

The VCE Vocational Major

Learn about the VCE Vocational Major
and what it helps students do

Easy Read version



Your world.
Your VCE.



Department
of Education

How to use this guide



The Victorian Department of Education wrote this guide.

When you read the word 'we', it means the Victorian Department of Education.



We wrote this information in an easy to read way.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.

Bold
Not bold

We wrote some important words in **bold**.

This means the letters are thicker and darker.



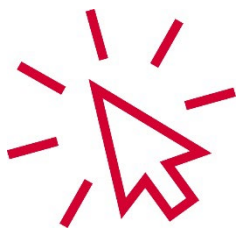
We explain what these bold words mean.

There is a list of these words on page **23**.



This is an Easy Read summary of another guide.

This means it only includes the most important ideas.



You can find the other guide on our website.

www.vic.gov.au/about-the-vce-vocational-major



You can ask for help to read this guide.

A friend, family member or support person might be able to help you.

What's in this guide?

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About the VCE Vocational Major



The **Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE)** is a certificate students can get if they:

- go to high school in Victoria
- and
- finish Year 11 and 12.



The **VCE Vocational Major** is another way for students to do their VCE.



Students can learn in the VCE Vocational Major program for 2 years.



It gives students the skills and experience they might need after they finish Year 12 to:

- get work
- keep studying.



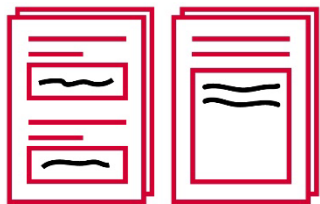
Teachers in a VCE Vocational Major class will:

- support students to finish their subjects
- ask students to do activities to check what they have learnt.



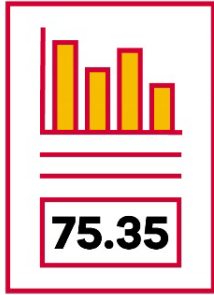
Most students will only need to do one exam.

The exam is the first part of the **General Achievement Test (GAT)**.



The GAT is a test on different subjects and skills for students who are studying for their VCE.

The test is split into 2 parts.



Students will not get a score for their VCE Vocational Major subjects.

This means they won't count towards an **Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR)**.



An ATAR is a number that scores a student against other students who studied in the same state.

An ATAR can be between 0 and 99.95.



The VCE Vocational Major might be good for students who like to learn not just at school.

For example, while they work.



The VCE Vocational Major might also be good for students who don't need an ATAR to achieve their goals.

What students can do with the VCE Vocational Major

Students can use the VCE Vocational Major to:



- get a job when they finish Year 12



- take part in other **education** or training.



When students get an education, teachers support them to learn new:

- skills
- information.



Students can use the VCE Vocational Major to help them get a **traineeship or apprenticeship**.

A traineeship or apprenticeship is when students learn how to do a job while they are at work.



Students can use the VCE Vocational Major to help them start a **TAFE** course.

TAFE is a training organisation where people can learn how to do different jobs.



Students can also use the VCE Vocational Major to help them get into university after they finish Year 12.



But students can only study certain university courses with the VCE Vocational Major if they don't have an ATAR.



Some students need to do a TAFE course before they can get into university.

What subjects students need to study



Each subject a student studies is split into 4 parts.

We call these parts 'units'.



Most students study Units 1 and 2 of their subjects in Year 11.



And most students study Units 3 and 4 of their subjects in Year 12.



Students must do 16 units to finish the VCE Vocational Major.

This must include:



- 3 units of an English subject – this must include Units 3 and 4



- 2 units of a maths subject.



For English and maths subjects, students can choose from:

- VCE Vocational Major units
- VCE units.



Students must do VCE Vocational Major units for some subjects.

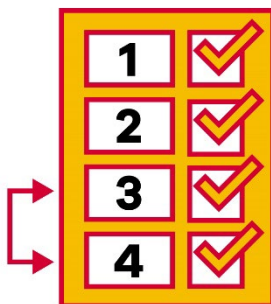
They must do:



- 2 units of a subject about building their life skills



- 2 units of a subject about building their work skills.



Students must also finish Units 3 and 4 from 3 other subjects they choose.



Students might choose to study other VCE subjects to go towards their VCE Vocational Major.



But students must do a **vocational education and training (VET)** course.



VET is skills training students can do for certain types of jobs.

Students can do VET as part of Year 11 and 12.



You can find a list of VET courses students can take part in on our website.

www.vic.gov.au/how-vocational-education-training-fits-into-year-11-12



Students can also learn in a place where they work as part of their VET course.

This is called Structured Workplace Learning Recognition.



Students can talk to their school's **careers counsellor** about how to study for the VCE Vocational Major.



A careers counsellor is someone who gives students advice about:

- their future jobs
- the skills they will need.

What students get when they finish their studies

When a student finishes their studies, they will get:

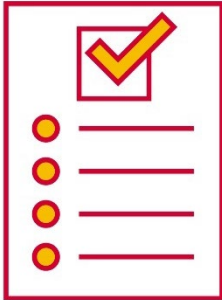


- a VCE with the words 'VCE Vocational Major'



- a document of the results from their studies.

If a student studied any VET courses, they will also get:



- a document that lists the units they finished

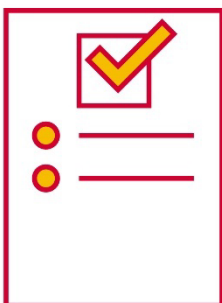


- their VET **qualification**.



If person has a qualification, they have:

- studied or trained
- shown that they can do something the right way.



If a student doesn't finish their VET course, they will get a document that lists the parts they did finish.

Example story



Kamala loves to:

- find ways to solve a problem
- learn while she works.



Kamala wanted to do a traineeship in a lab after she finished school.

A traineeship could help her get certain jobs.



For examples, jobs in:

- health
- research.

Why she chose the VCE Vocational Major



Kamala enjoyed the experience she got from working in a lab in Year 10.



This work made her sure that a traineeship would be a great way to start her **career**.

A person's career is the path they take in the area of work they choose.

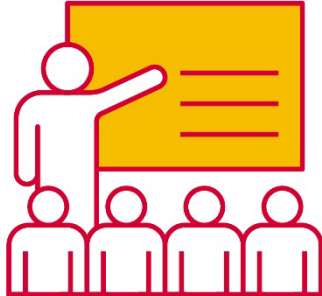


She talked about what she could do with her:

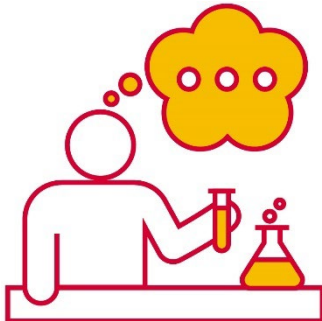
- parents
- teachers
- school's careers counsellor.

What she studied

Kamala chose to study subjects that gave her a mix of learning:



- in a classroom



- while working.

In Year 11, Kamala studied Units 1 and 2 of:



- a VCE maths subject



- a VCE science subject.

In Year 11, Kamala studied Units 1 and 2 of VCE Vocational Major subjects about:



- reading and writing



- building her work skills.

Kamala also studied:



- Units 1 and 2 of a VET course that supports her to work towards a Certificate III (3)



- Unit 1 of a VET course that supports her to learn in a **workplace**.

A workplace is any place people might work, such as:



- an office
- a factory
- a shop
- a hospital.



In Year 12, Kamala studied Units 3 and 4 of a VCE maths subject.

In Year 12, Kamala studied Units 3 and 4 of VCE Vocational Major subjects about:



- reading and writing



- building her life skills



- building her work skills.

Kamala also studied:



- Units 3 and 4 of a VET course that supports her to work towards a Certificate III (3)



- Unit 2 of a VET course that supports her to learn in a workplace.



These VET courses will help Kamala work towards a qualification:

- in a lab
- that supports scientists.

Word list

This list explains what the **bold** words in this fact sheet mean.



Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR)

An ATAR is a number that scores a student against other students who studied in the same state.

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Career

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Careers counsellor



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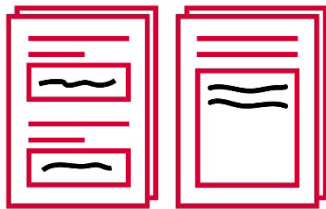
- their future jobs
- the skills they will need.



Education

When students get an education, teachers support them to learn new:

- skills
- information.



General Achievement Test (GAT)

The GAT is a test on different subjects and skills for students who are studying for their VCE.

The test is split into 2 parts.



Qualification

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Traineeship or apprenticeship

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Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE)



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VCE Vocational Major



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It gives students the skills and experience they might need after they finish year 12 to:

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Vocational education training (VET)

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Students can do VET as part of Year 11 and 12.

Workplace

A workplace is any place people might work, such as:



- an office
- a factory
- a shop
- a hospital.



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