## 2025 SCHOOL LEAVER'S GUIDE

Career options and information





## **Acknowledgement of First Nations peoples**

The Queensland Government respectfully acknowledges the First Nations peoples in the state of Queensland, and acknowledges the cultural and spiritual connection that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have with the land and sea.

We respectfully acknowledge Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander people as two unique and diverse peoples, with their own rich and distinct cultures, resilience and strengths.

We specifically acknowledge the unique history and cultural heritage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Peoples of Australia. We pay our respects to Elders past and present.

We are dedicated to the inclusion of cultural knowledge and values as critical factors in the development, implementation and evaluation of strategies and actions to support First Nations peoples.

### **Disclaimer**

While every care has been taken in preparing this publication, the State of Queensland accepts no responsibility for decisions or actions taken as a result of any data, information, statement or advice, expressed or implied, contained within. To the best of our knowledge, the content was correct at the time of publishing.

© The State of Queensland (Department of Trade, Employment and Training) 2024. Published by the Queensland Government, November 2024, 1 William St, Brisbane Qld, 4000. The Queensland Government supports and encourages the dissemination and exchange of information. However, copyright protects this document. The State of Queensland has no objection to this material being reproduced, made available online or electronically but only if it is recognised as the owner of the copyright and this material remains unaltered. Copyright enquiries about this publication should be directed to the Department of the Premier and Cabinet, by email to copyright@premiers.qld.gov.au or in writing to PO Box 15185, City East, Qld 4002.





### **CONTENTS**

Introduction	1
Tools and resources to explore career options	2
Vocational training and further study	3
Subsidised training and incentives	4
Industry specific career exploration	5
Agriculture, horticulture and aquaculture	5
Automotive	6
Banking and finance	7
Community services	8
Construction	9
Digital technologies	10
Electrotechnology and utilities	11
Energy	11
Water	12
Film, television and new media	13
Fitness, sport, recreation and racing	14
Fitness, sport and recreation	14
Racing	14
Health	15
Manufacturing and engineering	16
Property services, real estate and security	17
Public sector and government	18
Australian Defence Force	18
Police	19
Government jobs	20
Resources and mining	21
Retail and personal services	22
Tourism, hospitality, accommodation and events	23
Transport and logistics	24
Assistance with finding a job	25
Gain on the job experience	26
Mental and physical wellbeing support for young people_	26
Preparing for work	27

### INTRODUCTION

The 2025 School leavers' guide has been developed to provide information and resources to school leavers, senior students and those who offer career advice.

This guide is designed to provide you with a one-stop point of reference for contemporary career resources and information. It should be used in its electronic format so that you can use the active links that are provided for resources and websites.

Opportunities are rich and varied for today's job seekers. There are skills shortages across all industries and regions, with many and varied job opportunities available. Use the job search tools throughout and at the back of this guide to start searching for your first or next job.

Great opportunities exist to support industries to work in new ways, with the future looking bright for digital skills and technology-based roles in particular. For those industries that have adapted and those that continue to evolve, there are many exciting changes to be part of!

Consider what industries appeal to you, read about the roles and opportunities that may be on offer, refer to the resources included for tips and advice on applying for jobs or courses to support your first, or next career move.

Vocational education and training (VET) can provide you with strong pathways to your dream job or career, give you skills employers value and may also be an excellent pathway into higher education, including university. This guide contains resources to assist you in considering how VET can help you put your best foot forward and reach your career goals.

Congratulations to the graduating cohort of 2024. Well done for making it through and our best wishes for your future career choices.

Thank you to our industry stakeholders and partners for their input and contributions to this guide.

# TOOLS AND RESOURCES TO EXPLORE CAREER OPTIONS

There are a ton of websites to help you focus your research and find out what job or career will suit your interests and abilities, so you can make the right decision for you. We have selected a few to help you get started, with different tools to help you uncover your future career.

#### **Your Career**

Information and help to plan and manage your career. You can search industries and occupations to find a career that's right for you, including what you can do to get there.

yourcareer.gov.au

### **Discover My Career tool**

The Discover My Career tool is designed to help you choose to do something you're good at and that you will love doing. It can help you narrow down the variables so you can feel confident in your decisions. An access fee applies.

tafeqld.edu.au/campaign-pages/ discover-my-career/index

### Myfuture

Use the myfuture resources to explore career pathways and build your knowledge to help you make decisions about your career.

myfuture.edu.au

#### **Skillsroad**

Skillsroad offers tools to help you discover your true skill set and match your skills, interests and qualification to different careers. Arm yourself with the right information for your career journey.

skillsroad.com.au

### Job Jumpstart

Whether you are still at school, on a gap year or graduating from uni, Job Jumpstart offers resources and activities to help you work out what jobs might suit you.

jobjumpstart.gov.au

#### The Good Careers Guide

Find out about jobs you are interested in, including pay, hours of work, personal requirements and related training.

gooduniversitiesguide.com.au/careers-guide

### **Link and Launch**

A free service designed to help you when considering your options after school – including further study, training and work options. This program can help you identify what you want to do next.

qld.gov.au/linkandlaunch

### **Anticipating Future Skills**

You can use the Anticipating Future Skills series for workforce planning, to identify regional jobs growth or to help you make decisions about your future careers. It provides detailed employment projections to help you understand what Queensland's future labour market might look like.

jobsqueensland.qld.gov.au

### **Australian Apprenticeships**

Australian Apprenticeships is a national information hub for those considering an apprenticeship. Apprenticeships and traineeships combine training with work. You work in a real job, with a real boss, for a real wage while learning invaluable skills and gaining a nationally recognised qualification.

apprenticeships.gov.au

### Foundation for Young Australians (FYA)

FYA is all about backing the next generation of young people who are going to rethink the world and create a better future. If you count yourself among the future changemakers, innovators, makers, dreamers, thinkers, doers and creators, check out how you can be supported through the FYA.

fya.org.au

### **VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND FURTHER STUDY**

#### Learn and train

Study can help you get the job you want or extend your skills in a career you already have. Access current, straightforward, independent and trustworthy information to help you make choices about your training options.

yourcareer.gov.au/learn-and-train

### **TAFE Scholarships**

Achieve your career goals with the help of a TAFE Queensland scholarship. Click the link below to learn more about the scholarships available, eligibility criteria.

scholarships.tafeqld.edu.au

### **Indigenous Pathways Portal**

Search for scholarship opportunities for Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander people.

aurorafoundation.com.au/ our-work/ indigenous-pathways-portal

### Digital literacy

Explore online courses to support your digital literacy development. It doesn't matter what level you are starting from.

microsoft.com/en-us/digital-literacy

### **Queensland Training Information Service**

A–Z of all apprenticeship and traineeship qualifications currently available in Queensland.

qtis.training.qld.gov.au/Apprenticeship

qtis.training.qld.gov.au/Traineeship

### **Queensland Skills Gateway**

Once you have identified the VET course you would like to do, this site helps you find a registered training organisation to complete your qualification and any subsidies that may be available.

skillsgateway.training.qld.gov.au

#### **Skill Finder**

Skill Finder gives you access to a range of digital microskills and opportunities for upskilling. A range of courses are delivered by world-leading organisations, from coding and design to project management.

skillfinder.com.au

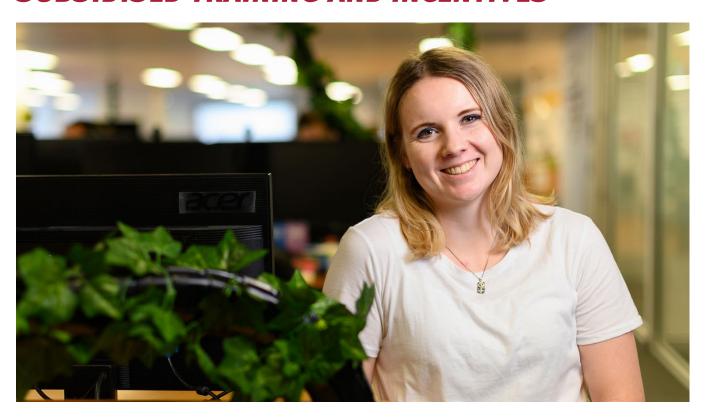
### **Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre**

Find out about study pathways and entry requirements for tertiary education courses. Search for courses and apply online for admission to 17 higher education institutions in Queensland and Northern New South Wales.

qtac.edu.au



### SUBSIDISED TRAINING AND INCENTIVES



### Free apprenticeships for under 25s

The Queensland Government is supporting young Queenslanders up to the age of 25 by providing access to fully subsidised training across more than 130 priority apprenticeship and traineeship qualifications.

Free apprenticeships for under 25s cover the cost of training for apprentices and trainees who commence or are undertaking a priority apprenticeship or traineeship qualification from 1 July 2019 to 31 December 2024. Refer to the website for the latest information.

qld.gov.au/freeapprenticeships

### Fee Free TAFE

Eligible Queenslanders can study high priority qualifications for free at TAFE Queensland and CQUniversity. There are a range of qualifications and skill sets available, which are aligned to Australian and Queensland Government priorities, including emerging industries, to meet current and future skills needs.

qld.gov.au/freetafe

### **Certificate 3 Guarantee (C3G)**

The Certificate 3 Guarantee supports eligible individuals to complete their first post-school certificate III qualification. Click the link below to find out about priority qualifications, subsidies and eligibility.

desbt.qld.gov.au/c3g

### **Higher Level Skills**

The Higher Level Skills program supports eligible individuals to access subsidised training in selected certificate IV or above qualifications and priority skill sets.

It helps people gain the higher level skills required to secure employment or career advancement in priority industries, or to transition to university to continue their studies.

desbt.qld.gov.au/higherskills

### **VET Student Loans**

The VET Student Loans program is an Australian Government initiative to help eligible students pay their tuition fees.

Find out about eligibility, including eligible qualifications and approved training providers, via the link below.

employment.gov.au/informationvet-student-loans-student

### Discover the power of skills

Start a great career with free or subsided training for jobs in demand.

qld.gov.au/skillspower

### INDUSTRY SPECIFIC CAREER EXPLORATION

### Agriculture, horticulture and aquaculture

Queensland boasts the largest portion of agricultural land of any state in Australia, has a global reputation of safe and nutritious produce, and is famous for producing bananas, pineapples, macadamias and mangoes.

Queensland's climate allows for incredible diversity and includes the production and export of sugar (cane), cotton, grains, meat, fish, poultry, vegetables, nuts, fruits, flowers, seafood (farmed prawns and barramundi, as well as wild catch and processing), dairy and timber—providing materials to make the homes we live in, the clothes we wear and the food we eat.

The growth of regional and agricultural technology and innovation is having an impact, with higher demand for technology specialists and agtech an exciting and growing sector that depends on service industries such as transport, logistics, research and finance.

Roles across the industry can be diverse and challenging; jobs can be set on both the land where the primary production occurs, and as regional and city-based roles.

Examples include farm hands and managers (including aquaculture farms), animal husbandry (feeding, water sampling, monitoring stock growth rates, collecting animal data), stockmen and women, trades and maintenance (mechanics, sprayers, checking and maintaining equipment, operating pumps), agronomists and advisors, farm supervisors, engineers, veterinarians, researchers, lab technicians, IT professionals, HR professionals, aquaculture technicians and compliance officers, wildlife and environmental officers (monitoring water and the environment), foresters and nursery workers, laboratory assistants, machine operators and rural financial officers (counsellors, land valuers). There are also roles in education, finance, trade and export, and the sciences.

Business and e-commerce skills, digital literacy, workforce management skills (dealing with conflict, adaptability) as well as work health and safety (biosecurity, hygiene standards and managing risk) are all skills needed in this industry.

Agriculture is the most diverse job market of any sector in the economy. With outstanding growth opportunities in an increasingly prosperous global market, the sector values safe, ethical and sustainable produce. As well as growth, advances in technology bring with them interesting future workforce opportunities and changes.



Explore careers in agriculture: gff.org.au/projects/your-career-in-agriculture

careerharvest.com.au

Find out about jobs in the cotton industry: cottonaustralia.com.au/careers



### **Automotive**

The automotive industry is a highly technical and dynamic sector covering a variety of activities through the cradle-to-grave lifecycle of all types of vehicles.

Once considered an industry purely for grease monkeys and rev heads, a new wave of automotive professionals is beginning to emerge as a result of technological advancements. Where automotive employees were traditionally driven by a passion for cars, this new wave of aspiring professionals are drawn in primarily by a love for information, technology and engineering.

Modern vehicles, large and small, are becoming increasingly advanced in terms of the computers and technology inside them. As such, a greater focus is now being placed on understanding and using diagnostic and analytic tools to identify faults and perform repairs, with skills more traditionally aligned with engineering and IT than the automotive trades.

Currently employing more than 100,000 people in Queensland and with more than 100 different career paths, the automotive industry has employment opportunities for everyone, regardless of age or gender.

People in the industry have the opportunity to work in specialised fields, such as heavy vehicles (trucks, buses, agricultural machinery and emergency vehicles) and light vehicles (luxury, performance and prestige model cars).

The industry also includes the repair and service of electric vehicles, bicycles, outdoor power equipment, marine vessels, motorcycles and some manufacturing.

### Find out about the light vehicle industry:

A guide to - Careers in the Automotive Industry

### Watch this video:

It's Hard To Be What You Cannot See - YouTube

Check local automotive job opportunities:

**Motor Trades Association of Queensland Jobs Board** 

Check out the nationally accredited qualifications in the automotive industry:

training.gov.au/Training/Details/AUR/qualifications

More information on the automotive industry in Queensland:

mtaq.com.au



### Banking and finance

A career in the banking and finance sector often offers an exciting and fast-paced environment due to the weight of the financial decisions being made and the advice being provided. The banking and finance sector is wide-reaching and can assist a large range of businesses and individuals (including yourself!).

Major segments within the banking and finance sector include banking (mortgage services, saving and loan establishments), investment services (portfolio management), insurance services, tax and accounting services (audit, business regulation), insurance and credit unions.

A career in the banking and financial services industry could see you working anywhere from a giant blue chip company to a local insurance business, your own accounting firm or perhaps in a government backed regulatory body. You might be involved in investing, borrowing, insuring or managing funds. And as other industries like resources, healthcare and education grow, so too does their need for a diverse range of finance related roles across sectors. From agribusiness bankers on-the- road meeting clients, to bank tellers serving and managing customers at a retail bank, to stock brokers managing money on behalf of others.

Key roles within the industry include accountants, bank tellers, loan officers, client services officers, financial planners, commercial/data/financial analysts, risk and compliance managers, portfolio managers, investment bankers, stock brokers and chief financial officers.

Jobs in the industry may be advertised through job search sites. For information about relevant qualifications, check the websites below (type 'banking' or 'financial' into the search bars). yourcareer.gov.au

gooduniversitiesguide.com.au/course-provider





### Community services

The community services industry (also known as social assistance) is one of the largest employing and fastest growing sectors in Queensland.

Throughout a person's life, they will engage at least once with a community service.

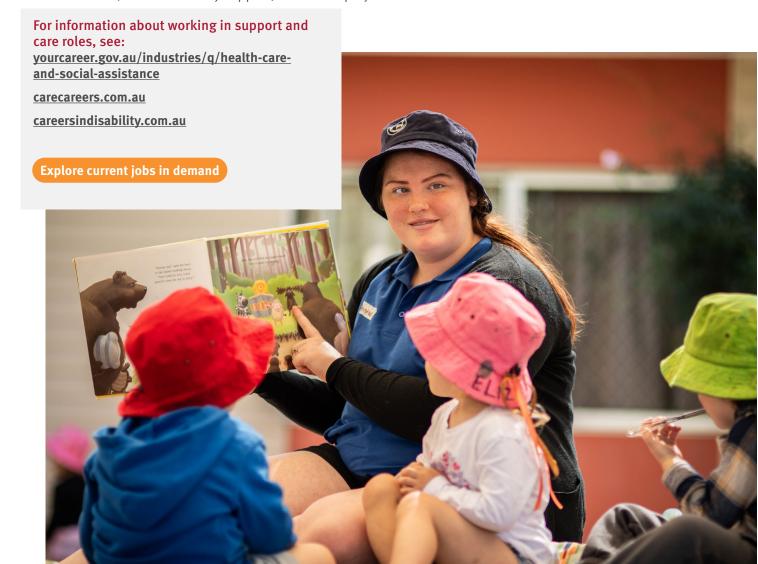
The industry covers everything between early childhood education and care to aged care. The variety of roles is immense, with hands-on roles to essential behind-the-scenes jobs, such as cleaning, food and nutrition, office administration, grounds and maintenance, and security.

Community services form the foundation for overall wellbeing and includes housing and homelessness, education, employment and disability support, mental health, youth work, child safety, out of school care, counselling, alcohol and other drugs support, veterans support and active volunteering.

Jobs are available in all metropolitan and rural areas, in private services or clinics and centres, aged and residential care facilities, community-based and charity organisations and in-home care.

Skills and attributes needed include an interest and empathy to work with diverse people and cultures across all age groups; social inclusion and support; listening and communication; being adaptable and resilient in a fast paced and continually evolving sector; problem solving and decision making; and an interest in being a continual learner.

It is a sector with so much variety, building strong, transferable skills and an ability to specialise in community development, dementia training, mental health, palliative care, suicide prevention, out of school care, child and family support, or even employment services.



### **Construction**

The construction industry builds the places we live, work and play, and includes activities across mining, quarrying, timber processing, building and manufacturing. Typically, careers in the construction industry are guided by well-defined training and development pathways—providing entry level qualifications and approximately 70 different careers.

Jobs can be found across a variety of settings, including residential, commercial, industrial, environmental and civil construction.

Apprenticeships and traineeships are in high demand and are available across a range of trades, including concreting, carpentry and joinery, plumbing, electrical and tiling. Roles in this industry include labourers, tradespeople, foremen, surveyors, estimators, project and construction managers, landscapers, tower crane operators, safety inspectors and engineers. Entry level roles include trade assistants and general labour-related roles in areas such as carpentry, landscaping, painting, flooring and tiling, masonry and roofing.

The Women in Trades Mentoring Program provides free mentoring and support to first and second year female apprentices in the construction, automotive, electrical and manufacturing industries.

The Queensland Government's construction pipeline over the next decade will create ongoing opportunities for the industry. While the pandemic impacted most industries, projects in the construction industry continued. This included work on the Warrego and Bruce Highways, upgrades to the M1 and development of Queens Wharf, Cross River Rail and Gatton Prison. Construction of the largest onshore renewable energy facility (MacIntyre Wind Farm) commenced in 2022 and is expected to be operational from 2024.

Navigate your way into a construction career: constructionpathways.com.au

Explore trade careers in construction through CSQ's Construction Pathways Tools for the Trade Academy:

year13.com.au/academy/tools-of-the-trade

Find information on the Women in Trades Mentoring Program:

qld.gov.au/education/apprenticeships/ for-apprentices/support/services

has context menu



### Digital technologies

The technology sector is comprised of businesses that sell goods and services in electronics, software, computers, telecommunications and other industries related to information technology (IT). Technology companies invest heavily in research and development, and may undertake riskier projects with greater future potential. Tech companies also run social media platforms like Facebook, X (Twitter) and Instagram.

Opportunities range from entry level roles, such as help desk support or an IT technician, to senior roles in management such as chief information officer and specialist positions.

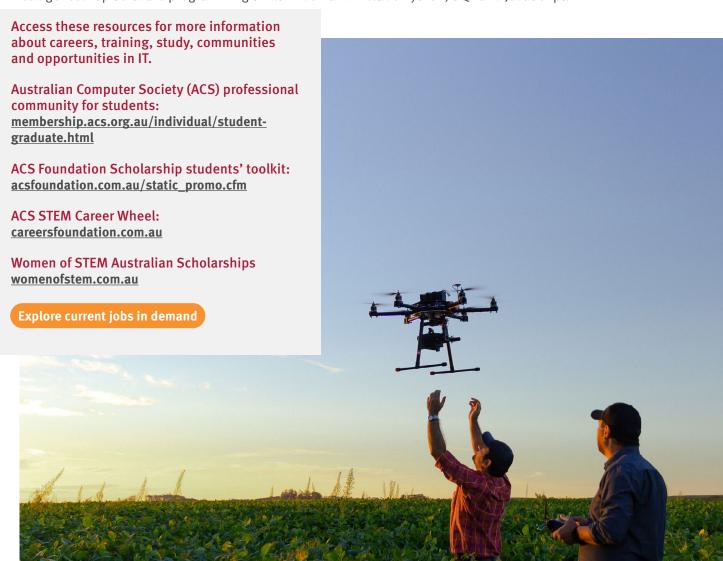
Companies rely on the technology sector to help them grow and thrive. Digital technology roles can take you almost anywhere, from small or medium enterprises to large corporate organisations. The terms 'global' and 'remote workforce' could mean working for an international company without even leaving your home office.

As a tech professional, you could solve cybercrime, design robots, create inspirational multimedia and save lives using artificial intelligence.

Specialised fields include content and design (using artistic skills to design engaging digital content for apps, games, websites, advertising and movies), cyber security, robotics and autonomous technologies, artificial intelligence, blockchain, extended reality, 5G technologies and industry 4.0.

Product development includes creating software and hardware, phones, computers, robots, drones, Internet of Things solutions, automated technologies, and operating systems and apps to run on these devices.

Professional skills needed include those that cannot be automated – critical thinking, analytical skills (e.g. interpreting data and digital forensics), communication, social engagement and intelligence. Top software programming skills in demand include Python, SQL and JavaScript.



### Electrotechnology and utilities

### Energy

To achieve Queensland's renewable energy transition, Queensland is adopting renewable energy technology systems including generating energy using solar and wind and storing energy using batteries and pumped-hydro.

A number of skilled occupations are in demand to support the energy sector, including electrical trades. Skilled energy workers undertake a range of tasks across industries including maintenance, design, construction projects, renewables, communication, refrigeration and air-conditioning.

Work can be undertaken in both commercial and residential settings.

All electrical trades, particularly electrical apprentices, are highly sought after by employers in the industry.

Transitioning to renewable energy is going to create all sorts of jobs that will offer exciting opportunities as a part of the energy transition.

The Future Energy Jobs Guide has been designed to assist school leavers and existing skilled workers to explore career opportunities in the clean energy sector and identify the education and training pathways to get there: qld.gov.au/jobs/career/energy-jobs-guide





### Water

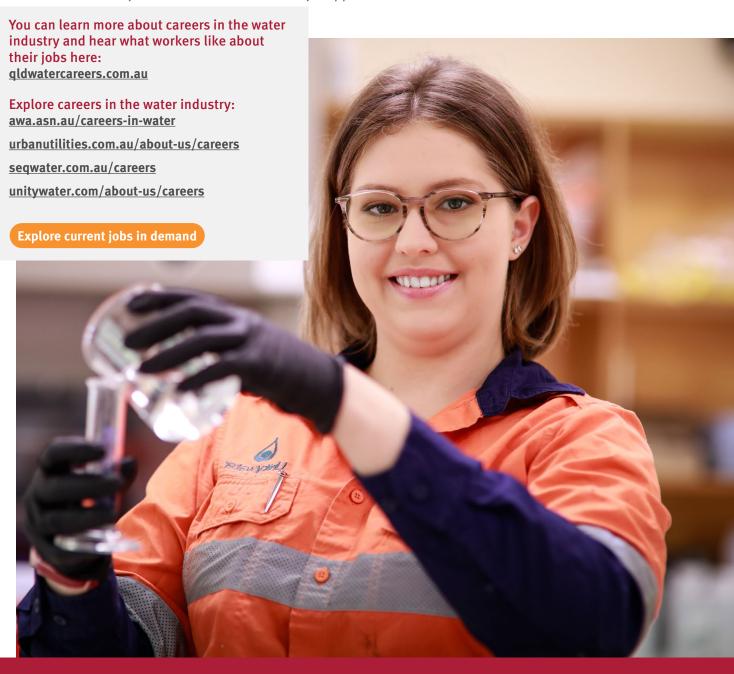
The water industry delivers the essential services of supplying safe and sustainable drinking water to our communities, and ensuring that wastewater is treated and appropriately reused, or discharged safely back into the environment where that is not feasible.

Workers play a key role in protecting the health and safety of their communities and the environment, and there are more than 6000 people in Queensland working directly in the water industry, plus many more in support industries like construction. Water and sewerage services are mostly delivered by public service providers, with the majority being local government.

There are a variety of jobs in demand, including water and wastewater treatment plant operators, construction and maintenance workers, engineers, scientists, environmental officers, electricians, plumbers and mechanical tradespeople.

The water sector plays a vital role in emerging technologies like hydrogen and pumped storage hydropower, whilst also being an important component in the development and liveability of communities.

The water industry uses innovative systems and advanced technology to maximise and protect public health and precious natural resources, with job opportunities in capital cities and regional and remote communities. Responsibilities include the treatment and supply of drinking water, collection and treatment of wastewater, management of dams and catchments, and monitoring of the environment. There are long-term careers across the state for people with a passion for essential community services and attractive lifestyle opportunities.



### Film, television and new media

The screen and media industry provides opportunities for stories to be told through mediums such as film, television, games and XR (extended reality), radio, print journalism and online or digital content delivery. With digital platforms being developed constantly, content is increasingly adaptable and accessible. Content and stories shared across channels can shape communities and has the ability to educate, influence and entertain, providing an escape from the realities of our

Screen and media is rich with career possibilities and the roles are equally diverse, depending on which sector you gravitate toward. Choose from producer, director, art director, screenwriter, director of photography, sound recordist, editor, animator, make-up artist, costume designer. colourist, distribution manager, location manager as well as some lesser-known roles such as grip, gaffer, drone operator and stunt person within film and television.

Roles in games and XR can include content, user experience, interface and narrative designers, developers, programmers, 3D artists, animators, CAD designers, motion capture artists, producers, sound designers, post-production and motion graphic artists, and hardware specialists.

Roles in radio broadcasting can include program director, journalist, announcer, news and sport editors, sound engineer, reporter and producer.

A career in this industry can be based in any number of places. With television and radio typically being hosted within specialised studios, reporters can be 'on location' or 'in the field' depending on where the current action is, and film locations could take you to any corner of the globe!

Oueensland has established itself as a filmmaking hub for both domestic and international productions, providing a wide range of opportunities for future careers based right here within the

### For more industry insights visit:

#### Film and television

Screen Australia: screenaustralia.gov.au

Screen Queensland: screenqueensland.com.au

Screen Producers Australia: screenproducers.org.au

Essential Screen Skills: essentialscreenskills.com.au

Australian Children's Television Foundation: actf.com.au

#### Games and XR

Real Serious Games: realseriousgames.com

XR Hub: **gldxrhub.com** 

#### Radio

Community Broadcasting Association of Australia: cbaa.org.au

Commercial Radio Australia: commercialradio.com.au/

hr-training/internships-work-experience-programs



### Fitness, sport, recreation and racing

### Fitness, sport and recreation

The fitness, sport and recreation industry is a major contributor to Queensland's economy, directly or indirectly supporting the employment of more than 84,000 Queenslanders.

As Australians embrace the physical and mental health benefits of being physically active, the demand for fitness, sport and recreation services continues to grow.

With a variety of jobs, settings and locations of work available, services can be offered through fitness centres (including gyms, sport and recreation organisations and venues), voluntary organisations, community recreation centres, aquatic and leisure centres and swim schools (both government and commercial), community-focused organisations and sole traders.

Jobs are categorised across aquatic and community recreation, fitness, outdoor recreation and sport. The variety on offer is immense and includes gym instructors, personal trainers, aquatic fitness instructors, sport and recreation service managers, sport development officers, sport coaches and officials, gymnastics coaches, swim teachers and instructors, pool lifeguards, and outdoor adventure guides and leaders.

The industry is currently experiencing a shortage of workers. In addition to technical and job specific capabilities, skills needed in this industry include teamwork, communication, administration, management and leadership.

Explore jobs in the sector: aqia.org.au/active-careers/

**Explore current jobs in demand** 



### Racing

The racing industry is brimming with action, excitement and opportunity, offering potential careers across three codes: thoroughbred, harness and greyhound racing. This vibrant sector is an international industry with employment opportunities throughout Australia and around the world.

Queensland's racing industry provides a wide range of career options including jockeys, trackwork riders, trainers, stablehands and barrier attendants. In addition to hands-on positions, the regulatory side of racing offers roles for stewards who enforce the rules of the sport; and laboratory technicians and sample collection officers who play a vital role in the industry's substance screening operations, ensuring fair play and integrity. The Queensland Racing Integrity Commission is the integrity regulator for racing in Queensland.

There are numerous opportunities for managing the facilities that support racing activities and race day functions. Essential roles in this area include groundskeepers, landscapers and maintenance workers.

For more information about the racing industry visit: racingqueensland.com.au/careers-training

For information on careers with Queensland racing visit: <a href="mailto:qric.qld.gov.au/jobs-in-queensland-governement">qric.qld.gov.au/jobs-in-queensland-governement</a>



### Health

The healthcare industry is the largest employing and fastest growing industry in Queensland.

It includes a wide variety of sectors and offers flexible careers across a range of community, private and hospital care settings. The primary focus of health work is to support individual and community wellbeing. However, this is delivered through a vast array of care, education, advocacy, therapy, social, medical and related technical and administrative skills and services. The health industry provides services within every Queensland community, working to promote wellbeing across the population with a focus on improving health outcomes with members of the community who are unwell, at-risk or vulnerable.

Roles can be patient centred, working directly with clients (often under the direction and delegation of senior health practitioners) to support their everyday care needs. An extensive range of technical, trade and administrative roles also ensure the efficient, effective and equitable delivery of health services through finance, human resources, information technology, data, logistics, practice management, policy development and analysis. cleaning, sterilisation, pathology and laboratory services, food and services, grounds keeping, maintenance, trades and security.

The core skills needed for all roles include interpersonal skills, such as emotional intelligence, critical thinking, teamwork, communication, resilience and flexibility. Depending on the type of role you are interested in, numeracy, language and literacy will also be necessary core skills. Some fields of employment will require science and technology skills.

### Check out careers at entry and VET levels:

cvohealthcareer.com.au

For more information on health professions at higher level qualifications see:

mvhealthcareer.com.au

Find out about health care with this interactive animation: gateway2health.com.au/animation



### Manufacturing and engineering

Step into the world of manufacturing, where innovation meets creation, and your ideas can transform into reality.

Manufacturing is the beating heart of our economy, producing everything from the clothes you wear to the smartphone in your pocket. It's a diverse industry that combines creativity, technology and problem-solving to make the products we use every day.

### **Career opportunities**

The manufacturing sector offers an exciting array of career paths for school-leavers:

**Engineering:** Design, engineer, make the world's next autonomous vehicles, heavy machinery, defence tech, renewable energy, space craft, drones or smart devices as an engineer or tradesperson.

Fashion and textiles: Express your creativity as a fashion or textile designer and sewing machinist.

*Food and beverage:* Make delicious products as a food scientist, meat processor, butcher, baker, brewer or distiller.

**Beauty and wellness:** Develop and manufacture new lines of cosmetics, nutrition supplements and wellness items.

Furnishings and interiors: Create beautiful living spaces as a cabinet maker or furniture manufacturer.

**Pharmaceutical and medical technology:** Save lives and advance healthcare through new medicines, medical devices or diagnostic tools as a researcher, manufacturing operator or laboratory technician.

*Management:* Own your own business, lead teams or optimise processes as a supply chain or production manager.

### Why choose manufacturing?

**Shape the future:** Push the boundaries of what's possible with exciting technology like robotics, 3D printing or artificial intelligence.

*Make a real difference:* Tackle global challenges and create products that improve lives and drive sustainability in your community and beyond.

*Diverse career paths:* From fashion to food, heavy machinery to health, robotics to the transition to clean energy – find a niche that matches your passion.

**Learn, earn and grow:** Get hands-on experience and see your ideas come to life in the real world, with competitive salaries and clear career progression in an industry that will value your skill and contribution.

Manufacturing offers diverse pathways, get hands-on experience with a job straight out of school or do a VET certificate to equip you with industry-specific skills. For those seeking deeper theoretical knowledge and advanced career prospects, university degrees in manufacturing technology and engineering open doors to leadership roles and specialised positions.

Whether you're a tech enthusiast, a creative thinker or a born leader, there's a place for you in the manufacturing industry to thrive and make your mark. In this ever-evolving field, you'll find opportunities to innovate, collaborate and build a rewarding career.

Are you ready to design, create and manufacture the future?

Discover careers in manufacturing: go.msq.org.au/manufacturingmatters

Learn more about engineering: engineersaustralia.org.au/about-engineering

Explore careers in meat processing: queenslandbeef.com.au



### Property services, real estate and security

Property services is a industry, where you can build a variety of practical skills. The industry includes a wide range of essential services that ensure safe and hygienic living, creating (and operating within) work and recreational environments, and providing private and commercial real estate roles (such as leasing and sales).

Specific areas of expertise within the property services industry include rural and city surveying (measuring, recording, mapping), real estate and property sales and analysis (including technical advisors/consultants, data analysts, agents, auctioneers), waste management (biohazard, chemical and medical waste, recycling, bin collection), pest control, security services, on-site maintenance (e.g. swimming pool maintenance) and cleaning, and are applied across residential, industrial, government and commercial settings.

Jobs such as building design, security, cleaning and property management may be offered across a broad range of environments that exist within these commercial settings (e.g. retail, hospital and health services, food services, mining, tourism and transport) in both urban and suburban locations.

Like any industry, demand within the property services, real estate and security sectors is influenced by a number of factors, such as environmental (flood, fire etc.) and market influences (e.g. interest rates). Jobs currently in demand include security guards, planners, real estate agents and domestic, commercial and industrial cleaners. Opportunities in cleaning may be self-employed or on a contract basis.

Jobs in real estate and cleaning opportunities are typically advertised directly through employers on job search sites.

Visit REIQ careers for more information: reig.com

For information about the careers and opportunities in security, visit the Australian Security Industry Association website: asial.com.au/careers





### Public sector and government

### Australian Defence Force

The Australian Defence Force (ADF) is comprised of the navy, army and air force. The role of the ADF is not only to protect the land, sea, air and people of Australia in times of unrest, but also to provide assistance here and internationally in events of natural disaster and to provide humanitarian and peacekeeping support.

The ADF offers jobs across a broad variety of fields, including trades, professions, and combat, support and technical roles.

In response to international incidents and pandemics, the ADF also has designated resources available to support the repatriation of Australians from overseas, planning and contact tracing teams—providing medical assistance in some regions, supporting mandatory quarantine arrangements, and supporting state and territory police border controls.

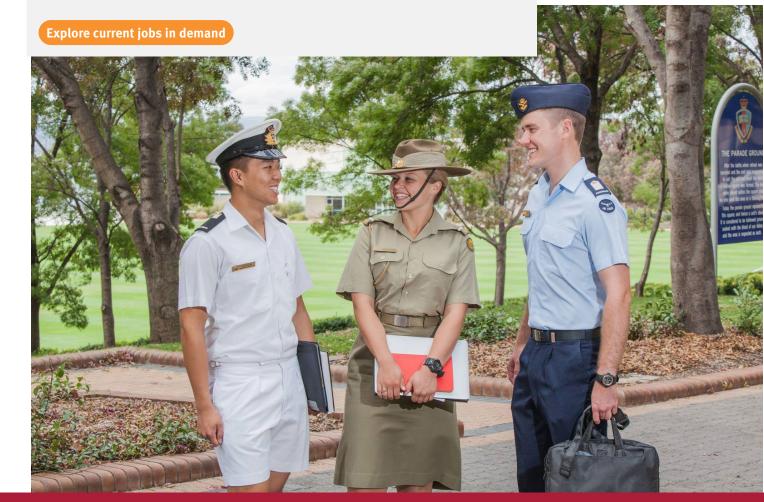
For information on ADF opportunities and careers see: adfcareers.gov.au

Work at the leading edge of technical innovation in the forces, making the most of your interests in science, technology, engineering and maths: <a href="mailto:defence.gov.au/jobs-careers/student-pathways/stem-cadetship">defence.gov.au/jobs-careers/student-pathways/stem-cadetship</a>

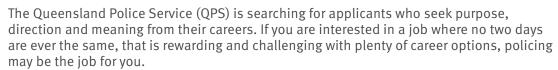
To participate in work experience or start your defence force pathway through the Defence Force cadet program while still at school: <a href="defence.gov.au/jobs-careers/student-pathways">defence.gov.au/jobs-careers/student-pathways</a>

Check out ADF career resources, including a Student's Guide to ADF Career Opportunities: adfcareers.gov.au/help/resources

Find out more about a career in the Australian Public Service at Defence: defence.gov.au/jobs-careers/defence-aps-jobs defence



### **Police**





Working with the QPS promises to be an exciting, rewarding and challenging career, with a variety of specialist areas in the service, from general duties to child protection, dog squad, POLAIR, fraud and cyber crime, forensic crash unit and more. As a member of the QPS, you will stand alongside 1,000 police officers across the state who protect and serve the community.

QPS follows a rigorous recruitment process to select applicants with the right skills, aptitude and attitude. Prospective applicants can start the application process from 17 years of age and, if successful, start at the academy when they are 18 or older.

If you are graduating from high school and considering a career with the QPS, you are encouraged to develop your skills and knowledge to help you prepare for the selection process, your training as a recruit, and your 'on the road' experience as a general duties police officer.

Got what is takes to become a police officer? Take the eligibility quiz to find out: policerecruit.qld.gov.au/get-started

Police staff, protective service officer and police liaison officer vacancies are published on the Smart Jobs website: smartjobs.gov.au

**Explore QPS roles** 



### Government jobs

Public service jobs are found within Australian, Queensland and local governments, and can include jobs across the arts, culture and heritage, wildlife and conservation, justice and law, education and training, health and emergency services.



### **Local government**

Local councils provide services directly to the communities where they are based. Jobs range from administration to trades and include park and recreational facility management and maintenance, community activity coordination, libraries, local swimming pools and civil construction.

Jobs can be found by visiting each local council website directly or through: lgaq.asn.au/browse-council-jobs

### **Queensland Government**

The Queensland public sector is the largest and most diverse organisation in our state. There are more than 250,000 employees providing essential public services across 4000+ locations, from the Torres Strait to the Gold Coast, Mount Isa to Brisbane.

Public services jobs are available in a range of industries including health, education, transport, infrastructure, police and emergency services, environment and science, tourism, and community services.

Working in a Queensland Government job includes access to flexible work arrangements, health and wellbeing programs, competitive salaries and superannuation, study assistance, employment security, and more.

If you are aged 15–24 you can kickstart your career with the Queensland public sector through comprehensive graduate programs, apprenticeships, traineeships, cadetships, scholarships, entry level vacancies, vocational placements/internships and other programs.

For information on Queensland Government departments and agencies, see: qld.gov.au/about/how-government-works/government-structure

Find out more about working in the Queensland Government and explore career opportunities: <a href="mailto:psc.qld.gov.au/behere4qld/index.html">psc.qld.gov.au/behere4qld/index.html</a>

Check out the Graduate portal to see graduate and student opportunities with the Queensland Government: <a href="mailto:qld.gov.au/jobs/graduate-portal">qld.gov.au/jobs/graduate-portal</a>

Jobs can be found by visiting: smartjobs.qld.gov.au

Vacancies may also be advertised on agency websites (e.g. Queensland Health, Queensland Police Service).

#### Australian Government

Australian public sector jobs include Australian Federal Police, Australian Defence Force, national security, immigration, employment services and government policy roles.

For more information on joining the Australian Government visit: apsjobs.gov.au

dewr.gov.au/jobs

For Australian Government departments and agencies visit: directory.gov.au/departments-and-agencies

### Resources and mining

From smartphones to earpods to laptop computers, minerals make electronic devices smaller, faster and more advanced. We need people like you to show the way and make a difference to how we explore, extract and process minerals like copper, gold, silver and zinc. From geologists and physicists to all manner of engineers and environmental specialists, there are hundreds of professional and trades-based careers across Queensland's minerals and energy industry.

Renewable energy generation, such as wind and solar, and the transition to a low carbon world is made possible by mining. Permanent magnets in wind turbines and the photovoltaic cells in solar panels require critical minerals, while battery storage is heavily dependent on lithium, nickel and cobalt. As electricity networks expand to accommodate electrified cities, large quantities of copper and aluminium are all needed.

Opportunities exist on mine sites, in high-tech remote mining centres, in both science and computer laboratories – or any mix of locations. You can make your career managing a team, rehabilitating mine sites, building robotics or piloting drones, engineering machinery, safeguarding native plants and animals, or tackling climate change. Advances in technology – AI, big data, automation and connectivity – are core business for minerals and energy locations today.

Technology makes workplaces safer and healthier and is enabling industry to employ more people in roles ranging from virtual reality to mechatronics. Sites are also using technology to reduce reliance on fuel, generate cleaner energy and minimise water use as part of the industry's commitment to reduce carbon emissions.

Environmental scientists, Indigenous engagement specialists, cultural heritage advisers, hydrogeologists, social performance advisers all work towards improving the management of the land and our valuable natural resources.

The Queensland resources sector is part of a global industry, so the world awaits you and the skills you can offer. What are you waiting for?



Minerals Council of Australia - Make Your Career in Mining Career Guide:

minerals.org.au/career

**Queensland Minerals and Energy Academy:** gmea.org.au/career-pathways

**Oresome Resources:** 

oresomeresources.com/careers



### Retail and personal services

The Queensland retail sector is vibrant and varied. Retail Trade is the second largest employing industry in the state. There are jobs in every region and it's one of the largest employers of young people.

There is a retail speciality suited to everyone's interests, including supermarkets, department stores, pharmacies, homewares, fruit and vegetables, fast food and take away, entertainment, fashion, cars, jewellery, newsagencies, stationery, machinery and equipment, hardware, and pets and pet goods.

Retail is strongly connected to the personal services industry which includes floristry, hairdressing, barbering, laser hair removal, nail technicians, make-up, cosmetics and beauty.

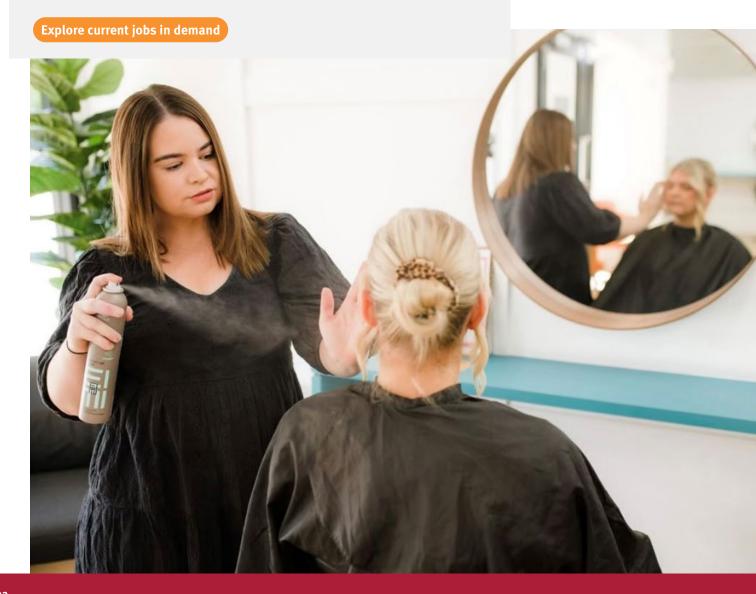
There are strong links to manufacturing, transport, tourism and hospitality industries.

With all components of the supply chain having crucial roles to play in the retail industry, opportunities exist in warehousing and distribution, customer service, import/export, management, information technology, human resources, legal, merchandising, marketing and advertising.

Jobs can be based in major shopping centres and with big retailers, chain stores and franchises through to boutique outlets.

Centres are continuing to expand and there's an increase in online shopping—both of these create different opportunities across the state, with both local and international markets.

To find a job in the retail industry, make enquiries with a retailer you would like to work for. Jobs in this industry are often directly advertised through the retailer and a high percentage of retail jobs are obtained by visiting the store in person.





### Tourism, hospitality, accommodation and events

Tourism refers to the activities of people traveling to and staying in places outside their usual environment for leisure, business or other purposes. It is a significant global industry that includes services such as accommodation, transportation, entertainment and cultural experiences.

Queensland's tourism industry is a major contributor to the state's economy, valued at \$34.7 billion and providing 260,000 jobs, employing more people than agriculture, forestry, fishing or mining.

By 2025-26, employment in the accommodation and food services sector is projected to have the third fastest growth of all industries in Queensland. More than 1 in 10 workers in the Gold Coast region are projected to work in this industry by 2025-26.

Tourism jobs boost economic growth, create employment, support cultural exchange, community development and promote environmental conservation globally.

Queensland's tourism and hospitality industry offers diverse opportunities. Picture working as a chef on an island or guiding tours in rainforests or the Barrier Reef. Careers range from front-of-house roles like waiters, tour guides, travel consultants and front desk staff, to essential back-of-house positions including chefs, kitchen assistants, cellar hands, accountants, social media officers, marketing specialists, HR personnel and IT staff. There are endless possibilities in Queensland's vibrant tourism sector.

### Importance of chefs and cooks to the industry

Chefs are highly trained professionals skilled in all aspects of food preparation and presentation. Many specialise in specific cuisines, open their own restaurants or publish cookbooks. Chefs work in various dining environments including restaurants, cafes, hotels and mobile kitchens that cater to events like festivals, conferences and weddings. Becoming a chef often starts with an apprenticeship in a commercial kitchen. Chefs and cooks are vital in maintaining Queensland's reputation for delivering high-quality food experiences to visitors and locals alike.

### Importance of hospitality staff to the industry

Similar to chefs and cooks, front and back-of-house hospitality staff are essential for providing memorable experiences to guests. These roles include restaurant and hotel managers, waiters, bartenders, baristas and kitchenhands. Working in hospitality offers a fun, flexible, and active environment where staff interact with diverse people to ensure visitors have an enjoyable time while earning an income.

### Importance of tourism staff to the industry

Tourism jobs are crucial to the industry including roles such as travel agents, tour guides, hotel managers, event planners, flight attendants and marketing specialists. These professionals are essential for delivering seamless and enjoyable experiences to travellers.

### Importance of digital and tech jobs to the industry

With consumers expecting the latest user-friendly technology, the tourism and hospitality sector needs to keep up. Digital technology plays a critical role in online bookings, confirmations, marketing, hotel or airport check-ins, ridesharing, online ordering and even virtual reality experiences. As technology continues to evolve, digital and tech skills are increasingly vital to delivering smooth and efficient customer experiences in tourism and hospitality.

Learn more about a career in the tourism industry: tourismcareers.com.au

Find your Queensland tourism and hospitality job: workinparadise.com.au

Learn more about The Gappa here: accommodationaustralia.org/Careers/The-Gappa



### Transport and logistics

The transport industry includes moving goods and people by road, rail, sea and air. Logistics involves all the systems that manage the procurement, storage and distribution of goods from their point of origin to their final destination.

Transport and logistics services are essential to industry, community and the economy. The industry offers a wide range of opportunities for a diverse workforce, with career pathways with entry points directly from school through vocational education, training courses, university pathways or direct employment.

Jobs across the industry include warehouse storeperson, transport and despatch clerk, transport scheduler, freight forwarder, purchasing and logistics clerk, aviation ground operations, forklift operator, drone operator, deckhand, professional driver (all vehicle types), coach captain or tour guide, workplace health and safety officer, mechanic/maintenance technician, customer service officer and so much more.

Professional roles include supply chain/ transport/logistics/operations/project manager, contract administrator, business/data analyst, transport professional, accountant, marketing manager, human resources, cyber security specialist and procurement specialist.

The industry is continuously adopting new technologies, which creates opportunities to work with sophisticated systems and automation.

Some of the roles on offer include after-sales technology support, operation and maintenance of vehicles using new technologies (electric battery and hydrogen powered), robotics engineers, operators and programmers for automated systems, fleet managers, cyber data analysts and drivers to operate modern heavy vehicles which incorporate a range of smart technologies.

People management, team work, customer service, digital literacy, data analytics and communication are highly sought-after skills.

### **About this industry:**

yourcareer.gov.au/industries/i/transport-postal-and-warehousing

#### Rail:

workinrail.net.au

#### Bus:

buscareers.com.au

#### Maritime:

marinejobs.org.au

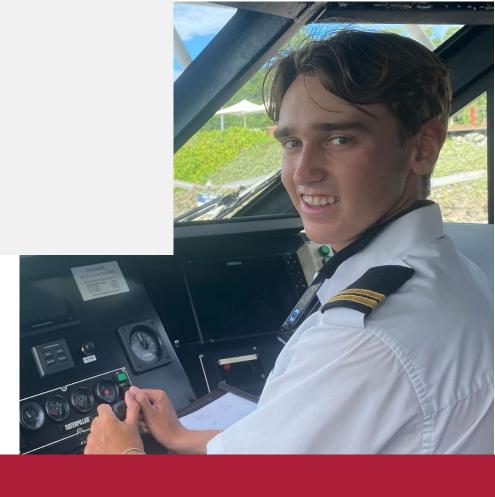
#### Trade, transport and logistics:

mymv.org

### **Aviation:**

airports.asn.au/industry-jobs

aviationjobsearch.com



### ASSISTANCE WITH FINDING A JOB

### **Apprentice Connect Australia Providers**

Provides free support services to apprentices and employers. Services may vary, however, most offer job vacancy lists and recruitment services.

apprenticeships.gov.au

#### **Back to Work**

Back to Work provides an opportunity for jobseekers to upskill and retrain for jobs including career advice, training, support services and access to employer-related requirements. qld.gov.au/backtowork

#### Centrelink

Australian Government agency Centrelink is a good place to start to see if you are eligible for financial assistance while you consider your employment or training options. servicesaustralia.gov.au/centrelink

### **Group training organisations**

Group training organisations (GTOs) employ apprentices and trainees and place them with host employers. apprenticeships.gov.au

#### Job search sites

adzuna.com.au

careerone.com.au

gumtree.com.au/jobs

indeed.com

jora.com

seek.com.au

skillsroad.com.au

smartjobs.gov.au

workforceaustralia.gov.au

### **Transition to Work**

This is an Australian Government service that supports young people aged 15-24 on their journey to enter employment or complete education.

workforceaustralia.gov.au/individuals/coaching/assistance/transition-to-work

#### **Youth Advisory Sessions**

Youth Advisory Sessions are one-hour, one-on-one sessions with a specialist youth consultant. The sessions are tailored to meet your needs. They can cover education, training and career advice on job opportunities in vour local area.

workforceaustralia.gov.au/individuals/training/activities/youth-advisory

### **Youth Employment Program**

An employment support program for young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are finishing high school and looking for work or considering further education.

dsdsatsip.qld.gov.au/our-work/aboriginal-torresstrait-islander-partnerships/business-economicdevelopment youth-employment-program

### GAIN ON THE JOB EXPERIENCE

### **Skilling Queenslanders for Work**

Open to eligible Queenslanders aged 15 and over who are no longer at school, Skilling Queenslanders for Work projects help job seekers gain the skills, qualifications and experience to enter and stay in the workforce.

desbt.qld.gov.au/sqw-jobseekers

### **Volunteering**

Gain valuable on the job experience by volunteering your services at a business you would like to work in or at a not-for-profit organisation.

volunteeringqld.org.au

volunteer.com.au

# MENTAL AND PHYSICAL WELLBEING SUPPORT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

### Your mental wellbeing

Your mental wellbeing is the way you handle your emotions, respond to stress and your general outlook on life. Positive mental wellbeing lifts your mood, promotes resilience in difficult situations and helps you get the most out of life. Taking a few moments for yourself each day will help you be happier and more resilient.

Access simple everyday activities you can practice to maintain positive mental wellbeing: mentalwellbeing.initiatives.qld.gov.au

Learn about the services available to support people with disability who are undertaking training and skills development:

desbt.qld.gov.au/disability

### **Disability Gateway**

Find information and services to help people with disability, plus support for their family, friends and carers: <a href="mailto:disabilitygateway.gov.au">disabilitygateway.gov.au</a>



### PREPARING FOR WORK

Some things you will need:

- Up-to-date resume and cover letter for each job you are applying for
- Tax file number
- Driver's licence (for some jobs)
- Bank account
- Appropriate interview and work clothing
- Birth certificate
- Passport/photo identification

### Job application tips and advice

Workforce Australia providers tips and advice on writing resumes and cover letters, and preparing for interviews. workforceaustralia.gov.au/individuals/ coaching/job-applications

### myfuture

Taking some time to prepare for interviews gives you confidence. The myfuture website provides helpful tips to prepare for interviews and land that job.

myfuture.edu.au/career-articles/details/job-interview-tips





Email: info@desbt.qld.gov.au

desbt.qld.gov.au

Version 5 – October 2024