



Training Fund Authority continues Skills Shortage program in 2007

After extensive consultation with industry stakeholders, the Board of the **Training Fund Authority** approved the continuation of its Skills Shortage program in 2007 (see following page).

At its December 2006 meeting the Board approved a **\$4000** training incentive for three Certificate III Australian Apprenticeship programs and **\$2000** for a Certificate II program. Eligible employers may receive up to **\$8000** from the **Training Fund Authority** and the Australian Government for completing a Certificate III Australian Apprentice and **\$3250** for completing a Certificate II Australian Apprentice.

The training incentives are provided to employers who commence a 1st year apprentice in 2007 under an ACT Contract of Training in the nominated trades and traineeship.

2007 Access and Equity Program

To further encourage the employment of Indigenous Australians and Women in non-traditional trades, the Board of the **Training Fund Authority** also approved a **\$2000** on-the-job training incentive to eligible employers. All incentives are additional to incentives provided by the Australian Government.

2007 Training Plan

The Board of the **Training Fund Authority** welcomed, the Minister for Education and Training, Andrew Barr approval of the **2007 Training Plan**. The Plan can be viewed or downloaded from the website and hard copies are available from the Training Fund Authority office.

ACT Group Training Organisation Breakfast

The **Training Fund Authority** will host its second breakfast on behalf of ACT Group Training Organisations and a number of their host employers on 4 April, at the Federal Golf Club.

The theme for the event is; **STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP AND YOUR BUSINESS**

The keynote speaker will be Geoff Carter. Geoff is the principal of **Enable Business Control Systems**, a consulting business specialising in business facilitation, governance training and enterprise development services.

The event will also be an opportunity for the **Training Fund Authority** to promote its services and on-the-job training incentives to employers.

Improve your skills and professional development with the following courses.

- Wet Area Waterproofing
- Confined Space Training
- Traffic Control Management
- Introduction to OH&S
- Senior First Aid (level 2)
- OH&S Risk Management Training
- OH&S Representatives Training
- Fall Prevention
- Waterwise Course
- Testing and tagging of electrical equipment
- Open Cable Registration
- Optical Fibre Cabling
- Business Administration and Management
- Computerised Accounting

The above courses are examples of courses for which the Training Fund Authority may reimburse up to 80% of the training Cost (conditions Apply).

For further Information please call:

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National Code of Practice for the Prevention of Falls

The Australian Safety and Compensation Council agreed to declare the National Code of Practice of Falls in General Construction, subject to endorsement of the Regulation Impact Statement by the Office of Best Practice Regulation.

The revised Code of Practice explains the processes and factors to be considered in preventing falls from height.

Specifically it sets out that workers must be physically protected from falling when working at heights of two metres or above, unless it is not reasonably practicable to do so. Where it is not reasonably practicable to use physical fall protection, the reasons and measures taken to prevent a fall must be clearly documented.

For work at heights of less than two metres, a risk assessment process should be undertaken and appropriate controls implemented when necessary. The Code of Practice represents a benchmark for the general construction industry to reduce the incidence of falls, with a height threshold for fall protection set at two metres.

Source: ACT WorkCover

Attention Employers



ACT BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY
**TRAINING FUND
AUTHORITY**



Employ an **Australian Apprentice** in the following trades in 2007

- Certificate III in Furniture Making (Cabinet Making)
- Certificate III in Stonemasonry
- Certificate III in Fire Protection
- Certificate II in Electrotechnology – Servicing

and receive incentives up to \$8,000

Australian Apprenticeships is a national program for the employment of apprentices and trainees. The program offers flexibility, support services and opportunities in a wide range of industries.

Employing an Australian Apprentice can provide real benefits for your business. An apprentice can provide you with practical skills and the latest industry knowledge acquired through their training. Training is nationally recognized and flexible to suit your individual needs and those of your apprentice. Training is developed by industry for the needs of industry.

As an employer, you have the choice of directly employing an Australian Apprentice or participating as a Host Employer with an ACT Group Training Organisation. Additional funding may also be available for indigenous Australians, women in a non-traditional vocation and a person with a disability.

Financial benefits for employers

The objective of providing incentives is to develop a more skilled workforce and to increase the employment and training opportunities for Australian Apprentices in the ACT.

The ACT Building and Construction Industry Training Fund Authority provides the following funding for employers in 2007:

Certificate III Programs:

- \$2,000 three months after the commencement date of the apprenticeship
- \$2,000 on completion of the first 12 months of the apprenticeship

Certificate II Program*:

- \$1,000 three months after commencement
- \$1,000 on completion of the first 12 months of the traineeship

Plus:

The Australian Government provides a range of financial incentives for employers through Australian Apprenticeships including:

Certificate III Programs:

- \$1,500 on commencement
- up to \$2,500 on completion

Certificate II Programs:

- \$1,250 on commencement

Certificate III Programs:



Certificate II Programs:



Where the employer is a Group Training Organisation (GTO), the Training Fund Authority incentives are equally divided between the GTO and the host employer.

Interested? For further information please call:

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*Applicable to first year Australian Apprentices under an ACT Contract of Training employed in 2007



An Australian Government Initiative

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If your organisation has anything it wishes to publish in this newsletter, contact Ray Stowers on 6262 5630, e-mail rstowers@trainingfund.com.au or fax 6257 5058