

August 26

Vocational and Occupational Reporting



vocationalexpert.com.au

For:

- Workers' Compensation
- Public Liability
- Personal Injury and
- Motor Vehicle Claims

My Forensic Vocational Reports Deliver:

✓ Comprehensive Pre-Injury History

(I dig deep into Education, Licenses, Skill Depth, Workplace Context.)

✓ Marketplace Remuneration Matrices

(I source and fully cite multiple industry and data points for accuracy and transparency.)

✓ Medical Restriction Mapping

(I translate medical limitations into practical job and industry standards for clarity.)

✓ Client Evaluations with Targeted Questions

(I ask vocationally what others miss or don't understand, leveraging my grounded knowledge across 16 industries.)

✓ Clear Occupational Insight

(I understand terminology, sector context, and the real-world demands of each job.)

David McDonald

VOCATIONAL WORKPLACE COUNSELLOR

There are **3 levels** of reporting:

Each report level relates to one occupational pathway only unless otherwise agreed.

- **Level 1: Earnings Only - from \$750.**
 - a. **ONE OCCUPATION.**
 - b. No client details are necessary.
 - c. Market earnings report for **ONE DESIGNATED JOB TITLE**, e.g. machine operator.
- **Level 2: Vocational Opinion (papers only) - approx. \$1350.**
 - a. **ONE OCCUPATION.**
 - b. No client interviews.
 - c. Medico-legal reports and relevant documents are supplied (Typical Brief documents are listed below).
 - d. Opinion is sought via letter of instruction questions based on supplied documents only.
- **Level 3: Vocational Opinion (with client interview) approx. \$1600.**
 - a. **ONE OCCUPATION.**
 - b. Client interview is conducted - face to face, video, or telephone interview (1-1½ hours). Interviewing benefits are listed below.
 - c. Medico-legal reports and relevant documents are supplied (Typical Brief documents are listed below).
 - d. Opinion is sought via letter of instruction questions based on both supplied documents and client interview/interactions.

Please Note:

- ***Certain specialist occupations, locations and/or industries can affect cost.***
- ***Reporting on two or more occupational paths increase cost.***

Client Interviews / Insights

Client interviews usually offer greater vocational insight for what others have not opined. For example, workplace, occupational, educational, or vocational aspects may have been missed, overlooked or the right vocational questions not asked. Reports include how the client presented on the day and any information that answers your questions.

A tailored pre-interview questionnaire may be administered to help support and focus interviews. This intervention assists in better understanding the client's workplace, career, education, or work history or expected vocational path.

Report Turnaround

Reports have a 2-week turnaround, depending on a range of factors. Urgent reporting is invited but may impact data collection, industry opinions, and result in additional costs.

References / Opinions

All data is cited, and industry input incorporated when available. I fully support all my opinions, evaluations, and summaries.

Note: Reports will vary depending on questions asked. Please call for general discussion on any case aspect prior to LOI.

Sample Report

Please request access to sample reports or a sample Letter of Instruction (LOI).

TYPICAL LETTER OF INSTRUCTION QUESTIONS

Occupations / Workplace / Industry / Trajectory	Remuneration / Salary / Wages	Vocational Opinion
The types of roles/employment positions that the plaintiff could reasonably apply for based on her employment history.	Please provide us with a report with respect to the salaries our client was likely to receive, in the absence of his Incident-related injuries, from when he would have commenced a graduate engineer role on or around 1 July 2021.	Is our client likely to suffer any disadvantage or difficulties in relation to any of the above occupations as a result of his injuries. If so, what kind of difficulties or disadvantage might our client suffer.
Please identify the occupations available for our client having regard to our client's work history, qualifications, licenses & tickets.	The likely pay rates / remuneration available for each position you believe the plaintiff might reasonably apply for and obtain.	Are you of the view that our client's injuries and symptoms are likely to impact on his employability on the open labour market?
What employment positions might be available to our client both broadly and regionally (noting that they live in regional Qld in order to accommodate his wife's employment).	For a dentist, the with Claimant's experience, please comment on the income expected to be earned, hours worked and work duties in Brisbane and Gold Coast, Qld and Sydney, NSW.	A summary of the physical and mental limitations that the plaintiff currently faces in his opportunities for employment, identifying the medical opinions you have relied upon in those conclusions.
What other types of employment our client might reasonably perform, both now and in the longer term, having regard to his vocational and educational history.	For any occupation/s identified in (b), please comment on the expected income to be earned, hours worked and work duties.	Considering our client's accident-related injuries, are you of the opinion that he is now at a significant disadvantage when applying for jobs?
The types of roles/employment positions that our client could reasonably apply for, having regard to the above medical limitations.	Wages payable as a member of the Northern Territory Police Force including any incremental increases.	Would our client be likely to require any vocational or occupational counselling as a result of his injuries if pursuing any occupation.
The prevalence of long-haul truck drivers working beyond age 67 and 70 years and the capacity in which they do this (i.e. Fulltime or otherwise).	Your opinion as to our client's potential earnings working on a full-time basis as a supervisor (specifically in ventilation) in underground mining operations.	Are you of the view that our client's injuries and symptoms are likely to impact on our client's employability on the open labour market bearing in mind the medical opinions of...
The availability of work currently for long haul truck drivers and whether this is likely to change significantly in the next 10 years.	Wage ranges in the security and traffic management fields assuming full time employment.	Any other comment you wish to make with respect to our client's future employability. Any other matters relevant to the court's consideration.
The two (2) most likely occupations our client would have engaged in had the accident not occurred and she resumes her nursing career in 2027 (likely career trajectory).	Evaluation of wage levels in mining matters, specifically for the career path of a Driller, commencing from a Driller's Assistant onwards.	Our client's commercial employability on an open and competitive labour market, having regard to his age, education, aptitude, skills, qualifications, experience, gender, and accident-related disability.

I am frequently asked a variety of questions related to vocations, careers, employment, hiring, recruitment, and the workplace, many of which are reflected in the typical Letter of Instruction questions outlined above.

Document Sharing Examples for Briefs.

1. Medico-Legal Documents – surgeon, physician, occupational therapist, physiotherapist, psychiatrist, psychologist, GPs etc.
2. Professional Reports - various
3. Statements – individual /employer /witness
4. Resumes or CV
5. Employment Records – Contracts, Job Description etc.
6. Income Tax Statements (multiple years)
7. Payslips
8. Qualifications – Academic, Tickets, Certificates, Licences.
9. Rehab file notes.
10. Vocational Screen
11. Work capacity certificate.
12. Medical Assessment Tribunal
13. Administrative Review Tribunal Report
14. Medical Centre Notes/Report
15. Reasons for Decision - WorkCover
16. Progress report of Physiotherapy
17. Letter of Doctor
18. Notice of Accident Claim Form
19. Traffic incident report
20. Police Report
21. Second CTP Factual Report
22. Records of Queensland Police
23. Property Damage Records of...
24. Photos of damage / environment
25. MRI Cervical Spine as an example
26. Queensland Ambulance Service

Vocational Background / Insight

Vocational Reporting is a niche field in Australia, and I have been privileged to have written Vocational Expert Reports for over four years in 6 states. **I am trial experienced.**

My vocational counselling background started 20+ years ago after working in my electronics trade. Where I later advanced through careers, education and importantly as a consulting workplace practitioner in and around 16 different industries - *from Aerospace to Mining, Transport, and all levels of Government.*¹

Traditionally, vocational reports are authored by OTs or rehab consultants - who in my experience often lack real-world industry presence, worksite nuances, recruitment wisdom and understanding of daily employee/employer interactions and those dynamics.

Whereas my onsite learning is grounded in the practical reality of my working interactions in the field where I honed and applied my vocational capabilities. Thereby, my reports are informed by this firsthand practical knowledge of workplaces, salaries, recruitment processes, occupational trajectories, and actual onsite realities.

My working background is supported by my academic qualifications in the areas of vocational counselling, careers development, adult education, workplace training and employment relations.

Always happy to chat,

David McDonald



¹ Aerospace, Printing/Advertising, Oil and Energy, Mining, Finance, Retail, Transport, Freight, Engineering, Information Technology, Manufacturing, Biotechnology, Infrastructure, Community, Education & Training, Local Councils, State and Federal Governments.