

Engineering student work placements

Information for Employers



“...We've been engaging engineering students on work placements for over 10 years now and have found the process to be very rewarding. Many of these work placements have resulted in full time employment for the student. Students from Federation University Australia (formerly the University of Ballarat) are well trained and have industry ready skills that we find very useful in our day to day business...”

Ewen Nevett –
Regional Director
Vic Roads, Western Region

The Mt Helen (Ballarat) Campus of Federation University Australia offers a four year professional Bachelor of Engineering (BE) and a three year Bachelor of Engineering Technology (BEngTech) in the civil, mining and mechanical engineering disciplines. Before students can graduate from these programs they must obtain at least 12 weeks (BE) or 8 weeks (BEngTech) of suitable practical experience. This experience should expose the students to professional engineers and engineering technologists carrying out their typical duties.

Benefits of student work placements

There are a number of benefits to employing a FedUni engineering student including gaining an employee with industry ready skills, an opportunity to help influence the career path of a young engineer and of course an increased chance of gaining a quality graduate at the completion of their program.

FedUni actively supports industry engagement and is keen to help support the region with its skills needs. So although it is the student's responsibility to find suitable work placements, the University has a range of information available for prospective employers to assist with their decision on employing a student engineer.

Insurance

Students undertaking work placement as requirement of their study are fully covered by Federation University's insurance for public liability, professional indemnity and personal accident insurance. These policies cover students on approved student placements that form part of the academic requirements of their degree.

Employer responsibilities

- Participate in a pre-placement meeting to discuss and confirm conditions and expectations of placement.
- Complete relevant forms and legal consent.
- Give regular and constructive feedback, preparation and debriefing on performance.
- Provide formal supervision and alert relevant FedUni staff of any difficulties or concerns.
- Provide a final report to FedUni.

Information and forms to complete

All information and forms that you are required to view and/or complete will be provided to you in hard copy by the University.

All forms must be completed and returned to the University prior to commencement of placement.

Work placement checklist

Employers must sight, sign and return (as appropriate), documentation as described below.

- VISA requirements (in the case of international students)
- Professional Placement Contract
- Evidence of OHS Induction
- Return of Final Report

Frequently asked questions

What sort of roles can students undertake?

Our students can contribute to a wide range of functions. These may be specific to their discipline of study or employment interests, but may also offer them a broader overview of the workplace in general.

Some examples include:

- Business processes
- OHS procedures
- Participation in field or laboratory work
- Undertaking design calculations
- Contributing to meetings
- Writing technical summaries and reports
- Computer aided drawing and/or simulation
- Participation in safety briefings and inspections
- Assistance with project management
- Working on a minor technical project

What are the VISA implications of employing an international student?

International students may undertake work-based training if it is a compulsory component of their program - that is, they cannot gain the qualification without it. Where an international student applies for work experience, some VISA conditions may apply.

How long does a placement last?

This will be dependant on the actual course for which the placement is being undertaken. Generally it is expected that work placements will be eight weeks for BEngTech students and 12 weeks for BEng students - however, any period of time that your organisation can accommodate would be beneficial to the student.

Further information

Further details on work placements are available on our website at:

federation.edu.au/science/workplacements

This page contains downloadable forms and links to further information on:

- Work placement agreements
- Insurance coverage
- VISA requirements
- OH&S requirements

Our future has a new name...

Federation University Australia

A name that's steeped in history, but focused on the future. A name that's grounded locally, yet connects you globally.

Federation University Australia (FedUni) is the result of an exciting collaboration between the University of Ballarat and Monash University's Gippsland Campus. This collaboration will result in a better resourced University - one that operates on a nation-wide and international basis in research and teaching across the globe.

Our track record for helping students Learn to Succeed will never change.



FedUni boasts the highest graduate employment rating of any Victorian based university.

Over 79% of our graduates are employed full-time[^]

Over 14% of our graduates continue into full-time study[^]

(Source: [^]myuniversity.gov.au)

'5 stars for Teaching Quality five years in a row.'^{*}

5 stars for overall satisfaction[#]

(Source: [#]2014 Good Uni Guide)

(Source: ^{*}The Good Uni Guide 2010/2011/2012/2013/2014)

Faculty of Science & Technology

School of Engineering & Information Technology

Call: 1800 333 864

Email: info@federation.edu.au

Visit: federation.edu.au/engineering

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