



2026 VET Delivered to School Students

Course guide

swinburne.edu.au

Swinburne University of Technology

What is VET Delivered to School Students?

Vocational Education and Training delivered to School Students (VDSS) provides them with an opportunity to complete their VCE, VCE VM or VPC while undertaking nationally recognised vocational training at Swinburne.

Students who gain credit into their VCE, VCE VM or VPC and units from a VET qualification, increasing their employability skills and opening pathways to further education at TAFE or University.



Contribution to the VCE, VCE VM and VPC

Students can gain credit into their VCE, VCE VM or VPC with the successful completion of the units from VCAA approved VCE VET programs or other VET qualifications.

VCE VET programs

VCE VET programs are vocational training programs approved by VCAA to contribute to the VCE, VCE VM and VPC.

All VCE VET programs contribute to the VCE in the same way as a VCE study. VET programs contribute to the VCE VM and VPC through meeting the requirements of the Industry Specific Skills or Work-Related Skills strands.

Other VET qualifications

Students who undertake VET qualifications that are not approved VCE VET programs may be eligible for credit towards their VCE through block credit recognition. VCE VM and VPC credit is based on the same principle.

ATAR contribution

Some VCE VET programs offer scored assessment. Scored VCE VET programs provide a study score for the Units 3 and 4 sequence that is achieved through school-assessed coursework and an externally set exam. The study score contributes directly to the ATAR as one of the best four studies or as a fifth or sixth study increment.

For VCE VET programs that do not offer scored assessment, students who receive a Units 3 and 4 sequence, may be eligible for an increment towards their ATAR. Increments for unscored VCE VET programs are calculated using 10% of the lowest study score of the primary four scaled studies.

VCE students who receive a Units 3 and 4 sequence through block credit recognition may be awarded a 10% increment towards their ATAR.

Please contact the school VET or careers coordinator for further information on contribution to the VCE, VCE VM or VPC.

Structured workplace learning

Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) is an opportunity for students to get on-the-job experience to practice the skills and knowledge of their qualification in an industry setting. In some VET programs, SWL is compulsory. For others it is highly recommended.

Students who undertake SWL in a workplace related to their VCE VET program can earn additional credit towards their VCE, VCE VM or VPC by completing the workplace learning record. Further information is **available here**.

Note: The organisation and management of an SWL placement is the responsibility of the secondary school.

Entry requirements

Students will require counselling and recommendation for a course from their school's VET or careers coordinator. It is important that students indicate they have a genuine interest in their preferred vocational area. In addition, students must be enrolled in Year 10, 11 or 12.

Certificate II courses provide a foundation introduction to a specific field. Certificate III courses are much heavier in content and require, strong foundation learning skills. Please consider if you are the right fit for a certificate III course.

Students will need to complete aptitude testing for several VDSS courses at Swinburne.

How to apply

Students looking to participate in a VDSS program at Swinburne should complete the normal course selection process with their school. Upon completion of the course selection, the school will forward an application to Swinburne. All program referrals must be endorsed by the school.

Note: If demand is greater than the number of positions available unsuccessful applicants will be placed on a waiting list. A program may be cancelled where insufficient applications are received.

Check the Key Dates section for application deadlines.

Enrolment

Successful applicants will be notified of their acceptance and the process for orientation and enrolment.

While enrolled in a VDSS course, students include vocational studies within their school VCE, VCE VM or VPC program. Students attend Swinburne one day a week for training while continuing at school.

Students will require access to working laptop with internet connection and phone or iPad to enable access to Swinburne online system throughout their studies.

Course costs

All fees for Swinburne VDSS programs are invoiced directly to schools. Each school determines the amount they will pass onto students. Most government schools ask students to pay the materials charges for VET programs. Catholic, Private and Independent schools can determine their own fee structure.

Program withdrawals

Student withdrawals can only be accepted as directed by the secondary school. Please ensure the school notifies Swinburne of any student intending to withdraw. Withdrawals after the four-week census period incur full fees.

Students living with a disability

Home schools should pass on all information relevant to a student's individual learning needs before the commencement of the VDSS program. Swinburne trade teachers are then able to provide fair and equitable adjustments where applicable.

Under the current government funding model, secondary students who have access to disability support or assistance at their home school are expected to attend their VDSS program with the same designated aide or support worker.

Applications

First round applications open
Monday 18 August 2025

First round applications close
Friday 12 September 2025

Schools notified
Monday 6 October 2025

Late applications open
Monday 13 October 2025

Late applications close
Friday 7 November 2025

Orientation and enrolment

Wednesday 26 November 2025

Courses commence

Wednesday 4 February 2026

*Year 1 Certificate II in Electrotechnology commencing Wednesday 28 January 2026



Our courses



CERTIFICATE III IN ALLIED HEALTH ASSISTANCE

- **HLT33021**
- Part time [2 years]
- Partial completion
- Year 1 and 2 Wantirna campus
Wednesday 1.00pm–4.00pm

This program provides students with the knowledge and skills to enhance their employment prospects in the health industry and covers workers who provide assistance to allied health professionals and other health professionals with the care of clients.

Learn More



CERTIFICATE II IN BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION PRE-APPRENTICESHIP – BRICKLAYING

- **22614VIC**
- Part time [2 years]
- Year 1 and 2 Wantirna campus
Wednesday 8.00am–4.00pm

This program is a first step to gaining an apprenticeship in the building industry as a bricklayer. The course involves both theory and practical training relating to building and construction with an emphasis on bricklaying. It aims to equip students with the knowledge and practical skills to work safely within the industry.

Learn More



CERTIFICATE II IN BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION PRE- APPRENTICESHIP – CARPENTRY

- **22614VIC**
- Part time [2 years]
- Year 1 and 2 Wantirna campus
Wednesday OR Friday 8.00am–4.00pm OR Wednesday OR Friday 1.00pm–6.00pm (plus a one-week block in July School Holidays for year 1 and September for year 2)

This program is a first step to gaining an apprenticeship in the building industry as a carpenter. The course involves both theory and practical training relating to building and construction with an emphasis on carpentry. It aims to equip students with the knowledge and practical skills to work safely

Learn More

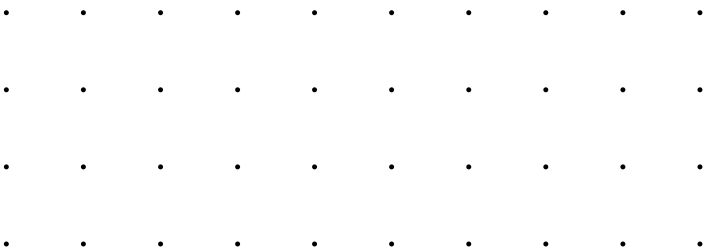


NEW BUSINESS PROGRAM COMING IN 2026

- Part time [2 years]
- Year 1 and 2 Wantirna and Hawthorn campus
Wednesday 12.30pm–4:30pm

The Business program aims to develop practical skills needed in the workplace and is based around real projects that students will run themselves. Students will explore how to use AI effectively in the workplace which is the forefront of technological innovation with the aim to be interactive and a bridge to future study.

Learn More



Our courses



CERTIFICATE II IN COMMUNITY SERVICES

- **CHC22015**
- Part time (1 year)
- Wantirna campus
**Wednesday 1.00pm–4.30pm
OR 8.30am–12.00pm
[subject to demand]**

This program may be used as a pathway for workforce entry as community services workers who provide a first point of contact and assist individuals in meeting their immediate needs. At this level, work takes place under direct, regular supervision within clearly defined guidelines.



Learn More



CERTIFICATE II IN CREATIVE INDUSTRIES – SCREEN AND MEDIA

- **CUA20220**
- Part time (1 year)
- Year 1 Wantirna campus
Wednesday 9.00am–3.00pm

This program has been designed with a screen and media focus and allows students to develop skills and knowledge in media design, production, and promotion. During the course, students will develop their storytelling, planning, and communication skills to create a dynamic media product in a collaborative setting.



Learn More



CERTIFICATE III IN DESIGN FUNDAMENTALS

- **CUA30720**
- Part time (2 year)
- Year 1 Wantirna campus
Wednesday 9.30am–3.30pm
- Year 2 Wantirna campus
Wednesday 8.30am–12.30pm

This program provides students with basic skills in design, media and art. Core studies include drawing, colour theory, digital image creation and editing. Students use the latest Adobe Creative Cloud applications, including Photoshop and Illustrator.



Learn More



NEW IN 2026 CERTIFICATE III IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CARE

- **CHC30121**
- Part time (2 years)
- Partial completion
- Year 1 and 2 Wantirna campus
Wednesday 12.30pm–4:30pm

This program allows students to develop the skills and knowledge to begin working in the early childhood and education profession. It is also a pathway into teaching. At the conclusion of the program students will be given the option to complete the remaining the remaining Certificate III units with Swinburne, with potential to earn and learn through traineeship options to complete the remaining units.



Learn More

Our courses



CERTIFICATE II IN ELECTROTECHNOLOGY [CAREER START]

- **UEE22020**
- Part time [2 years]
- Year 1 Wantirna campus
Wednesday 12.30pm-5.30pm
OR Friday 12.30pm-5.30pm
- Year 2 Wantirna and Croydon campus
Wednesday 12.30pm-5.30pm

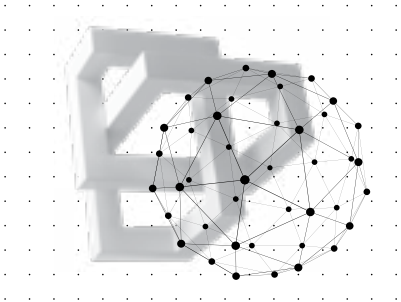
This program aims to equip students with the knowledge and skills that will enhance their employment prospects in the electrical or related industries. Successful completion of the course may assist in gaining an apprenticeship to commence the Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician.



CERTIFICATE II IN ENGINEERING STUDIES

- **22632VIC**
- Part time [2 years]
- Year 1 Wantirna campus
Wednesday 12.30pm-5.30pm
- Year 2 Wantirna campus
Wednesday 12.30pm-5.30pm

This program provides students with the practical skills and theoretical knowledge for employment as an apprentice in various engineering trades or as a pathway to higher education programs post-secondary school. Students will be required to plan projects, produce engineering sketches and drawings, and fabricate metal components and products.



CERTIFICATE III IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY - CYBER SECURITY

- **ICT30120**
- Part time [2 years]
- Year 1 and 2 Hawthorn campus
Wednesday 12:30pm-5:00pm

This program has a cyber security focus and has been designed for students with a strong interest in pursuing a career in cyber security and networking. The course will provide the skills and knowledge needed for a broad range of tasks related to information technologies industries who focus on cyber security. Note: Mid-year intakes are not offered for this program.



CERTIFICATE III IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY - GAMES

- **ICT30120**
- Part time [2 years]
- Partial completion
- Year 1 and 2 Wantirna campus
Wednesday 1.30pm-5:00pm

This program has been designed with a game art and animation focus. Students will develop and gain basic industry game skills in digital imaging and visual design, 3D modelling and texture mapping, 3D animation. Students will also learn the fundamental skills of using the Unreal game engine to make and incorporate assets into a 3D environment and create an interactive game.



CERTIFICATE II IN PLUMBING [PRE-APPRENTICESHIP]

- **22569VIC**
- Part time [2 years]
- Year 1 Croydon campus
Wednesday OR Friday 8:30am-3:00pm OR Wednesday 12:30pm-5:30pm
(Term 4 only, 4 weeks)
- Year 1 - Wantirna campus
Wednesday 8:30am-3:00pm
- Year 2 Croydon Campus only
Wednesday 8:00am-12:00pm
OR Wednesday 1:00pm-5:00pm

This program is hands-on involving both theory and practical skills. It aims to provide students with an insight into working within a licensed trade area and the associated responsibilities. It equips students with the skills and knowledge an employer looks for when hiring an apprentice. Students will gain hands-on experience with plumbing equipment and learn about the practices and expectations of the plumbing industry. Note: this program is due to expire on 30 December 2025. It is anticipated that a replacement course will be available for 2026.



Life at Swinburne

One of the best things about uni is how different it is to high school – no matter what course you choose to study. Some of the main differences include:

- Class timetable: More flexibility to balance study, work and social life.
- Teaching style: Hands-on, practical learning.
- Student life: Enjoy independence with social events, clubs and volunteering opportunities.
- Study abroad: Travel and explore new cultures while earning credit overseas.



What can I study at Swinburne?

At Swinburne, our hands-on courses let you study the things you're truly passionate, connect you to your chosen industry, and give your career a head start.

Study Areas

- Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
- Aviation
- Built Environment and Architecture
- Business
- Design
- Education
- Engineering
- Film and Television
- Games and Animation
- Health
- Information Technology
- Law and Criminology
- Media and Communication
- Nursing
- Psychology
- Science
- Trades and Apprenticeships



Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority

Vocational education training (VET) is specific industry learning.

The skills you learn in VET can be applied in the workplace or as you keep studying towards a trade or TAFE or university qualification.

Vocational Education and Training (VET) in the VCE and the VCE Vocational Major (VM) allows students to include VET within their senior secondary certificate.

Students can undertake nationally recognised training that contributes to their VCE and their VCE VM.

Students are also able to include VET within the Victorian Pathways Certificate (VPC).



Vocational Education and Training Delivered to Secondary Students

Vocational Education and Training Delivered to Secondary Students (VDSS) gives Year 10, 11 and 12 students the opportunity to undertake nationally recognised training that contributes to the VCE or VCE Vocational Major (VM).

Training offered:

- Health
- Community Services
- Business
- Engineering
- Design
- Games
- Cyber Security
- Screen and Media
- Electrotechnology
- Plumbing
- Bricklaying
- Carpentry
- Careers and employability



Centre for Higher Education Studies (CHES) and Higher Education Studies (HES)

Through the Centre for Higher Education Studies (CHES), students from schools can complete two Space Industry university subjects alongside their VCE studies. For information about our university subjects, contact our team by emailing HES@swin.edu.au



Talk the talk

As you transition between high school and university, you're going to encounter a range of new terminology. Here's some to get you started:

| Term | Definition | Example |
|---|---|--|
| Degree | Often the first experience at university for people leaving school, a bachelor degree provides you with the theory and knowledge to begin a professional career. These degrees usually take between three and five years to finish. | Bachelor of Design |
| Diploma | Diplomas are qualifications that range between six weeks and two years. They are designed to give you the practical skills and technical expertise to enter the workforce, or prepare you for further study in a specific area. | Diploma of Graphic Design |
| Certificate | Certificate I, II, III and IV provide industry-based skills, knowledge and hands on learning for pathways into vocational employment or further study in a Diploma or Advanced Diploma. | Certificate IV in Design |
| Vocational Education and Training Delivered to Secondary Students | Vocational Education and Training Delivered to Secondary Students (VDSS) gives Year 10, 11 and 12 students the opportunity to undertake nationally recognised training that contributes to the VCE or VCE Vocational Major (VM). | Certificate III in Design Fundamentals |
| ATAR | Your ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank) is not a score out of 100, but a rank that shows your position compared to other students. Your ATAR doesn't always tell the whole story, so we can assess students in many ways. Depending on the course, we may ask you for auditions, portfolios, personal statements, aptitude and skills tests, and/or interviews. | I am hoping to get an ATAR of 65 to get into my dream course at Swinburne |
| Entry Requirements | A mandatory minimum requirement to gain entry into your chosen course. | Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 25 in English other than EAL or at least 30 in English (EAL); and Units 3 |
| VTAC | The Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) is the main body for applying to tertiary institutions in Victoria. Most Year 12 students apply for university via a VTAC application, though some non-Year 12 applications use VTAC as well. | I submitted my course preferences through VTAC. |
| Early Entry program | Your ATAR-free pathway into uni. When you apply for a course in our Early Entry Program, your application is assessed using a recommendation from your school instead of your ATAR. | I secured an offer from Swinburne before my Year 12 exams through the Early Entry Program. |

Connect with Swinburne

A Day in the Life of a Swinburne Student

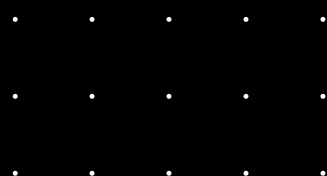
April and September School Holidays

A Day in the Life of a Swinburne Student
April and September School Holidays 2025
Want to know what uni is really like? Walk
a day in a Swinburne student's shoes and
find out for yourself! You'll chat with current
Swinburne students and academics, explore
the Hawthorn campus, and work with other
students in hands-on workshops. There's no
better way to explore different study areas
and feel prepared for uni life.



Year 11 & 12 Hub

Whether you're about to choose your Year 10 or 11 subjects, or
you're still not sure what your next steps should be, visit our
online hub and discover what study at Swinburne could look
like for you – and what you can do now to get started.



Campus Tours

Explore our leafy Hawthorn campus with guided tours by a current Swinburne student.

Campuses

| | |
|----------|----------------------------|
| Hawthorn | John Street, Hawthorn |
| Croydon | 12–50 Norton Road, Croydon |
| Wantirna | 369 Stud Road, Wantirna |
| Sarawak | Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia |

Further information

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| 📞 | 1300 794 628 |
| ✉️ | vetdss@swin.edu.au |
| 🌐 | swinburne.edu.au/9and10hub |

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