



I am not sure whether I want to leave school. What are my options?

VICTORIAN CERTIFICATE OF APPLIED LEARNING

www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/vcal/index.html

VCAL is an alternative Year 11 and 12 option, preparing students for future training options such as TAFE, apprenticeships and/or employment. VCAL is offered through many schools and TAFE colleges. Students undertake 1000 hours of learning, which could be made up through participating in classroom learning, Structured Workplace Learning or School-based New Apprenticeships.

VET IN SCHOOLS AND STRUCTURED WORKPLACE LEARNING

www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/vet/general.html

As part of their VCE studies, Year 11 and 12 students can elect to study VET and to undertake a Certificate I in a number of areas. As part of studying a VET subject, students may participate in Structured Workplace Learning, producing opportunities for structured work experience in their area of VET study. Students are advised to speak with the careers staff at their school about this option.

Structured Workplace Learning is provided through networks called Local Community Partnerships, networks bringing together schools, business, industry, employers, local community members and parents. For more information about SWL and Local Community Partnerships check out www.dest.gov.au

SCHOOL BASED NEW APPRENTICESHIPS (SBNA)

www.newapprenticeships.gov.au/

School-based New Apprenticeships provide Year 11 and 12 students to undertake an apprenticeship whilst still studying at school. Students remain full-time students and participate in their apprenticeship part-time. Students must be in Year 11 and 12, and be 15 years or older. It is advised that students should speak with the careers staff at their school or contact their local New Apprenticeships Centre.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SCHEME (YES)

www.employment.vic.gov.au/

The Youth Employment Scheme provides traineeships and apprenticeships in the Victorian Public Service for unemployed young people aged 15 to 24 years of age. Young people can participate in this program whilst still studying at school through a School-based New Apprenticeship. To look for vacancies in this program check out the Victorian Government Youth Jobs Database. <http://yes.employment.vic.gov.au/>

JOBS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

www.employment.vic.gov.au/

The Jobs for Young People program provides unemployed young people aged 15 to 24 years of age with the opportunity to undertake traineeships and apprenticeships within local government. Young people can participate in this program whilst still studying at school through a School-based New Apprenticeship. To look for vacancies in this program check out the Victorian Government Youth Jobs Database <http://yes.employment.vic.gov.au/>

PARTNERSHIP OUTREACH EDUCATION MODEL (POEM)

www.dest.gov.au/

POEMs are full time education and personal development programs targeting young people aged 13 – 19 who are disconnected from mainstream schooling. In certain circumstances, POEM might also provide assistance to young people who are at-risk of dropping out of school. Aspects of the program include life skills, accredited education and employability skills training. Upon exiting from the program young people are linked into further education and training pathways. Check out the website for local programs based on this model.

VICTORIAN TAFE COLLEGES

<http://www.tafe.vic.gov.au/>

TAFE provides courses in pre-employment, English Language, VCAL and the Victorian Certificate in Education. TAFE also provides a wide range of Vocational courses and alternative education pathways that may assist young people who are not currently within a school to complete post-compulsory education.

MANAGED INDIVIDUAL PATHWAY SCHEME AND CAREERS TEACHERS

www.sofweb.vic.gov.au/voecd/MIPS

Every school in Victoria has a MIPS Co-ordinator (who may also be your Careers Teacher) and every student in Victorian Government Secondary Schools is eligible to have a MIPS pathway. MIPS provides the opportunity for students to work out their own individualised education, training and employment pathway mapped out with careers staff at their school.

LLENs

www.llen.vic.gov.au

Local Learning and Employment Networks bring together education providers, schools, industry, community organisations and government to improve education, training and employment outcomes for young people in Victoria. LLENs are based in local communities across Victoria. Through its extensive networks, your LLEN can assist you find education, training and employment pathways and the providers of various programs in your region. Find your LLEN on the website.

SCHOOL FOCUSED YOUTH SERVICE

www.sfys.infoxchange.net.au/

SFYS is a partnership between the Department of Education and Training and the Department of Human Services. SFYS focus on early prevention and intervention programs and links closely with schools and communities to develop programs addressing gaps in service provision. There are regions across the state and each region has a co-ordinator who may also be able to link you in with education and training opportunities.

Options to stay connected with school or to reconnect with school or other education pathways

- Alternative Education provision;
- VET in schools;
- Structured Workplace Learning;
- School-based New Apprenticeships;
- Connectus;
- VCAL;
- TAFE;
- POEM;
- Youth Pathways Program;
- Jobs for Young People;
- Youth Employment Scheme
- The Island.

YOUTH PATHWAYS PROGRAM (FORMERLY JOB PATHWAYS PROGRAM)

<http://jpp.dest.gov.au>

The Youth Pathways Program assists young people aged between 13 and 19 years to engage with school or to assist them to move on. The focus of the program is on school retention and education and training pathways for young people unable to continue their schooling. Young people can be either in school or have left school in the last twelve months. Young people can use their involvement with this program as part of their mutual obligation requirements if receiving Centrelink payments. Note that young people cannot access both YPP and JPET at the same time.

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROVISION

Contact the Department of Education and Training Regional Office or the Department of Education Student Well Being Unit <http://www.det.vic.gov.au/det/contacts.htm#H2N40004E>

Each Department of Education and Training Region will have some alternative education provision. These include Learning Support Units and programs that are one school term in length whereby a young person can attend the program and gain individual support for their learning needs. These are often a good opportunity for a young person to undertake some different educational experiences to support their educational pathway. These programs are usually full time and may incorporate a range of experiential learning components.

One example is The Island, a school in Collingwood that runs training and workshops in a variety of trades along with VCAL. Check out www.theisland.vic.gov.au

CONNECTUS

www.connectus.com.au/

Connectus, funded through the Premier's Drug Prevention Council, provides employment, education and training opportunities for young people aged 16-20 years who have disconnected or are at risk of disconnecting from schooling. Young people participating in the program complete a Certificate I in Work Education and are then placed in apprenticeships and traineeships. They are supported during the 12-months through a mentoring program. Young people can self-refer or can be referred from other programs and organisations such as local government, Centrelink, community organisations, JPET, schools, etc.

*I have special circumstances.
Are there programs that can assist me?*

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION TRAINING INITIATIVE (YEETI)

The Youth Employment and Education Training Initiative for Homeless Young People provides brokerage funding for young people who are housed in a SAAP service. The funding has broad guidelines and can be used for resources that are required to link a young person to education, training and/or employment. Melbourne Citymission western region auspice this state-wide service.

DISABILITY

Contact the Department of Education and Training Regional Office or the Department of Education Student Well Being Unit

<http://www.det.vic.gov.au>

The Department of Education and Training Disability Services can be contacted through the Student Well-being branch of the Department. See www.sofweb.vic.edu.au Each Department of Education and Training also has a Disability Co-ordinator. See above for contact details of each region.

ADULT, COMMUNITY AND FURTHER EDUCATION (ACFE)

www.acfe.vic.gov.au

Adult, Community and Further Education provides a variety of education and training opportunities in a number of settings. These settings include Adult and Community Education Centres, Neighbourhood Houses, Community Centres, Adult Education Institutions (for example the Centre for Adult Education and Adult Multicultural Education Services) and TAFE. Private registered training organisations also provide other education and training opportunities. The learning opportunities provided by these organisations can include personal development, numeracy and literacy, VCE and VCAL and employment skills.

