



RAPS

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2014

WELCOME HON. DR KIM HAMES

RAPS welcomes the new Minister for Training and Workforce Development, the Hon. Dr Kim Hames MLA and congratulates him on his new portfolio.

Mr Hames takes on the portfolio of Training and Workforce Development, Deputy Premier and Health following his appointment by the Hon. Colin Barnett MLA in 2013.

GREAT SOUTHERN STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

RAPS visited the Great Southern region in August 2013 to talk with employers and key stakeholders to gather information for the Workforce Development Plan and to establish the priority issues for the region.

RAPS has compiled a report on the outcomes, which is available on the RAPS [website](#).

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN SCHOOLS (VETiS)

The following information provides an understanding of what the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) is, and how Vocational Education and Training (VET) will contribute to the WACE.

WACE:

Achievement of the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) signifies a minimum standard has been met for secondary education. That is, in Year 11 and 12 a student completes WACE by undertaking a combination of:

- Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR) Courses – These subjects are used to derive an ATAR score for entry into university.
- General Courses – These courses are typically for students who wish to pursue further training or employment after school and do not contribute to ATAR.
- VET qualifications or units of competency – Students can get credit toward WACE for achievement of qualification.

- Endorsed programs such as Structured Workplace Learning – These also provide credit for WACE course units.

VETiS:

If a student is not on the university pathway (ATAR), the student must complete a full certificate II or a higher qualification to complete WACE.

Where the student is undertaking a Certificate III or higher qualification that cannot be completed by the end of Year 12, credit will be awarded so that the student can meet WACE requirements where certain conditions have been met.

VET contributing to WACE:

- A Certificate I qualification can still be offered and can count toward WACE as Year 11 credit only, and the student MUST progress and complete a minimum Certificate II to complete WACE. This means Certificate I courses should be used only as a stepping stone for students that need the extra support.
- Individual units of competency (and skills sets) will not meet WACE requirements.

STATE NEWS

VET SECTOR REVIEW IN WA

The review of the State's Vocational Education and Training (VET) Sector is progressing. As yet there is nothing to report, although RAPS will provide information once informed.

STATE TRAINING PLAN 2014 – 2017

The Minister for Training and Workforce Development, the Hon. Kim Hames MLA, endorsed the State Training Plan 2014 – 2017 on 20 December 2013.

The plan is now available for download from the State Training Board [website](#).

FUTURE SKILLS WA COMMENCES

On 1 January 2014, Future Skills WA, the State's new endorsed model for training under the national vocational education and training reform agenda commenced.

For more details on Future Skills WA, including a number of Fact Sheets, please visit the Department of Training and Workforce Development [website](#).

If you have any questions on the new funding model, it is suggested that you contact your preferred Registered Training Organisation or the Retail and Personal Services Training Council.

TRAINING PROVIDERS FORUM 2014 (19 & 20 May – Crown Perth)

Hosted by the Department of Training and Workforce Development, this two day conference and exhibition held at the Crown Perth will provide the latest updates on training and workforce development and showcase examples of innovation and good practice.

The forum is aimed at all those involved in the planning, delivery and assessment of vocational education and training (VET) in Western Australia. This is a great professional development and networking opportunity for all training professionals.

If you would like to become an exhibitor or sponsor please contact Robert Couzens by email at Robert.couzens@dtwd.wa.gov.au

For further information on the forum please visit the Department of Training and Workforce Development [website](#).

NATIONAL NEWS

CORPORATE CHAMPIONS – BREAKFAST INVITATION

The Corporate Champion's program is a Commonwealth funded program, providing expert assistance and guidance to businesses with regard to recruitment and retention practices aimed at supporting mature-age workers.

The Experience + initiative, developed by the federal Department of Employment, provides advice and tools to help mature-age people to stay in the workforce for longer, and assist employers to develop and implement workplace practices to support their mature-age employees.

The Department of Employment has also created the Experience + Corporate Champions program, which allows employers to apply for a program of tailored assistance valued at around \$20, 000.

Franklyn Scholar, a national registered training organisation (RTO) who operates in Western Australia, are one of the providers of the Corporate Champions program and will be holding a business breakfast. The breakfast is free and funded by the Australian government Department of Employment.

Details of the business breakfast are provided below:

Date: Thursday 20 February 2014

Venue: Patersons Stadium, Subiaco (Gate 12 – Level 3)

Time: 7.30am

Please RSVP to Delene Wood on 0447 551 991 or Delene.Wood@franklynscholar.edu.au by 14 February 2014.

For more information on the Corporate Champions program please click [here](#).

2014 CHANGES TO APPRENTICESHIP WAGES

In August 2013 the Fair Work Commission made a decision to increase apprentice pay rates under a number of modern awards.

A reminder that the changes started on 1 January 2014, and some are being phased in over 2 years.

For more information please visit the Fair Work Ombudsman [website](#).

NATIONAL VET PROVIDER COLLECTION IN 2014

All registered training organisation's (RTOs) must implement policies and procedures to collect full Australian Vocational and Training Management Information Statistical Standard (AVETMISS) compliant records from their clients, for all training activity conducted from 1 January 2014.

Each RTO must then report this data to the National VET Provider Collection, which is managed by the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) in early 2015.

For more information please click [here](#).

SERVICE SKILLS – MODEL FOR INTEGRATED FOUNDATION SKILL SUPPORT IN TRAINING

Service Skills Australia has built a model to help vocational trainers integrate foundation skill support into their planning and delivery.

The Model for Integrated Foundation Skill Support (MIFSS) includes advice on how trainers can identify and address foundation skill support while using Foundation Skills Training Package (FSK) units in delivery.

To view the Model for Integrated Foundation Skill Support in wholesale, retail and personal services training please click [here](#).

SERVICE SKILLS AUSTRALIA CONFERENCE 2014

Registrations have opened for Service Skills Australia's 2014 Conference, to be held at the Sheraton on the Park, Sydney from 3-4 March 2014.

The Conference will bring together over 250 employers, employees, industry bodies, training organisations and government representatives from the service sectors, to discuss strategies for working collaboratively to increase the productivity and participation of the workforce in the service industries.

For more information on the Conference please click [here](#).

INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT SURVEY RESULTS AND PROGRESS REPORT

The Business Council of Australia (BCA) brings together the chief executives of more than 100 of Australia's leading companies. Since 2009, the BCA have surveyed its member companies on their Indigenous employment, economic and community development activities.

The most recent survey, in 2013, focused on four main areas of business – Indigenous engagement: employment, education, procurement/supplier diversity, and community partnerships.

To view the 2013 survey report, please click [here](#).

RAPS CONTACTS

Norma Roberts	Executive Director	norma@rapstc.com.au
Jane Piercey	Project Officer	jane@rapstc.com.au
Tanvi Shah	Research Officer	tanvi@rapstc.com.au
David Ingram	Industry Consultant	david@rapstc.com.au

Ph: 08 9446 8177

Fax: 9446 8611