

PATHWAYS TO A FUTURE IN THE RECREATION INDUSTRY

The range of career options in the recreation industry continues to grow. This handout illustrates employment opportunities within the industry and shows how students still at school can move toward obtaining a position in a desired occupation within the industry.

Schools offer students a number of opportunities to undertake exposure to the workforce, either through work-related programs in general education courses or in vocational education and training programs (VET).

VET programs allow schools to go beyond traditional work experience programs and provide structured workplace learning opportunities that:

- are based directly on industry skill needs;

- allow substantial amounts of real work; and
- result in an industry-recognised qualification.

The wide range of programs being implemented across the recreation industry is based on national competency standards. Generally, entry into these qualifications depends on a person's current level of knowledge and industry skills. School-leavers gain competence by completing a lower-level qualification before being granted entry into higher-level qualifications.

The key to career progression in the recreation industry is continual development of skills and knowledge through a combination of regular training and ongoing work experience in the industry.

Apprenticeships and traineeships (school-based)

Students are able to commence a traineeship or an apprenticeship, involving a training contract and paid employment, while still at school. The student is regarded the same way as any other trainee or apprentice, but only gets paid for the time spent actually working.

Students are encouraged to complete their Senior Certificate plus a nationally recognised qualification or statement of attainment. If the apprenticeship/traineeship is not completed by the end of Year 12, the employer converts the arrangement to a full-time or part-time apprenticeship/traineeship to complete the training required.

Industry profile

About the industry

The recreation industry is comprised of the following sectors: sport; fitness; community recreation and government services; outdoor recreation; and racing. There are related positions in allied health professions and other areas such as physical education teaching, photography, journalism, marketing and retailing.

How large is the industry?

The industry generates employment for approximately 47 000 people in Queensland. Many of these people have sport- and recreation-specific occupations. Employment in the recreation industry contributes significantly to the economic growth of the State.

What career options are available?

Careers in the industry can be classified into the following sectors:

- **Community recreation:**
Includes occupations such as Community Recreation Officer, Lifeguard and Recreation Activity Officer.
- **Fitness:**
Can include occupations such as Aerobics Instructor, Fitness Centre Manager, Exercise Physiologist, Fitness Instructor and Personal Trainer.
- **Outdoor recreation:**
Involves careers such as Adventure Therapy Worker, Environmental Education Officer, Outdoor Education Teacher, Outdoor Recreation Officer, Ranger, Recreation Planning Officer and Resort Activities Officer.

- **Racing:**
Occupations include Administrator or Manager, Farrier, Harness Racing Driver, Jockey and Steward.
- **Sport:**
Occupations include Administrator, Coach, Event Manager, Facility Service and Maintenance Officer, Licensed Sports Club Manager, Professional Sportsperson, Sport Development Officer, Sports Scientist, Technical Official/Referee, Trainer, and Venue Manager.
- **Allied health:**
Careers in the recreation industry also exist for Dietitians, Massage Therapists, Physicians, Physiotherapists, Podiatrists and Psychologists.
- **Related professions:**
Graduates from the following professions can also find rewarding careers in the recreation industry — journalism, manufacturing or retailing, marketing, photography, physical education teaching, and university or college lecturing.

Personal qualities

In general, the qualities required to get you started in a career in this industry are:

- enthusiasm
- motivation
- common sense
- dedication
- reliability

What else should I know?

You can become involved in the industry while still at school, so talk to your Guidance Officer, Careers Counsellor or VET Coordinator to find out how.

You can also visit the website at:

www.rtg.com.au/rtq1/careersguide/careers_body.html



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Training/study programs	AQF Level	Occupations
Degree <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Animal/Equine Studies Arts Biomedical Science Business Eco/Environmental Tourism Environmental/Natural Resource Management Exercise Science Food Science Forestry Health Science Hospitality/Hotel Management Human Movement Studies Leisure Studies Medical Science Natural Systems and Wildlife Nutrition and Dietetics Physiotherapy Podiatry Psychology Retail Management Science Sport Science Sport Tourism Management Sports Medicine Teaching 	Bachelor Degree (AQF 7) ↑	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrator Dietitian Environmental Education Officer Event Manager Exercise Physiologist Fitness Centre Manager Horse Breeder Licensed Sports Club Manager Outdoor Education Teacher Physical Education Teacher Physiotherapist Podiatrist Psychologist Ranger Recreation Activity Manager Sports Scientist Sports Medicine Physician University/College Lecturer Venue Manager
Advanced Diploma <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Golf Management Recreation Management Recreation Studies 	Advanced Diploma (AQF 6) ↑	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrator Community Recreation Officer Event Manager Fitness Centre Manager Golf Club Manager Recreation Activity Officer/Manager Venue Manager
Diploma <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equine Studies Fitness Therapies Fitness Recreation Racing Recreation Administration Sports Coaching Sports Therapies 	Diploma (AQF 5) ↑	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrator Coach Fitness Centre Manager Fitness Instructor Greyhound Trainer Horse Stable Manager Horse Trainer Manager Recreation Planning Officer Sport Massage Therapist
Certificate IV Level Courses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abseiling/Climbing Leadership Aquatics Divemaster Fitness Reception and Administration Outdoor Recreation Personal Training Racing Recreation Sailing Scuba Diving Instruction Surf Coaching 	Certificate IV (AQF 4) ↑	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrator Coach Divemaster Fitness Centre Manager Fitness Trainer Greyhound Trainer Harness Driver Horse Trainer Jockey Outdoor Recreation Activity Instructor Personal Trainer Professional Sportsperson Technical Official/Referee
Certificate III Level Courses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abseiling Community Recreation Equestrian Coaching Equine Studies Fariery Navigation/Sailing Outdoor Recreation Racing Recreation Administration Scuba Diving Surf Coaching 	Certificate III (AQF 3) ↑	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equestrian Coach Farrier Kennelhand Outdoor Recreation Guide Recreation Activity Officer Stablehand Trackwork Driver/Rider Fitness Instructor
Traineeships/Certificate II <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Recreation Equestrian Grooming and Horse Stud Practices Fitness Instruction Outdoor Recreation Practical Golf Racing Recreation Sailing Service and Maintenance Sport and Recreation Sports First Aid 	Certificate II (AQF 2) ↑	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adventure Therapy Worker Aerobics Instructor Assistant Outdoor Recreation Instructor/Guide Coach's Assistant Facility Service and Maintenance Officer Fitness Instructor Lifeguard Professional Sportsperson Recreation Activity Officer Sports Trainer/Conditioner Stablehand Technical Official/Referee
Pre-Employment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation 	Certificate I (AQF 1)	Skills and experience gained from undertaking this training will assist in gaining entry to higher-level training courses and associated employment opportunities.