



Australian Government

AUSTRALIAN TRAINING AWARDS

REAL STORIES. REAL ACHIEVEMENTS.



BEN NEDWICH

2016 AUSTRALIAN APPRENTICE (TRAINEE) OF THE YEAR

The Australian Apprentice (Trainee) of the Year Award is presented to an individual who is undertaking a traineeship and has been outstanding in all aspects of their training.

When Ben Nedwich was announced as Australian Apprentice (Trainee) of the Year his reaction was one of 'total surprise'. But for anyone who had seen Ben in action the award wouldn't have come as such a shock. Already, Ben had proven to be a high achiever, receiving the Sunrise Rotary TAFE Queensland East Coast Trainee/Apprentice of the Year Award 2015, the Overall Student of the Year Award 2015 and Gold Medal in the Business Services Section of the WorldSkills Australia National Competition in 2016.

Ben is delighted not just for himself but for putting his hometown of Bundaberg on the map as a provider of the highest quality training and workforce.

"The award exemplifies that it doesn't matter where you're located—it's the quality of training that counts. I certainly couldn't have achieved what I have without the people around me who have supported and trained me, all the while being very generous in imparting their knowledge and experience. They are a huge part of my success."

Ben undertook a Certificate III in Business Administration while completing his traineeship at Bundaberg Regional Council. He found his training an ideal way to combine practice and theory while gaining a qualification which would provide an excellent launching pad for further learning and career progression.

As winner of an Australian Training Award he has recently been appointed an Australian Apprenticeships Ambassador to share his story to inspire others.

"One of the most important aspects of the Australian Training Awards is that they highlight the importance and benefits of training and recognise people who are prepared to go above and beyond in contributing to their workplace and the community. I've seen first-hand how quality training can benefit people and turn their lives around. My goal is to spread that message far and wide so that other people can enjoy the same opportunities that I have had."

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.

