

# Overview

**Community VCAL** is presented by Peninsula Training & Employment Program Inc (PTEP) in partnership with Secondary Colleges, the Frankston Mornington Peninsula Local Learning and Employment Network and the local community.

**Community VCAL** is a full-time, up to two year, course of learning and practical experiences for 16 to 19 year olds, delivered in an adult environment.

Like the VCE, the VCAL is a recognised senior qualification. Unlike the VCE, which is widely used by students as a pathway to university, the VCAL focuses on 'hands on learning'. Students who do the VCAL are more likely to be interested in going on to further training, doing an apprenticeship, or getting a job.

The VCAL's flexibility enables students to design a study program that suits their interests and learning needs. Students may select accredited VCE and Vocational Education and Training (VET) modules within the following four compulsory strands:

- Literacy and Numeracy Skills
- Work Related Skills (work experience)
- Industry Specific Skills (VET course)
- Personal Development Skills

Students who start their VCAL and then decide they would like to complete their VCE, are able to transfer between certificates. Any VCE studies successfully completed as part of the VCAL program will count towards the VCE.

A certificate and statement of results will be issued to students who successfully complete their VCAL.

Other resources can be found at [www.ptep.com.au](http://www.ptep.com.au)



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Registered Training Organisation - 4016



## Peninsula Training and Employment Program

# Community VCAL

Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning

## Can I get into higher education if I successfully complete the VCAL?

If you are considering going to university straight from school, VCAL is probably not the best option for you. Students planning to go straight into higher education usually do the VCE which allows them to gain an Equivalent National Tertiary Entrance Rank (ENTER) from the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC). If you are studying the VCAL at Senior level and decide that you might be interested in going on to university, check with your teacher or careers counsellor because some universities will consider students with a VCAL Senior certificate for admission. However, entry straight from school is not the only route into university. Some people study a vocational education and training course at TAFE, perhaps leading to a Diploma or Advanced Diploma, and then decide that they would benefit from a university course. VCAL would be a good start along this pathway.

## What are my options once I have completed the VCAL?

The VCAL will give you practical work-related experience and a qualification that will be recognised by TAFE institutes and employers. Together these will help you move from school into work, an apprenticeship or traineeship and/or further training at TAFE. Alternatively, if you start studying for your VCAL at Foundation level in Year 11 and successfully complete it, you may consider going on to complete either the Intermediate or Senior level of VCAL in Year 12. Or you might reconsider your options and decide university is the right choice for you after all, and transfer to the VCE.

## Will the VCAL get me ready to enter a trade?

If you have completed VET units/modules as part of your VCAL you have earned credit towards a VET certificate and will have knowledge of areas such as occupational health & safety. This prior learning will be recognised and count toward your apprenticeship or traineeship.

## I have already done a VCE subject. Will this count towards my VCAL?

Yes, if you have an 'S' result for the satisfactory completion of a VCE unit it will count towards your VCAL. You should speak with your teacher or careers counsellor to plan the remainder of your VCAL program.

## Can I swap to the VCE if I change my mind?

Yes. If you change your mind and want to swap to the VCE, or if you want to pursue the VCE after completing the VCAL, any VCE units successfully completed as part of your VCAL will count towards your VCE. You might also be able to transfer credit for other units and modules completed as part of your VCAL. You should discuss this with your teacher or careers counsellor if you decide to take this option.

## Can I work part-time and/or continue an Apprenticeship while enrolled in the VCAL?

Yes, you can gain recognition and credit for part-time work while enrolled in the VCAL. This work can include:

- school based new apprenticeships
- part-time work
- structured workplace learning placements

## About PTEP

Established in 1979, PTEP is a community-based, non-profit organisation assisting all community members.

It provides training, employment and support services to job seekers, workers and employers.

### Services Include:

- Adult and Community Education (ACE)
- Vocational/Industry Specific Training
- Work Experience Placements
- Job Search Support
- Employer Support
- Website Development & Support
- Community VCAL
- VET in schools

PTEP provides VCAL at 3 locations:

- Mornington (central VCAL site)
- Rosebud
- Hastings

In partnership with local schools, it delivers a program of learning for students to gain a Year 11 and 12 qualification.

It is an ideal program for providing a pathway to traineeships, apprenticeships, employment or further study.