

# Trade Pathways for Young People with Refugee and Migrant Backgrounds



# Young Adult Migrant Education Course



# YAMEC

is a course for 15 to 26 year olds

- migrant or refugee backgrounds
- newly arrived in Australia
- need to improve English language skills
- have not finished high school
- get ready for further training
- prepare for higher education
- prepare for employment

# YAMEC Background

- 27 year history and experienced staff
- Responsive to different student cohorts
- ESL & ESL VCAL at Collingwood & Preston campuses
- Introduction to Trade Skills at Heidelberg campus

# Subjects - not just English

- \* ENGLISH
- \* maths
- \* computers
- \* science & health
- \* Australian Studies
- \* Government & law
- \* current affairs
- \* employability skills



# Issues

often experienced by refugee and migrant young people



# Moving into pre-apprenticeships & apprenticeships

- Step missing from YAMEC classes into trades and apprenticeships
- Students reluctant to apply
- Failure to complete pre-apps
- Students find the new environment difficult
- Students need to gain confidence
- Students need to gain further knowledge of the system

# VCAL YAMEC Introduction to Trade Skills





# Course Aims

- obtain VCAL (Foundation) units
- obtain a Construction Induction (White) card
- develop reading and writing skills relevant to trades
- develop numeracy skills relevant to trades
- develop workplace communication skills
- develop employability skills for the Australian workplace
- gain an understanding of the apprenticeship system
- gain an overview of the Building and Construction and Engineering industries
- pathway into a pre-apprenticeship

# Delivery

- 18 week program
- experienced ESL teacher
- experienced ESL numeracy teacher
- classroom activities
- PC lab activities
- guest speakers
- CI card training and test

# Delivery - continued

- Trade workshops
  - engineering
  - joinery / shop fitting
  - cabinet-making
  - painting
  - plastering
  - roof tiling
  - bricklaying
  - wall and floor tiling



















# Pathways

- Building and Construction pre-apprenticeship course in TAFE
- Engineering pre-apprenticeship course in TAFE
- apprenticeships
- employment





# NMIT Student Support

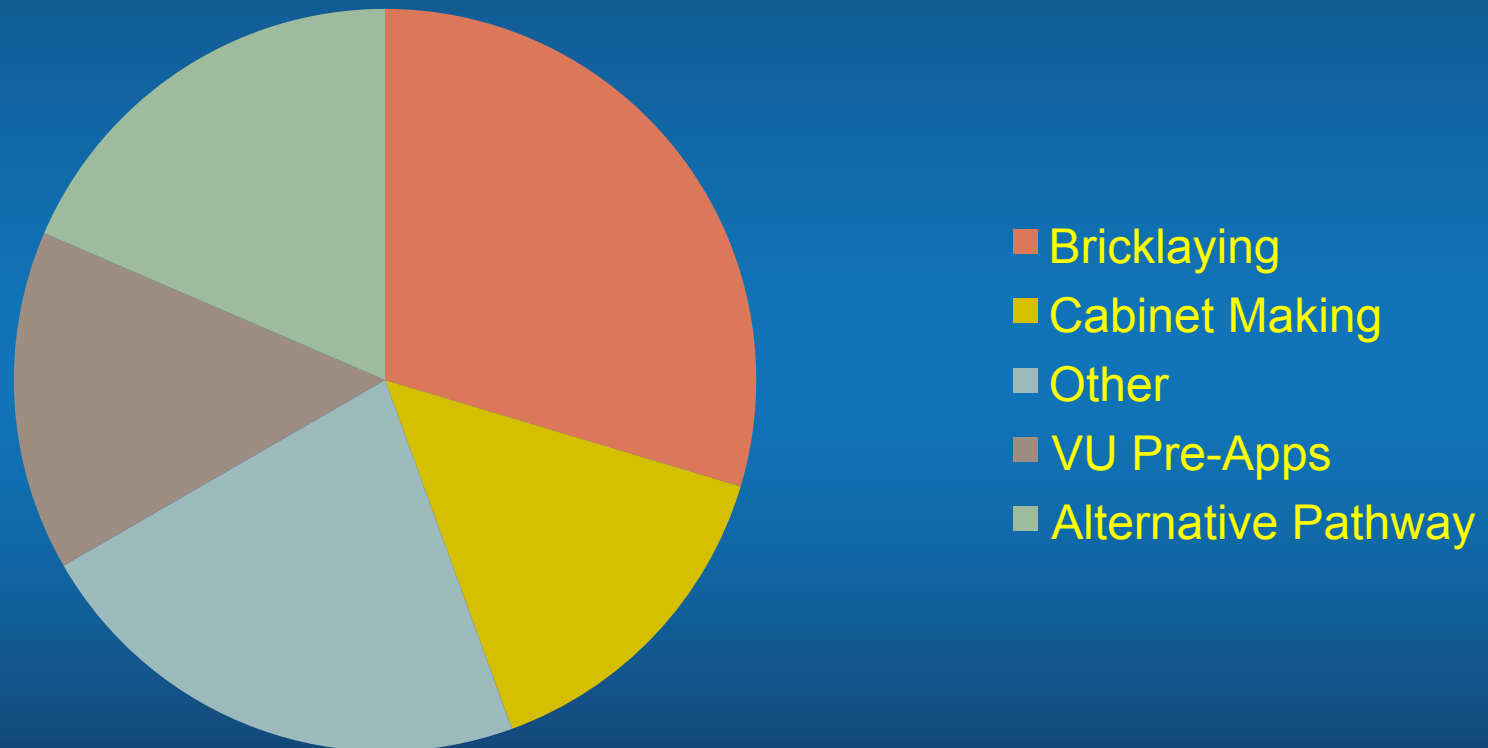
- Managed Individual Pathways Officer (MIPS)
- Career advice
- Case management for barriers to completion

# Student Support includes:

- Career advice and options
- Resume writing
- Job searching
- Assistance with paying fines
- Referrals to external services
- Assistance with Centrelink
- Housing, settlement, immigration
- Course applications and advocacy
- Support continues after students have moved into a pre-apprenticeship program

# Student Pathways 2010 - 2011

## Pre-Apprenticeship Participation



# Case Study – Hamid

- Hamid was a humanitarian refugee from Ethiopia.
- In YAMEC program in Collingwood for 18 months
- Poor English language skills
- Disrupted education
- Low self-confidence
- Unstable housing
- Low income
- New family, wife and child

Hamid was able to move into a Tiling Pre-apprenticeship with the support of his teacher and MIPs worker. He completed the pre-app and is due to commence a tiling apprenticeship gained through a Public Housing Employment Program.



# **For Information about YAMEC courses**

**Phone the YAMEC Office on  
92691775  
[franm-ls@nmit.vic.edu.au](mailto:franm-ls@nmit.vic.edu.au)**