



VET and Aviation (Remote Pilot)

Sector Summary

The unmanned aircraft industry is working towards clear pathways in aviation as it grows and the barriers for entry and participation are being removed (for example-the price of the drones).

This has meant that the Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) has moved from being a specialist skill set to a qualification that complements other industries and has a broad range of applications including surveying, engineering, remote sensing, research, spatial science, aquaculture, maritime and agriculture.

The Certificate III in Aviation (Remote Pilot) qualification provides a pathway for students wanting to pursue a career in aviation as the demand and use of unmanned aerial systems continues to grow. It may also be used as a value-add to completing tasks in other industry sectors.

Preferred Training and Pathways

- The Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) Remote Pilot Licence (RePL) is the critical element of delivery in the Certificate III qualification. The qualification without this component will not lead to meaningful pathways. Commercial operations require a RePL licence.
- This qualification should be packaged with complementary programs for best outcomes. These complementary programs could include STEM specialities such as coding, and an introduction to engineering and aeronautical skills.
- The RePL licence is the building block for pathways and can be upgraded with bridging courses.
- Currently, universities offer RePL as an additional program to surveying and spatial sciences undergraduate programs. This is an additional expense not covered by HECS but is highly valued by employers.
- This program is also offered to government businesses such as DPIPW and the Antarctic Division.
- Tasmanian providers will be offering Certificate IV in Aviation (Remote Pilot-Beyond Visual Line of Sight) in the future, of which, the Certificate III in Aviation (Remote Pilot) is a pre-requisite.

- The certificate III qualification provides a useful complementary skill set for a wide variety of industry areas. Enrolment in this program should be supported by career advice that will articulate the specific industries where this qualification/licenced outcome is valued.



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