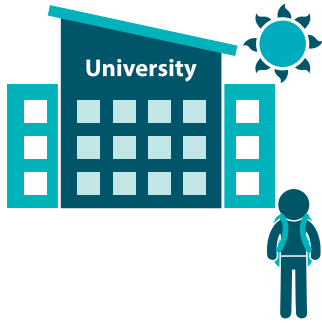


- full fee paying places – the student pays all the costs



Depending on the courses they offer, universities let new students start in:

- January/February
- July/August



Some universities also have summer courses.

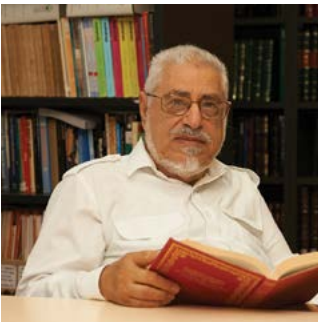


To get in to university you might need to:

- do tests or exams



- show how good your English is



- prove what studies you have done before



- do a tertiary bridging course – classes to help you get ready for university studies



It costs a lot of money to study at university in Australia.



The Higher Education Loan Program (HELP) can help you with the cost.



If you use HELP, you pay for your studies after you have finished – when you are working and earning enough money.



You can find more information about HELP on the StudyAssist website.

www.studyassist.gov.au

Postgraduate students



Postgraduate students are students who go back to university to do extra study after they have graduated – earned a degree.



If you graduated overseas, the university will check your qualifications.

The Department of Education and Training can give you information about how to get your degree recognised in Australia.



You can find more information if you search for 'Qualifications recognition' on the Department of Education and Training's website.

www.internationaleducation.gov.au



You might be able to do a bridging course that will help you get your qualification to meet Australian standards.

Going to extra classes and courses



You can find courses and classes in your community about things you are interested in learning.



You can do them at:

- schools



- community colleges



- TAFEs



- universities



This might include:

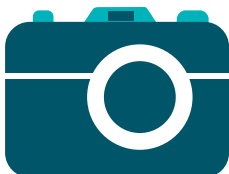
- cooking



- English or other languages



- dancing



- photography



- computer skills



- bookkeeping – managing your money



- health and wellbeing



- useful job skills



These courses do not give you a formal qualification.



You can do these type of courses:

- after work hours



- on the weekend



Some migrant resource centres and service agencies also run these courses.

Education for the whole family



Local public libraries are good places to get information.



It does not cost you anything to join the library.



You can borrow:

- books



- magazines



- videos and DVDs



- CDs

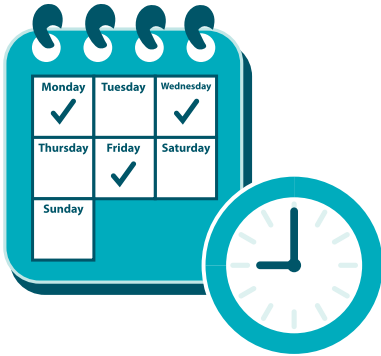


Most libraries have:

- computers you can use
- free internet access



You may only be able to use the computer for a short time.



You may need to book a time to use the computer.



It is important to follow the rules of the library.



You need to return things you borrow on time.

If you do not return things on time you may be asked to pay a small fine.

Child care



You can use child care services if you want to:

- work
- study
- go to training for your job



Your caseworker or proposer can help you find child care that is right for you.



You can find information about child care and early learning services on the MyChild website.

www.mychild.gov.au

