

FACT SHEET – CAREER START



WHAT IS CAREER START?

Career Start supports Queensland job seekers to start their career, or move into more skilled roles or full-time employment.

To receive funded training under Career Start, make sure your training provider is a Skills Assure Supplier (a government-approved training provider). ACE Community Colleges is a *Skills Assure* Supplier. A core element of the Queensland Government's *Skills Assure* is ensuring Queenslanders have access to quality training programs that deliver effective skills to meet employment and business demands.

WHAT ARE THE TRAINING PATHWAYS

You can participate in either a general training pathway, or an employment-based apprenticeship or traineeship pathway. You'll receive reduced-cost entry-level training aligned to the skill outcomes required by industry.

Career Start provides eligible Queenslanders with:

- access to certificate III qualifications in priority and emerging industries
- access to apprenticeship and traineeship training in priority and emerging industries
- access to lower-level qualifications identified by industry as the entry point for jobs
- expanded access to foundation skills such as language, literacy, numeracy, digital literacy and employability skills
- increased access to training in regional and remote areas
- supported training pathways for women and priority cohorts to take up skilled careers.

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE?

You must:

- be a Queensland resident
- be aged 15 years or over, and no longer at school (with the exception of school based traineeships)
- be an Australian or New Zealand citizen or Australian permanent resident (including humanitarian entrants), or a temporary resident with the necessary visa and work permits on the pathway to permanent residency
- not hold, or be enrolled in, a certificate III level or higher qualification completed within the last 10 years (not including qualifications completed as a school student and foundation skills training), even if that course is deferred or on hold.

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Under the *Career Start* program, eligible individuals in Queensland can access up to two subsidised training places through one of the following pathways:

- One general Certificate III qualification *and* one apprenticeship or traineeship (Note: If the apprenticeship/traineeship is completed first, the general qualification is no longer available under *Career Start*).
- Two apprenticeships or traineeships at Certificate II or III level, including school-based apprenticeships or traineeships (SATs).
- Additionally, individuals may access one subsidised introductory-level skill set.

Please note: Two general pathway qualifications are not permitted under *Career Start* to ensure fair access for all eligible Queenslanders.

HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAMME?

You can only access the *Career Start* programme subsidy under limited circumstances so it is important that you take the time to carefully consider your training options and compare different providers and their fees before committing to a course of study. It is important that you choose the right course for you to take full advantage of the program. For information on choosing a training provider, read the training consumer tips at <https://desbt.qld.gov.au/training/training-careers/courses/studentguide>. The Queensland Skills Gateway displays the courses available under the Career Start program and provides information about what they cover, the careers they can lead to, and the training providers approved to deliver them – visit <https://skillsgateway.training.qld.gov.au>.

WHAT LEVEL OF SUBSIDY IS AVAILABLE?

The Queensland Government will pay a subsidy for the qualification directly to the Skills Assure Supplier (SAS). The amount of funding depends on the qualifications complexity, duration and how well it aligns with workforce skill needs. A higher subsidy will also be paid to support participation by concessional students. More information on concessional student status is detailed in the Career Start program policy at <https://desbt.qld.gov.au/training/providers/funded/career-start>

CAN I ACCESS ANY LEARNING SUPPORT?

Yes, under the *Career Start*, foundation skills training (including language, literacy and numeracy training) and lower-level vocational qualifications are also subsidised in certain circumstances, based on an individual's learning, skilling or support needs, to achieve employment outcomes for students.

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DO I NEED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE COST OF TRAINING?

Given the benefits that training provides to individuals, students undertaking certificate III level training and non-concessional students undertaking lower-level vocational training are required to contribute to the cost of their training through a co-contribution fee. The fee may be paid on your behalf by an employer or another third party but cannot be paid or waived by the training provider or any organisation related to the training provider unless approved by the Department of Trade, Employment and Training. The initial co-contribution fee will be 30% up front and the remaining amounts will be invoiced upon commencement. Concession co-contribution fee is available for valid concession card holders and Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islanders. Please contact the ACE Administration staff to access this fee.

FSK20119 Certificate II in Skills for Work and Vocational Pathways

Co-Contribution fee - \$0

CHC33021 Certificate III in Individual Support (*either Ageing, or Disability specialisations*)

Co-contribution fee – \$180.00 (\$12.00 per unit) | Concession co-contribution fee – \$150.00 (\$10.00 per unit)

CHC30121 Certificate III in Early Childhood Education & Care

Co-contribution fee – \$204.00 (\$12.00 per unit) | Concession co-contribution fee – \$170.00 (\$10.00 per unit)

BSB30120 Certificate III in Business

Co-contribution fee – \$156.00 (\$12.00 per unit) | Concession co-contribution fee – \$130.00 (\$10.00 per unit)

MORE INFORMATION

For more information on the *Career Start*, including eligibility requirements, fee information, concessional student status and programme related documents, visit <https://desbt.qld.gov.au/training/providers/funded>

