

Department of Education and Training (higher education) integration with career development in practice.

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Biography:

Ms McInnes has 25 years' experience in the public service in stakeholder engagement and communications, specifically with regard to tertiary education for the last 10 years.

The Department of Education and Training is responsible for supporting informed decision-making from students when it comes to 'what' and 'where' to study as well as financial support.

Research tells us that over 60% of students go to career advisers for their higher education information. Additionally, that both students and career advisers want to learn more about Australia's higher education system and what study assistance is available.

In an environment of information overload, but with a need for valuable resources, the Department seeks to provide consistent information to all students via career practitioners. If not already in use, the Department's resources will be a valuable addition to career education activities:

The Beyond School Study Guide includes factsheets and infographics, which assist year 10-12 students to consider study, career goals and financial assistance. The Guide is off-the-shelf, ready for classroom discussion, sharing online or talking through options with individuals.

Class plans that integrate the concept of HELP study loan repayments with maths. The Department is working with the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) to provide curriculum-based classroom resources to teachers and career practitioners.

The Course Seeker website compares over 7000 undergraduate courses Australia-wide, on a level playing field. Information and jargon from each of the Tertiary Admissions Centres is presented for easy comparisons. Classroom activities include using Course Seeker to search and compare courses, and filter by ATAR, mode of study, study area and location.

After this presentation, delegates will be able to:

1. Understand government assistance for financing tertiary study.
2. Apply identified resources to workplace practice.

The Department will take advice and feedback from the presentation to improve current resources, and develop further resources in line with the needs of practitioners. Open lines of communication are essential to the Department being able to support practitioners, to support their students.