

Work integrated learning – Paula

I'm Paula Ntalianis, I'm the training manager for Crown Towers and Crown Promenade hotel.

Co-op here is really about creating an opportunity for students to develop. The benefit of having a student from Vic Uni is that you know you're going to get great commitment from a student for at least twelve months. They tend to come back and continue to work with you after they graduate. It's a really positive investment.

We recruit them like any employee, we train them like any employee. So they just become part of, I guess, our normal, you know, manning and recruitment costs.

The first step for an employer to become involved in the program is to get in contact with Victoria University. They have an amazing range of staff who are there to assist you. They help in the selection and recruitment process and

they provide students who are very interview ready, very workplace ready, their CVs are presented in a very professional way. When they come for the interview they're always immaculately groomed and they're willing to embark on a journey with you as an employer.

One of the things that I really love about this program is actually watching the students develop during their work placement year.

They really change from being someone who's quite unsure of where they're going, to someone who's very confident about their future.