

Graduate Employability

Higher education in Australia has a good standing internationally, however it is facing much pressure to perform amidst the demands of a fast moving world economy. **Ai Group's research shows that employers connect with university students in a range of ways.** Collectively, new models must be developed to connect across industry and higher education providers.



Employers' experiences with graduates

Key traits of employers that are more likely to engage with students



15 or more employees



Operating for more than 20 years



Most commonly offer internships



Maintain long term engagement

Types of support companies need to involve university students

32%

need information on supervising and mentoring students

28%

need a relevant point of contact at a local university

26%

need examples of student activities that could assist the business

13%

need information on any legal requirements

Employers' connecting practices

30% provide placements or internships

23% provide talks/tours/shadowing for university cohorts

17% offer students employment following placements

15% partner with universities for research projects

15% input to design of student programs with universities

Highest levels of dissatisfaction for recruited graduates are in



Problem solving



Capacity to learn



Self-management



Teamwork skills

Changed jobs and business landscape



All employment growth is in interaction jobs

Freelancer economy emphasises capacity for adaptability

Need for graduates: with in-depth disciplinary knowledge, capable of deep listening, entrepreneurial spirit and can communicate

One quarter of employers intend to increase links with higher education providers from 2016 -2017

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

Bolder Partnerships

Industry needs to participate in university programs to be integrally connected to deep learning and employability approaches

National Strategic Discussion

Implement a national engagement framework which provides the architecture for closer connections

Match Connections to Company Capacities

ensure models of connecting cater for companies of all sizes

Embed Employability

Teaching and learning practices need to embed employability into the core of the curriculum

National Support System

Implement incentives for employers to engage across a range of activities