

Student Information



The CONNECTS BPP is a program offered by Study Cairns in partnership with Practera designed to enhance student employability and provide positive business outputs for local employers (clients).

How It Works

The BPP is a 3-week program in which teams of international students work collaboratively to deliver a consulting project for a local **Government Agency, Business or Nonprofit**. Teams are guided by a structured program, learning content via Practera's technology platform and receiving support from an appointed mentor.

The program aims to provide students with an opportunity to:

- Develop 21st century **employability skills** 
- Get real **business experience** 
- Expand **social and professional networks** 



Applicant Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for the program, you must:

- Be 18 years of age or over
- Be currently studying a CRICOS registered course in Cairns* OR have recently graduated from at least a Diploma-level course in Cairns (past 12 months)
- Be able to attend a compulsory orientation session on Monday, 11 February 2019 (3pm – 6:30pm)

*All students are encouraged to apply, however if you are currently studying an English language or Certificate-level course, you must have completed at least a Diploma-level course in the past, OR have 2+ years work experience in any sector. Please note overseas qualifications and/or work experience is accepted.



Successful Applicant Requirements

This is an extracurricular program. If you are selected to participate, to gain official certification and get the most out of your learning experience, you must:

- Commit to 50 hours of work over the 3-week program
- Attend and actively contribute towards team, client and mentor meetings
- Complete all project deliverables with your team, which include: a project plan, a draft report and a final report and presentation

STUDENT APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN! [APPLY HERE](#)

Next cohort: 11 February – 1 March 2019

Applications close 12pm (midday) on Monday, 4 February 2019

This project is co-funded with the support of the Queensland Government's International Education and Training Partnership Fund, managed by Study Queensland within Trade and Investment Queensland.

How is this program different?



Team-based

Work as part of a diverse and multidisciplinary team.



Real world learning

Work for a real client, and get exposure to Australian workplace culture.



Real outcomes

Provide recommendations to solve a real business challenge for your client, and present these back to them in a final report and presentation.



Not an assignment

You will be learning by doing. This is a self-directed, extracurricular program.

WHAT PROGRAM ALUMNI SAY

"One of the key learnings I will take away from this program is how to approach a problem with the application of critical thinking."



"I was able to work collaboratively with the clients and mobilise our team. My leadership skills were honed courtesy of working with team members with varied skills."

"I have met some successful professionals and some of them are willing to be my referees."

"I feel that I am now capable of communicating with professionals. Before this experience I felt insecure."

PAST PROJECT CLIENTS INCLUDE:



Practera is a multiple award-winning, recognised tech innovator and education provider that has facilitated high quality work-integrated learning experiences for over 10 000 students.

FAQs

Do I get a certificate?

Yes, you will receive a certificate upon completion of the project, as long as you have met all program requirements (time commitment and active participation). Furthermore, you will receive a badge to upload to your LinkedIn profile.

Do I have to be based in Cairns?

Yes. This program is an intensive three week experience, with a lot of offline components, so we do require you to be in Cairns to participate.

What if I have a part-time Job?

It is fine if you have a part-time job, but you must be able to commit a minimum of 50 hours of work on the project over the three weeks of the program. You will need to coordinate with your team to ensure that you're able to attend meetings and contribute equally to all deliverables.

Do I get to choose the project I work on?

No, projects will be assigned to teams. We ensure clients submit projects that are interesting and achievable within the program timeframe.

Do I get to choose my team?

No, all teams will be assigned randomly to allow for diversity to occur.

Will the project be related to my course?

It could be, but if it isn't, that's fine too. The projects are structured in a way where you do not need specific technical knowledge.

What type of projects can I expect?

The majority of projects will be non-technical. They could include market research, doing a competitor analysis or creating a social media strategy.

Will I be paid to work on this Project?

No, you will not be paid to work on this project.

Can I skip the orientation session?

No, the orientation session is compulsory. It is where you will meet your team, mentor and client. Students who do not attend will be removed from the program.

What does the application process involve?

You will be required to complete an online application form, as well as complete short-answer questions around your motivations and skills.

Do I need to access Practera before the orientation session?

If you've been selected to take part in the program, Practera will send you a link to register and access the platform.