

Apprenticeships

One of the major requirements for the WA Defence Industry is to have a steady pool of tradesmen moving into the industry. DISU is active in promoting apprenticeships in the school system for the Defence Industry.

Engineering Apprenticeships

Engineering apprenticeships are workplace based training programs supported by formal contracts between an employer, an apprentice and a TAFE college. Apprentices work in the work place full time and are funded by their employers to attend training and or assessment sessions at a TAFE college (or other training provider). This off-the-job component varies but may be for two weeks blocks four to five times a year.

Apprenticeships are generally at Certificate III level and result in the learner graduating as a qualified tradesperson. Depending on licensing requirements apprentices may be required to complete further assessments outside of their apprenticeship commitments.

A list of apprenticeships are available at www.apprenticentre.wa.gov.au

Benefits to Apprentices

- Incentives are available for the purchase of tools in some trades.
- Apprentices may be eligible for living away from home allowance if this is required
- Travel and accommodation allowance may also be available
- Some employers pay the tuition and material fees for their apprentices

Benefits to Employers

- eligible for a number of Commonwealth and State Government incentive payments
- customise training and assessment to meet your organisation's needs
- use highly skill TAFE practitioners to support you apprentice in the workplace and at TAFE
- gain assistance from a Group Training Organisation if required

Apprenticeship Opportunities

Employers generally advertise for specific positions nominated for apprentices or trainees. These can be found in the newspaper, on-line job ads or through the ApprentiCentre's Jobs Board at: www.apprenticentre.wa.gov.au. CareerConnect at Challenger TAFE can put employers in touch with potential trainees or apprentices.

The Australian Apprenticeships scheme is being heavily promoted by the Federal Government and DISU works closely with the state and federal agencies involved in the implementation of the scheme.

The following outlines the Australian Apprenticeships scheme.

Australian Apprenticeships

Australian Apprenticeships is the new name for the scheme formerly known as 'New Apprenticeships'. Under

the scheme the Australian Government incentives and personal benefits programme are still the same.

Australian Apprenticeships still encompass all apprenticeships and traineeships. They combine time at work with training and can be full-time, part-time or school-based.

The change of name and appearance is the first step in a range of improvements in Australian Apprenticeships to be introduced in the coming months.

Australian Apprenticeships are the best way to combine training and employment and lead to a nationally recognised qualification.

Australian Apprenticeships are available to anyone of working age and do not require any entry qualifications. You can be a school-leaver, re-entering the workforce or simply wishing to change careers.

Australian Apprenticeships offer:

- A great way to get a head start in a chosen career.
- Paid work and structured training that can be on-the-job, off-the-job or a combination of both.
- Competency based™ which means you can complete your training faster if you reach the required skills level.
- Existing skills and prior experience are recognised and course credit granted, potentially reducing formal training time.
- Available as full-time or part-time, also available part-time in many schools.
- Leads to nationally recognised qualifications and skills which provide the basis for further education and training over the course of your working life.
- A pathway from school to work.