Hairdressing offers exciting career prospects and a wealth of opportunities for people who wish to combine technical skills with creative flair. For the entrepreneur, hairdressing can provide an avenue for financial independence and social glamour.

Hairdressing opens up a range of career possibilities allowing qualified practitioners to work in salons both locally and abroad or on luxury cruise liners and in five star resorts.

Hairdressers may also seek employment as technical advisers or sales representatives where their knowledge and expertise assists in the promotion of high quality hair care products.

Teaching is another career path open to those who wish to facilitate the training of apprentices. For those with star quality, employment as a stylist in the fashion, film, theatre or advertising industry are distinct possibilities.
The world of hairdressing

The modern training facilities and purpose built salons at the College provide students with the opportunity to perfect their skills in cutting, perming, blow drying, colouring and the latest hair grooming techniques in a live work environment where they deal with a diverse and demanding client base.

Through their exposure to and use of a broad range of products from a variety of suppliers and companies, students become fully conversant with the diversity and professional application of hair care products. Expertise in this domain supported by the students’ in-depth understanding of colour and perming enables them to select appropriate products to achieve the desired outcome.

Enhancing their professional knowledge, students have access to state of the art science laboratories where they are able to apply their newly acquired knowledge of the chemical side of the hairdressing industry.

The highly qualified hairdressing lecturers employed at the South West Regional College of TAFE are not only consummate professionals in their field but are also fully qualified assessors with teaching qualifications to ensure that students’ individual needs are met. The benefits of this one-on-one tuition are manifestly evident in the high calibre of students that graduate from the hairdressing courses offered at this College.

To keep abreast of the latest techniques, lecturers regularly attend seminars and are active members of industry focus groups attended by colleges throughout Western Australia. This is further supported by their continuous involvement and statewide partnership with industry ensuring that they are ideally poised to provide the students with cutting edge skills, the most up-to-date information and current knowledge on the contemporary hairdressing scene both locally and internationally.

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

- good interpersonal skills
- excellent communication skills
- good hand/eye coordination
- ability to work under pressure
- attention to detail
- patience
- a pleasant disposition
- creative flair
- sensitivity when treating clients

What hairdressing qualifications offer you

Hairdressing qualifications provide a solid grounding in the practical skills required for this vocation including cutting, perming, blow drying, and colouring.

In addition to this, you will be prepared for every aspect of the hairdressing industry and gain an understanding of management, stock control, and stock rotation as well as product merchandising and the essential financial transactions associated with the operation of a busy salon.

Responsive to local industry requirements, the College offers day release training. Through this mode of training, apprentices are able to more readily absorb and practice their newly acquired skills on a weekly basis and, unlike block release training, are not absent from the workplace for long periods of time.

The hairdressing courses delivered at the Bunbury Campus are identical to the courses delivered in the Perth colleges as both are based on the National Hairdressing Training Package and are delivered in the same manner.

Employment opportunities

The majority of hairdressers are employed in ladies’, men’s or unisex hairdressing salons.

Entry requirements

Most apprenticeships and traineeships require basic numeracy and literacy skills. Completion of Year 10 is usually the required standard, however, an interest or flair for the particular industry is also a major consideration. Prospective employers may ask for additional skills such as additional criteria including previous training or work experience or a higher level of schooling.

Further study options

Certificate IV or Diploma of Hairdressing (Salon Management).
It may also be used as a path way to a career in advanced hairdressing or beauty therapy.

Further information

Contact our Information and Career Advisory Officers on 1800 621 445 or (08) 9780 7070
Email: courseinfo@bunbury.training.wa.gov.au
Website: www.swrc.wa.edu.au