

Workskills Fact Sheet Number 16

EMPLOYMENT IN THE BUILDING INDUSTRY

Considering work in the building trades can open up many opportunities. If you love to get stuck into hands-on tasks and see something permanent left behind as a result of your efforts, this industry might just be for you.

Admittedly it can be an industry that faces its ups and downs, busy times and slow, but once you've got your 'ticket' you'll be very employable in just about any location.

WHAT KINDS OF OPTIONS DO I HAVE?

There's quite an array of career paths you might like to pursue but here's some idea of what's on offer:

- Architecture/Design/Drafting
- Concreting
- Earth Moving/Excavation
- Scaffolding
- Carpentry/Joinery
- Plumbing
- Electrical
- Plastering
- Roofing
- Glazing
- Painting
- Floor Coverings
- Tiling
- Labouring/Trade Assistant



All of these could be useful in a variety of roles if you decide to move to another field.

GETTING STARTED

The Tasmanian Polytechnic offers a wide range of introductory courses and you can find out more about them at www.polytechnic.tas.edu.au/construction-and-trades

Alternatively have a talk to your Workskills Case Manager about what might suit you best.

USEFUL THINGS

There are Government sponsored apprenticeship packages and incentives for start-up tool packages and Adult Apprenticeships as well.

Again talk to your Case Manager about what's available and suitable for you.

ANYTHING ELSE?

Not only are those qualifications available to you if you move into a trade-related role, there's a possibility you'll pick other useful qualifications or licences as well. These could include things like:

- Car/truck licence (light, medium or even heavy rigid etc).
- White Card (Workplace Standards Tasmania require people working safely in the construction industry. The White Card is the unit you receive after successfully completing a straightforward course).
- 'Working Safely at Heights' ticket
- Certificate I or II in a trade or general construction field