



Environmental Education Training and Employment Pathways

Environmental Education is a diverse field of employment. For many years environmental education programs stood on their own and were primarily focused on children and community education. There has however in more recent years been a strong shift across many industries and sectors to embed and incorporate environmental sustainability in both organisational goals and practices. This has in turn led to additional opportunities in environmental education programs for businesses.

Education programs may focus on or include topics such as:

- Water use
- Waste systems
- Ecology and biodiversity
- Sustainable energy
- Permaculture
- Sustainable agriculture
- Manufacturing
- The circular economy

The target audience may be:

- Pre-schoolers
- Primary and Secondary school students
- Teachers undertaking PD
- General and CALD communities
- Tertiary students
- Tourists/Visitors
- Government or business employees/stakeholders

In line with the above there are a wide range of organisations and industries that employ individuals to design and deliver environmental education programs such as:

- Schools
- Local Government
- Government Authorities
- Kindergartens
- School Holiday/Out of Hours Programs
- Community Education Providers
- National and State Parks
- Businesses

The roles educators may be engaged in are varied and encompass a range of job titles such as:

- Bush Kinder Teacher
- Early Childhood Outdoor Educator
- Environmental Officer
- Waste Education Officer
- Visitor Engagement Ranger
- Plastic Waste Reduction Education Officer
- Food & Organic Waste Education Sustainability Officer
- Outdoor Educator
- Permaculture Demonstrator/Trainer/Facilitator
- Environmental Consultant

There is also the option of self-employment through setting up a small business.

Accredited Training Pathways

Below is a list of qualifications that may be pathways to roles in Environmental Education. To find out more about specific courses you can visit the website of Victorian Skills Gateway at www.skills.vic.gov.au

You can undertake qualifications full or part-time at TAFEs such as Melbourne Polytechnic, Swinburne and Kangan. This table includes university courses.

Industry Sector	Courses
Early Childhood Education	Cert III in Early Childhood Education
Education	Professional Certificate in Education Support (Monash Uni – Short course equivalent to 1 unit of an education degree) Certificate III in Education Support Diploma of Community Education Certificate IV in School Age Education and Care Certificate IV in Relationship Education Bachelor of Education Masters of Education
Sustainability and Environment	Certificate IV in Environmental Management and Sustainability Certificate IV in Environmental Monitoring and Technology Certificate IV in Sustainable Operations Certificate II in Competitive Systems and Practices Certificate III in Renewable Energy - ELV Certificate IV in Renewable Energy Certificate IV in Home Sustainability Assessment LINKS – Holmesglen https://holmesglen.edu.au/Courses/Horticulture-and-Environment/ Melbourne Polytechnic Courses https://www.melbournepolytechnic.edu.au/courses/bachelor-of-the-built-environment/ https://www.melbournepolytechnic.edu.au/green-skills-centre/ https://www.melbournepolytechnic.edu.au/course-info/sustainability-courses/ Bachelor of Environmental Science RMIT

	<p>Bachelor of Environment and Society RMIT Bachelor of Environmental Science (Environmental Management and Sustainability) - Deakin Bachelor of Environment and Sustainability - ANU Monash Uni – Major in Sustainability within any degree</p> <p>LINKS - Deakin Environmental Courses - http://www.deakin.edu.au/courses/find-a-course/environment Swinburne Environmental Science - https://www.swinburne.edu.au/study/find-a-course/science/environmental-science/ Melbourne University OEP - https://environment.unimelb.edu.au/home https://study.unimelb.edu.au/find/interests/environment/ https://study.unimelb.edu.au/find/courses/graduate/graduate-certificate-in-environment/ RMIT Bachelor of Environmental Science Bachelor of Environment and Society Monash Major in Sustainability within any degree https://www.monash.edu/environmental-sustainability https://www.monash.edu/master-environment-sustainability Deakin http://www.deakin.edu.au/courses/find-a-course/environment</p>
Conservation & Land Management	Cert III and IV in Conservation & Land Management
Permaculture	Permaculture Demonstrator Skill Set Permaculture Design Course (PDC) Cert I, II, III, IV or Diploma Permaculture

CERES is working towards offering a Permaculture Demonstrator Skillset from the Cert III Permaculture in 2020. This Skillset is aimed at those wanting to gain employment as a Permaculture Demonstrator/Trainer/Facilitator in non-accredited or Certificate I level school, labour market or community programs.

In 2020 TAFEs will be offering 'FREE' Certificates II & III in Horticulture for eligible students with Horticulture a declared industry skills shortage area. Please note that these courses will still incur amenities and materials fees.

Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships, where you combine paid employment and study, are available at Certificate III level and you can investigate these further at:

www.aapathways.com.au, www.aqa.com.au, www.appsmatter.com.au

Self-employment

The option of setting up your own business can be explored further at:

www.business.gov.au/guide/starting; www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au/jobs-and-careers/starting-a-business/how-to-set-up-a-business;

You may also be eligible for financial, mentoring and training assistance to set up a new business through the NEIS program:

www.jobs.gov.au/self-employment-new-business-assistance-neis

Volunteering Opportunities

Volunteering can be a valuable way to build some hands-on experience and knowledge as well as gain useful contacts and potential future job referees.

CERES, like many other organisations, has a range of volunteering opportunities advertised on it's website:

<https://ceres.org.au/volunteer/>

Local Councils may have details of volunteering opportunities, so have a look at your own LGA website.

Many organisations will also advertise beyond their own website so it's worth looking at opportunities listed with Volunteering Victoria on <http://volunteeringvictoria.org.au/go-volunteer/> or Seek on <http://volunteer.com.au>

Some more links –

<https://parkweb.vic.gov.au/get-involved/volunteer/friends-groups>

<http://friendsvic.org/>

<https://conservationvolunteers.com.au>

<https://habitat.org.au/volunteer/volunteer-in-australia>

<https://www.greeningaustralia.org.au/volunteer/>

Pathways Planning

If you want to more pathways for a regenerative future and this program you can book an interview time by contacting Karen Mengell, VET Co-ordinator & Pathways Planning Officer via karen.mengell@ceres.org.au or 9389 0127