

Work Based Training Policy and Procedure

1. Purpose

This policy and procedure describes how practical placements are to be arranged to ensure that each placement achieves its aims and all stakeholders are protected from liability including gaining a positive experience and outcome.

2. Scope

This policy and procedure applies to all staff and students on placement.

3. Definition

Work-based Training (WBT): WBT is considered to mean training and/or assessment that will occur in a workplace other than in a provider's own simulated workplace environment.

4. Responsibility

- The VET Coordinator will be responsible for the implementation of this policy and procedure and to ensure that staff and students are aware of its application and that staff implement its requirements.
- The Work Placement Officer will be responsible for establishing and maintaining practical placement programs and assessing the level of training and learner support required.
- WBT assessors in RGIT will be responsible for assessing the student performance, monitoring attendance and providing student support (mentoring and coaching) if required.

5. Policy

- This policy requires that the Institute has appropriate arrangements for the supervision and assessment of WBT for RGIT students.
- WBT can only be included where it is required to gain the qualification.
- The Institute will have mechanisms in place to monitor a student's course progress while the student is completing an element of WBT.
- Where WBT is approved as part of a course, the WBT component will be included in the duration of the course. The duration of the course would be determined on the time required to complete the course on a full-time study basis.
- Part 5.4 Division 2 of the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006* requires that students on WBT training must have a signed practical placement agreement with each host employer they are placed with.
- Practical placement agreements and records must be kept for a minimum of 30 years in case any insurance claims are made.
- WBT trainers and assessors will have a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment and hold the relevant vocational competencies.

6. Procedure

6.1 Workplace Venues

1. The Institute will sign practical placement agreements with workplaces for WBT for each student which meet the *Education and Training Reform Act* requirements for practical placement and work cover. These agreements will be retained for a period of 30 years after the student has completed the training.
2. The WBT Coordinator will conduct an orientation program with each workplace prior to acceptance of students. The orientation program will include the following:
 - The Institute has a responsibility to train students to acceptable standards, introduce students to the work-based trainers, support students in the workplace and monitor attendance and progress.
 - The Workplace has the responsibility to provide students with work keeping with the requirements of the log book, complete the log book properly, monitor and supervise student work, record attendance and allow workplace visits and contact between the WBT Assessor, the Workplace Supervisor and the students.
 - Workplace venues will be monitored by the Institute to ensure that they comply with the agreement. Compliance breaches will result in cancellation of the agreement.

6.2 Criteria for Selection, Approval and Ongoing Risk Assessment of Work-based Sites

1. The criteria for selection and approval for work-based sites requires an assessment of the capacity to offer the required work shifts, the worksite being able to offer a structured program to students in a safe working environment and an inventory of essential equipment. These requirements are outlined in the document titled 'Facilities Checklist'. WBT sites must meet these requirements.
2. Initial risk assessment of the site is implemented via a site visit, inspection of the site, discussing with the Venue Manager and establishing that all the requirements are met.
3. Ongoing risk assessment of the site is implemented via a site visit, inspection of the site, discussing with the Venue Manager and establishing that all the requirements are met and conducted every six months.
4. A formal agreement will be signed by both parties once the selection criteria are met.
5. Sites that do not meet the criteria will not be used by the Institute.

6.3 Student Orientation Program

1. Orientation to the WBT program will be as follows:
 - a. Information will be provided about the program in the student prospectus, student orientation and WBT information sessions.
 - b. Students will not be placed on the program until they are assessed by the Institute as "work ready". In the normal course of events this will not occur until the end of 2nd or 3rd term at the earliest.

- c. An orientation session will be conducted with students in the term prior to commencement of the program.
- d. A student guide to WBT and a log book have been prepared for the students and these documents will be distributed during the orientation session.

6.4 Work Placement Officer

1. The Institute's Work Placement Officer will introduce each student to their workplace and their Workplace Supervisor in person before students commence their work placements.
2. The Work Placement Officer will establish and maintain a schedule of student placements for each week of the program.
3. Once the program has commenced, the Work Placement Officer will contact or visit each worksite at least once to verify student attendance and performance and to inspect (and monitor) the employer worksite.
4. If necessary, student's worksites can also be contacted by telephone to verify the student's attendance and participation.
5. The Work Placement Officer will liaise with the WBT Assessor to ensure students are meeting skills and knowledge development requirements, performing satisfactorily and meeting attendance requirements.
6. Where the Work Placement Officer identifies that a student is not receiving the required mix and level of experience, or is not meeting attendance requirements, the Work Placement Officer (in coordination with all parties) will intervene and implement corrective action to address the situation. This corrective action (or intervention) could include additional mentoring and coaching, arranging additional training or service events, changing the mix of workplaces or conducting a work place visit frequently.

6.5 Work-based Training Assessor

1. RGIT will nominate a WBT Assessor who will visit each worksite for assessment for a minimum of two occasions over the WBT period to monitor student performance and to conduct assessment.
2. The WBT assessor will review the student's attendance, monitor course progression and get feedback from the supervisor to ensure the required mix and level of experience is being undertaken. The assessor will also check that the logbook is being completed and is done so correctly.
3. The Workplace Assessor will use the assessment mapping guide, observation checklist and interview tools to assess student's performance.
4. The Workplace Assessor will also identify if any additional support is required by the student to perform their required tasks, including language assistance. If necessary, the Assessor will implement Language Literacy and Numeracy (LLN) support as part of the intervention strategy.
5. Student performance and assessment summary must be recorded and any

concerns or issues reported to the Work Placement Officer. The Work Placement

Officer will take appropriate actions by contacting the employer and/or the student.

6.6 Undertaking and Monitoring Work-Based Training

1. Students will be required to complete the work placement as specified in the 'Work Placement Agreement'. Any variations to the hours worked and conditions of the work placement must be approved by Work Placement Officer and the employer.
2. Student attendance throughout the work placement shall be recorded by the host employer and the student via standard workplace timesheets. This will record all times and dates the student completes work placement hours for the host employer. The timesheets will be returned to RGIT on a weekly basis for attendance monitoring.
3. The students shall be provided support and guidance from the host employer in the completion of required workplace tasks. These tasks will ensure the students further develop their skills and knowledge in the required areas as specified in the Work Placement Agreement. Where a Workplace Assessor/Trainer feels the student is not meeting skills and knowledge development requirements, additional mentoring and coaching will be given.
4. RGIT will monitor the work placement through the Work Placement Officer and Assessor completing:
 - a. Regular contact with the student where feedback on the work placement will be sought.
 - b. Site visits to conduct assessments in the workplace where Work Placement Officer (and assessors) will ensure the workplace is providing adequate support and guidance to the student. The Work Placement Officer (and Assessor) will also ensure the workplace is compliant with occupational health and safety requirements.
 - c. The host employer and student will be required to sign a timesheet indicating the hours completed which will be monitored by Trainers/Assessors and used as the record of the student's attendance requirement.
 - d. Assessment of required practical skills will be undertaken by qualified Trainers and Assessors where appropriate. On some occasions, the Trainer may require the host employer to participate in the assessment process by observing students in the workplace. All assessments shall be signed off by a qualified RGIT Assessor.

6.7 Monitoring WBT Course Progression

1. Students will be informed of their Course Progression requirement prior to the commencement of the WBT program.
2. Course progression of students in WBT will be conducted by the WBT Assessor.
3. The WBT Assessor will visit each worksite for a minimum of 2 occasions over the WBT period to monitor student performance and to conduct assessment.
4. The WBT Assessor will use the assessment mapping guide, observation checklist and

interview tools to assess student's performance.

5. Where an Assessor feels the student is not meeting skills and knowledge development requirements, or the student's performance is found unsatisfactory, the Assessor, in consultation with the WBT Coordinator will intervene and implement corrective action to address the situation. This corrective action (or intervention) could include additional mentoring and coaching, arranging additional training or service events, changing the mix of workplaces or conducting a workplace visit more frequently.
6. The Assessor will also identify if any additional support is required by the student to perform their required tasks, including language assistance. If necessary, the Assessor will implement LLN support as part of the intervention strategy.
7. If unsatisfactory performance persists, Student Administration is notified and normal course progression policy will apply.

6.8 Recording of Work-based Training

1. Each student undertaking a practical placement shall have a copy of their 'Work Placement Agreement' kept on their file.
2. All hours completed within the workplace shall be recorded in the timesheet and kept in the student's file.
3. The student logbook shall be signed by the student and the employer and reviewed by the RGIT Work Placement Officer/Assessor.
4. The 'Work Placement Logbook' will be kept on the student's file as evidence for the specified unit(s) and be included as an assessment requirement for the specified unit(s).

6.9 Work Cover

RGIT has specific accident insurance that covers students in all locations of the college including those students undertaking work placement. The ETRA provides for work cover insurance of all students undertaking work-based training where there is a practical placement agreement in place.

7. Associated Documents

- Work Placement Agreement
- Memorandum of Understanding for Practical Placement
- Occupational Health and Safety Checklist
- Facilities Checklist