



EMPOWERING THE FUTURE GENERATION THROUGH SPORT AND EDUCATION

UTSNZ firmly believes that sport plays a vital role in shaping well-rounded individuals who possess the qualities and attributes sought after by employers in today's dynamic job market.

The UTSNZ Workforce Development Programme (WDP) aims to equip tertiary students with the skills, knowledge, and experiences necessary for personal and professional development. By fostering a culture of excellence, leadership, and teamwork through sport, the programme seeks to empower students and enhance their employability prospects.

Benefits for Students

- 1. Skill Development:** opportunities to develop a wide range of transferable skills such as communication, teamwork, leadership, problem-solving, and time management. These skills enhance student employability and make them well-rounded individuals.
- 2. Career Exploration:** opportunities for students to explore potential career paths within the sports industry. They can gain insights into various roles such as event management, sports administration, sports marketing, and sports journalism. This first-hand experience can help students make informed decisions about their future careers.
- 3. Practical Experience:** opportunities that allow students to gain hands-on experience in a real-world setting. Students can apply theoretical knowledge acquired in their studies to practical situations, enhancing their understanding and competence in their field of interest.
- 4. Networking and Connections:** networking opportunities between students, industry professionals, and community leaders allowing students to establish valuable connections, gain mentorship, and access potential employment opportunities within the sport sector.
- 5. Personal and Professional Development:** involvement in opportunities that nurture personal growth, self-confidence, and a sense of accomplishment, helping students develop a strong work ethic, resilience, and adaptability while also building their professional reputation and credibility.
- 6. Enhanced Resume/CV:** participation demonstrates a student's commitment to social responsibility and community engagement. It adds value to their resume/CV, making them stand out to potential employers.



Benefits for the Sport Sector and Wider Community

- 1. Collaboration:** by connecting students with the sport sector and local communities, the UTSNZ WDP encourages collaboration and partnerships among various stakeholders. This collaboration can lead to innovative solutions, shared resources, and mutually beneficial outcomes for all involved.
- 2. Strengthening of Communities:** students become active contributors, promoting inclusivity, diversity, and social cohesion through their involvement in sport and community-building activities.
- 3. Industry Skills:** sport is a powerful vehicle for developing transferable skills such as teamwork, communication, problem-solving, and resilience. The UTSNZ WDP leverages these attributes, offering students a chance to develop competencies that are highly valued by employers across a range of industries.
- 4. Career Readiness:** by connecting students with industry professionals and providing access to real-world experiences, students will be better prepared for the transition from education to employment.
- 5. Talent Attraction and Recruitment:** through the provision of positive professional development and volunteer experiences, students may be more inclined to pursue a career in sport attracting top talent to the industry.
- 5. Increased capacity and resources:** opportunities that facilitate student engagement can provide additional support to local sports clubs, organisations, and initiatives that often rely on volunteers. This can help alleviate the workload on staff, allowing organisations to operate more efficiently and effectively. In addition, as these students graduate and enter the workforce, they bring with them the knowledge, skills, and values gained through their experiences, positively influencing the sport sector and communities for years to come.

"Through volunteering, I developed crucial skills like teamwork, communication, and leadership. These skills were not only valuable in the sports environment, but also highly transferable to the workplace, allowing me to contribute to a cause I am passionate about, as well as gain a competitive edge in my career journey."



By empowering tertiary students with vocational skills, practical experience, and industry connections, we can create a strong pipeline of talented professionals who will drive the growth and success of the sports sector.