



Australian Government

# AUSTRALIAN TRAINING AWARDS

## REAL STORIES. REAL ACHIEVEMENTS.



### KATE CROSS

#### 2013 VOCATIONAL STUDENT OF THE YEAR

**QUALIFICATION:**  
ADVANCED DIPLOMA OF  
AGRICULTURE

**REGISTERED TRAINING  
ORGANISATION:**  
WORKCO LTD –  
LONGERENONG  
AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

**The Vocational Student of the Year Award** recognises outstanding achievement by a vocational student in a course of study leading to a nationally recognised qualification.

State or territory training award winners of this category are automatically finalists for the Australian Training Awards and will compete at the national level.

At only 21, Kate Cross' qualifications in agriculture have already led her to win a national award and become an employee at one of the world's leading providers of beef and agricultural products, the Australian Agricultural Company (AACo).

With a childhood dream of working on a cattle station, Kate got a head start on her career and completed Year 12 with a Certificate II in Agriculture. She then continued to complete the diploma, and then the advanced diploma in the same discipline.

At the end of 2013, Kate was rewarded for her outstanding commitment to her studies, winning the Vocational Student of the Year Award at the Australian Training Awards.

"It is wonderful to be recognised by the national vocational education and training system, especially when many others share a similar passion for their industry," Kate said.

"The Victorian and the Australian Training Awards were a wonderful journey to go through and I have just had an absolute blast! It has been incredible being around people that are so positive and have such a high energy for what they do," Kate said.

Currently based in the Northern Territory and recently employed as a stockperson at the AACo's Tipperary Station, Kate is fully prepared for the challenges ahead. Her training has developed a sound knowledge of cattle breeds, stock handling, nutrition and agricultural markets.

Kate has a goal to encourage other young people to take up a career in an industry they love.

"The course allowed me to delve into a number of different industries, and helped me to meet people with a similar passion who I could bounce ideas off, and learn from. If you like doing something in particular, make it a career! There is sure to be a course you'd love out there. You'll never look back," Kate said.

In the future, Kate hopes to open her own beef cattle stud and run a commercial herd.

# 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**)
- 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
- National Achievement Award (**direct entry**)
- Excellence in Language, Literacy and Numeracy Practice Award (**direct entry**)

## Business

- Small Employer of the Year Award
- Employer of the Year Award
- Industry Collaboration Award
- Australian Apprenticeships - Employer Award (**direct entry**)
- Disability Training - Employer Award (**direct entry**)

## Registered Training Organisation

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

\* 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.

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BENEFITS OF APPLYING  
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WHY APPLY PAGE OF  
THE AUSTRALIAN  
TRAINING AWARDS  
WEBSITE.**

## WHY APPLY?

The awards offer its 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 which sets you apart from the competition and makes you an employer, or registered training organisation, of choice.

