

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT MARCELLIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE

What is Marcellin Technical College?

Marcellin Technical College is a co-educational Catholic secondary college founded on the educational vision of St Marcellin Champagnat. The College offers a two year program commencing in Year 11. The program makes it possible for students to complete their South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) by focusing on relevant trade or vocational related subjects. The program is designed to allow students to embark on an Australian School-based Apprenticeship (ASbA) or traineeship. In this way students are able to commence a paid career before they finish their formal secondary education.

Marcellin Technical College offers education and training in the following areas:

- Animal Studies
- Automotive
- Building and Construction
- Commercial Cookery
- Electrotechnology
- Metal Fabrication and Engineering
- Viticulture

Who is best suited to attend Marcellin Technical College?

Students entering Year 11 with a positive attitude and an interest and aptitude for a trade based or defined vocation usually succeed. Although Marcellin is not the same as a main stream school, students should not enroll with us because they don't like school and think it will be unstructured and easier. The education and training at Marcellin is not necessarily hard, but it does require a positive attitude and a willingness to learn. Students are given every opportunity to succeed. The students that do best are the ones that 'put in'.

What assistance will I receive to find an apprenticeship or traineeship?

The education and training staff at Marcellin work with students to ensure they focus on securing and retaining a suitable trade or traineeship. We have staff dedicated to linking students with employers for work experience and Australian School-based Apprenticeship or traineeship opportunities. It is, however, up to students to secure an apprenticeship or traineeship. Once our students are in an apprenticeship or traineeship, our education staff support and mentor students in the management of their school, training and work commitments.

What is the length of an Australian School-based Apprenticeship/Traineeship?

The length of a school-based apprenticeship/traineeship depends on the vocational area and how many training hours the student commits to. Marcellin students usually commit to a minimum of 35 weeks at their place of employment and eight weeks of accredited training with a Registered Training Organization (RTO) during their two years at the College. Marcellin has its own RTO and offers accredited training in a number of areas.

How much time is required during the year on the job and how much time is required at the College?

Commencing Year 11 students undertake a six-month preparatory and prevocational program to assess student aptitude and interest in a particular trade or vocational area.

Commencing Year 11 students undertake a six-month preparatory and prevocational program to assess student aptitude and interest in a particular trade or vocational area. From July, students actively seek a school-based apprenticeship or traineeship. Having secured a school based apprenticeship or traineeship students can expect to spend from six to eight weeks with an employer (in blocks of two, three and five weeks).

When not at work with an employer, students undertake education (SACE) and trade/vocational training on campus. When students sign up as a school based apprentice or trainee, students are encouraged to negotiate with their employer for additional work to be undertaken during the College breaks. In Year 12 students spend approximately half of their time with their employer and the remainder completing their SACE and trade/vocational training on campus with our RTO or an external RTO.

What happens when you finish Year 12?

Students who finish Year 12 successfully are those who have completed all of the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) requirements and the required number of units of accredited training. The apprenticeship/traineeship contract is converted to full time and recognizes the accredited training that has been completed under the school based apprenticeship/traineeship. The remaining length of the apprenticeship is also calculated. Students may elect to continue their accredited training (if

applicable) with the Marcellin College RTO (either on or off campus).

What if I don't get an apprenticeship/traineeship quickly?

Marcellin staff will continue to work with students until they secure the apprenticeship or traineeship they are interested in (and have the aptitude for). Students not in an apprenticeship or traineeship are required to participate in work placements and other activities to build their contacts and gain valuable work experience. We have found that work experience can often lead to an apprenticeship or traineeship.

What are the advantages of Marcellin Technical College?

Marcellin Technical College strives to create a rich and diverse education and training environment which focuses on developing the 'whole person'. We offer a comprehensive pastoral program which supports our students as they transition to the world of work.

We seek to create an environment where all feel respected and co-responsible. We are committed to developing a community where each individual student is affirmed in an environment of mutual support and encouragement. Marcellin values positive relationships and partnerships between the College, the home and the workplace.

Our unique two year (Year 11 and 12) program makes it possible for students to commence their trade or vocational training (in their area of interest), and gain employment and be paid while still at school completing their formal secondary education. Our program gives our students a head start to their chosen career (with their SACE). We believe that Marcellin is a smart move for a young person in terms of their education, training and a career.

What is the tuition fee policy at Marcellin Technical College?

Marcellin Technical College offers high quality education and training within a low tuition fee environment. When compared with other independent colleges, Marcellin's tuition fees are very competitive.

We encourage parents and caregivers to see our tuition fees as an investment in the future of their child or the young person in their care, rather than a cost. Although the college is not

able to guarantee an apprenticeship or employment, the vocational education and training program at Marcellin is specifically designed as a pathway to a skilled career (in areas of demand).

The tuition fee for our two year program commencing 2012 is \$5,000. Some additional costs for uniform, specialist clothing and equipment and consumables is also required.

Most of our fees are required to be paid in the first year of the program reflecting the time the students are on campus (which is greater in the first year than the second). There are a number of government grants and subsidies available to parents to assist with tuition fees and other costs. Tuition fees can be paid in a number ways including monthly by electronic funds transfer. There are generous discounts for payments made in advance.

What is an RTO?

An RTO is short for Registered Training Organization. An RTO is registered by the government to deliver training courses and programs that are approved and accredited by the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF). Marcellin Technical College operates its own RTO called MTC Training.

Our RTO is approved to deliver training in the areas of Automotive, Electro-technology, Building and Construction, Metal Fabrication, Mechanical Engineering, Horticulture (Viticulture) in partnership with an external RTO, Furniture and Cabinet Making (Kitchens and Bathrooms).

MTC Training works in partnership with our college education staff and delivers the necessary trade training to our students.

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