

Stakeholders for WIL in Science

The ACDS Successful WIL in Science project aims to ensure that every student studying science at an Australian university will have opportunities to participate in meaningful WIL experiences.

Work-integrated learning is complex with successful experiences achieved through the interplay of many factors. It requires active participation from students, teachers and industry partners and can contribute to deep, sustained relationships.



Clear understanding of roles and responsibilities is essential for successful WIL. Shared governance is a model for collaboration that defines the contribution of each stakeholder.

Setting up effective collaborations with industry partners takes time and needs investment.

- **Industry partners** need to be able to judge an appropriate level of commitment and to understand how their contribution will create the best experience for themselves, for students, and for teachers.
- **University teachers and systems** must be able to create and support WIL experiences that enhance graduate learning outcomes and be able to match the right student to the right opportunity.
- **Students** need to understand their contribution to making their own WIL experience a success and that their experience can help to improve WIL for the future.

Stakeholder Contributions Framework

The framework sets the out the roles of each stakeholder across seven areas.

It is intended as a **starter for individual conversations** with industry partners and a support for developing student and staff communications and processes.

The framework should be adapted to local policies and processes and industry requirements.

Additional resources

Henderson and Trede (2017) Strengthening attainment of student learning outcomes during work-integrated learning: A collaborative governance framework across academia, industry and students, *Asia-Pacific Journal of Cooperative Education*, 18(1), 73-86

Atkinson G (2016) Work-based learning and work-integrated learning: fostering engagement with employers *NCVER*, https://www.ncver.edu.au/publications/publications/publications/all-publications/work-based-learning-and-work-integrated-learning-fostering-engagement-with-employers#

Atkinson G, Mlsko J and Stanwick Jn(2015) Work integrated learning in STEM disciplines: employer perspectives, NCVER http://www.chiefscientist.gov.au/2015/08/report-work-integrated-learning-in-stem-disciplines-employer-perspectives/

Framework for stakeholder contributions for effective WIL in Science

Criteria	Contribution		
	University	Industry	Students
Leadership	- Make WIL an explicit priority with funding and recognition	 Provide explicit support and engagement Establish a learning culture that readily assimilates students, encourages exploration of knowledge and contribution of student ideas. 	 Mentor peers Involve student groups and collectives (e.g. DUSA)
Design and co- development	 Link theory to practice Embed WIL opportunities Scaffold WIL in course design including career development education, active learning, goal-setting and reflection Support task/project development to ensure alignment with student capabilities and learning outcomes 	 Contribute content Help structure learning as part of career Support and encourage graduates to mentor students Demonstrate and articulate value to industry Co-construct tasks/projects to ensure alignment with student capabilities 	- Provide personal context and goals
Engagement and relationships	 Allow diverse relationships and spaces Develop relationships with depth and with breadth Be flexible in accommodating industry needs Document roles Establish clear processes and systems through which industry can contact and connect with the university 	 Be clear about what is possible in each case Be open to multi-form relationships and activities Collaborate with peer organisations to achieve scale, allow diversity and limit exclusivity within constraints of organisation Co-develop industry role 	 Add in personal contacts and new opportunities Be aware of related relationships Link university and industry partner Co-develop student role
Logistics and support	 Resource relationship management Resource placement management, including legal, insurance and safety aspects Resource student management 	 Be clear about own constraints and contribute information Communicate appropriate timing/s for placement to ensure meaningful work is available 	Be clear about own needs and contribute informationBe aware of limitations
Induction	 Develop and provide documentation and communication Develop standards for induction and orientation Provide training for WIL supervisors and students 	 Contribute to collaborative training for WIL supervisors Co-construct induction and local standards Document industry requirements and processes (staff and students) 	- Co-construct induction - Set personal goals
Delivery	 Develop and provide documentation and communication Provide academic supervision Provide ongoing support and monitoring Manage assessment and feedback 	- Provide WIL supervision	- Work with supervisors to interpret student role in each case
Assessment and feedback to students	 Design assessment and ensure compliance with university standards and policy Provide feedback to students Ensure alignment in learning design Develop user-friendly feedback systems 	 Contribute to the development assessment tasks that are authentic to the industry and reflect skills that students will develop/use Co-assess student performance Provide formative, continuous & meaningful feedback 	 Engage in reflection and portfolio construction Align artefacts with career progression/aspirations
Evaluation	 Coordinate quality assurance and benchmarking Review against regulation and industry standards Review against user experience Coordinate a process of continuous review and improvement 	 Provide constructive feedback Review against industry standards Engage in process of continuous review and improvement 	 Provide constructive feedback Review against student expectations and experience Engage in process of continuous review and improvement