



Removing barriers to opportunity: how to set graduates with disability on the path to employment success

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Pathways15 Online: Advancing Inclusion in 2020 and Beyond

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Today, we will cover...

- Current scenario for graduates with disability
- Supports available through JobAccess
- Funding for workplace adjustments
- Supporting graduates with disability transition to employment
- Sharing information about disability



Icon: checklist with three tick marks and straight lines.



Disability in Australia



More than 2.4 million

2.1 million

90%

31% of population

lives with disability have a mental or physical health condition

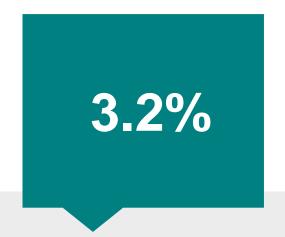
people of working age have disability

of disability is invisible

have accessibility requirements



Students with disability enrolled in tertiary education in Australia



Private training providers
78,135 students



TAFE 49,025 students

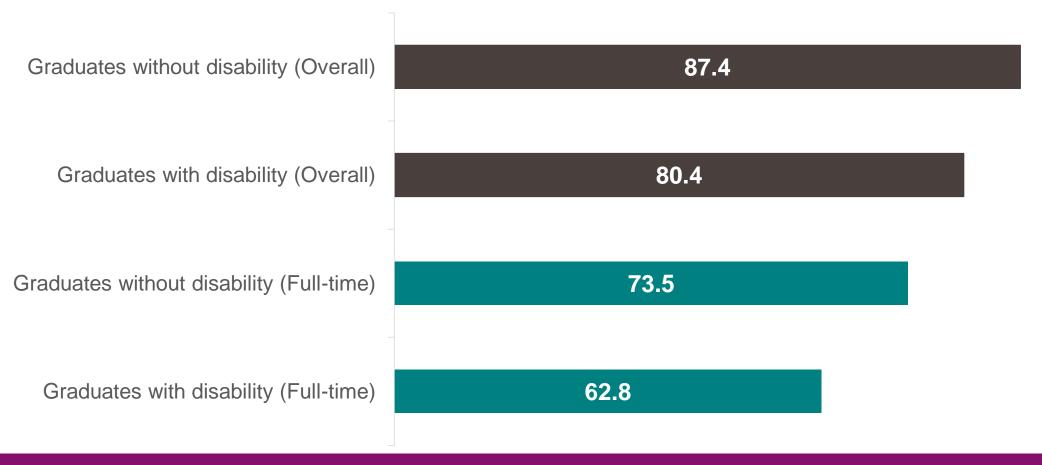


University 70,143 students



All figures in percentage (%)

Overall and full-time employment rate



Source: 2018 Graduate Outcomes Survey (GOS), Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching (QILT).



All figures in percentage (%)

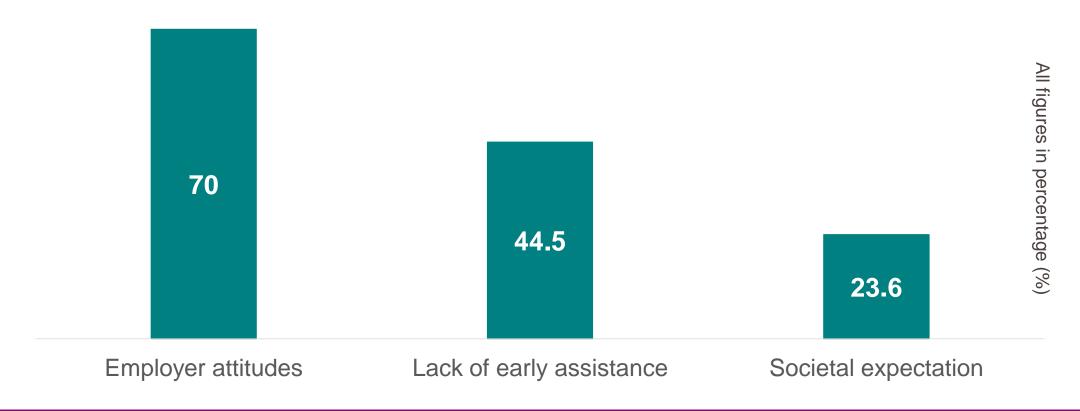
Post-training employment for VET graduates



Source: NCVER, VET student outcomes 2019: data slicer.



Barriers to employment for graduates with disability



Source: Exploring Disability Employment Services consultant interactions with University students with disability, Swayn, 2017.



JobAccess

The national hub for disability employment for people with disability, employers and service providers.



JobAccess: We are here to help



Diagram: a list of services under images of a computer, dollar sign, two heads, a handshake and binoculars.



All-in-one disability confidence toolkit

- Online resource for employers
- Disability employment strategies
- Career practitioners can use downloadable resources, videos and case studies to guide employers
- Visit www.jobaccess.gov.au



Picture: Employer Toolkit on the JobAccess website

Disability Employment Services

- Ensure a good job fit.
- Offer access to candidates with disability, provide support and information.
- JobAccess vacancy service shares employer vacancies with the local DES network at no cost.



Picture: logo of Disability Employment Services



Employment Assistance Fund

Provides financial assistance to purchase a range of work-related modifications and services to meet the access requirements of employees with disability.



Application process

An employer, employee or service provider can apply online @ www.jobaccess.gov.au.

JobAccess reviews the application, informs applicant of the outcome and whether a workplace assessment is required.

If required, a **free workplace assessment** is conducted to identify any barriers and recommend changes in the workplace.

Employer purchases the modifications and costs are reimbursed by JobAccess.



An eligible applicant must...

- Work at least eight hours per week.
- If self-employed, work at least 20 hours per week; earn an hourly income equivalent to National Minimum Wage.
- Have at least 13 weeks of employment.
- Be an Australian citizen or a permanent resident.
- Have an ongoing disability two-year duration.



Picture: Woman looking at her laptop, talking over the phone, and writing notes at a work desk

Giving graduates a head start

Useful tips and resources for career practitioners to support graduates with disability transition into employment.



How to support graduates with disability?

- Identify inclusive employers
- Visit www.jobaccess.gov.au for expert tips, templates and resources
- Stepping Into internship and PACE
 mentoring program by Australian Network
 on Disability www.and.org.au
- Join our mailing list
 www.jobaccess.gov.au/register



Picture: Man working on his computer in the office.



Dedicated programs to support graduates

- National Disability Coordination Officer (NDCO) program
- University Specialist Employment
 Partnerships (USEP) and TAFE Specialist
 Employment Partnerships (TSEP)
 www.usep.com.au
- Australia Association of Graduate
 Employers (AAGE) Annual Big Meet
 events www.thebigmeet.com.au



Picture: An automotive mechanic at work in the factory.



Sharing access requirements

There are many reasons why a person may or may not choose to share information about their disability and access requirements.



What do students think about sharing access requirements?

57% of students believe

... it would be beneficial to be open during the recruitment process.

71% of students say

... the most important factor in encouraging them to share would be to **know** what the benefits are.

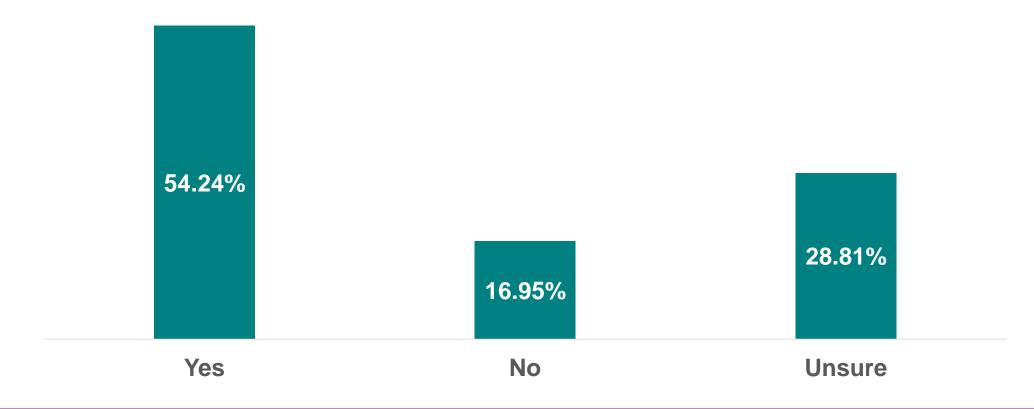
81% of students are

... more likely to share if they are told that the employer is disability confident by their career advisor/service.

Source: MyPlus Consulting, 2015 (United Kingdom). For more information about this report, please email: info@myplusconsulting.com.



Do graduates with disability intend on sharing access requirements?



Source: Australian Association of Graduate Employers candidate survey, 2017.



When to share access requirements?



No legal obligation for an employee to share information about their disability <u>unless</u> it:

- Affects their ability to do their job.
- Impacts their safety or the safety of other workers.



If an employee shares information about their disability:

- Employers should consider training or adjustments to accommodate their work-related needs.
- Ask for consent before sharing with others

Some people may choose not to share and we need to respect that choice.



We'd love to answer any questions you have.



Thank you

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