

Logan experts give top tips for jobseekers

The Jobs Plus Expo is on this week at the Logan City Centre. It is a great chance for jobseekers to get the tools they need for their migration into the workforce. We asked some local experts for their advice.

Sylvia Yappas
Nationwide
Training Academy



What advice do you have for the young jobseeker?

The advice I give young jobseekers is to be their own case worker, take control of what they want, move forward with determination and don't let other people dictate what they should or should not be doing.

How do you see the employment market in Logan performing in the next year?

The money that is coming into Logan through the new infrastructure being built should be put back into Logan, with local businesses employing local people.

There should be more of a focus on apprenticeships for Logan's young people and small businesses need to be made aware of the support available to them.

Apprenticeships are good for small business when times are tough.

What do you find is the most satisfying part of your job?

The most satisfying part of this job is seeing clients who didn't believe in themselves discover that they can achieve and succeed where they thought they couldn't.

Another satisfying part is watching clients move on to greater things.

Kevin Ayre
Sarina Russo
Job Access



What advice do you have for jobseekers?

They should work out what are their skills, interests and aspirations and then seek job opportunities appropriate to that.

People today can start as an apprentice with a trade qualification and then go through university to become an engineer – so there is that pathway.

People need to be considering the broadest range of opportunities available to them and to particularly focus on apprenticeships and traineeships.

How do you see the employment market in Logan performing in the next year?

The market is coming back.

There is a strong demand in Logan for manufacturing, warehousing and retail and there will be improving opportunities next year as we see Australia coming out of the current economic difficulties.

What would you say is the most satisfying part of your job?

I've always had a lot of satisfaction in seeing how we change people's lives.

We help people to get new skills and qualifications, but the most satisfying part is what they do with that.

Brendan Wright Skilling Solutions

What advice can you give jobseekers?

Start looking for work as soon as you finish school. Many school leavers wait too long and by then many jobs have already been snapped up.

Also, vary your job search, as only one in every three jobs is advertised.

By relying on the paper and the internet to search for work, you are not tapping into the hidden job market.

Approach employers in person, ask friends and their families if there is work going and mention in all conversations that you are keen for work.

Also, never knock back a job opportunity, as you are more attractive to employers if you are working.

How do you see the employment market in Logan performing in the next year?

I see the first half being positive for retail and the transport and distribution industries. I expect the market to pick up for traineeships and apprenticeships mid-year, along with most occupations.

What do you find is the most satisfying part of your job?

Helping people realise their career goals.

Also seeing clients who have worked all their lives receive a formal qualification based on their skills and experience through Skilling Solutions' funded RPL process has been a real highlight.

Also the thanks from satisfied clients makes for a very rewarding role.



Madonna Leahy Boystown Employment Services

What advice do you have for the young jobseeker?

Each person has dreams and faces unique challenges on their way to making those dreams a reality.

My advice is simple – do not give up on your dreams and maintain a positive attitude, doing something every day to help find a job.

Our team specialises in working one-on-one with young people to map out ways to help them reach their goals.

How do you see the employment market in Logan performing in the next year?

Local employers are telling us that business is picking up, resulting in many Logan businesses – particularly in construction, aged and health care, food services and manufacturing – looking to recruit staff over the coming year.

What do you find is the most satisfying part of your job?

The biggest satisfaction comes from seeing young people overcome barriers to achieving their goals.

Many young people face significant personal and social barriers to entering the workforce.

BoysTown works with each young person to help them identify and address challenges affecting their life and move towards achieving sustainable employment and personal development outcomes.



Christina Robertson MAX Employment

What advice do you have for jobseekers?

Be honest and open about employment/training requirements and expectations.

If you are unsure about what you want to do with your career, speak with your parents, guidance counsellors, or a MAX Employment site.

Present to the prospective employer in the appropriate attire for the position they are advertising for, have a friendly and approachable disposition, wear a subtle amount of make-up, remove all visible piercings and remember to smile!

How do you see the employment market in Logan performing in the next year?

The Logan employment market, performance-wise, is sure to see growth, as over the next year key projects in Logan will set the scene for a rise in career opportunities across industries such as construction, transportation and construction related material supply, as well as a growth for the small businesses servicing these industries.

Already we have witnessed an increase in employment opportunities across the transport and distribution sectors.

Other sectors offering great opportunities in this market would be health and allied services, manufacturing and retail.

What do you find is the most satisfying part of your job?

Assisting our wonderful clients in finding jobs and changing their lives.



Wayne Lee Career Keys

What advice do you have for young jobseekers?

Tailor your resume to the vacancy advertised as it needs to highlight experiences and skills relevant to the position.

If you have limited experience, make sure your cover letter expresses your passion for the occupation.

If you have no experience, try to obtain it through a training program which includes work experience.

How do you see the employment market in Logan performing in the next year?

A recent Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations survey indicated that while the market was tight, there were still considerable employment opportunities in the Logan region.

The survey said a higher proportion of Logan businesses were reporting they could not fill vacancies (12 per cent) when compared to Brisbane (6 per cent).

Additionally, 86 per cent of Logan businesses expected to recruit within the next six months and 24 per cent anticipated they would face difficulty filling vacancies.

This means a lot of opportunity for those who are equipping themselves with the right skills and marketing tools now.

What would you say is the most satisfying part of your job?

Assisting people who are passionate about obtaining employment and develop their skills to obtain their career goals.

