

To support Year 12 graduates to successfully transition to employment, the Queensland Government offers free tafe in high priority qualifications.

Free tafe is available through a range of apprenticeships and traineeships, as well as other vocational education and training (VET) certificate courses.

Why do it?

Free tafe gives Year 12 graduates a career kick-start without the financial burden of student contribution fees.

While completing a qualification, students gain experience in the workplace learning the skills employers need — giving them a competitive edge in the job market.

Who is eligible?

To be eligible for free tafe, graduates must:

- hold a senior statement issued by the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority or equivalent certification
- enrol and start an apprenticeship, traineeship or training with an approved training provider in a high priority qualification by 31 December the year after graduating (e.g. 2018 graduates have up until 31 December 2019)
- permanently reside in Queensland.

What courses are available?

VET courses cover a range of industry areas — from engineering and automotive, to horticulture, hospitality and community services.

Free tafe, however, only applies to the apprenticeships, traineeships and qualifications up to certificate III level identified as high priority.

High priority qualifications develop the skills most needed by employers and the Queensland economy, and are based on skills demand, advice from industry and whether the qualification will lead to employment.

View the list of current high priority qualifications at training.qld.gov.au/freetafe

What is free?

The Queensland Government will cover the full cost of tafe in a high priority qualification delivered under this initiative. This means eligible Year 12 graduates will not pay any student contribution fees for their qualification.

Graduates may incur related costs, such as uniform and resource costs for apprentices and trainees.

Important information

Free tafe for Year 12 graduates is available through two Queensland Government programs — the Certificate 3 Guarantee and User Choice.

Consider your options carefully before committing to a course as this may exhaust entitlement to further Queensland Government subsidised training.

For more on other subsidised training options, visit training.qld.gov.au/fundedtraining



Steps to access free tafe

Step 1

Think about your options

Think about what you want to study — what you're good at, what you care about and what you enjoy.

Ask people about careers that interest you.

Step 2

Find a qualification

Find a qualification that meets your career aspirations and needs.

You can view a full list of qualifications at training.qld.gov.au/freetafe

If you need help, call us on 1300 369 935 and we'll step you through the match-making process and options.

If your qualification is delivered via an apprenticeship or traineeship, you also need to find an employer. It could be a business or a group training organisation that places you with businesses. See what's involved at apprenticeships info.qld.gov.au/apprentices

Step 3

Choose where to study

Like your study choice, choosing the right training provider requires research.

On the Queensland Skills Gateway (http://www.skillsgateway.training.qld.gov.au/), enter your chosen qualification name in the Keyword field

When you are presented with a list of results, click on the 'View Providers' icon.

You can then contact these providers directly for more information, including course details and how to enrol.

Eligibility rules

This initiative provides young Queenslanders with an incentive to complete Year 12 and engage in tafe as soon as possible after finishing school. However, it is important to understand the rules around eligibility.

If you start tafe in a high priority qualification, but change your mind and decide to undertake a different high priority qualification, you will still be eligible for free tafe – but only if you re-enrol within the 12-month calendar year following Year 12.

If you start an apprenticeship or traineeship in a high priority qualification, eligibility rules apply if there are changes to your training contract within or after the 12-month calendar year after Year 12.

Rules also relate to changing employers and supervising registered training organisations, and converting a school-based apprenticeship to free tafe for Year 12 graduates.

Read the full list of rules at training.qld.gov.au/freetafe



More information

Visit training.qld.gov.au/freetafe
Call 1300 369 935
Email training@det.qld.gov.au