

**ARCHAEOLOGY PROGRAM**

**CERTIFICATE IV in  
ABORIGINAL CULTURAL  
HERITAGE MANAGEMENT  
22626VIC**

**Information for Students  
2026**

Melbourne (Bundoora) Campus

**Senior Educator:** Tya Lovett  
M: 0498 133 972  
E: [t.lovett@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:t.lovett@latrobe.edu.au)

**Senior Coordinator:** Leah Hunt  
M: 0457 168 805  
E: [l.hunt@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:l.hunt@latrobe.edu.au)

[www.latrobe.edu.au/departments-of-archaeology-and-history/study](http://www.latrobe.edu.au/departments-of-archaeology-and-history/study)

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## CONTACTS

The course is delivered by La Trobe University, Registered Training Organisation, **RTO 3899**.  
All correspondence should be directed to the senior educator Tya Lovett, see below.

PERSON	PHONE	EMAIL / ADDRESS
<b>Tya Lovett</b> Senior Educator	0498 133 972	<a href="mailto:t.lovett@latrobe.edu.au">t.lovett@latrobe.edu.au</a> Archaeology Program La Trobe University
<b>Leah Hunt</b> Senior Coordinator	0457 168 805	<a href="mailto:l.hunt@latrobe.edu.au">l.hunt@latrobe.edu.au</a> Archaeology Program La Trobe University
<b>Sharon Cleaves</b> RTO Compliance Manager	0407 758 611	<a href="mailto:s.cleaves@latrobe.edu.au">s.cleaves@latrobe.edu.au</a>
<b>Indigenous Student Services Offices across all regional campuses.</b>	13 La Trobe 1300 52 8762	Website <a href="https://www.latrobe.edu.au/indigenous/student-services">https://www.latrobe.edu.au/indigenous/student-services</a> <a href="mailto:Indigenous_studentservices@latrobe.edu.au">Indigenous_studentservices@latrobe.edu.au</a> Use this email to make contact at any of the Indigenous Student service offices.
<b>Bundoora</b> Joel Upton Advisor Ngarn-gi Bagora Indigenous Centre	13 La Trobe 1300 52 8762	Joel Upton Indigenous Student Advisor <a href="mailto:j.upton@latrobe.edu.au">j.upton@latrobe.edu.au</a>
<b>Albury Wodonga</b> Woddha Gki-Lya Indigenous Education Unit	(02) 6024 9700	Alex Singe Indigenous Student Engagement coordinator <a href="mailto:A.singe@latrobe.edu.au">A.singe@latrobe.edu.au</a>
<b>Bendigo</b> Jimbeyer Boondjhil Indigenous Unit	(03) 5444 2222	Justin Linder Indigenous Student Advisor <a href="mailto:J.lindner@latrobe.edu.au">J.lindner@latrobe.edu.au</a>
<b>Mildura</b> Indigenous Student Services Officer Dulka Yappata building	(03) 5051 4000	Misty Clark, Student Engagement coordinator <a href="mailto:M.Clark@latrobe.edu.au">M.Clark@latrobe.edu.au</a>
<b>Shepparton</b> Ngarrapna Indigenous Education Unit	(03) 5820 8600	Jacinta Traianidis Coordinator Indigenous Student Engagement <a href="mailto:J.traianidis@latrobe.edu.au">J.traianidis@latrobe.edu.au</a>
<b>Student Support</b>		<a href="https://www.latrobe.edu.au/students">https://www.latrobe.edu.au/students</a>

## 2026- IMPORTANT DATES\*

DATE	TEACHING BLOCK
<b>February</b> 9 <sup>th</sup> – 13 <sup>th</sup>	Week 1
<b>March</b> 16 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup>	Week 2
<b>April</b> 20 <sup>th</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup>	Week 3
<b>May</b> 25 <sup>th</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup>	Week 4
<b>June</b> 22 <sup>nd</sup> – 26 <sup>th</sup>	Week 5
<b>August</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup>	Week 6
<b>September</b> 7 <sup>th</sup> – 11 <sup>th</sup>	Week 7
<b>October</b> 12 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup>	Week 8
<b>November</b> 16 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup>	Week 9
<b>November</b> 23 <sup>rd</sup>	All assessments due
<b>December</b> 4 <sup>th</sup>	Graduation ceremony - Melbourne

\* Dates and locations may change prior to course commencement.

### **IMPORTANT NOTE**

All offers and applications for 2026 are provisional and subject to 22626VIC registration approval by ASQA and funding from First Peoples - State Relations (FPSR.)

You can look up the course at [training.gov.au](https://training.gov.au)

# ABOUT THE COURSE

## 1 Course information

<b>Course name:</b>	Certificate IV in Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management
<b>Course code:</b>	22626VIC
<b>Course owner</b>	First Peoples - State Relations (FPSR) (Contract Manager: Dr Christina Pavlides)
<b>Course Registered under:</b>	Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA)
<b>Course type:</b>	Accredited course (National)
<b>Delivered by:</b>	La Trobe University Registered Training Organisation 3899
<b>Program Manager:</b>	Tya Lovett, Senior Educator
<b>Centrelink approved courses code:</b>	Education Provider: La Trobe University - VET Code: 3P346

The Certificate IV in Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management (22626VIC) is a nationally accredited qualification. It provides training in the skills and knowledge required to work in the cultural heritage industry. It also provides training in the skills and knowledge needed by Registered Aboriginal Parties and other land managers to meet their cultural heritage management obligations under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*. The course is delivered as a partnership between La Trobe University (RTO 3899) and First Peoples - State Relations.

### Competency based training

This qualification is a *competency-based* training course. This means that we deliver and assess you on the skills and knowledge needed for you to do tasks at the standard required in a related job or industry. If you have already gained some of the skills and knowledge covered in this course through your previous work experience (paid or unpaid) you can be assessed through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

### Links to industry, licences and tickets

This course does not cover any external licence or tickets. You will, however, meet and learn from industry professionals and stakeholders throughout the course and through Work Integrated Learning opportunities. The course also has a strong link to the cultural heritage management industry through our Industry and Education Course Registration Reference Group.

**This qualification by itself is not sufficient to register as a Heritage Advisor with First Peoples- State Relations.**

### Employability skills

This course also helps you to develop general work skills called *employability skills*. These are built into the activities and assessments so that when you show competency in the skills and knowledge required of each unit, you are also showing general skills that are useful in a workplace. These are:

- communication and teamwork
- problem solving, initiative and enterprise
- planning and organising
- self-management
- learning
- technology

## 2 Course units and assessment

### Course units

The Certificate IV in Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management qualification requires the completion of 10 core units and 2 electives. The units are taught in an integrated way so that you have opportunities to develop and practice your knowledge and skills across the year.

CORE Unit Code	Unit Title
AHCLPW409	Inspect and monitor culturally significant places
AHCWHS202	Participate in workplace health and safety processes
BSBTWK503	Manage Meetings
HLTAID011	Provide first aid
NWPGEN023	Use maps, plans, drawings and details
VU23421	Work effectively in the Victorian cultural heritage industry
VU23422	Investigate Victorian Aboriginal cultural heritage landscapes
VU23423	Identify and describe tangible Aboriginal cultural heritage
VU23424	Manage the discovery of Aboriginal ancestral remains
VU23425	Contribute to the conservation of Aboriginal places
ELECTIVE Unit Code	Unit Title
CUACNM311	<i>Move and store collection material</i>
CUAPRE401	<i>Implement preventive conservation activities</i>

### Assessment

Assessment is continuous and tasks are set throughout the year. Most assessments are completed during the study week. You need to meet the critical aspects of assessment for each unit of competency by handing in all written work and completing all practical tasks, which includes a minimum attendance requirement (discussed below). Assessment methods include:

- Written answers to questions, reports and completion of forms
- Drawing maps and scaled plans
- Field work and practical demonstrations
- Verbal answers to questions and formal presentations to the class
- Professional work placement in the cultural heritage industry.

There are three possible assessment outcomes for each assessment task and unit of competency:

- Competent "C" (you have passed)
- Not yet Competent "NYC" (you have an opportunity to try again)
- Not Competent "NC" (not competent, not handed in, or not fully completed)

Assessments are based on each person's demonstration of knowledge and skills and are not competitive. We will meet with you at regular intervals to talk about your progress. We will offer additional assistance to help you gain the skills required to achieve a competent result.

All assessments must be satisfactorily completed by **23 November 2026** in order to graduate in 2026. Any assessments handed in after this date will not be marked and will receive an outcome of Not Competent.

## Core unit descriptions

### Inspect and monitor culturally significant places (AHCLPW409)

**Description:** This unit covers inspecting and monitoring culturally significant places and includes preparing for inspection, inspecting a place to establish a schedule of maintenance and monitoring, and reporting.

**Assessment:**

- Write answers to place inspection knowledge questions
- complete a place inspection report on a registered Aboriginal place
- complete First Peoples-State Relations place inspection and environmental setting forms
- complete a consultation record
- assessments may be integrated with core units VU23422, VU23425

### Participate in workplace health and safety processes (AHCWHS202)

**Description:** This unit covers the process of following Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) policies and procedures in cultural heritage management. You will:

- recognise and report hazards in the workplace
- follow workplace safety procedures and directions; use personal protective equipment (PPE)
- carry out basic safety checks on equipment before use
- complete manual handling tasks using recommended techniques
- follow emergency procedures and warning signs.

**Note:** This unit is NOT equivalent to the Construction Industry Induction course (white card).

**Assessment:**

- complete a workplace hazard checklist and document risk controls
- write answers to workplace health and safety knowledge questions
- demonstrate workplace health and safety compliance
- report an incident or near miss

### Manage meetings (BSBTWK503)

**Description:** This unit covers the skills and knowledge required to organise and facilitate formal and informal meetings in a cultural heritage industry context.

**Assessment:**

- write answers to meeting skills and knowledge questions
- organise, conduct and document two meetings

### Provide first aid (HLTAID011, Level 2 first aid)

**Description:** This unit covers the skills and knowledge required to provide first aid response, life support, management of casualty(s), the incident and other first aiders, until the arrival of medical other assistance. Students may complete this unit at La Trobe University or with a registered provider of their choice.

**Assessment:**

- write answers to knowledge questions
- demonstrate first aid skills and techniques

## Use maps, plans, drawings and details (NWPGEN023)

**Description:** This unit involves the skills and knowledge required to use maps, plans, drawings and details. It includes reading and interpreting maps, plans, drawings and specifications. The use of technology such as measuring tapes, compass and GPS will be used, which can assist with recording Aboriginal places or advising on changes and errors on maps.

**Assessment:**

- find information from a topographic map
- check and amend a site plan
- find information from plans and specifications
- write answers to knowledge questions

## Work effectively in the Victorian cultural heritage industry (VU23421)

**Description:** This unit covers the skills and knowledge required to work at an entry level in the cultural heritage industry in Australia. The unit covers industry structure, issues and priorities including the historical context of legislative developments. Skills are developed in following industry protocols, legislation and practices in performing cultural heritage work.

**Assessment:**

- write answer to questions about government policies, heritage legislation and industry organisations
- demonstrate workplace skills during Work Integrated Learning or employment.

## Investigate Victorian Aboriginal cultural heritage landscapes (VU23422)

**Description:** This unit covers the basic principles of geology as they relate to formation processes in the archaeological record and to past and present cultural landscapes, sites and places within changing environments. It includes understanding rock and landscape formation over time in Victoria, basic geomorphology, site types in the landscape and threats to preservation.

**Assessment:**

- write answers to questions about geology, landscape and archaeological site formation over time
- identify landforms, cultural places and threats to cultural heritage places
- complete First Peoples-State Relations environmental setting forms
- complete a consultation record
- some assessments may be integrated with core units VU23423 and VU23425.

## Identify and describe tangible Aboriginal cultural heritage (VU23423)

**Description:** This unit covers the identification and recording of materials found at Aboriginal cultural heritage places such as stone artefacts, scarred trees, ecofacts and historic materials, including special site types such as quarries, stone features, mounds, hearths, shell middens, rock art and intangible places.

**Assessment:**

- write answers to questions about the identification and recording of cultural heritage places
- analyse shell and stone assemblages
- complete First Peoples - State Relations heritage register and component forms
- complete a consultation record

## Manage the discovery of Aboriginal ancestral remains (VU23424)

**Description:** This unit covers managing the discovery of human skeletal remains, with a focus on managing Aboriginal ancestral remains in a cultural heritage management context. It includes the process of reporting discoveries, and compliance with the State and community protocols, which may involve the police, coroner, State Government agencies, physical anthropologists and Registered Aboriginal Parties. Knowledge of the legal, reporting, consultation and repatriation processes required to manage the discovery of Aboriginal ancestral remains is included in the unit. An expected outcome will be the ability to identify some human and non-human remains and discovery contexts.

**Assessment:**

- demonstrate animal and human bone identification
- write answers to questions about the reporting process and legislation, traditional funerary practices, context of discovery and preservation, management options and knowledge of protocols.
- recording and reporting remains by completing First Peoples-State Relations component forms.
- complete a consultation record

## Contribute to the conservation of Aboriginal places (VU23425)

**Description:** This unit covers the skill and knowledge required to contribute to conservation report for an Aboriginal place or area. Knowledge of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance assessment criteria, cultural values, threats to cultural heritage significance and mitigation of those threats are covered. This unit does not include the requirement to produce a complete conservation management plan, devise strategy/policy or lead community engagement activities.

**Assessment:**

- Write answers to questions about conservation principles and practices
- prepare a conservation activity plan outline for a cultural heritage place
- complete a consultation record
- some assessment may be integrated with core unit AHCLPW409.

## Elective unit descriptions

### Move and store collection material (CUACNM311)

### Implement preventive conservation activities (CUAPRE401)

**Description:** These two units have integrated delivery and cover skills and knowledge required to provide preventive care of collection material through knowledge of conservation principles, handling, packing and unpacking of collection material for movement and storage.

**Assessment** (note: these units are assessed together):

- write answers to questions and complete forms
- practical tasks involving the cleaning, preservation, moving and storage of a cultural heritage item.

### 3 How the course is delivered

In 2026, we aim to deliver the course in 9 face-to-face teaching weeks (Monday-Friday), approximately a month apart between February-November. The teaching blocks will be hosted in Melbourne and other locations in regional Victoria. If a State of Emergency is declared such as fire, floods or health warnings we may be required to deliver online training.

#### When and where

The dates for 2026 are detailed in a table on page 4. The locations will be finalised and released to enrolled course students, as La Trobe University may choose teaching locations based the traditional lands of the student group.

#### Our teachers and presenters

Our trainers and assessors are highly qualified with experience in cultural heritage management and specialist fields and hold a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment or higher. You will also meet presenters from all sectors of the cultural heritage management industry, including staff from La Trobe University, First Peoples - State Relations, Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council, Registered Aboriginal Parties, Traditional Owners, land managers and other specialists. All learning materials are provided.

#### The amount of time involved

**Attendance face to face:** 392 hours (approx.)

**Work placement:** 22 hours (3 days). If you are currently working in the cultural heritage management industry or have worked recently, you can apply for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL).

**Additional study between weeks:** You are expected to read and review study materials between teaching weeks, and work on assessment tasks. The time taken depends on individuals but could be between 10-20 hours per month.

**Travel:** Most students will need to travel to our training location on the Sunday before each teaching block and travel home at the end of teaching week or Saturday morning. This includes travel to Melbourne and other regional locations across Victoria.

## Attendance and Absences

You are expected to attend 100% of each training week. As the training is delivered in teaching blocks, it can be difficult to catch up after an absence. The **training dates** are provided on **page 4** of this handbook.

We understand that travelling and being away from home for five to seven nights and attending classes intensively throughout the day can be difficult for those students who also have employment, family and cultural or community responsibilities. We ask you to consider your responsibilities carefully before deciding to enrol in the course. You should keep the training weeks clear of appointments and social events as the course might be held in remote locations on some training days/weeks.

Some periods of absence may be unavoidable. **Allowable absences** include:

- absence due to illness supported by evidence supplied to the Senior Educator;
- non-attendance because you have been given credit or recognition for prior learning and skills (RPL);
- unexpected family, employment, cultural or community circumstances requiring immediate attention.

You will need to complete missed activities and assessments between sessions with support from La Trobe University staff. If you are absent, please contact the Senior Educator as soon as possible to arrange completion of missed training. The course is unable to repeat sessions as it is funded for single session specialised delivery blocks only.

If your attendance falls below 85% of the total course, you will be at risk of not being able to meet the critical aspects of assessment and may not be able to achieve the qualification in 2026. Students at risk because of absences will be contacted by the Cert IV staff. There are a total of 45 training days across the 9 training weeks but your attendance and completion of missed work will be monitored across the program.

## Support travelling to, from and during teaching blocks

A unique feature of this course is the opportunity to travel away from home to other Traditional Owner country for many of the training weeks. You can meet and get to know people from across Victoria, build your professional networks and continue learning outside the scheduled learning activities. You will become part of a learning and professional community. We expect you to be able to organise your own travel. If you don't have a car then we will ask you to manage your own bookings or other travel arrangements.

All enrolled course students, whether fee-paying or funded by First Peoples - State Relations, are provided with all meals, accommodation and travel reimbursement costs when you are required to be away from your place of residence (see Fees and Funding, Insurance sections for more details).

## Full time enrolment only

The integrated nature of course delivery during the 9 teaching blocks and La Trobe University contract funding arrangements, means the course is **only offered on a full-time basis**. If you complete the course requirements, you can expect to graduate in December 2026.

## Modified delivery and/or assessment

The course involves both classroom and fieldwork. This could include walking on uneven and relatively steep land or walking for some distance. If you have a condition that might affect your ability to participate, inform La Trobe University course staff when you apply, as it may be possible to modify delivery or assessment task to meet your needs.

## 4 Costs and funding

In 2026, this course will be delivered with Victorian Government funding from First Peoples - State Relations and with contributions from La Trobe University.

### First Peoples - State Relations funded positions

If you have a First Peoples - State Relations funded place in the course **no fees are payable**. You will be provided with no cost accommodation, meals and all learning materials. Your travel costs will be reimbursed each training week when you present receipts for fuel or public transport. Taxi and plane fares cannot be reimbursed without prior approval by the Senior Educator or Senior Coordinator.

### Fee-paying places

A limited number of fee-paying places are available in this course. After review, the fees in 2026 will increase to \$20,000 per student to account for the actual cost of tuition, accommodation, meals, learning materials and reimbursement for eligible transport costs. Fees do not include Certificate IV ACHM staff costs.

### ABSTUDY/Centrelink

This course is registered as an approved course with ABSTUDY and Centrelink. As all enrolments in this course are full time, you might be eligible for ABSTUDY payments. Education Provider: La Trobe University - VET Code: 3P346

### Personal Protective Clothing

You will need to provide your own clothing and footwear suitable for learning outdoors. This includes long sleeved top, long pants, warm clothing, rain wear and supportive boots. Closed toe boots are recommended but hard toe safety boots are not required.

### Eligibility for future government training at Certificate IV level

Please note that because of Victorian government VET funding rules, enrolling in this course **might** affect your eligibility for Victorian government-funded training at Certificate IV level in the future. You will be asked about your future training plans during the application process to make sure that this course is the right course for you at this time.

## 5 How to apply

### Minimum Entry Requirements

All applicants must be:

- a. an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander;
- b. over 18 years of age prior to course commencement;
- c. able to read, write and speak English at a level that will enable them to participate in and compete the requirements of the course.

### First Peoples State Relations Fully Funded Places

If you meet the minimum entry requirements, you will be considered for a fully funded place based on an FPSR capacity-building priority list and the following criteria. Priority applicants will:

- a. be a member of a Registered Aboriginal Party (RAP);
- b. be Victorian Aboriginal Traditional Owners or other Indigenous Australians working in Victorian cultural heritage management;
- a. have successfully completed the FPSR three-day introductory Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management '*Past and Present*' workshop. These workshops are held twice a year. If you have not completed a workshop, please contact Christina Pavlides on (03) 8392 5383 or [christina.pavlides@dpc.vic.gov.au](mailto:christina.pavlides@dpc.vic.gov.au) to enquire.

If you are not in the immediate priority list but you have an association with the Victorian Aboriginal Cultural Heritage industry through family or work you may be considered for an FPSR fully funded place on other grounds, depending on availability of places.

### Other Places

Depending on the availability of places the following additional places may be available:

- a. La Trobe may offer one fully-funded place to an applicant who is not on the FPSR priority list;
- b. other applicants who do not meet the priority list requirements may be offered a fee-paying place.

### Applications, pre-training interviews, offers-enrolments:

**Expression of Interest forms** must be completed and submitted by the due date so that La Trobe University can register your interest in applying to study 22626VIC Certificate IV in Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management course in 2026.

Expression of Interest forms will be available at the First Peoples – State Relations 3-day '*Past and Present*' workshops, upon request by contacting the senior educator or senior coordinator (see page 1 for contact details) or download a copy here: <https://www.latrobe.edu.au/departments-of-archaeology-and-history/study/certificate-iv-in-aboriginal-cultural-heritage-management>

- La Trobe University will contact you for a pre-training interview, which also includes a language, literacy and numeracy (LLN) assessment.
- First Peoples - State Relations and La Trobe University will meet to select applicants based on the FPSR capacity building funding priority list.
- La Trobe University will send successful applicants an invitation to enrol and to apply for Skills Recognition (Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and/or Credit - see section 6 below).
- You must complete enrolment and any skills recognition documents (if applicable) by the due date. Due to high demand for places **if you do not provide requested documents to La Trobe University by the due date, your offer might be withdrawn** and offered to another applicant.
- Successfully enrolled students will be issued with a confirmation of enrolment letter, La Trobe University student number and IT account, and information about the Week 1 training block.

**Deferment is not possible in this course.** If you are not offered a place for 2026, you may choose to be put on a waiting list for unexpected vacancies up to the end of Week 2 teaching block in 2026 OR for course intake in 2027.

### **Wait List Applicants**

If you have not been selected for a place in the past but you meet the criteria and may have been interviewed in recent years you can be placed on a waiting list. Each year we will invite wait list applicants by email, to reactivate their expression of interest. If we do not hear from you across two years we will remove you from the wait list. Keeping us informed of your contact details is important for wait list applicants. If you are no longer on a waiting list but you wish to reapply, please contact the Senior Educator or complete a new Expression of Interest form.

## **6 Skills Recognition (RPL and Credit Transfer)**

You might already have some of the competencies covered in the course as a result of previous learning, work and life experiences, employment experience and/or previous non-accredited education and training. You can apply for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) or Credit Transfer (CT) and if successful there may be parts of the course that you do not need to attend. There is currently no fee to apply for skills recognition.

During the enrolment process you will be asked if you would like to claim credit for previous study or Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL). If you tell us you want to apply for RPL or CT we will send you further information. You can also speak to the Senior Educator during Week 1 of the course to apply for RPL or CT.

**Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)** is an assessment process which helps you demonstrate that you have already attained some of the skills and knowledge relevant to this qualification. The RPL process starts at enrolment and needs to be completed before the end of Week 1 training.

- Ask for a Skills Recognition kit to be sent to you and complete the self-assessment.
- Arrange an interview/practical assessment to discuss evidence with the Senior Educator.
- If you are granted RPL for a unit you will not need to study it during the course and your grade will appear as Competent on your results.

**Credit transfer** is the process of gaining credit for any equivalent units of competency which you have previously completed through another Registered Training Organisation (RTO), and which are still current. You will need to provide an original or certified copy of your Certificate, Record of Results Statement of Attainment, or USI record indicating a competent level of attainment. You must do this before you start the unit. After we have verified your results with the issuing RTO, you will be granted credit for the units of competency previously completed and your student record will be updated showing credit transfer (CT) for that unit. Where your previous qualification does not meet VET equivalency requirements, you will either be required to apply for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) or enrol in the unit of competency being delivered in 22626VIC Certificate IV in Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management.

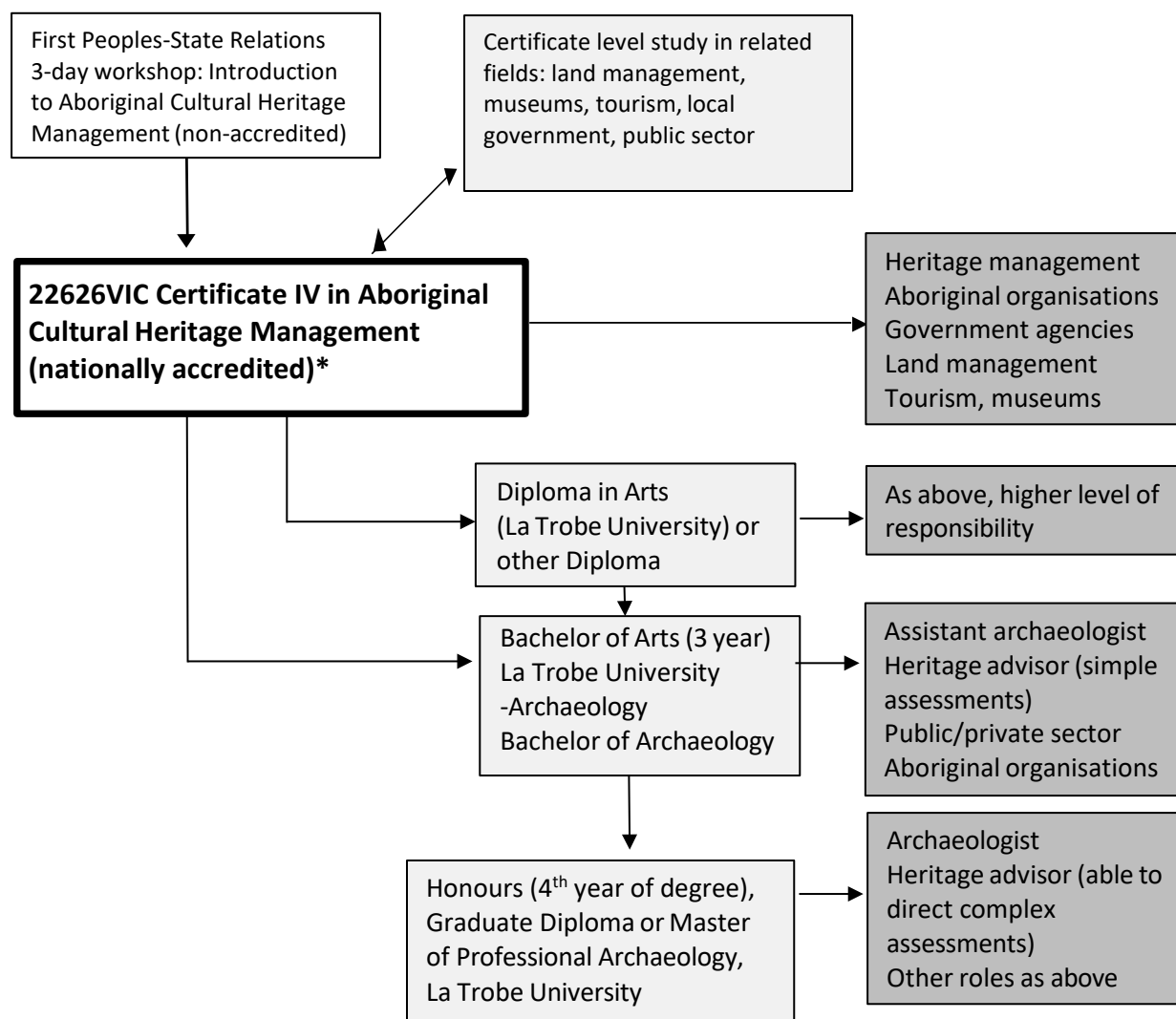
## 7 Pathways – what you can do with this course

The 22626VIC Certificate IV in Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management provides a pathway to further education and employment opportunities as shown in the picture below. Graduates can apply to be offered a place in the Bachelor of Arts at La Trobe University. For information about undergraduate courses in 2026 see the following guide: <https://www.latrobe.edu.au/study/undergrad>

### PATHWAYS

### Further Learning

### Employment



#### \*Please note:

- This qualification does NOT provide credit for subjects at undergraduate level (a Bachelor's degree) at La Trobe University.
- This qualification does not provide automatic entry to the Graduate Diploma or Masters of Professional Archaeology at La Trobe University; however you can apply for these courses and use your previous experiences in Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management as part of your application process.
- This qualification on its own is NOT enough to register as a Heritage Advisor with First Peoples -State Relations.

## 8 Orientation to the University

La Trobe University opened in 1967 and now teaches around 28,000 students. Campuses are located at Bundoora (Melbourne), Melbourne CBD, Bendigo, Albury-Wodonga, Shepparton and Mildura. La Trobe University is also a Registered Training Organisation (3899). The first week of the course will be held at the Bundoora campus. You will be given an orientation to the course and will be shown the location of key services and student facilities. You will be issued with a student ID card which is used for identification, library borrowing, photocopying and printing. If you lose your card you should report it to stop people using services in your name or incurring library fees. If your card is lost or stolen, email [idcard@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:idcard@latrobe.edu.au) ASAP with your name and student ID to cancel it for security reasons. You can then order a replacement. There is a charge to replace cards. Order a replacement card here: <https://www.latrobe.edu.au/students/admin/card>

## 9 Working together

### **Students can expect La Trobe University RTO 3899, to ensure that its trainers and staff will**

- come prepared and be on time
- provide a high standard of training delivery
- provide a culturally safe learning environment and communicate with everyone in a respectful way
- help with problems which are affecting your ability to complete the course
- respond to enquiries and provide constructive feedback as soon as possible
- keep accurate records and respect your privacy
- ensure that our training, assessment and certification complies with ASQA and AQF Standards
- keep you informed if there are any circumstances that will affect your enrolment or training, including a change of ownership of the RTO or registration of the course
- ensure that you can complete this course or similar if the RTO ceases to offer the course or ceases operation
- finalise any complaints you might have within 60 days.

### **We expect our students to:**

- attend all sessions and be on time, and notify us if you will not be attending
- notify staff of any changes in contact details straight away
- respond to written communications or verbal messages as soon as possible
- come prepared with appropriate gear or training materials as requested by trainers
- complete all assessment tasks without copying others' work or ideas (no plagiarism)
- communicate with everyone in a respectful way and respect their privacy
- show respectful and appropriate behaviour while staying with other course members in accommodation.
- contribute to a safe learning environment
- only use mobile phones outside of the training room or away from the group
- not smoke at cultural places, in non-smoking areas, or near other students during outdoor work
- provide honest and constructive feedback
- manage alcohol responsibly
- not bring or use illegal drugs during the training sessions
- work as part of a professional learning team, ask questions and tell trainers if there is a problem.

**The full Charter of Student Rights and Responsibilities can be found here:**

<https://policies.latrobe.edu.au/document/view.php?id=225>

## 10 Work standards - Plagiarism or cheating

We expect you to do your own work so that we know you have met the skills and knowledge requirements of the assessment tasks. You must ensure your work is your own or that you have contributed independently to group work. Plagiarism means using someone else's words, ideas or findings and presenting them as your own without proper acknowledgment and includes:

- copying or paraphrasing from someone else's published work without acknowledging the source;
- using facts, information and ideas derived from a source without acknowledgement;
- producing 'independent' assignments with and/or using the work of other people; and
- helping someone else to plagiarise.

If you plagiarise or "cheat" you may be subject to student discipline processes outlined here:

**Student Academic Misconduct Policy** <https://policies.latrobe.edu.au/document/view.php?id=221>

## 11 Opportunity for Feedback

We are keen to know about your experience as a student in the course and would like to hear your opinions about what is working well and what doesn't work for you. The information you give us helps us to provide the most appropriate kind of training for you. It is also an opportunity for us to review our practices for future courses. Evaluation is therefore a very important part of the course, and you will be asked to participate in evaluation activities during each week of the course. At the end of the course, you will be invited to participate in an evaluation activity conducted by an external consultant. You will also be asked to complete a VET Quality Indicator questionnaire in to meet our legal obligation as a Registered Training Organisation under ASQA. You may also be contacted by the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) to participate in a research survey. All surveys and feedback opportunities are voluntary and are not part of La Trobe University's course delivery or assessment processes.

## 12 Student support

La Trobe University offers several avenues of support while you are learning with us. **La Trobe University Certificate IV in Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management course staff** will do our best to provide the assistance you need or to put you in touch with appropriate people or services. We will make reasonable adjustments to the course and assessment to make sure that you are able to participate.

**Indigenous Student Services** provide academic advice and advocacy, student networks, computers, photocopying, scanning and fax services, and a gathering place. They can also assist with applications for further study at La Trobe after you complete your certificate. Contact the Ngarn-gi Bagora Centre at the Bundoora campus for more information. You can also access Indigenous Services at other campuses – see Contacts page for contact details.

In addition, you are eligible for **Tutorial Assistance** (help with your work) up to 2 hours a week (for 34 weeks). Contact the Senior Educator, Tya Lovett for further information. **The La Trobe Counselling Service** offers free confidential counselling support. A booking can be made online and held in person or via Zoom. Indigenous counselling is available.

To browse the full range of **Student Support Services**, go to: <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/students/support>

## 13 Computers and internet

Computing and printing facilities are available to students for official activity on campus. Students must follow the University's Internet Code of Practice. Student computers can be found in the libraries and Indigenous student services on all campuses. As part of your enrolment, you will be issued with an IT account for the year of your study. Once you have set up a secure password and accessed your La Trobe email account you can use student email, library systems, and computer/wireless access on campus. You can also use digital resources on your own device when you are away from campus (for example, access the library catalogue from home on your device).

**Wi-Fi access:** Wireless computer access is available at various locations throughout La Trobe University. How to find and connect to Wi-Fi at La Trobe campuses.

<https://www.latrobe.edu.au/students/support/it/connecting/eduroam>

In addition to the expectations in the Charter of Student Rights and Responsibilities, please be familiar with guidelines covering the use of computing facilities at La Trobe University.

## 14 Libraries

You can borrow or use online books, journals, DVDs and other resources at all La Trobe University campus libraries. The main physical collection is held at the Borchardt Library at the Melbourne (Bundoora) campus. Extensive collections are also held at the David Mann Library at Albury- Wodonga and the Heyward Library at Bendigo. All three libraries have group study areas, a large number of computer workstations, wireless network access, group study and training rooms, printing and photocopying facilities. The libraries at Mildura and Shepparton have strong collections of resources to support courses taught at those campuses and provide access to inter-campus loans and electronic resources, computer workstations and training and study facilities.

## 15 Student Union

The La Trobe University Student Union provides students with a range of services, programs, clubs and activities as well as providing advocacy for students. Union membership is free and is not compulsory. Union membership also gives you a say in how your university operates, and what services are provided to students. For further information on the Union or to join, visit the website: <http://www.latrobesu.org.au> or phone (03) 9479 2314 (Melbourne Bundoora Campus).

## 16 Certificates and Statements

When you successfully complete all the required units you will be issued with a nationally recognised Certificate and associated Record of Results at the Graduation Ceremony. If you do not attend the ceremony they will be sent to you, pending confirmation of your current address, within 30 days of your results being confirmed by the University's Academic Board. If you do not complete the full requirements of the course a Statement of Attainment for the individual units successfully completed will be issued. A record of your results will appear in your USI records and can be used to verify your completion of this qualification in future. If you lose your testamur, Record of Results or Statement of Attainment you can get reprinted original copies through the University's My Equals software. <https://www.latrobe.edu.au/students/your-course/results/my-equals>

If you are unable to use My Equals you can raise a query in Ask La Trobe or speak to the La Trobe Snr Educator or Compliance Manager. <https://www.latrobe.edu.au/students/ask-us>

## 17 Withdrawal from the course

If you wish to withdraw from the course, please notify your trainer as soon as possible, as there is high demand for places and your place could be filled by someone on the waiting list. You will receive a Statement of Attainment for those units that you have satisfactorily completed.

## 18 Staying safe

During the course you will need to travel to a range of regional locations and participate in both field work and laboratory activities. Staying safe physically and culturally is a priority.

### Workplace Health and Safety

You will need to observe all safety procedures issued by La Trobe University, your trainer, accommodation and training venues, work placement hosts and transport providers. You need to tell us or your supervisor if you notice anything that might be unsafe so that we can take action. Your trainer will identify and assess the hazards and risks associated with each week of training delivery and you will be asked to review and sign a Job Safety Analysis before you participate. You will need to provide your own enclosed-toe walking boots (no steel cap required), sunhats, and clothing that protects you from sun, rain and cold, as well as personal medication supplies due to remote area training delivery locations. If you will have difficulty providing these items for yourself, please speak to our staff.

### Cultural safety and conscientious objection

We visit many Aboriginal communities and cultural places during the course. We consult with local Traditional Owners before each visit and follow their advice about the required behaviour and appropriateness of visiting places. Traditional Owners are often our hosts, and we trust them to look after our safety. We also arrange Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremonies. However, you will know best what is culturally safe for you, and we need you to tell us if you feel you will be at risk. We will support you to make appropriate cultural arrangements as much as possible. If you feel you cannot undertake an activity for cultural or conscientious reasons, please tell us and we will make alternative learning and assessment arrangements where possible.

### Personal Insurance, Vehicle Insurance and Ambulance Cover

The University does **NOT** provide students with ambulance cover, Work Cover insurance or any insurance covering your personal property or vehicle. The University **does** provide students with Accidental Bodily Injury insurance, but it is **limited** in regard to the scope of cover provided and compensation benefits payable. Ambulance trips are NOT free unless you are on a government benefit. As we will be working in remote areas, one ambulance trip could cost you thousands of dollars. Please check your ambulance cover with your employer and if you are not covered it is **highly recommended** that you buy a subscription.

If you use a private vehicle to attend training blocks, please note that car insurance is your responsibility. The University will not pay for any damage caused by you or to you which involves a vehicle. If there is an incident, you will need to make a claim on your own insurance or your employer insurance, if driving a work vehicle. Please check that any vehicle you use to participate in training has sufficient insurance to cover you. There may be fieldtrips where we provide group bus transport, and we encourage you to use the bus to avoid risks to your vehicle.

## 19 Privacy and access to your records

We treat all personal information about students as confidential. We will only release personal information outside the University with your consent and knowledge or when required to do so by law. We do not give out information to your relatives or employers without your consent. We will ask for your permission to take and publish photographs during training. In 2026 your enrolment data will be manually entered into our student systems, and your assessment tasks will be maintained in a hard copy book format, held by the Senior Educator. We will inform you if this changes.

## 20 Problems, complaints and appeals

We aim to identify potential causes of complaints and remove them before they can occur. If you have a problem or a complaint let your trainer know about the issue so that we can work together to resolve it fairly, honestly, respectfully and in a timely manner and then make change to processes if necessary.

- Please speak to the Senior Educator who will investigate the grievance, which will include an interview with you.
- If resolved, you will be advised of the outcome personally and in writing.
- If unresolved, or if the complaint cannot be discussed with the Senior Educator you can use University complaints process. This is an electronic form (or it can be hand written and sent) found at: <https://www.latrobe.edu.au/students/support/complaints/contact>
- The form will be reviewed by the relevant area, and you will have the right to review the outcome.
- All complaints will be processed and finalised within 60 days. If we need more time, we will tell you our reasons in writing and keep you regularly updated about progress.
- For complaints of a sexual nature or complex complaints the University has a process where an investigation may be undertaken at central University level.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the process, advice may be sought from: The University Ombudsman, Mr Michael Gay, Tel: (03) 9479 1897 or (03) 9479 1435 Level 1, Peribolos East, Melbourne (Bundoora) Campus. Email: [ombudsman@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:ombudsman@latrobe.edu.au)  
<https://www.latrobe.edu.au/about/management/organisation/ombudsman>

If the issue is not resolved through the University Ombudsman, you may lodge a complaint with a range of external organisations (see the complaints process website address above). One of these avenues is the Victorian Ombudsman. If you have not followed the steps laid down in the relevant University procedures, the Victorian Ombudsman may ask you to do so before accepting your complaint. The Victorian Ombudsman's office can be phoned on 1800 806 314 (between 9am-5pm Monday to Friday) or your complaint can be made online at

<https://www.ombudsman.vic.gov.au/>

### Assessment appeals

If you are not happy with an assessment outcome you have the right to re-assessment and to appeal an assessment decision. The procedure is here:

<http://www.latrobe.edu.au/policy/documents/vet-assessment-procedure.pdf>

## 21 University Policy

Students in the Cert IV ACHM course are subject to the protections and obligations outlined but not limited to the relevant policies below.

- a. [Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy;](#)
- b. [Child Safety Code of Conduct;](#)
- c. [Complex Conduct Assessment and Management Policy;](#)
- d. [Conscientious Objections Policy;](#)
- e. [Disability Policy;](#)
- f. [Sexual Harm Prevention and Response Policy;](#)
- g. [Student Behaviours Policy;](#)
- h. [Student Charter;](#)
- i. [Student Communications Policy;](#)
- j. [Student Conduct Management Policy;](#)
- k. [Student Support Policy;](#)
- l. [Student Transition Policy.](#)

All University policies can be found at this webpage: <https://policies.latrobe.edu.au/>

## 22 Car Parks

Car parking at La Trobe University is not free. When training is at a La Trobe University campus, we will arrange a parking permit for you or reimburse your parking costs. You will need to supply the registration number of the vehicle you are driving for us to pay your parking in advance. If you are parking at one of the La Trobe University campuses outside a training week please observe the following.

### **Melbourne (Bundoora)**

This campus is subject to City of Darebin parking regulations. All vehicles (other than motorcycles) parking between 8am and 5pm, Mon-Fri, must have either a current yearly permit or a daily ticket or voucher. You must park in the white-lined parking bays, not the red or green spaces. The area is patrolled regularly, and you will get a parking fine if you don't buy a ticket or organise one with us. Parking Pay-by-Plate meters are available in most car parks. CellOPark Pay-As-You-Go (PAYG) is an app downloadable on IOS and Android phones. You only pay for the time you park.

### **Albury-Wodonga, Shepparton and Mildura**

Parking on these campuses is currently free of charge and permits are not required.

### **Bendigo**

Daily parking is in the visitors' car park. A daily permit can be arranged through the Certificate IV staff if needed during a training session or you can pay the daily fee and be reimbursed. Parking Pay-by-Plate meters are available in most car parks. CellOPark Pay-As-You-Go (PAYG) is an app downloadable on IOS and Android phones. You only pay for the time you park.

## 23 Public Transport

If you are travelling to any of our training weeks on public transport (bus or train) please make your arrangements well in advance. If public transport is not available to our training locations we will assist you with alternative arrangements.

### **Tram**

The number 86 tram runs from La Trobe University's Bundoora campus to the city.

### **Train/shuttle bus from Reservoir Station**

The South Morang rail line is usually the closest to our accommodation, particularly Bell, Preston and Reservoir stations. Buses also operate from these stations.

### **Buses and other transport updates**

There are multiple public transport options to and from La Trobe's Bundoora campus, further transport information is available from the La Trobe University website here:

<https://www.latrobe.edu.au/transport-central> or go to <https://transport.vic.gov.au/> to find a Public Transport Victoria (PTV) planner which allows you to choose buses, trains or trams and a combination to plan your journey and access timetables.

## Schedule A

### VET Fees, Charges and Refunds

#### 1. Course Fees for 2026: \$20,000 per student.

- A. Course fees have been reviewed for 2026 and represent a significant adjustment to reflect the actual cost of delivering training and associated services.
- B. Course fees are based on cost recovery only and do not include the cost of trainer salaries, these are covered by a First Peoples State Relations government contract.

The course fee covers learning materials, enrolment, student amenities, graduation, food, transport and accommodation costs as described in this information handbook under **Costs and Funding**

Student Cohort	Payment Due Date	Payment Due Date (Late Enrolments)
Certificate IV Fee for Service	Fees are due at commencement – individual payment plans can be negotiated with organisations and students. No more than 5 payments per year (see table below)	Within two weeks of enrolment
Failure to pay fees	Where fees are not paid and a payment plan is not resolved the student may have their enrolment cancelled.	Outstanding fees must be paid immediately to reinstate student.
FPSR Sponsored Students or La Trobe Bursary Student	No fees payable	

The 2026 payment schedule is below, note that payment can also be made in two instalments or as a lump sum. All fees must be paid prior to graduation in any given year.

Date	Amount
Feb end	\$4000
March end	\$4000
May end	\$4000
July end	\$4000
September end	\$4000

#### 2. Other fees – Administrative and Miscellaneous

- First issue of paper copies of results and certificate (testamur) at Graduation are free.
- Reprints of results (transcripts) and/or the certificate (testamur) will incur a charge – information can be found at <https://www.latrobe.edu.au/students/your-course/results/my-equals>
- Students in the Certificate IV in Aboriginal Cultural Management VET course do not pay student amenities fees.

### 3. Rules for refunds

The following rules apply for the granting of refunds.

<b>Withdrawal prior to Course Commencement</b>	Full refund
<b>Withdrawal more than 7 days prior to commencement of a training block</b>	Pro-rata refund
<b>Withdrawal from course after training block commenced</b>	Pro-rata refund excluding current training block
<b>Non-participation in training block but enrolment maintained</b>	No refund
<b>Enrolment cancelled due to RTO unable to deliver service</b>	Full refund

## 24 Campus maps

