

Skilling Queenslanders for work

Get Set for Work

The Queensland Government is helping young people across the state to find a path to work through the Get Set for Work program.

Through a \$10.6 million investment under the Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiative, Get Set for Work is helping over 2,000 young Queenslanders every year.

What is Get Set for Work?

Get Set for Work supports the Government's requirement that every young person earn or learn until they turn 17.

It is a program designed to assist 15 to 19 year olds who have disengaged (or are at risk of disengaging) from school early. *Get Set for Work* addresses young people's personal and training needs to help them overcome barriers and gain skills to take the next step into the workforce.

The program is primarily targeted at 15 to 17 year olds who have already left school before completing Year 12; are unsure of where to go next; and not ready to commit to formal education or vocational training.

Get Set for Work recognises that people in this situation have unique needs that may not be met through mainstream schooling. The program creates a transition pathway towards employment, returning to school, other education or training.

Get Set for Work provides the skills young people need to take their place in an adult world and opportunities to gain vocational qualifications and experience. Participants benefit from practical work experience and hands-on skills development. Personal support and mentoring is offered throughout the program and beyond to help participants identify and overcome challenges.

Successful completion of the *Get Set for Work* program attracts two credit points towards the participant's Queensland Certificate of Education.

Program results

Get Set for Work has had consistent and impressive results since its inception in 2004. The latest survey found over 69 per cent of participants were working or studying a year after they took part.

By addressing individuals holistically *Get Set for Work* coordinators help teenagers to discover their strengths and chart a course toward their employment and training goals.

What's on offer?

The *Get Set for Work* program offers practical, vocationally focussed training and support to help young people achieve their potential. It builds participants' self-esteem and confidence and prepares them for work through:

- personal development and team-building
- activities to develop social skills for work referral and links to support services for personal and social issues
- literacy and numeracy support
- work experience opportunities
- job preparation, resume writing and interview skills
- information about jobs and careers in the local area
- opportunities to move on to work, traineeships and apprenticeships or other training



- post-program support to help sustain employment, training or further education outcomes.

Get Set for Work is a seamless program, enabling new starters to join at any time as places become available.

How are schools involved?

Schools may refer school students to *Get Set for Work* after school staff, the young person and their parents have worked through the available school and TAFE programs and still feel that preparing for work is the most suitable pathway.

Schools also have a responsibility to keep in contact with *Get Set for Work* participants.

Who is eligible for funding to run Get Set for Work projects?

Eligible organisations include not-for-profit community organisations, training providers, schools and other bodies which can demonstrate strong community and employer links and proven success and experience in working with young people.

Get Set for Work has an application process for awarding grants and a project-based method for delivering services and activities in a community setting. There is no single delivery model so funded organisations have the flexibility to tailor services to meet both group and individual needs and local circumstances.

How to apply?

If *Get Set for Work* sounds right for you and you are still at school, go and see your student guidance counsellor or your school's vocational education and training coordinator.

For interested organisations and people who would like more information on the program contact:

- your local Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation regional office on 1300 639 925
- your district Education Queensland office found at www.education.qld.gov.au
- your local ETRF Coordinator on 1300 650 220.

If you would like to know more about specific *Get Set for Work* projects in your local area visit www.employment.qld.gov.au.