



| NSW Department of Education

# Panelbeater

Panelbeaters repair damage to metal, fibreglass and plastic body work on vehicles, and form replacement vehicle panels.

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## Job title examples

- Panelbeater / Collision Repairer
- Autobody Repairer
- Vehicle Body Builder

## What panelbeaters do

- remove damaged panels and parts, and remove upholstery and accessories to gain access
- remove dents by hammering panels
- straighten damaged vehicles and parts using mechanical and hydraulic equipment
- replace badly damaged sections with new or second-hand panels
- fill depressions with plastic filler, and file, grind and sand repaired surfaces
- cut and join replacement sections using welding equipment
- fit repaired or replacement panels on vehicles and refit body hardware such as door locks and trims
- may assist vehicle body builders in constructing and restoring custom-designed, vintage and other specialty vehicles
- may spray-paint vehicles.

## Main employing industries

- Other Services – Automotive Repair and Maintenance

## Qualifications

The following government subsidised qualifications are available in NSW:

**Certificate III in Automotive Body Repair Technology** available as an apprenticeship or qualification.

**Apprenticeships and traineeships:** Find out how to get an [apprenticeship or traineeship](#).

**Course fees:** You may be eligible for government subsidised training under Smart and Skilled. Go to the [Course Finder](#) to find training in your area, estimate your fee and find a training provider.

## Job prospects and pay

- There are around 4,342 panelbeaters working in NSW.
- Over the next four years, employment in this occupation is expected to decline in NSW.
- Employers report current state-wide panelbeater shortages in NSW.

### Average weekly full-time earnings (before tax):

- Panelbeater: \$1,216
- All occupations: \$1,200

## Related jobs

- Vehicle Body Builder and Trimmer
- Vehicle Painter



To find out more regarding these related jobs, visit [education.nsw.gov.au/job-guides](http://education.nsw.gov.au/job-guides).

### Information sources

Occupations: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, 1220.0

Employment: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly, 6291.0.55.003

Skills shortages: Department of Employment, Skill Shortage List NSW 2015-16

Job prospects: Centre of Policy Studies (CoPS), Victoria University, Employment Forecast Data for NSW 2015/16 to 2022/23

Earnings: Department of Employment, [joboutlook.gov.au](http://joboutlook.gov.au), based on ABS Characteristics of Employment Survey, August 2014