

PRE-APPRENTICESHIPS

Pre-apprenticeship is an entry-level training course. They can provide a pathway into the industry of your choice. Pre-apprenticeships are most common in traditional trade industries, such as Electrical, Plumbing and Automotive.

The term pre-traineeship may be used for non-trade industries, such as Hospitality, and Animal Care and Management.

Pre-apprenticeships can help you improve your literacy and numeracy skills. They might also help with essential work skills. Some employers prefer taking on apprentices and trainees who have completed a pre-apprenticeship.

Pre-apprenticeships vary across states and territories, and industries. Some may involve a work experience component, to help you get hands-on experience. You might also get credit when you start an apprenticeship or traineeship.

Pre-apprenticeships are the perfect gateway into your dream career.

- Gain on-the-job and industry skills
.....
- Preferred by some employers in traditional trades
.....
- Suitable for career changers

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Benefits of a pre-apprenticeship

Pre-apprenticeships can give you a taste of an industry you want to work in. They can help you decide if this industry is the right one for you, and prove to employers that you know what their industry is about.

Employers in some industries prefer hiring apprentices who have done their pre-apprenticeship. You should research your chosen industry to see if pre-apprenticeships are expected.

Pre-apprenticeships that include work experience will help you build your on-the-job skills. These skills will make it easier for you to find work, even if it isn't in this industry. The course and work experience will also help you with industry-specific skills.

The provider you are doing a pre-apprenticeship with may be able to help you find an employer. The training provider might have employers ready to hire pre-apprentices as they finish.

You may receive credit for the study completed, which could shorten the time it takes to complete a full apprenticeship.

Do I have to do a pre-apprenticeship?

There is no requirement to do a pre-apprenticeship before an apprenticeship or traineeship.

Employers are allowed to set their own criteria to hire apprentices. In some industries employers want apprentices to have done a pre-apprenticeship. It might be difficult to find a job in these industries if you haven't done one.

In other industries, employers want apprentices and trainees who are new. You should look at job ads, or talk with employers in your industry, to find out if a pre-apprenticeship is something they want.

Sometimes a full pre-apprenticeship isn't needed, but employers might have other requirements. You might need certain licences or tickets, or first aid training. You should also research what other things employers look for when hiring an apprentice or trainee.

Who can do a pre-apprenticeship?

Most people will be able to do a pre-apprenticeship, but there are some things to think about first.

Doing a pre-apprenticeship can be good for young people starting their careers, for career changers, or for someone returning to the workforce.

Many pre-apprenticeships will include strenuous physical activities. You should be able to do this without negative impact on your body.

If you already have qualifications you should check with your local providers about eligibility. Sometimes your qualifications might mean that you aren't eligible for the course or for funding. Any previous qualifications may not be formally recognised if they aren't relevant to this industry.

If you are unsure about the literacy and numeracy skills involved, you should talk with the training provider before starting.

Pre-apprenticeships are a great way to get some skills and confidence in a new industry. This is a great way to test out whether it is the right pathway for you.

If you are unsure if a full apprenticeship may not be the right move the pre-apprenticeship can give you a taste of what to expect. They can often be completed before you give up your current job.

How do I find a pre-apprenticeship?

Pre-apprenticeships are offered by training providers across Australia. Registered Training Organisations such as TAFE or private providers run many pre-apprenticeships. Some Group Training Organisations will also run them.

To find a pre-apprenticeship in your local area you should contact the providers in your area. You will usually have to go to a campus for training, but some might be run online.