

## POSITION DESCRIPTION

<b>Position</b>	Education Specialist Residential Care	<b>Position Number</b>	
<b>Reports to</b>	Senior Manager for Education	<b>Direct Reports</b>	Nil
<b>Status</b>	Permanent	<b>Time Fraction</b>	Part Time (.6)
<b>Award</b>	SCHADS Level 6	<b>Location</b>	Metro

## OUR VISION

Aboriginal self-determination – Live, Experience and Be.

## OUR PURPOSE

Supporting culturally strong, safe and thriving Aboriginal communities.

## POSITION SUMMARY

The Education Specialist will have the responsibility to promote and encourage best practice in relation to the education of residents across VACCA's residential care programs. The Education Specialist will use a collaborative approach with VACCA residential staff, to ensure they can best support young people to reengage with, attend and thrive in their chosen education setting.

## KEY RELATIONSHIPS

<i>Internal:</i>	The education team, the residential program and other VACCA programs
<i>External:</i>	Schools and other education settings, LOOKOUT Centres, Education Assessment Leads, DET Koorie Education Workforce and other relevant stakeholders.

## KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

### ESSENTIAL

Able to demonstrate the following;

- Commitment and understanding for the values that underpin VACCA' vision and purpose

- Experience in working and engaging with Aboriginal families and children in an educational context
- Awareness of why Aboriginal children and carers may experience challenges or barriers within the education system
- Experience and understanding of school communities and the supports available
- Experience working with high-risk youth, exhibiting challenging behaviours
- Strong understanding of the education support systems available to young people living in residential care settings and an understanding of strengths-based, trauma informed and therapeutic practice
- Ability to advocate for service intervention and client supports
- Experience working with individuals and groups – identifying underlying issues, working with conflict, assisting people to communicate safely and effectively, working collaboratively with other services and supports.

## REQUIREMENTS

- Tertiary qualification in Education, Social Work or similar.
- Where a degree is commenced but not completed, salary will be fixed at Award Level 5 until successful completion
- You must have and continue to hold a full Victorian Driver's Licence, a current employment Working With Children Check card and a clear National Police Check
- Current COVID-19 vaccination (including booster dose, as applicable)

## POSITION ACCOUNTABILITIES

## KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provide individual specialist education support to young people, including implementing tailored education programs in collaboration with education and vocational providers.
- Build the skills and capacity of VACCA residential care staff to respond to the educational and vocational needs of young people.
- Facilitate young people's improved navigation of education and vocational systems and pathways including alternative education settings.
- Provide direct support for young people to assist them to participate in vocational and employment opportunities where appropriate.
- Provide guidance to ensure the home learning environment is supportive for young people residing in VACCA care settings.
- Support education assessments and planning and ensure residential care staff are empowered to advocate for young people through the education system.
- Provide information and guidance for young people in relation to vocational pathways.
- Connect staff into tutoring and other available education supports for young people

- Support staff with the use and knowledge in re engagement in learning, individualised education plans and with student support group meetings.
- Represent residential care at monthly VACCA Education Working Group meetings
- Attend meetings on behalf of VACCA to provide education updates, propose adaptations and provide feedback around education in residential care
- Liaise with schools, educational bodies, service providers and other relevant organisations to coordinate a program of student engagement in education.

#### HEALTH, SAFETY & WELLBEING

- Ensure compliance with the OH&S Act and VACCA policies.
- Contribute positively and proactively to team and organisation wide OH&S activities.

#### QUALITY & CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

- Ensure compliance with legislation, contract and policy requirements in your day to day work to meet the organisation's audit, contract and registration obligations.
- Proactively apply your specialist knowledge in the review and maintenance of policies, systems and processes.
- Continue the development of a culturally strong and positive working environment using a continuous improvement approach.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We are committed to Aboriginal self-determination and supporting strong, safe, thriving Aboriginal communities and aim to ensure every individual is treated with dignity, honouring all cultural backgrounds, abilities, ethnicities, sexual orientations, gender identities and spiritual beliefs.

VACCA is a child-safe organisation and is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of children and young people with zero tolerance for child abuse. All successful applicants will be required to undertake a National Police Record Check and Working with Children Check prior to commencement of employment and periodically following commencement.

VACCA is an equal opportunity employer and has a smoke-free workplace policy.

This position is designated under the Multiagency Risk Assessment and Management framework (MARAM) Identification (Tier 2) level which requires mandated MARAM Family Violence Screening & Identification training and responsibilities.