



Australian Government

AUSTRALIAN TRAINING AWARDS

REAL STORIES. REAL ACHIEVEMENTS.



JARED STONE

2015 AUSTRALIAN APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR

QUALIFICATION:
CERTIFICATE III IN
ELECTRO TECHNOLOGY
ELECTRICIAN

EMPLOYER:
WESTERN POWER

**REGISTERED TRAINING
ORGANISATION:**
POLYTECHNIC WEST

The Australian Apprentice of the Year Award recognises the most outstanding Australian Apprentice in Australia.

Western Australian Jared Stone has experienced the options VET can present once you step on its career path. That path has already won him the Australian Apprentice of the Year Award at the 2015 Australian Training Awards.

If not for a suggestion from a school career advisor during Jared's Year 11, his future might not have been as bright.

"I didn't have great experiences of school, didn't have a plan and soon found myself dropping my tertiary subjects. But I enjoyed being a drummer with my band, so when the career advisor suggested doing a VET qualification in music I left school and went for it."

When he reached the sound production subjects, Jared was fascinated by the electronics and undertook a

pre-apprenticeship course in electrotechnology.

One of 12 candidates selected by Western Power from 750 applicants to join its apprentice program, Jared completed his Certificate III theory studies during his second year, so during the third year of his apprenticeship he also completed a Certificate IV in Engineering (Instrumentation). He is now a fully qualified electrician with Western Power and is part way through his Advanced Diploma of Engineering.

Jared had never won anything ("not even a raffle!") before he was awarded Western Australian Apprentice of the Year and become a finalist at the Australian Training Awards.

"It's massive," he says. "It shows me I'm on the right

education path for my life-long learning journey."

"VET provides excellent support mechanisms. I had amazing mentors — I wouldn't be where I am today without the help of other people."

For Jared, as well as bringing together passionate, high-achieving people in different fields, the Australian Training Awards is important in showing industry, which may be outside the VET system, what VET can achieve.

Jared has also become an Australian Apprenticeships Ambassador, a role he's looking forward to.

"Life is a two way street, and my challenge now is to inspire others to believe in themselves as much as I've been helped to believe in myself."

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

* Applications for this award are made directly to the Australian Training Awards in all states and territories except Western Australia where applications must be made direct to the WA Training Awards.

** Businesses registered in Queensland, Tasmania and the ACT must apply for the Small Employer of the Year Award through the relevant 2016 state or territory training awards. Businesses registered in New South Wales, South Australia, Victoria, Western Australia and the Northern Territory must apply directly to the Australian Training Awards.

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.

