

PAPER:

***LEARNING IN SMALL BUSINESS***

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Abstract:

Small business is under represented in formal education and training activities. There is some work which suggests that small business relies on informal, contextualised learning methods, such as learning from suppliers or other businesses. Small businesses may hire staff who are already skilled for the job. It has also been suggested that many jobs in small businesses are low skilled, and so it is not surprising that small business has a lower participation rate in education and training.

This paper presents some findings from a study, funded by NCVET which surveyed small businesses in three urban and three rural centres throughout Australia. The findings relate to learning sources used and training activities undertaken and planned.