Skillinvest

VDSS (VET Delivered to Secondary Students)

COURSE GUIDE

skillinvest

RTO CODE 4192

Longerenong College

ABOUT US

Skillinvest is a premium employment and training specialist, providing apprenticeships, traineeships, education, and training services across Victoria and interstate.

Skillinvest has supported young people and jobseekers in their career journeys since 1986.

Our team of experienced and qualified experts place individuals in apprenticeships, traineeships, and training programs across a wide range of industries. We offer comprehensive support for success and empowerment for individuals to achieve their goals in their chosen careers.

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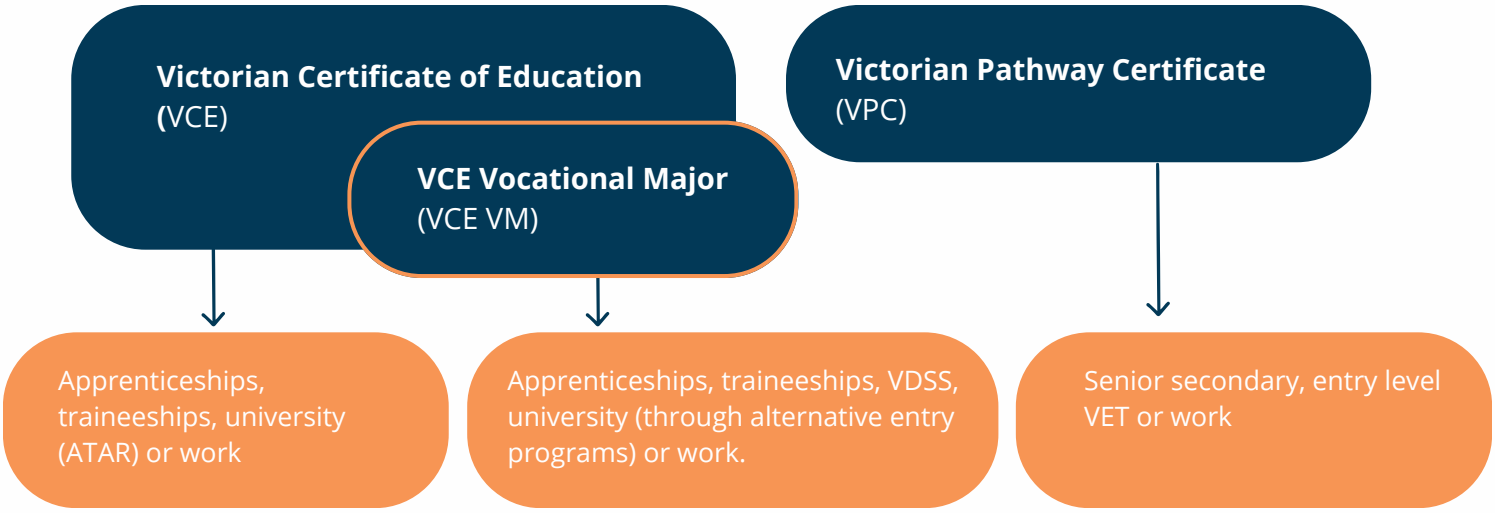
WHAT IS VDSS?

VDSS (VET- Vocational Education and Training - Delivered to Secondary Students) is the acronym for what is more commonly known as VET. A program that is designed to provide you with a practical approach to learning, teaching you knowledge and specific skills to help you in the workplace.

- VDSS programs can be undertaken as part of secondary school studies. VDSS programs offer students nationally or state recognised vocational certificate which are endorsed for recognition in the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE), Victorian Certificate of Education Vocational Major (VCE VM) or the Victorian Pathway Certificate (VPC) from the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA).
- When completing a VDSS program students may gain a nationally recognised VET qualification from a registered training organisation such as Skillinvest. Students can receive credit for VET towards their Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE), including the VCE Vocational Major (VCE VM), or the Victorian Pathways Certificate (VPC) as per the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA).



QUALIFICATION

Standalone Qualification
As well as being part of your secondary studies, you may achieve a standalone nationally recognised VET qualification which can be used as part of your training and employment journey. Students are issued with either a Certificate II or III upon successful completion of the VDSS training program with Skillinvest, unless stated otherwise.

Practical
While all study involves a theory component including written assessment requirements, Skillinvest VDSS courses are different in that they are highly practical and assessments are completed on a students ability to perform practical skills. This means that many assessments are completed on what you can demonstrate rather than what you can write about.

VDSS DELIVERY LOCATIONS

HORSHAM OFFICE
15-17 Dimboola Road
PO Box 930
Horsham VIC 3402
T 1300 135 008

DANDENONG TRADE TRAINING FACILITY & OFFICE
236-238 South Gippsland Highway
Dandenong South VIC 3175
T 1300 135 008

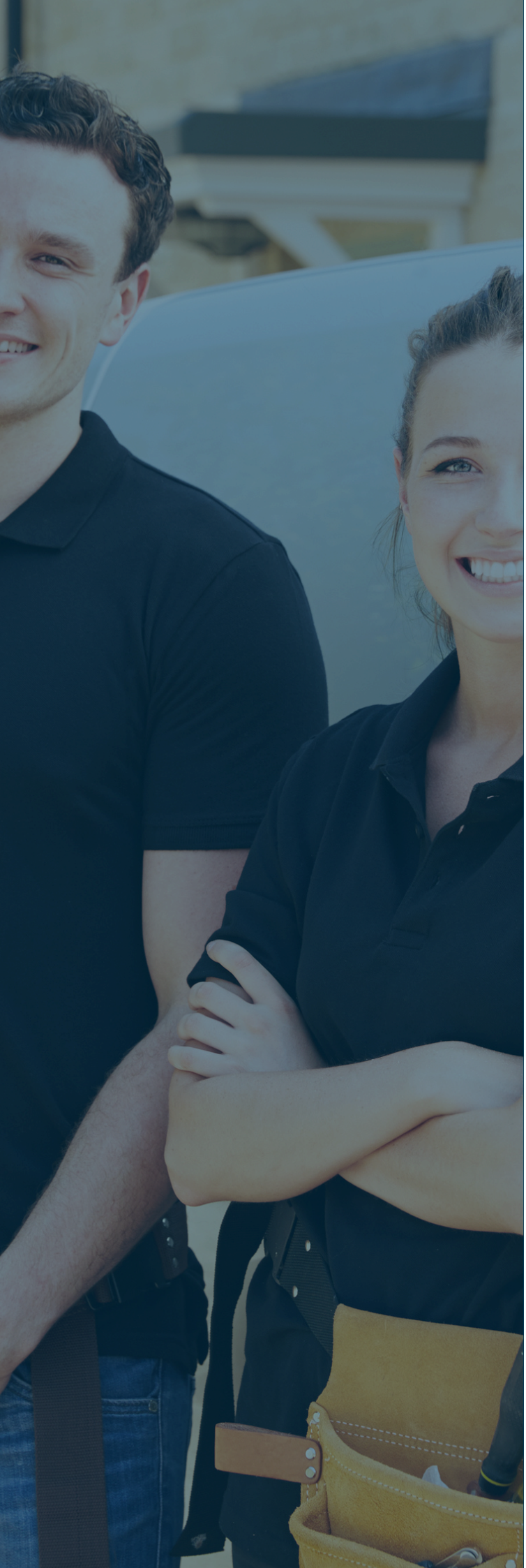
LONGERENONG COLLEGE
229 Longerenong Road
Longerenong VIC 3401
T 03 5362 2222

CHARLTON TRADE TRAINING CENTRE
Davies street
Charlton VIC 3525
T 03 54911280

BALLARAT
110 Lydiard Street North
Ballarat VIC 3350
T 1300 135 008

CONTACT

Marie Dinger
VET Coordinator
T 1300 135 008 M 0410 490 007
E marie.dinger@skillinvest.com.au



VDSS PATHWAYS

Practical skills that are industry specific. Skills that overlap.

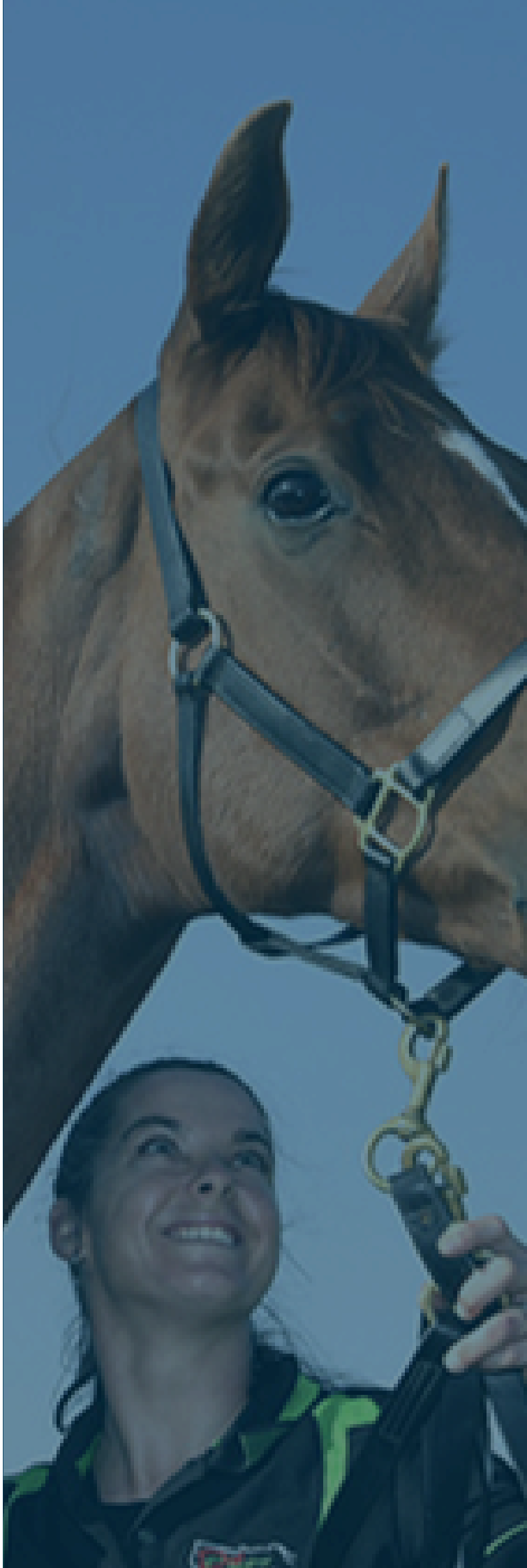
VDSS provides students with the ability to start their vocational pathway while still at school. Students will gain valuable knowledge about the industry they are studying and help them to work out the best way to achieve their career goals.

EMPLOYMENT SKILLS	• Improving job prospects • S2W on the job training • Employers seek out students with a VDSS qualification • Courses are tailor made in conjunction with Department of Education (D of E), industry and RTOs
ENTERPRISING SKILLS	• Team work • Motivation • Creativity • Leadership • Initiative • Vision
PRACTICAL SKILLS	• Knowledge • Training • Experience • Ability • Competence • Learning

BENEFITS OF VDSS

Benefits of a VDSS course include:

- Assisting in the transition from school to work
- Multiplying opportunities and employment prospects
- Helping students explore possible areas of interest which promote further study and work choices
- Allowing students to develop strong links with industry and local community employers, i.e. students may be offered part-time/casual work
- Developing students capacity to
  - Cooperate
  - Work in a team
  - Make decisions
  - Problem-solve
  - Develop leadership skills
- Helping students to gain skills and knowledge of employers' expectations in a real adult working environment
- Fostering positive feedback by enabling students to demonstrate specific skills and competency.



AGRICULTURE

AHC20122 Certificate II in Agriculture

The AHC20122 Certificate II in Agriculture is delivered both on and off the job in a partnership arrangement between Longerenong College, businesses and participating schools and normally takes two years to complete.

The aim of the program is to provide participants with skills in a range of industries which will lead on to further study or will enhance opportunities for employment in a range of industries including intensive animal production, broadacre cropping and agribusiness.

As a part of our Agriculture package we also include a selection of specialised skills units giving students a bonus pack of units at the conclusion of their course.

DURATION

- Two years

STUDY PATHWAYS

- AHC30122 Certificate III in Agriculture (apprenticeship or full time study)
- AHC40122 Certificate IV in Agriculture
- AHC51920 Diploma of Applied Agronomy (full or part time or online)
- AHC51422 Diploma of Agribusiness Management
- Degree and postgraduate study

POTENTIAL CAREER PATHWAYS with further study

- Farm Overseer/Manager
- Agronomist or Livestock Agent
- Precision Agriculture Consultant
- Agribusiness Professional, Rural Merchandiser or Marketing Specialist
- Agricultural Research Assistant or Scientist

DELIVERY LOCATIONS

- Longerenong College

SCHOOL TO WORK

Students are required to work in a farm setting every second Wednesday and are encouraged to undertake a further placement once a week.

ACCREDITATION

Nationally Accredited.

UNITS OF COMPETENCY

CORE

AHCWHS202	Participate in workplace health and safety processes
AHCWRK212	Work effectively in industry
AHCWRK213	Participate in workplace communications
AHCWRK211	Participate in environmentally sustainable work practices

ELECTIVE

AHCBAC205	Assist agricultural crop establishment
AHCINF206	Install, maintain and repair farm fencing
AHCLSK222	Care for health and welfare of livestock
AHCPGD207	Plant trees and shrubs
AHCFIR202	Assist with planned burning
AHCLSK225	Identify and mark livestock
AHCBIO203	Inspect and clean machinery, tools and equipment to preserve biosecurity
AHCMOM202	Operate tractors
AHCPCM204	Recognise plants
AHCMOM207	Conduct front-end loader operations
AHCBAC206	Assist agricultural crop maintenance
AHCLSK224	Handle livestock using basic techniques

*Units of Competency are for 2025/26 and are subject to change. Students in their second year will continue with their current package.

AUTOMOTIVE

AUR20720 Certificate II in Automotive Vocational Preparation

Skillinvest's AUR20720 Certificate II in Automotive Vocational Preparation is different. In addition to the regular units we deliver some units on the diesel engine. Students will finish with a Certificate in Automotive however you will also have a unit specific to diesel engines as a bonus. This will enhance your ability to transition into work at the conclusion of your schooling.

This program will assist students to perform a range of tasks on a diesel engine and associated systems in the automotive retail, service and repair industry. This program aims to enable students to develop a range of skills appropriate to entry level positions in the industry and to apply known solutions to predictable problems associated with diesel engines.

DURATION

- Two years

STUDY PATHWAYS

- AUR30620 Certificate III in Light Vehicle Mechanical Technology (Apprenticeship)
- AUR31120 Certificate III in Heavy Commercial Vehicle Mechanical Technology
- Certificate IV (post-trade)
- Diploma

POTENTIAL CAREER PATHWAYS WITH FURTHER STUDY

- Light Vehicle Mechanic
- Heavy Vehicle Mechanic
- Earthmoving and Mobile Plant
- Automotive Electrician
- Aircraft Mechanic

DELIVERY LOCATIONS

- Longerenong College
- Dandenong Trade Training Centre
- Charlton Trade Training Centre

SCHOOL TO WORK

A minimum of 40 hours work placement is recommended by the VCAA.

ACCREDITATION

Nationally Accredited.

UNITS OF COMPETENCY

AURASA102	Follow safe working practices in an automotive workplace
AURTTK102	Use and maintain tools and equipment in an automotive workplace
AURTTA127	Carry out basic vehicle service operations
AURETR115	Inspect, test and service batteries
AURTTE008	Dismantle and assemble multi- cylinder four-stroke petrol engines
AURLTA101	Identify automotive mechanical systems and components
AURTTB007	Remove and replace brake assemblies
AURTTJ003	Remove and replace wheel and tyre assemblies
AURAEA002	Follow environmental and sustainability best practice in an automotive workplace
AURAFA103	Communicate effectively in an automotive workplace
AURAFA104	Resolve routine problems in an automotive workplace
AURETR103	Identify automotive electrical systems and components
AURETR006	Solder electrical wiring and circuits
AURETK003	Operate electrical test equipment
AURETR048	Construct and test basic electronic units

Additional unit for Horsham based students:
AURTTF102 – Inspect and service diesel fuel injection systems.
Students at Horsham will also work on a diesel project.

*Units of Competency are for 2025/26 and are subject to change

BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION

22614VIC Certificate II in Building & Construction Pre-apprenticeship

The aim of the Certificate II in Building and Construction Pre-apprenticeship is to provide learners with basic industry specific skills and knowledge to enable transition into an apprenticeship of a particular trade stream within one of the building and construction industry sectors at the Certificate III level.

DURATION

- Two years

STUDY PATHWAYS

- CPC30220 Certificate III in Carpentry (Apprenticeship)
- CPC40120 Certificate IV in Building and Construction

POTENTIAL CAREER PATHWAYS WITH FURTHER STUDY

- Builder
- Building Site Manager
- Building Inspector
- Landscaper

DELIVERY LOCATIONS

- Longerenong College
- Dandenong Trade Training Centre
- Charlton College Trade Training Centre

SCHOOL TO WORK

A minimum of 40 hours work placement is recommended by the VCAA.

ACCREDITATION

State Course

UNITS OF COMPETENCY

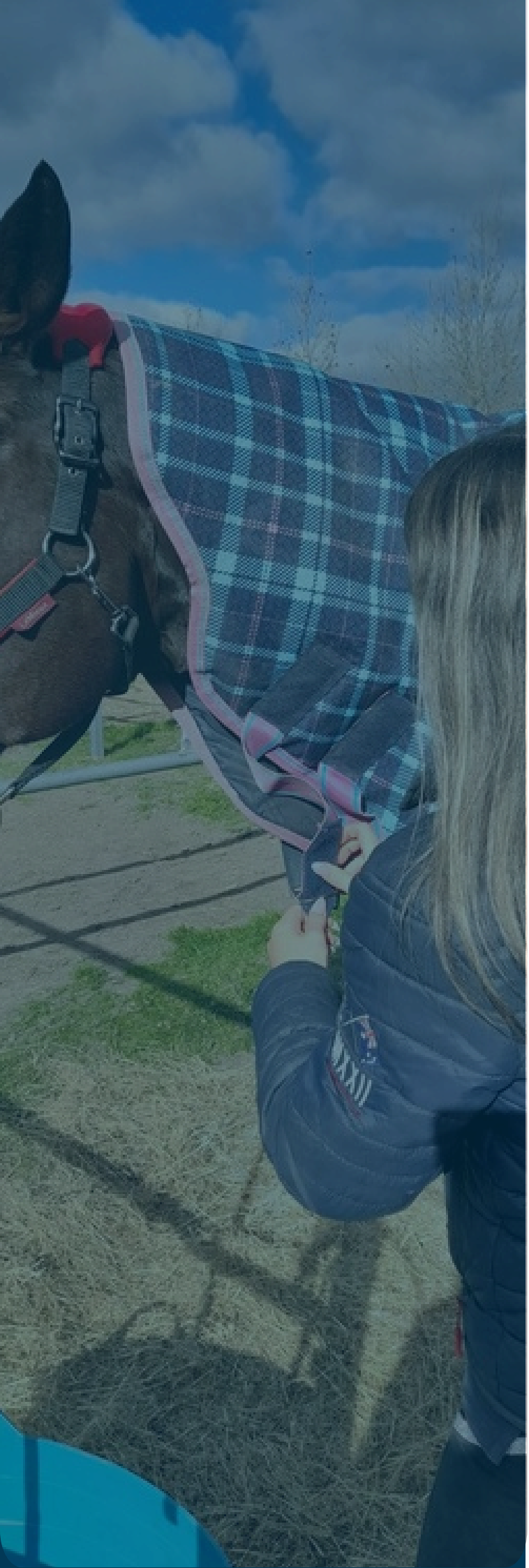
CORE

CPCCOM1014	Conduct workplace communication
CPCCOM1015	Carry out measurements and calculations
CPCCCM2006	Apply basic levelling procedures
CPCCWHS2001	Apply WHS requirements, policies and procedures in the construction industry
CPCWHS1001	Prepare to work safely in the construction industry
HLTAID010	Provide basic emergency life support
VU23312	Prepare for work in the building and construction industry
VU23313	Interpret and apply basic plans and drawings
VU23314	Erect and safely use working platforms

ELECTIVE

VU23320	Identify and handle carpentry tools and equipment
VU23321	Perform basic setting out
VU23322	Construct basic sub-floor
VU23323	Construct basic wall frames
VU23324	Construct a basic roof frame
VU23325	Install basic external cladding
VU23326	Install basic window and door frames
VU23327	Install interior fixings
VU23328	Dismantle basic timber structures
VU23329	Construct basic formwork for concreting

*Units of Competency are subject to change



EQUINE

22647VIC Certificate III in Equine Studies

This program aims to provide students with the knowledge, skills and competency that will enhance your training and employment prospects in the equine or equine related industries.

This program can support a pathway to employment in different sectors of the industry in roles such as stable-hands or stud hands, or further study in a range of equine or equine related qualifications in horse breeding, sport or racing.

DURATION

- Two years

STUDY PATHWAYS

- RGR30518 Certificate III in Racing (Track Work Rider)
- RG40619 Certificate IV in Horse Breeding
- ACM50521 Diploma of Equine Allied Health
- ACM50421 Diploma of Equine Management
- Bachelor of Equine Studies

POTENTIAL CAREER PATHWAYS WITH FURTHER STUDY

- Stable hand
- Animal Attendant
- Track Rider
- Horse Breeder
- Trainer or Manager
- Veterinarian

DELIVERY LOCATIONS

- Skillinvest Ballarat (theory)
- Mt Rowan College or Newington College (practical)

SCHOOL TO WORK

A minimum of 40 hours work placement is recommended.

ACCREDITATION

State Course

UNITS OF COMPETENCY

CORE

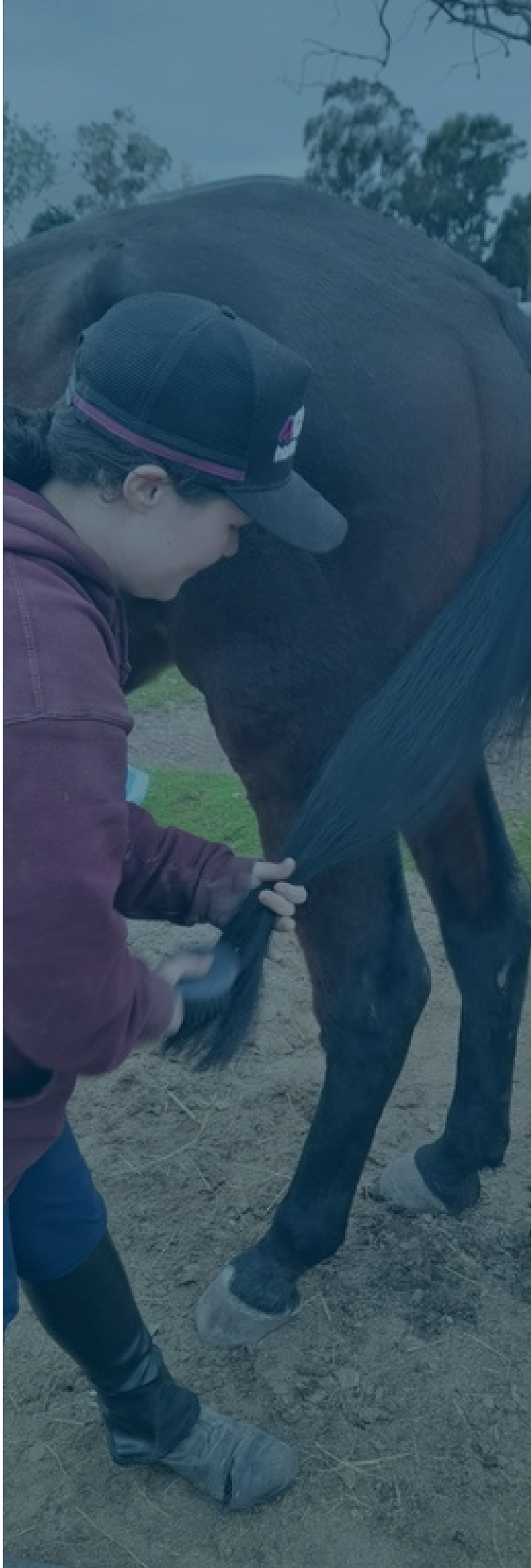
ACMEQU212	Handle horses safely
ACMEQU213	Follow safe work practices in equine industries
VU23586	Work effectively in an equine organisation
VU23587	Implement and monitor horse health and welfare practices
VU23588	Implement and monitor horse feeding programs
VU23589	Relate equine form to function
VU23590	Identify equine anatomy
VU23591	Identify and describe equine physiology

ELECTIVE

Students will complete three of the following four units

VU23592	Demonstrate basic horse riding or driving skills
VU23593	Assist in the preparation of a horse for a competition
VU23594	Assist in the conduct and organisation of an event in the equine industry
ACMEQU216	Check and treat horses

*Units of Competency are for 2025/26 and are subject to change. Students in their second year will continue with their current package.



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

HOW TO APPLY

Students will be able to apply to study a VDSS course after they have consulted with their school VET or Careers Coordinator.

Applications open towards the end of term three or the beginning of term four. See your school VET or Careers Coordinator for more details.

UNIQUE STUDENT IDENTIFIER (USI)

A USI is your lifelong education number – you only need to create it once. If you do not already have a USI you will need to create one before commencing your VDSS course.

You can create your USI by visiting:
https://www.usi.gov.au/students/get-a-usi

START TIME AND DATES

Start time and dates will be communicated to students through their school VET Coordinators and via a welcome letter from Skillinvest once a student applies.

EXPECTATIONS

Students will be expected to follow all instructions given to them by Skillinvest staff and adhere to the Skillinvest Student Code of Conduct.

VDSS is an adult course modified for students and as such, students are expected to behave appropriately at all times.

A full list of expectations, along with the Skillinvest VDSS Code of Conduct will be provided to students with the Skillinvest Student Handbook prior to enrolling.

BREAK TIMES

Break times will be determined by the individual trainer for each course to fit in with the scheduling for the day. Times may vary from week to week depending on units being delivered and the site students are studying at.

PHONES AND DEVICES

Phones and devices are to be placed in students bags and not accessed during VDSS classes unless or until they are required. The course trainer will let students know when they can access their phone or device, and only then can they be used during class time.

SMOKING/VAPING

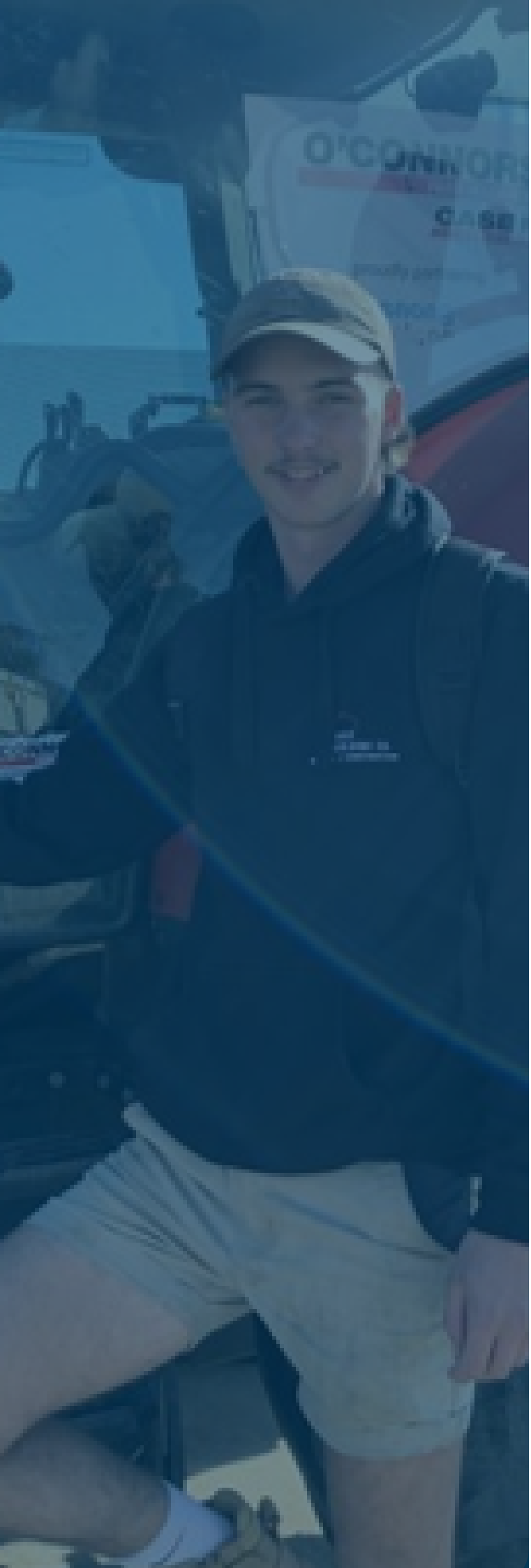
Skillinvest and all sites we deliver on are strictly no smoking/vaping sites. Students are not permitted to smoke or vape on site with no exceptions.

TRAVEL

The Department of Education provides travel from some venues to their VDSS site. Speak to your school to find out if your travel costs are covered.

ENROLMENT

Enrolments are open from the end of term three or beginning of term four each year. Speak to the VET or careers coordinator at your school to learn more. Enrolment paperwork must be completed prior to students beginning their course.



WHY CHOOSE SKILLINVEST?

Skillinvest is an incorporated 'not for profit' organisation. We provide training and further education and are an accredited provider of Nationally Recognised Training, therefore you may gain a standalone qualification if you successfully complete your VDSS training program.

Skillinvest provides a supportive and friendly environment for students and aims for continuous improvement in all areas of our training. We are committed to providing the best outcomes for all of our students.

At Skillinvest:

- We listen to your needs
- All competencies are provided from relevant training package
- Access to your Skillinvest trainer can be provided outside of class if necessary.

NOTES

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