

Australian School-based Apprenticeships

Frequently Asked Questions

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Australian School-based Apprenticeships are a great career option, allowing young Australians to commence training for a vocational qualification and earn a wage while completing their secondary certificate.

What is an Australian School-based Apprenticeship?

An Australian School-based Apprenticeship (ASbA) is an Australian Apprenticeship undertaken part-time while you are still at school. An ASbA provides you with hands-on industry experience and the ability to work towards or complete a nationally recognised qualification while undertaking your secondary school certificate.

What does an Australian School-based Apprenticeship involve?

An ASbA combines secondary school subjects, paid work and on and off the job vocational training. You can undertake training in a traditional trade or other occupation at Certificate or Diploma level. ASbA Apprentices will need to negotiate time-release from their school subjects to attend work and training. The number of hours an ASbA Apprentice needs to be employed per week differs between States and Territories.

How long does an Australian School-based Apprenticeship take?

An ASbA can take from one to four years to complete. Depending on your qualification, you may be able to complete your training when you finish your schooling, or you may need to finish after you graduate from school. You may be granted credit for any skills you already have and any prior experience in the workplace, potentially reducing your training time

How are Australian School-based Apprentices paid?

Australian Apprentices are employed under a federal or state award or agreement. You will be paid a wage which varies depending on several factors including your year of training, the type of Australian Apprenticeship you are doing and the industry or occupation. You have the same rights to superannuation, workers' compensation and other entitlements or requirements as all other workers in Australia. Awards and conditions are set independently of the Australian Government by the Fair Work Commission.

How do I find an Australian School-based Apprenticeship?

If you are still at school discuss ASbAs with your career advisors, teacher, or Apprentice Connect Australia Providers. Investigate your training and career options at:

- www.yourcareer.gov.au
- www.myfuture.edu.au
- www.naen.com.au

Find your local Apprentice Connect Australia Providers who will provide advice and assistance to help you.

Alternatively, you can find an employer willing to take you on as an Australian Apprentice by:

- looking in the job vacancy ads in your local paper or on the web

- contacting a Workforce Australia Employment Service Provider in your region
- contacting employers in the industries you'd like to work in; and
- contacting a Group Training Organisation

Once you've found an apprenticeship, ask the employer to call their local Apprentice Connect Australia Providers.

The Apprentice Connect Australia Providers will work with you and your future employer to identify the training and support you may need throughout your apprenticeship, help you to sign-up to the training contract, and assess your eligibility for an Australian Government incentive or Australian Apprenticeship Support Loan

Can I, or my employer, receive any financial support during my Australian School-based Apprenticeship?

You may be eligible for an Australian Apprenticeships Support Loan. You may be eligible to receive incentive payments under the Australian Apprenticeship Incentive System, including New Energy Apprentice Support Payment or the Australian Apprentice Training Support Program. To find out more about incentives or loans contact your local Apprentice Connect Australia Provider.

Where can I find out more?

For more information about Australia School-based Apprenticeships please visit www.apprenticeships.gov.au

For general employment information

To find a Workforce Australia Employment Service Provider visit www.workforceaustralia.gov.au.

To find a Group Training Organisation visit www.apprenticeships.gov.au or www.naen.com.au.

To find an Apprentice Connect Australia Provider visit www.apprenticeships.gov.au.

For wages information visit the Fair Work Ombudsman website www.fairwork.gov.au.

For Superannuation information visit www.ato.gov.au.

For information on Youth Allowance, Austudy or ABSTUDY visit www.servicesaustralia.gov.au.