Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) is a course recognised by the QCAA that delivers a significant amount of learning in a real workplace. SWL courses:

- deliver real employability skills
- provide opportunities for young people to create workplace networks
- supplement core studies that may be undertaken at school, a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) or as a precursor to an apprenticeship
- are developed by industry and may help address skills shortages
- give students an opportunity to 'sample' different careers.

Note: Recognised SWL is not a component of a training package, nor an accredited VET course, nor a QCAA-approved or accredited course (such as an Authority school subject).

The QCAA has developed a quality assurance process to formally recognise SWL courses that meet certain criteria. Successful completion of a recognised SWL course can earn credit towards a QCE.

Through this recognition process, the QCAA aims to improve the educational outcomes for all young people, and improve the public trust in SWL courses that support the school-to-work transition.

What are the benefits of SWL?

For organisations
- Establishes networks and contacts for future recruitment
- Builds interest in careers in the industry
- Improves allocation of resources to potential apprentices
- Creates links with students while still at school

For students
- Enhances pathways to employment
- Builds networks in the workplace
- Delivers real-world experience
- Adds value to studies done at school

More information

For more information on recognition requirements, together with samples and templates for developing course materials, visit the QCAA website or email: recognition@qcaa.qld.edu.au or phone: (07) 3864 0395.