

Career Practitioners Needed to Curb High University Dropouts

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With one in three Australian university students not completing their studies within six years, the Career Development Association of Australia is urging students to receive qualified career advice.

Minister Simon Birmingham [released the figures this week](#), asking students to research their courses and universities to know “exactly what they’re signing up for”.

CDAA National Manager Peter Mansfield said the best way to conduct this research is to seek advice from a career development professional.

“Make an appointment with your school or university career counsellor or go see a private career practitioner to ensure you are receiving individualised and specialised advice,” Mr Mansfield said.

“Not only can they determine your skills and interests based on assessment tools, but they also understand labour market information and future career options.”

Mr Mansfield said this qualified support can ensure students are selecting the right course first time around while preparing for the transition into tertiary education.

“The transition into university can be difficult for many students, moving away from a heavily supported environment to one that relies on self-motivation and organisation,” he said.

“Career professionals can guide them through this transition, making sure students are aware of the differences between school and university and helping them gain any necessary skills.”

Members of the public can access a list of career professionals by visiting the [Find a Practitioner](#) page on the CDAA website.

The Career Development Association of Australia (CDAA) commenced as the Australian Association of Career Counsellors in 1989, and is Australia’s largest cross-sectoral association of career development professionals working in a diverse range of roles, delivering services in industry, government, education, employment programs and community organisations. The primary purpose of the CDAA is to support its members by leading, building and growing the career development profession.

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