

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Eligibility & requirements

I'm on a student visa, will the hours count towards my work allowance?

The hours on a project **do not** count towards your work allowance.

The hours on a placement **do** count towards your work allowance.

To find out more, view the [International Students and Work rights in Australia webpage](#).

Am I eligible for a bursary?

La Trobe offers financial support to students undertaking an industry placement. You may be eligible for one of the following:

- [Industry Placement Bursary](#): for undergraduates completing at least 70 hours and experiencing financial or personal disadvantage.
- [Placement Travel Bursary](#): for students travelling 120km+ (one way) for a placement lasting 10+ days.
- [Commonwealth Prac Payment](#): for students in teaching, nursing, midwifery or social work, starting July 2025.

Is my placement guaranteed?

University Sourced placements:

The Industry Placement option is competitive. Your application will be assessed based on the strength of your **CV** and the quality of your responses to the **Placement Allocation Questions**.

In some cases, industry partners may also request an **interview** before confirming a placement. As a result, allocation to a placement opportunity is **not guaranteed**.

Student Sourced placements:

The process requires students to negotiate a placement with an organisation and complete all required documentation. Application and documentation assessment is required, so whilst most placements are approved, some cannot be approved if the placement or organisation doesn't meet requirements.

Industry Projects:

Entry is usually guaranteed if you meet the subject pre-requisites. You can see these pre-requisites in the university handbook. Students will only be unsuccessful for an Industry Project if they **do not complete** the Industry Project Intake Form or fail to complete the pre-placement requirements.

Application & entry process

How do I choose between a project or a placement?

There are many factors to consider when choosing between a placement or a project.

Please see this [visual guide](#) which breaks down the differences between the two.

If I change my mind, can I move between a project and a placement?

Yes, you can move from one to the other, as long as you have sufficient time to comply with the appropriate application process.

You must advise the [Industry Placements Team](#) as soon as possible and they will provide you with instructions.

What if I apply for a Uni sourced placement, but I'm not successful?

You will still have the opportunity to find your own placement opportunity or enrol and apply for a project subject. If your application is unsuccessful, the Industry Placements team will reach out to you to provide you with information on your other options.

I've changed my mind, but I already submitted the application, what can I do?

If you're shortlisted for a placement but choose to withdraw because it doesn't meet your needs, we won't be able to match you to another placement opportunity. However, you

may still have other options available to you to engage in a Student Sourced placement or an Industry Project.

I'm not happy with my placement or project allocation, what can I do?

As above, we cannot re-match you to another placement opportunity. However, you may still have other options available to you to engage in a Student Sourced placement or an Industry Project.

Assessment & recognition

Are projects and placements assessed?

For **placements** you are assessed through:

- Skills assessment and development plan
- Information interview and presentation
- Reflection inclusion of Placement Supervisor Evaluation

For **projects** you are assessed through:

- Individual skill assessment and project development plan
- Goal setting and mid project reflection
- Final project report

Will I receive a certificate or recognition for completing a placement or project?

Recognition will appear on your academic transcript for you to show potential employers. You can also add the experience to your LinkedIn profile and resume. For more help with writing your resume or LinkedIn profile, view the resources on the Career Hub.

Does this count towards the Career Ready Advantage award?

A placement or a project will be added to the Career Ready Advantage Award as a practical experience credit.

Experience & expectations

What's expected of me on a project or placement?

You're expected to be professional, respectful, show up on time and submit your work by the deadline. Be curious, take feedback on board, and get involved in networking

opportunities. Make sure you follow safety protocols, communicate clearly, and help create a positive learning environment for everyone.

How far will I have to travel for a placement?

You may be expected to travel up to 75 minutes each way to your professional experience placement location.

The Placement Operations team do their best to place students close to home but due to the competitive nature of the sector and the teaching methods that students undertake, this is not always possible.

Are projects and placements online or face to face?

Placements are usually on-site, online or a combination of both. Flexible arrangements are discussed and negotiated with the host organisation.

Projects involve two main face-to-face events (Induction and Pitch Days) with the bulk of the masterclasses, project work and assessments undertaken online.

Which is better for my career?

Undertaking an Industry Placement or an Industry Project will enhance your resume, your LinkedIn profile, your networks, and will help you gain practical experience in the workplace. Both opportunities will provide you with in-demand skills such as teamwork and time management.

Placement-specific options

What if I want to do a placement at a specific organisation?

La Trobe offers resources and guidance to help you become 'industry ready' and secure your own placement opportunity. By [sourcing your own placement](#), you'll have greater flexibility and certainty to complete your placement subject in the semester that best suits you.