The vibrant fashion industry in Western Australia supports a wide range of clothing and related businesses.

Both small and medium size industries are to be found in both the metropolitan and regional areas of the state. However, given the predominance of smaller businesses, the clothing industry requires access to employees who are multi-skilled and who are able to perform a variety of tasks which includes, fashion illustration, patternmaking manually and using CAD, machining and who are competent to make alterations.

Qualifications in fashion design and technology enable you to develop skills in designing and constructing garments to a professional level which not only prepares students for employment opportunities but also provides a pathway to fulfilling careers as a fashion designer, pattern maker or production worker.
The world of fashion

Clothing workers are involved in all areas of production where they have the opportunity to take on responsibilities as:

- Patternmakers who create patterns for the chosen designs
- Cutters who check fabrics, lay out markers and cut the fabric
- Sample machinists who sew sample or trial garments for the design
- Machinists who sew the garments
- Quality officers who oversee the operations and check for quality

In Western Australia where businesses are small to medium size, many of these responsibilities will be combined e.g. where the patternmaker may also be the cutter.

Qualifications in clothing production enable trainees to work in diverse areas including Sportswear, Bridal Wear, Uniforms, Swimwear, Designer labels as well as alteration and accessories.

The skills and knowledge gained through this qualification are portable and graduates are able to work anywhere in Australia as well as abroad.

Personal attributes that will enhance your chances of success in this career include:

- good eyesight and normal colour vision, and good hand-eye coordination
- a flair for practical and manual work
- able to work as part of a team
- able to do neat, detailed work
- able to work methodically to meet production deadlines
- well developed communication skills

What fashion design & technology qualifications offer you

The Certificate IV in Fashion Design and Technology will provide you with practical skills and knowledge to design and produce basic garments and ensure that safety and quality standards are met.

You will learn about basic pattern making, design principles, garment construction and fitting, fabric characteristics and performance, colour theory and trade drawings. You will also learn skills that will enable you to use relevant software, produce costings and draw and interpret sketches.

Employment opportunities

Successful completion of the Certificate IV in Fashion Design and Technology will provide you with the practical skills and knowledge to work as a member of a production team assisting with the design, making of patterns and construction of fashion garments.

Mosting clothing production workers in WA work in small factories and workshops and made-to-measure boutiques mainly located in Perth metropolitan area and larger regional areas.

Entry requirements

Certificate IV in Applied Design and Technology

- Communication skills
- Maths skills

For more information of TAFEWA entrance requirements please visit www.tafe.wa.edu.au

Further study options.

Diploma of Applied Fashion Design & Technology