

Briefing paper: Work Integrated Learning placements

Introduction

This briefing paper outlines the Discipline of Architecture and Design's (A&D) Work Integrated Learning (WIL) Program. This program aims to:

- Provide students with the opportunity to experience professional practice and develop their knowledge and skills in a real workplace environment.
- Strengthen links and understanding between practitioners in the architectural and building construction professions and students wishing to become future practitioners in Tasmania, nationally, and overseas.

Educational structure

A&D's WIL Program is organised as a series of assessable elective units that form an assessable component of a student's course.

- Second and third year Bachelor of Architecture and Built Environment (B.ArchBEnv) or Bachelor of Design (B.Des) students can enrol in KDA352.
- Masters of Architecture (M.Arch) student can enrol in KDA416, KDA417 or KDA418.

Both the student and the placement provider contribute to the unit's formal assessment.

Program overview

<i>Management</i>	A&D manages its students' WIL placements. The Tasmanian chapters of the Australian Institute of Architecture (AIA), Master Builders Tasmania (MBT) and Housing Industry Association (HIA) are collaborating to connect students to suitable placement providers.
<i>Placement duration</i>	Placements are for 14-15 working days. This can be in a three to four week block or spread across a semester.
<i>Timing</i>	Placement can be in the University's Winter break (June – July), Semester 2 starting mid-July, or at the end of year break.
<i>Remuneration</i>	Placement are not paid.
<i>Type of work</i>	Students can shadow and assist practitioners in their offices, with clients and on building sites, work on pro bono projects, and undertake similar activities. They would not generally be engaged in day-to-day income-generating activities.
<i>Insurance</i>	UTAS's WIL insurance provides coverage for the students.
<i>Coverage</i>	The program currently operates only in Tasmania.
<i>Student application</i>	Students express interest in securing an individual WIL placement . If offered a placement, they must complete a <i>Student Placement Agreement</i> .
<i>Provider registration</i>	Businesses register to offer an individual placement or for a series of placements. If offered a placement, they must complete a <i>Placement Agreement</i> . This remains valid for 12 months and can cover several placements on several sites.
<i>Matching</i>	The Discipline's WIL Placement committee matches students to placement providers. The committee includes UTAS, AIA, MBT, and HIA representatives.
<i>Notification</i>	Students and placement providers will receive a placement notice once students have been matched to places.
<i>Pre-arranged placements</i>	Students and placement providers can arrange a placement independently. However, the student still needs to submit an expression of interest and the placement provider still needs to register for a placement. Placement providers cannot offer a placement to students they have employed in the last 12 months.
<i>Monitoring</i>	UTAS manages and monitors student and placement provider engagement. The AIA, MBT, and HIA provide liaison as required.
<i>Support documents</i>	A WIL manual is available for students and placement providers.

<i>Accommodation support</i>	Students are expected to provide their own accommodation during the placement. If circumstance warrant, accommodation support may be provided to students with placements in Hobart.
<i>Other Costs</i>	Student are expected to cover day-to-day costs during the placement.
<i>Commercial confidentiality</i>	Students have to agree to maintain confidentiality of the placement provider's information, including clients, staff and workplace procedures.
<i>WHS</i>	Students on placements have to comply with the University Behaviour Policy and WHS requirements on site or in the workplace.
<i>Reference</i>	Placement providers are encouraged to provide students with a reference after the placement.

Contact information

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