



About Turning Point

Turning Point is a national addiction treatment centre dedicated to providing high quality, evidence-based interventions to people adversely affected by alcohol, drugs and gambling.

Integrated with world-leading research and education, Turning Point was established in 1994 to provide leadership to the AOD sector and amalgamated with public health provider Eastern Health in 2009.

Turning Point is a Registered Training Organisation (RTO ID 6948) and is responsible for quality training and assessment in compliance with the Standards for Registered Training Organisations 2015, and for the issuance of the AQF certification documentation related to Vocational Education and Training (VET) units of competency.

Turning Point educational internship

Are you looking for a placement that offers you...?

- observational access to alcohol and other drug (AOD) services
- training in accredited industry skills
- an absorbing and supportive evidence-based learning culture

Turning Point is pleased to offer eligible students a 14-week, 150 hour (average 10-15 hours per week) educational internship. The combination of skills training and real-world clinical observation will provide you with the foundational knowledge required for a career in the AOD sector. The internship is funded by the Victorian Department of Health and is open to eligible undergraduate students in psychology, social work, counselling and youth work who are Australian citizens and permanent residents.

Internship activities

Students will take part in a range of AOD sector activities including completion of Vocational Education and Training (VET) units of competency, presentations and skills development sessions from AOD workers within the sector, supervision and reflective practice sessions, and site visits to clinical services. Supervised access to Turning Point's clinical review and intake meetings, peer support meetings, and pre-recorded client sessions will be available to support your learning.





Working in the AOD sector

The Victorian AOD sector provides exciting, diverse and stimulating career opportunities for clinicians, researchers, educators and other professionals.

AOD work happens in clinical and other settings with staff holding relevant degrees and sector qualifications. Working with people with AOD and mental health issues can be a rewarding career choice for people wanting to make a positive contribution to the community.

Turning Point, in consultation with other Victorian AOD service providers, recognised the ongoing need to attract and train skilled and educated people into the workforce. This was the idea behind developing an educational internship which aims to provide students with opportunities to learn about the sector, gain an awareness of employment pathways, and up-skill in industry-required competencies.



Vocational Education and Training (VET) component

Students will participate in two units of competency as part of the internship: *CHCOAOD001 - Work in an alcohol and other drug context* and *CHCAOD004 - Assess needs of clients with alcohol and other drug issues*. These units sit within the *CHCSS00093 Alcohol and Other Drug Skill Set*. Units comprise a range of learning and assessment methods including self-paced learning, online classes, role-plays and reflective practice exercises.

Assessment and skills practice hours are set by Turning Point and students must be available to attend all scheduled days of training and assessment delivery plus the welcome and orientation and final reflection sessions.

Application process

To apply for the Turning Point educational internship, you will need to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) form along with a current CV/resume directly to Turning Point as a minimum requirement for the application to be considered. Applicants completing the EOI must also ensure they follow and meet any additional requirements set by their university placement coordinator, where applicable, in conjunction with submitting their application to Turning Point.

The EOI contains important information about how to apply as well as about the internship program. Make sure you read all of the information first before submitting your application. Eligible candidates will then be selected for an interview with Turning Point staff and if successful, will be provided with enrolment documentation to commence the internship on 22 February 2027.

Applications are due on or before Friday 30 October, 2026 and are processed as they are received. This date is indicative only and applications may close earlier due to high demand, therefore early submission is encouraged.

For further information email:
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