



07 ACT TRAINING EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The Minister for Education and Training, Mr Andrew Barr MLA will present the 2007 ACT Training Excellence Awards in August. For 70 years the ACT Training Excellence Awards have been the premier event in the Vocational Education and Training calendar with approximately 600 of the ACT's leading employers (industry and government), Registered Training Organisations, apprentices, trainees and students attending the awards ceremony and dinner.



Andrew Barr MLA

The awards recognise and promote individuals and organisations that excel in Vocational Education and Training in the ACT. There are seven organisation and seven student category awards ranging from Employer of the Year to Australian Apprentice of the Year.

Winners of this year's ACT Training Excellence Awards will be announced at the 2007 ceremony and dinner on Thursday, 16 August

2007 at the Auditorium, Vikings Club, Erindale. The Training Fund Authority is pleased to continue its support and sponsorship for this year's awards.

For further information, contact the Training Awards Coordinator on ☎6205 8452.

Source: Training and Tertiary Education

Residential Building Approvals - April 2007

In trend terms, the number of residential approvals in the ACT in April 2007 was 186. This was approximately equal to the five-year monthly average number of approvals for the ACT. Nationally, residential approval increased in April.

While the trend in the ACT residential approvals has increased for four consecutive months to April 2007, this number has been broadly at long-run average levels over the last 12 months.

State/Territory Comparisons - Trend

In the year to April 2007, the ACT recorded the strongest growth in building approvals, followed by Tasmania. New South Wales recorded the largest decline, followed by the Northern Territory.

Source: ACT Department of Treasury, Economics Branch

Profile - National Safety Council of Australia Ltd

The NSCA is a member-based and not for profit Registered Training Organisation that offers a wide range of public, private and on-site training programs nationally.

Established in 1927 the NSCA is now the largest Occupational Health and Safety Consulting and training organisation in Australia offering consulting and advisory services and products. The NSCA assists organisations of any size to develop, implement and maintain OHS management systems.

NSCA offers an extensive range of courses throughout the year with a range of WorkCover approved programs to sophisticated safety culture and leadership programs. Training is conducted in a flexible manner to suit clients needs and availability.

Consultants have extensive experience in a wide range of industries and sectors and are able to call on the expertise of NSCA team members in Australia to assist members and clients meet their OHS challenges and to continuously improve their performance.

A recent addition to the NSCA's range of education programs is the Diploma of Occupational Health and Safety. The Diploma is designed for:

- OHS specialists
- Human resource specialists who have responsibility for OHS
- OHS consultants seeking to gain a high level of competency or formal qualifications in OHS.

NSCA membership provides a range of benefits including: complimentary subscription to National Safety (Australia's most respected OHS magazine), preferential pricing on training services and safety products and regular updates on the latest in OHS news.

Eligible workers within the ACT building and construction industry may be reimbursed up to 80% of the cost of an approved training course from the ACT Building and Construction Industry Training Fund Authority.

For further information, contact Trevor LeBreton, NSW and ACT State Manager on ☎6241 5011 or ✉ trevor.lebreton@nsca.com.au

The NSCA website address is:
www.nsca.org.au



Licence Recognition

Mutual Recognition of Occupational Licences

From February 2007, new arrangements have been put in place making it easier for licensed tradespeople, and authorities who issue licenses, to know what licence a worker is entitled to when applying for a licence in another jurisdiction. The new arrangements cover licences issued to:

- electricians
- electrical fitters, lineworkers, and cable jointers
- tradespeople with restricted electrical licence
- plumbers and gas-fitters
- carpenters and joiners, bricklayers and builders
- refrigeration and air-conditioning mechanics
- auto-gas installers

A new website allows the user to look up a licence entitlement in another state or territory, based on the currently-held licence. The website also has information on who to contact to apply for a licence.

Workers need to apply to the relevant authority, hold a current valid licence and pay a licence fee. The new arrangements give certainty to most applicants about what licence will be issued.

When searching on this website, some licence-holders will find that 'no equivalent licence' is stated. In these cases, workers can still apply for individual assessment as they have always been able to do.

The website address is: www.licencerecognition.gov.au

Survey - Training Fund Authority 2008 Training Plan

The Training Fund Authority, in conjunction with the Construction Industry Training Council and the Utilities and Light Manufacturing Industry Training Board, is surveying industry stakeholders seeking information about skill shortages and training issues in the ACT.

Industries surveyed are: building and construction, electrotechnology and horticulture (landscaping & turf). Information gathered from the surveys will provide a policy framework which will assist the Training Fund Authority to develop its *2008 Annual Training Plan*.

In 2008 the Training Fund Authority will fund the following five programs: Entry Level Training, Existing Worker & Professional Development, Promotion & Marketing, Research & Development and Access & Equity.

People wishing to provide information on training issues for the *2008 Annual Training Plan* can contact Colin McJannett on 6262 5630 or ✉ colin@trainingfund.com.au

Important Notice



Current National OHS Certificate of Competency Card

Do you hold an ACT Certificate of Competency?

All "old style" Certificates of Competency for Plant and Machinery, issued in the ACT before 2000, need to be updated to a National Certificate of Competency before 1 July, 2007.

Advantages in updating are:

- national recognition
- national cards are more durable and user friendly
- national card meets current National Standards and Occupational Health & Safety Legislation, which employers also prefer.

To update your certificate:

- obtain an application form from the WorkCover website at www.workcover.act.gov.au/pdfs/forms/competency_certificate.pdf, OR
- collect one from the WorkCover shopfront located on Level 3, Block B at Callum Offices, Easty Street Woden ACT 2606.

Further information contact:

WorkCover on 02 6205 0200 or by email at workplacesafety@act.gov.au.

[Return to Contents](#)

Source: ACT WorkCover

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:

Ray Stowers
Senior Industry Liaison Officer
on 6262 5630 or
email: rstowers@trainingfund.com.au

trainingfund.com.au

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