

Plain Language Statement

Research Project Title:	YES: Youth Employment Study
Principal Investigator:	Prof Anne Kavanagh Email: a.kavanagh@unimelb.edu.au
Project Manager:	Stefanie Dimov Tel: +61 3 9035 4554 Email: stefanie.dimov@unimelb.edu.au
Other Investigators:	A/Prof Dennis Petrie, Prof Tony LaMontagne, Dr Cathy Vaughan, Prof Shelley Mallett, Prof Helen Dickinson and Dr Tania King
The Partner Investigators and Partner Organisations	Peak youth bodies and services, including National Disability Services, Disability Employment Australia, VicHealth, yourtown and headspace.
HREC Project Number:	1852309.5

Introduction

The aim of the study is to find out more about what helps young people get jobs and continue to work in jobs that they find meaningful. Your experiences trying to find work during COVID-19 is valuable to us and invaluable in helping us to better understanding how we can help young people get into the workforce after COVID-19.

What is the purpose of this study?

The research project will find out about what makes a difference to gaining and keeping jobs for young people. The findings from the research will help to make better government policy in this area and contribute to changes in employment services for young people. It will also help employers to know how they can support young people in the workplace as we recover from COVID-19.

What does the study involve and how much time will it take?

This study will involve:

- About 5 short surveys every 2-months. The questionnaires will be available online (or by telephone if you need) and will last approximately 15-20 minutes.
- The survey will have questions about your experiences of employment services, your experiences at work and your work history, including your training and education. There are also questions about your health. The researchers also want to find out what kind of work you would like to do.
- Through-out the project you will receive electronic newsletters updating you on progress and findings as a thank you from the research team for the time you have invested in the study

What are the advantages/benefits of participating in this study?

The study and your participation will provide valuable information that may help other young people to get jobs and continue to work in jobs that suit them. The research will help to show how employment is linked to the well-being of young people and how important it is to prioritise young people as we recover from COVID-19.

Are there any risks in participating in this study?

Your involvement in this research project will involve exploring issues associated with seeking employment and health. Beyond this, the researchers do not foresee any risks resulting from participation in this study. If there are any questions in the questionnaire that you do not want to answer, you do not have to answer any questions if you don't want to. In the instance that any of the questions upset you, you may also wish to contact the project manager or any of these organisations:

BeyondBlue **1300 22 4636**
Depression and anxiety support service

LifeLine **13 11 14**
Crisis support service

Confidentiality and privacy – What will happen to the information I provide?

Your responses will be completely confidential and will be held by the University of Melbourne. No one will have access to your responses. All data will be stored in a secure, restricted-access area in the University of Melbourne and will be restricted to the immediate research team working on the project. All information will be stored for seven years in accordance with the recommendations of the National Health and Medical Research Council and the provisions of the Privacy Act 1988 and the Australian Privacy Principles.

Publication of results

The results of the study will be reported in a grouped format. We will never report any names or any individual identifying information. The project will send out electronic newsletters and there is a website for participants, the research team and interested stakeholders. The study's overall findings will be reported as articles for publication in academic journals and at relevant conferences and educational forums.

Can I withdraw from the study?

Your involvement in this research project is completely voluntary. If you wish to withdraw from the research project at any point or to withdraw any information which has not yet been processed you are completely free to do so.

What if I have any enquiries, concerns or complaints about the study?

This project has been reviewed by, and received ethics clearance through the University of Melbourne Human Research Ethics Committee. The Project ID is **1852309.5**.

If you have a complaint concerning the manner in which this research is conducted, please contact:

Manager, Human Research Ethics
Research Ethics and Integrity
The University of Melbourne
Phone: +61 0. 8344 2073
Email: humanethics-complaints@unimelb.edu.au

If you have questions regarding the study, please contact:

Stefanie Dimov (Project Coordinator)
The University of Melbourne
Phone: (03) 9035 4554
Email: stefanie.dimov@unimelb.edu.au