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New subsidised courses to support the Tasmanian recovery

From counselling and education to small business and applied health, the University of Tasmania has created a range of subsidised online short courses to support the community's post-COVID-19 recovery.

University of Tasmania Vice-Chancellor Professor Rufus Black said the six-month, job-ready courses were designed to meet the needs of the community, and the needs of individuals.

"We will support Tasmanians who have been impacted by COVID-19 by creating pathways to higher education, to new skills and knowledge, and to new jobs and careers," Professor Black said.

"And we want to support the targeted development of a well-trained workforce for the future, one that drives Tasmania's recovery and increases our resilience as a community.

"These courses will do that. They support critical areas of our workforce across health, education, business, science and engineering as well as mental health and wellbeing, which we know will be key to a successful recovery in Tasmania."

Among the job-ready certificates on offer is the [Undergraduate Certificate in Counselling](#). This course will give students an understanding of human behaviour and the fundamentals of applied counselling, as well as providing a pathway into postgraduate counselling degrees.

The skills a counselling graduate gains are vital across a range of roles and settings, from working with crisis support organisations like Lifeline, to jobs across the justice, disability, aged care, child services and employment services sectors. The qualifications are also ideal for educators and people in health and caring professions who want to add to the counselling skills they are so often called upon to use.

"We live in a complex and ever-changing world, a fact COVID-19 has made plain to us all," Professor Black said.

“Sometimes we need help to make sense of the challenges we face, and to find a way through them – that is why counsellors and the role they play in supporting people are so crucial.

“Our ability as a community to support our mental health will only grow in importance as we control and then move beyond the public health challenge of COVID-19.”

Students can enrol in job-ready certificates now, with the first intake studying in Semester 2 this year, from 13 July to December.

With more in development, courses available for enrolment include:

- **Education support** – with thousands of Tasmanians learning first-hand the challenges and rewards of education, this covers the foundations of teaching and education support, and growth and motor development.
- **Small Business** – covers business finance, contemporary business environments, marketing, lean thinking and more.
- **Creative Arts and Health** – understand art’s effects on the body and mind, and gain skills for a range of community and healthcare settings.
- **Equipment Design and Project Management** – gain skills to drive innovation with units in fabrication, quality manufacturing and digital control systems.
- **Agribusiness** – blending business studies with skills in agriculture, this covers agribusiness management, marketing, value chain management and more.
- **Science** – learn the foundational knowledge you’ll need to continue studies in fermentation, aquaculture and more.
- **University Preparation** – all these courses provide a new pathway into higher education. The University Preparation course will help you develop the academic skills for further education.

The job-ready certificates are part of the Federal Government’s Higher Education Relief Package, which aims to support workers displaced by COVID-19 to upskill or retrain.

Under the package, at least 50 per cent of the study costs are waived. The other 50 per cent of fees are eligible under the HECS-HELP scheme.

For more information and to enrol in one of these courses, visit the University of Tasmania [Job-ready Certificates website](#).

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