



Certificate III in Aquaculture

Sector Summary

Tasmanian aquaculture is at the forefront of innovation and technology in Tasmania, providing significant employment opportunities from farm hands to environmental scientists, right through to high level management positions.

In total, 2,095 people are directly employed by aquaculture businesses, and a further 3,233 people are indirectly employed by aquaculture. That is 5,328 people with jobs in aquaculture¹.

The total value of production from aquaculture in Tasmania is \$930.7 million (2019/20)².

The current Tasmanian Seafood Pledge is a partnership between the Tasmanian Government, Tasmanian Seafood Industry Council and Seafood and Maritime Training Tasmania. It provides \$2 million dollars in funding to support essential safety and skills training for the seafood industry.³

Perception of Training

There is a lack of awareness and knowledge about the seafood labour market and the type of work available both currently and into the future. This challenge is further exacerbated by a mismatch between education pathways and career aspirations of young people and the status and expectations attached to pursuing higher education. While vocational careers may be attractive to some young Australians, particularly men, pursuing vocational or technical education and training does not rate highly for the future generation of workers. There are significant employment opportunities for occupations with this level of educational attainment within the seafood industry.

Thinking about jobs and careers starts at an early age and students need multiple opportunities to engage with the industry. This creates some challenges for a largely regionally based seafood industry.

Attributes for New Entrants

¹ Tasmanian Fisheries and Aquaculture Industry 2018/19 Economic Contributions Technical Report. IMAS.

² ABARES Fisheries and Aquaculture Production, Tasmania 2019-20.

³

https://www.skills.tas.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/262940/The_Tasmanian_Seafood_Industry_Workforce_-_Next_Generation_Seafood_Report_-_Aug_2020.pdf

- A driver's licence is helpful as this is a regionally based industry and transport to work can be barrier.
- A basic understanding of WHS before undertaking work placement is important. The 'Working on Water Card' is a basic entry level WHS course for anyone interested in a career on the water.

Preferred pathways for school leavers entering the sector:

- Engagement in programs such as Working on Water (WoW) is recommended. It can help shape career aspirations in the seafood industry and build awareness of the vast opportunities available. [Seafood Jobs Tasmania](#) provides information about jobs, skills, and training opportunities in Tasmania.
- Minimum training requirements are mapped to career pathways on [Seafood Jobs](#). This portal also has a jobs section for job seekers to apply for positions that have been advertised on the site.
- Industry's preferred qualification level for secondary students is Certificate I/II or a school-based traineeship pathway.
- Access to quality and relevant work placements is strongly recommended.
- Certificate III qualifications delivered in schools outside of a traineeship are not supported by Industry.



State of Tasmania
(Department of Education)