

State News

OPENING OF JOBS AND SKILLS CENTRES

From 16 April 2018, five TAFE Jobs and Skills Centres will open across metropolitan Perth, offering free services to businesses, students, job seekers and career changers. Regional Jobs and Skills Centres will open progressively in 2018/19. In the meantime, the Department of Training and Workforce Development (DTWD) continues to fund a range of contracted Career Centre services and Aboriginal Workforce Development Centre services. For more information on the location of the Centres and services available, please click [here](#).

WA INDUSTRY PARTICIPATION STRATEGY

The Western Australian Industry Participation Strategy (WAIPS) has been developed by the WA Government to ensure local businesses receive full, fair and reasonable opportunity to participate in major WA markets. The WAIPS will become fully operational in September 2018 and in the meantime the WA Industry Link Portal has been launched to provide an online information source and updates. Visit the Industry Link Portal [here](#).

CHANGES TO PAYROLL TAX EXEMPTION FOR TRAINEES

The State Government will fund 9,600 training places this year by closing a loophole that has seen companies avoid paying their fair share of payroll tax. Exemptions will now be limited to all apprenticeships and to traineeships undertaken by new employees earning no more than \$100,000 per annum at the date of lodgement of the contract with DTWD. The savings will be redirected to fund 43,350 training places over the forward estimates. For more information on the changes, please see the media statement [here](#).

WA TRAINING PROVIDERS' FORUM 2018

The Training Providers' Forum 2018 will be held on Monday 28 May at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre. This year the Forum themes will be - ***Skilling the future workforce; Aboriginal training and workforce development; and training in the regions.*** For more information, visit the website [here](#).

State News (cont)

WA TRAINING AWARDS 2018

Applications for the WA Training Awards are now open for the following Individual and Organisational categories:

- WA Apprentice of the Year 2018
- WA School Based Apprentice of the Year 2018
- WA Trainee of the Year 2018
- Vocational Student of the Year 2018
- WA Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year 2018
- WA International Student of the Year 2018
- WA Cultural Diversity Training Award
- WA Trainer of the Year 2018

- WA Employer of the Year 2018
- WA Industry Collaboration Award 2018
- WA Small Training Provider of the Year 2018
- WA Large Training Provider of the Year 2018

Applications close Friday 4 May 2018 and application guides can be found at this [link](#).

WORLDSKILLS AUSTRALIA—NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2018

2018 is a National competition year which means winners from the 2017 competitions held in Western Australia will be selected to compete as members of Team WA at national level. The National competition will be held in Sydney in June 2018 as part of the Skills Show and is managed by WorldSkills Australia. For more information, please visit the [website](#).

National News

INDUSTRY REFERENCE COMMITTEE COVERAGE

Industry Reference Committees (IRCs) are the formal channel for considering industry's skill requirements in the development and review of training packages.

The IRCs covering the RAPS industries are:

The Wholesale and Retail Industry Reference Committee—covers Retail and Wholesale and Community Pharmacy, and

The Personal Services Industry Reference Committee—covers Beauty, Hair-dressing, Floristry and Funeral Services.

SHB HAIRDRESSING AND BEAUTY SERVICES TRAINING PACKAGE

The Personal Services Industry Reference Committee (PSIRC) recently met to consider the recommendations from the IPL and Laser Technical Advisory Committee in regard to the **Advanced Diploma of IPL and Laser for Hair Reduction**.

Due to concerns over individuals having the necessary experience to enter the qualification, the IRC feels that there should be a mandatory period of 12 months' post qualification experience working in industry in addition to holding the Diploma of Beauty Therapy qualification. The entry requirements have therefore been updated and entry to this qualification is open to individuals who have achieved a Diploma of Beauty Therapy and have 12 months' post qualification experience as a Beauty Therapist working in a beauty salon; or are an Enrolled Nurse or Registered Nurse. The revised entry requirements will be recirculated for a third round of consultation. Please contact Liz Petrovic on 02 9392 8100 or liz.petrovic@skillsiq.com.au if you wish to discuss.

2018 INDUSTRY SKILLS FORECASTS

SkillsIQ, guided by Industry Reference Committees, is in the process of developing their 2018 Industry Skills Forecasts. The draft Industry Skills Forecasts will be available for public consultation in the coming months.