



FACT SHEET FOR STUDENTS

Apprenticeship and traineeship options for home educated students

On 9 February 2018, the *Vocational Education and Training (General) Regulations 2009* were amended to reflect the central role that schools play in school-based apprenticeship and traineeship (SBATs) arrangements. A definition of an SBAT student was also included in the Regulations. This fact sheet has been developed to outline the apprenticeship and traineeship options available to students who are in a registered home education arrangement.

Further information on the changes to the Regulations is available in the fact sheet *Changes to training plan requirements on the Apprenticeship Office website*.

Who is eligible to undertake a school-based apprenticeship and traineeship?

A SBAT can be undertaken by a full time school student who:

- is enrolled in a government or non-government school as defined in the *School Education Act 1999*;
- is aged 15 years or more (some exceptions apply);
- is undertaking an approved school-based apprenticeship or traineeship;
- has a registered training contract* with an employer;
- will have the school-based apprenticeship or traineeship recognised on their *Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE)*; and
- is an Australian citizen or holds a visa that is consistent with the employment and study requirements of the training contract.

*Note: SBATs under 18 years of age require the signature of a parent/guardian on the training contract.

Can home-educated students undertake a SBAT?

No, students who are in a registered home education arrangement can no longer enter into a SBAT. These students are not enrolled in a government or non-government school, and they cannot meet the achievement requirements of WACE through their home education studies.

What if I commenced my SBAT before the changes to the Regulations?

The new requirements came into effect on 9 February 2018 and are not retrospective. Any SBAT training contract that was registered by Apprenticeship Office before this date is not subject to the new eligibility requirements.

Are other options available for home-educated students to undertake apprenticeships and traineeships?

Yes. Home-educated students can enter into a part time apprenticeship or traineeship arrangement directly with an employer. These arrangements provide a greater range of qualifications than those through SBATs.

The *Classification of prescribed vocational education and training qualifications* (the public register) provides the complete list of part time apprenticeship and traineeship qualifications established in Western Australia. Part time apprenticeships and traineeships generally have a minimum of 15 hours (some are 20 hours) of paid work per week, depending on the qualification and industry's requirements. The minimum hours are specified on the public register.

What fee arrangements apply?

There is no change to the vocational education and training (VET) course fees for home-educated students. As long as they are of school age, these students will continue to be eligible for the annual course fee cap. For further information [please refer to the Department of Training and Workforce Development's VET fees and charges policy.](#)

How do you get a part-time apprenticeship or traineeship?

TAFE Jobs and Skills Centres provide students and parents with free advice and information on careers and training, and jobseeker support including assistance to find an apprenticeship or traineeship. The centres also provide a [free online jobs board](#) to connect jobseekers with employment opportunities. Information about the services available, and location details for your nearest Jobs and Skills Centre, [is available on the Jobs and Skills WA website.](#)

The WA Australian Apprenticeship Support Network (AASN) providers can offer assistance to people wishing to enter into an apprenticeship or traineeship. AASN provider websites offer a range of information on apprenticeships and traineeships and have jobs boards. Further information about the WA AASN providers is available [on the Apprenticeships and traineeships page of the Jobs and Skills WA website.](#)

Will employers of home-educated students be eligible for incentive payments?

The Australian Government provides a range of incentive payments to employers of apprentices and trainees through the [Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Program.](#)

Employers should contact their local AASN provider to determine their eligibility for incentives.