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# VET'S THE BEST BET

STUDENTS enrolling in a university course to test out a career path should instead choose vocational education.

Nicholas Wyman, author of Job U, says the VET sector is far better than university for those still unsure about their future.

Wyman, chief executive of training organisation WPC Group, says VET courses are cheaper; provide more practical, work-ready skills; and are far shorter than a uni degree.

He says too many university students, after already having done two or three years of study, drop out in their final year because, during work placement, they discover the job is not for them.

But in vocational

education, through apprenticeships, traineeships and other links to industry, students can immediately determine if they are on the right track.

“For people who want to go to university and know exactly what it is they want to study, fantastic, go to uni,” Wyman says.

“People have this phobia if you don't go to university then bad things are going to happen to your career — but that's absolutely a load of nonsense.”

Wyman says VET

graduates still have the option of progressing to university later.

TAFE Gold Coast education and training director Lee Russell says some university graduates may be unsure about where their

qualifications will lead them but VET courses have clear links to job outcomes.

She agreed that even those students set on going to university could benefit from completing a VET qualification first.

Scott Byrne, 33, is part way through his Diploma of Nursing and believes choosing VET has paid off.

“You get to see straight away what (working as a nurse) will be like,” he says.



**HAPPY:** TAFE nursing student Scott Byrne says VET's paid off.

Picture: ADAM HEAD