1. What is VET delivered to secondary school students (previously VETiS)?

VET delivered to secondary school students (previously VETiS) is designed to provide additional pathways for school learners to undertake a nationally recognised VET qualification while still at secondary school completing their secondary school studies.

VET delivered to secondary school students is a key component of the Government’s strategy to increase student retention, improve Year 12 completion rates and address skills shortages. Learners enrolled in VET may combine study and employment. VET provides a vocationally oriented program of studies leading to a senior secondary certificate.

The Victorian School of Languages (VSL) is a state-wide service of the Department of Education and Training with students enrolled from all three sectors (Government, Independent, Catholic). The VSL, which commenced in 1935, is Australia’s oldest and largest language school. In 2004 the VSL became a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) provider (No. 21269) and has been teaching Certificate courses since then. Currently, the VSL RTO has national registration with the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA).

2. Tell me about the VSL VET languages program?

The VSL has strategic partnerships with schools across Australia. The VSL VET secondary school languages program aims to further develop those partnerships in the delivery of vocational language learning and teaching to secondary schools and colleges.

The Victorian School of Languages will:
• provide Certificates II and III in Applied Language under a VET auspice program;
• enable learners to obtain a nationally recognised VET language qualification while undertaking their normal school study in a language; and
• provide trainer professional development to deliver VET language programs.

3. What are the benefits of offering Certificates II or III in Applied Language as VET delivered to secondary school students?

The Certificate in Applied Language focuses on delivering practical language skills and everyday communication in both social and vocational settings.

Apart from acquiring practical and communicative language skills, the VET languages program also aims to increase learner motivation and encourage learner retention in languages classes to the senior levels. For example, learners who have completed Certificate II at Year 9-10, will be able to proceed to Certificate III, or possibly take VCE Units at Years 11-12. Leaving school with a dual qualification, that is, a secondary education certificate and a vocational qualification, is beneficial to learners as it prepares them for further tertiary education or relevant employment.

4. How is VETiS assessed?

The learning outcomes in the VET language Certificates are flexible and not externally assessed. The primary difference is the use of competency based assessment tools in vocational settings rather than graded assessment. The main focus is on applied, practical, and workplace communication skills. Some VET outcomes are aligned and contextualised with what learners are already doing in the secondary system. Schools may use existing textbooks and assessment tasks which may be modified to suit vocational outcomes, in addition to industry engagement strategies.

5. What languages certificates will be offered?

• 10297NAT Certificate II in Applied Language (280 hours)
• 10661NAT Certificate III in Applied Language (320 hours)

6. What other languages could be offered in 2017?

The VSL currently provides auspicing arrangements for schools for following languages: French, German, Chinese (Mandarin), Bulgarian, Indonesian and Japanese. In addition, Certificates II and III in Applied Language could be taught in other languages of your choice. Please contact the RTO team to discuss this possibility.

7. How long does it take to complete a Certificate?

Generally, it takes at least two years to complete an Applied Language Certificate.

8. Are there minimums for student numbers?

Generally, the minimum number of learners recommended is 20 students per school per Certificate. For special cases, particularly from country or regional schools, this can be negotiated with the Victorian School of Languages. A minimum charge will apply – refer to Item 13.

9. At what year levels are these Language Certificates normally delivered?

Depending on learners’ language proficiency and teaching hours allocated, schools could consider the following two year delivery model: Year 9-10, Certificate II and Year 11-12, Certificate III.

Entry Requirements for Certificate II in Applied Language
No prior knowledge of a specific language is required for entry, however, some beginner level study would be beneficial, in addition to level 2 Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF) numeracy and literacy skills.

Entry Requirements for Certificate III in Applied Language
Learners have successfully completed Certificate II in Applied Language (or equivalent) OR are able to demonstrate competency in the language at Certificate II level.
10. What is required of the instructor and how will they be supported by the VSL?
It is essential that ALL instructors in the program have a TAE40110 or TAE40116 Certificate IV in Training and Assessment in addition to formal language teaching qualifications.
Instructors will be supported by several training sessions provided by the RTO to assist in aligning teaching tools and assessment tasks to the vocational language curriculum. Regular contact will be maintained throughout the year, including induction, moderation and validation sessions either at the school, at the VSL, or via video conference and online.
In addition, instructors need to provide the VSL with certified copies of their CV together with qualifications, VIT registration and the abovementioned Certificate IV, as well as maintain thorough curriculum and assessment records to be made available to the RTO, as requested during the course of the year.

11. How long does it take to implement languages Certificates as VET?
Ideally, planning should commence 12 months prior to the year you are delivering so VSL staff can support you whilst you prepare for the VET program. This also gives you the opportunity to promote the Certificates courses to your school community in August when learners are generally making subject selections for the following year.

12. What is the equivalency with Secondary Education Units and do learners receive an increment towards their ATAR if they undertake a nationally recognised Certificate qualification?
Learners who undertake a VET Applied Language may be eligible for credit towards their senior secondary school certificate. According to the VCAA at the time of publication, for example, eligibility towards the VCE in Victoria is as follows.
Program 1: Learners who complete 10297NAT Certificate II in Applied Language will be eligible for three units of credit towards their Units 1 and 2
Program 2: Learners who complete 10661NAT Certificate III in Applied Language will be eligible for three units of credit towards a Units 3 and 4 sequence
Learners who receive a Units 3 and 4 sequence of Program 2 will be eligible for an increment towards their ATAR (10% of the average of the Primary Four scaled studies). For further information see [www.vtac.edu.au](http://www.vtac.edu.au)
Check with your relevant state curriculum and assessment authorities for more details.

13. How much will this cost?
The current fee structure of VET programs in 2018 is as follows.
• Auspice School program - $175 (plus GST) per learner per Certificate. This covers all compliance requirements such as professional development sessions, induction, moderation and validation, ongoing school support and certificates.
Please note that there will be a minimum charge of $1,300 (plus GST) for a learner cohort of seven (7) or less.
• Auspice School program with VSL instructors - $450 (plus GST) per learner per Certificate. This covers the provision of a VSL instructor to teach the program if an auspice school instructor can’t be accessed as well as all compliance requirements such as professional development sessions, induction, moderation and validation, ongoing school support and certificates.
In addition, it may be necessary to charge auspice schools set-up fees to cover costs of setting up an auspice school arrangement such as the development and translation of a curriculum, assessment plans, etc. These costs and fees are subject to discussion and negotiation before contracts are finalised.

14. How are Schools Funded?
In Victoria, a School Resource Package is provided to government school for each learner as the primary source of funding to support the provision of VET programs. Targeted VET program funding is allocated for every eligible VET certificate enrolment with an additional rural weighting.

The deadline for VET Certificate enrolments on the VASS database for funding purposes is the end of April, after which, learners will not attract the targeted funding. This funding can be used for the following purposes in relation to VET delivered to secondary school students:
• a contribution towards the purchase of delivery from an external RTO
• a contribution towards instructor professional development and training
• costs associated with the transition to training packages.

Independent or Catholic Schools may be eligible for VET funding through sector or government support. Please contact the relevant sector (Department of Education and Training, Independent Schools Victoria or Catholic Education Office) for further information.

Non-Victorian schools should contact their Business Manager or relevant state education department for information.

15. Are there any Contractual Arrangements?
All schools entering into auspice arrangements with the VSL RTO to deliver VET subjects must have a signed Standard VETis Auspicing contract.

16. Who do I contact for more information?
Please contact the VET Team at the Victorian School of Languages via the following methods:
Email: vetinschools@vsl.vic.edu.au
Tel: (03) 9474 0500    Fax: (03) 9416 9899
Web: [www.vsl.vic.edu.au](http://www.vsl.vic.edu.au)