



Australian Government

AUSTRALIAN TRAINING AWARDS

REAL STORIES. REAL ACHIEVEMENTS.



WPC GROUP

2016 AUSTRALIAN APPRENTICESHIPS – EMPLOYER AWARD

The Australian Apprenticeships – Employer Award recognises those employers who have made innovative improvements in training which provide beneficial outcomes for their apprentices and/or trainees in Australia and to their local community.

WPC Group Training Organisation has been in the business of employing and training apprentices and trainees for more than 30 years. An innovative partnership with Nissan Motor Company is just one example of its commitment to creating better pathways for students and young job seekers—pathways that in effect, change lives. It is this commitment that has earned WPC Group the Australian Apprenticeships - Employer Award at the 2016 Australian Training Awards

“As a community enterprise, we have seen how our work can change the game for students and young job seekers, creating clear pathways to a promising career and a stable economic future,” said Andrew Sezonov, General Manager, WPC Group.

“That’s good for them, good for their communities and good for Australia.”

Nissan enlisted the help of WPC Group to facilitate their new apprenticeship program known as NISSMAP (Nissan Mentored Apprenticeship Program) and the new program included a complete redesign of the curriculum, structured so that within weeks apprentices could do basic work and have their time charged accordingly.

More than 80 apprentices and 40 dealerships are now part of the NISSMAP program, and the rewarding, skills-focused on-the-job training opportunities have helped secure NISSAN an apprenticeship retention rate of 86 per cent, much higher than the industry average of just 49 per cent.

“Employers see value in working with community trusted intermediaries and the evidence is there for everyone to see that this program is the real deal—it’s changing lives,” said Andrew.

“The great thing about the Australian Training Awards is that they highlight the myth that vocational training only leads to boring, low-status, low paid jobs. Too many people put off pursuing what they really want in a career because they’ve fallen prey to the popular idea that it’s University or bust. In many cases, the problem isn’t a lack of opportunity, it’s a lack of information about all the amazing opportunities that do exist. Young people need to know their dream job is probably out there waiting for them; all they have to do is choose the right path towards it. And the VET sector is a great way to help them do that.”

ABOUT THE AUSTRALIAN TRAINING AWARDS

Each year, the Australian Training Awards recognise and celebrate the outstanding achievements of Australian Apprentices, vocational students, training practitioners, businesses, secondary schools, industry and registered training organisations for their contribution to skilling Australia.

The majority of the awards are the culmination of the state and territory awards programs with winners from each state and territory eligible to compete at the national level in aligned categories.

There are also seven award categories available by entering directly to the Australian Training Awards.

Individual

- Lifetime Achievement Award (**direct entry**)
- National Achievement Award (**direct entry**)
- Excellence in Language, Literacy and Numeracy Practice Award (**direct entry**)
- Australian School-based Apprentice of the Year Award
- Vocational Student of the Year Award
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year Award
- Australian Apprentice (Trainee) of the Year Award
- Australian Apprentice of the Year Award
- VET Teacher/Trainer of the Year Award

Business

- Australian Apprenticeships – Employer Award (**direct entry**)
- Small Employer of the Year Award (**direct entry**)
- Medium Employer of the Year Award
- Large Employer of the Year Award
- Industry Collaboration Award

Registered Training Organisation

- School Pathways to VET Award (**direct entry**)
- International Training Provider of the Year Award (**direct entry**)
- Small Training Provider of the Year Award
- Large Training Provider of the Year Award

DISCOVER MORE OF THE POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF APPLYING FOR AN AUSTRALIAN TRAINING AWARD BY DOWNLOADING THE WHY APPLY FACT SHEET OR VISIT THE WHY AND HOW TO ENTER PAGE OF THE AUSTRALIAN TRAINING AWARDS WEBSITE.

WHY APPLY?

The awards offer participants Australia-wide recognition for exceptional training outcomes and an opportunity to become known as the best-of-the-best, nationally.

For individuals, the awards can open up networks and career opportunities within the business sector and provide you with the opportunity to become a national ambassador for skills to promote the vocational education and training sector at a national level.

For businesses and registered training organisations, the awards can propel you into the national spotlight, positioning you as a front runner in skills and workforce development and leader in best practice. This will set you apart from the competition and make you an employer or registered training organisation of choice.

