

Understanding VET

The Vocational Education and Training (VET) sector in Australia is a collaborative effort managed by both the Australian government and the governments of the states and territories. It is a critical part of the Australian economy, comprised of various legislation, frameworks, organisations, industries and individuals.

VET activity in Australia is funded either by the Federal and state/territory governments ('government-funded students'), or it is provided on a fee-for-service basis by non-government providers without any government funding. In the latter case, the cost is borne by the student or their employer.

VET is designed to equip students of all ages and backgrounds with the necessary skills and knowledge for effective workplace performance. As such, vocational education and training plays a pivotal role in the development of Australia's national workforce.

Registered Training Organisations (RTOs)

In Australia, there are approximately 4,000 registered training organisations (RTOs). These providers are required to register to offer nationally recognised courses, Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) accredited VET qualifications, or to receive government funding for providing VET courses. There are a variety of providers delivering VET qualifications including:

- Technical and Further Education (TAFE) institutes
- Adult and community education providers
- Private providers
- Community organisations
- Industry skill centres
- Commercial training providers
- Enterprise training providers
- Some universities
- Some schools

Note: This VET Fact Sheet provides general information and should not be considered as legal advice.