



## Employment and training for migrants

If you are a migrant<sup>1</sup> looking for employment and/or training opportunities on your arrival to Western Australia, you may need to:

- have your qualifications and skills assessed against Australian standards (find out more on [Skills Recognition at migration.wa.gov.au](https://www.skillsrecognition.wa.gov.au));
- meet strict safety standards and hold an occupational licence (find out more on [licensed trades at migration.wa.gov.au](https://www.licensedtrades.wa.gov.au));
- identify resources that may assist you to secure employment (find out more on [finding work in WA at migration.wa.gov.au](https://www.findingworkinwa.wa.gov.au));
- develop an understanding of Australian workplace standards, expectations and culture (see more about [Starting work in Australia at migration.wa.gov.au](https://www.startingworkinaustralia.wa.gov.au)); and
- ensure that your English language skills are not a barrier to securing employment or undertaking training (find out more on [English language support at migration.wa.gov.au](https://www.englishlanguage.wa.gov.au)).

## Skills recognition pathways

When you arrive in WA, you may want to have your overseas qualifications and work experience formally recognised to help you find employment or to provide a study pathway to a higher-level qualification that will lead to employment. Even if you have already had your skills assessed as part of a visa application, there may be further steps you will need to complete. There are two main types of skills recognition as follows.

### Recognition for trade and licenced trade occupations

Trades Recognition Australia offers a number of skills assessment programs based on your occupation, country of origin, where you studied and the type of visa you are seeking.

Visit [tradesrecognitionaustralia.gov.au/programs](https://tradesrecognitionaustralia.gov.au/programs) to find out more.

### Recognition for non-trade qualifications

The Overseas Qualifications Unit (OQU) assesses eligible qualifications gained overseas to determine their comparability with Australian standards. The OQU can assess post-secondary qualifications including:

- formal technical and vocational qualifications (Certificate IV and above); and
- formal higher education qualifications (bachelor or degree and above).

This is a free service available only to Western Australian residents.

## Starting work in Australia

In Australia, there are rules about, the wages employees should be paid, the hours they should work, how often they have to have a break and so on. These rules are outlined in documents known as [awards and agreements](#) or employment contracts.

---

<sup>1</sup> If you intend to enter Western Australia on a student visa (subclass 500), the information on this sheet does not apply to you. You should instead contact [TAFE International Western Australia](https://www.tafeinternational.wa.gov.au) for information about training for international students.

The Fair Work Ombudsman is an Australian government service that acts as a single point of contact for reliable and timely information about Australia's workplace relations system; and assesses complaints or suspected breaches of workplace laws, including Awards, agreements and employment contracts.

The Fair Work Ombudsman has also developed a series of videos to assist migrants understand their rights and obligations in the Australian workplace. [Go to the Fair Work Ombudsman website](#) for more details.

The [WA Government website](#) has information about finding a job in WA, work place relations, Awards, and agreements that are specific to WA.

## **Improving your English language competence**

There are two main services that you may access to improve your English language competence and assist you to find employment.

### Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP)

A national settlement program for new migrants, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, and humanitarian visa entrants. AMEP provides up to 510 hours of English language tuition.

For some visa subclasses such as humanitarian visas, you may be eligible for an extra 200 or 400 hours of tuition.

For more information, contact these AMEP service providers in Western Australia:

- North Metropolitan TAFE  
Telephone: 1300 202 134  
Website: [northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/courses/study-types/amep](http://northmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/courses/study-types/amep)
- South Metropolitan TAFE  
Telephone: 1800 862 166  
Website: [southmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/courses/study-types/amep](http://southmetrotafe.wa.edu.au/courses/study-types/amep)
- South Regional TAFE  
Telephone: 1800 621 445  
Website: [southregionaltafe.wa.edu.au/courses/study-types/amep](http://southregionaltafe.wa.edu.au/courses/study-types/amep)

### Skills for Education and Employment (SEE)

This program provides language, literacy and numeracy training to job seekers who need assistance including people from a non-English speaking background. Jobseekers are referred to the program by the Australian Government's Department of Human Services.

To find out more about this program, visit [education.gov.au/skills-education-and-employment](http://education.gov.au/skills-education-and-employment) or call the Department of Human Services on 13 28 50.

## **Finding work in Western Australia**

### Jobs and Skills Centres

Visit a Jobs and Skills Centre for free careers, training and employment advice and assistance. The centres are located on TAFE campuses throughout Perth and regional WA, with additional locations for regional areas.

TAFE and Specialist Service Provider	Location	Phone	Email
North Metropolitan TAFE	Balga	9207 4388	<a href="mailto:balgajsc@nmtafe.wa.edu.au">balgajsc@nmtafe.wa.edu.au</a>
	Joondalup	9233 1738	<a href="mailto:joondalupjsc@nmtafe.wa.edu.au">joondalupjsc@nmtafe.wa.edu.au</a>
	Northbridge	9428 0488	<a href="mailto:northbridgejsc@nmtafe.wa.edu.au">northbridgejsc@nmtafe.wa.edu.au</a>
South Metropolitan TAFE	Peel	9586 7411	<a href="mailto:peeljsc@smtafe.wa.edu.au">peeljsc@smtafe.wa.edu.au</a>
	Thornlie	9267 7600	<a href="mailto:thornliejsc@smtafe.wa.edu.au">thornliejsc@smtafe.wa.edu.au</a>
	Rockingham	9599 8655	<a href="mailto:rockinghamjsc@smtafe.wa.edu.au">rockinghamjsc@smtafe.wa.edu.au</a>
Central Regional TAFE	Geraldton	9956 2960	<a href="mailto:midwestjsc@crtafe.wa.edu.au">midwestjsc@crtafe.wa.edu.au</a>
	Kalgoorlie	9088 6946	<a href="mailto:goldfieldsjsc@crtafe.wa.edu.au">goldfieldsjsc@crtafe.wa.edu.au</a>
	Northam	9622 6860	<a href="mailto:wheatbeltjsc@crtafe.wa.edu.au">wheatbeltjsc@crtafe.wa.edu.au</a>
North Regional TAFE	Broome	9168 9499	<a href="mailto:kimberleyjsc@nrtafe.wa.edu.au">kimberleyjsc@nrtafe.wa.edu.au</a>
	Karratha	9168 9488	<a href="mailto:pilbarajsc@nrtafe.wa.edu.au">pilbarajsc@nrtafe.wa.edu.au</a>
South Regional TAFE	Albany	9892 8749	<a href="mailto:albanyjsc@srtafe.wa.edu.au">albanyjsc@srtafe.wa.edu.au</a>
	Bunbury	9780 7000	<a href="mailto:bunburyjsc@srtafe.wa.edu.au">bunburyjsc@srtafe.wa.edu.au</a>
Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CaLD) specialist services	Mirrabooka	6298 9888	<a href="mailto:jobsandskills@mercy.com.au">jobsandskills@mercy.com.au</a>
	Cannington	9298 9800	

A number of outreach services are also provided across regional WA. For a full list [visit the Jobs and Skills Centres section](#) on the Jobs and Skills WA website.

You can also call 13 64 64 to connect with your local JSC and [visit the Jobs and Skills WA website](#) for more information about training, job search and career information.

### Further information

**Telephone:** 13 64 64

**Website:** [jobsandskills.wa.gov.au](http://jobsandskills.wa.gov.au)

**Online enquiry form:** [jobsandskills.wa.gov.au/enquiry](http://jobsandskills.wa.gov.au/enquiry)

Updated: February 2020