



Australian Government

**AUSTRALIAN
TRAINING
AWARDS**

REAL STORIES. REAL ACHIEVEMENTS.



SOUTHERN CROSS CATHOLIC VOCATIONAL COLLEGE

2015 SCHOOL PATHWAYS TO VET AWARD

The School Pathways to VET Award recognises eligible organisations including schools, registered training organisations, industry bodies and employers that have collaboratively delivered an excellent vocational education and training program to secondary school students.

Southern Cross Catholic Vocational College (SCCVC), a senior secondary college in Sydney, is committed to providing high quality vocational education and training (VET) and supporting young adults to graduate as the most skillful and employable people they can be.

Founding Principal, Patrick O'Reilly, admits to being "blown away" when SCCVC received the School Pathways to VET Award for the second time in three years. The college was also a finalist in 2011, only a year after commencing.

This string of Australian Training Awards stands Patrick in good stead as he advocates for the place of VET in Schools and its unique value as an educational pathway, something he feels is particularly recognised

in countries like Germany and Switzerland where there are low rates of youth unemployment and strong community-wide investment in skilling youth for the future.

SCCVC has more than 100 students enrolled in Australian School-based Apprenticeships. Learning Facilitators provide expert support for literacy, numeracy and soft skills development, as well as mentoring students in their workplace experiences.

This is complemented by strong business and industry partnerships with over 600 businesses, many of whom have become strong advocates for VET and the work of SCCVC.

"There's a real sense of connection and engagement," says Patrick.

"Our 2015 application focused on our ongoing development in these areas and our award says to me that we are getting things right. It's a testament to our staff and broader community."

Students and their families obviously agree. Students come from more than 50 schools to enter Years 11 and 12 at SCCVC, with some students travelling up to two hours each way. In addition, the college has over 100 students who are enrolled at other schools but attend SCCVC for one VET course.

"Students come from diverse backgrounds that create an exceptionally rich community, and no matter what their school experience up to Year 10, they start on a fresh footing here. They blossom in character and maturity – lives are changed."

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.

