# Doing Year 11 and 12

3 ways to study in Victoria

A text-only Easy Read version

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 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 **8**.

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/compare-vce-vce-vocational-major-and-victorian-pathways-certificate](http://www.vic.gov.au/compare-vce-vce-vocational-major-and-victorian-pathways-certificate)

You can ask for help to read this guide.

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

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## A student’s choices for Year 11 and year 12

This guide is about 3 ways students can do their Year 11 and 12 **education**.

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

* skills
* information.

Students can use this guide to learn about:

* the 3 most common ways they can do Year 11 and 12
* what is good about each way.

There are some things students should think about before they decide which way is best for them.

Students might need an **Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR)** to achieve their goals after school.

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.

Students might need an ATAR if they want to go to university in the year after they finish Year 12.

Students should also think about what they want to achieve in Year 11 and 12.

For example, do they want to:

* learn new skills at school
* learn new skills at school and a **workplace**.

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

* an office
* a factory
* a shop
* a hospital.

## Victorian Certificate of Education

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 might be good for students who:

* like to learn in a classroom
* need an ATAR to achieve their goals.

The VCE might also be good for students who:

* want to focus on learning to study
* want to go to university as soon as they finish Year 12.

You can find more information about the VCE on our website.

[www.vic.gov.au/about-the-Victorian-Certificate-of-Education](http://www.vic.gov.au/about-the-Victorian-Certificate-of-Education)

## VCE Vocational Major

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.

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.

The VCE Vocational Major might help students if their goal is to:

* do a **traineeship or apprenticeship** – when people learn how to do a job while they are at work
* start working full-time – 36 hours a week
* work or do training before they go to university
* to study a **TAFE** course – a training organisation where people can learn how to do different jobs.

You can find more information about the VCE Vocational Major on our website.

[www.vic.gov.au/about-the-vce-vocational-major](http://www.vic.gov.au/about-the-vce-vocational-major)

## Victorian Pathways Certificate

The **Victorian Pathways Certificate (VPC)** is a certificate students can study during Year 11 and 12 in Victoria.

Students can do the VPC if their school thinks it’s the right course for them.

Students might study for the VPC:

* before Year 11
* for more than 2 years.

Students should talk to their school about:

* if they can do the VPC
* when they start and finish their VPC.

The VPC might be good for students who:

* like to learn in classrooms and in workplaces
* want to learn by doing
* don’t need an ATAR to achieve their goals.

The VPC might also be good for students who want to:

* work full-time after school – 36 hours a week
* start the VCE Vocational Major later on
* start the VCE later on.

We also recommend the VPC if students want to do **vocational education training (VET)**.

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 more information about the VPC on our website.

[www.vic.gov.au/about-the-victorian- pathways-certificate](http://www.vic.gov.au/about-the-victorian-pathways-certificate)

## Ways to get into university or TAFE

Most universities and TAFEs have many ways for students to join.

For example, they might let students join if:

* they have a good ATAR
* they do well in an interview
* they show them an example of their skills and work, like artwork.

## Word list

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

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.

Education

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

* skills
* information.

TAFE

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

Traineeship or apprenticeship

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

Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE)

The VCE is a certificate students can get if they:

* go to high school in Victoria

and

* finish Year 11 and 12.

VCE Vocational Major

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.

Victorian Pathways Certificate (VPC)

The VPC is a certificate students can study during Year 11 and 12 in Victoria.

Students can do the VPC if their school thinks it’s the right course for them.

Vocational education training (VET)

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

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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