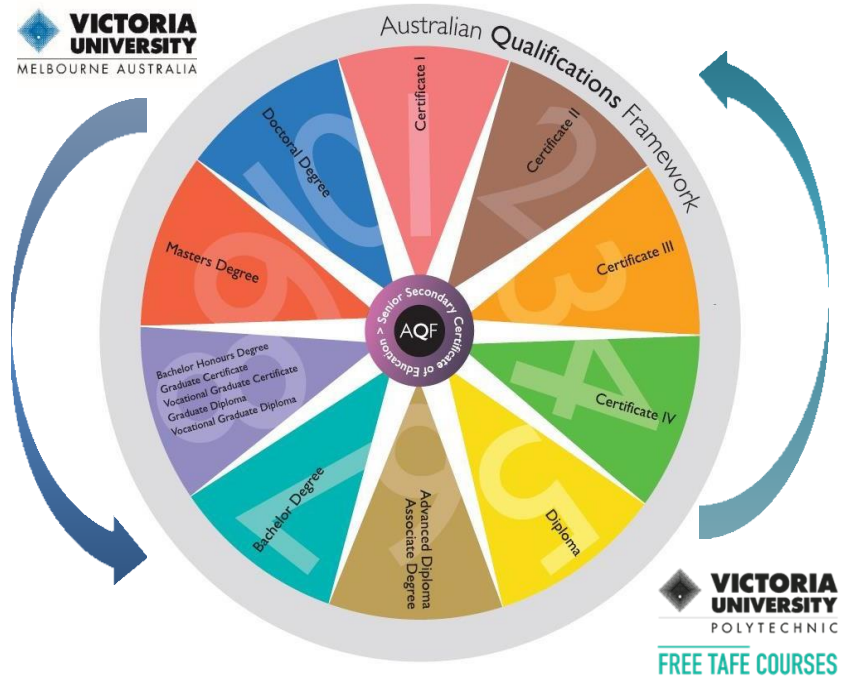


Fact Sheet #7: Education and Training Options

There are MANY different forms of education and training available. When deciding what to study, it is important to understand what **QUALIFICATION LEVEL** is required for your preferred occupation:

- Short courses
- Non-accredited training
- Certificate Courses (Cert I – IV)
- Traineeships
- Apprenticeships
- Diplomas
- Advanced Diplomas
- Undergraduate Degrees
- Post-graduate Degrees



CERTIFICATES, DIPLOMAS & ADVANCED DIPLOMAS:

Also called Vocational Education & Training (VET), these are typically taught at TAFEs or Independent Tertiary Colleges. You can usually complete a Certificate, Diploma or Advanced Diploma within between 6 months to 2 years, although some Apprenticeships can take 3-4 years to complete. Certificates can often provide pathways into Diplomas and Advanced Diplomas, which, in turn, can provide pathways and credit into university Bachelor Degrees. VET can often be 'hands-on' learning, where students learn practical skills to become 'work ready'. The learning environment is similar to secondary school, so students spend their time predominantly with the same classmates and move through the course with this group of people.

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES: Also known as 'Bachelor' degrees, these normally take about 3-5 years to complete, depending on the qualification or study area you are interested in. Bachelor degrees are a combination of theory and practical learning, as well as individual and group learning. Independent learning forms a large part of a Bachelor degree, where students need to attend a combination of lectures, tutorials, workshops or labs, and are not necessarily with the same group of students for every class. Most Bachelor degrees are taught at Universities, although some Independent Tertiary Colleges and TAFEs offer more specialised degree options.

Need Help? Contact the **Skills and Jobs Centre** at sjc@vu.edu.au to speak with one of our Career Advisors, or visit www.skills-jobs-centres.com.au for more information