



CAPABILITY STATEMENT

TAFE NSW Riverina Institute

TAFE NSW Riverina Institute has been recognised by the Institute for Trade Skills Excellence as one of Australia's premier providers, and has been awarded two gold stars under the Star Rating Scheme. Riverina Institute delivers apprenticeships in the General Construction Certificate III based on the nationally endorsed standards of the BCG03 Training Package.

A summary of Riverina Institute's strengths against the evaluation criteria are:

Training and assessment which focuses on enterprise and learner needs

Riverina Institute's Quality Management Certification provides the platform for its operation and ensures that customer needs are the centrepiece that drives the development and delivery of all its programs. Training Plans for each apprentice are negotiated by specialist teaching staff with the employer to ensure that the needs of both are met by the most flexible training pathway. Teaching staff have a close association with each apprentice and their employer to maximise the learning experience that is available to each individual. Existing skills and competence of each client are fully recognised and only additional skills that are yet to be attained by an apprentice are included in the specialist program that is available through the Institute. Specialist training programs eg asbestos management are developed and delivered for individual enterprises or groups of enterprises to meet on going special skill demands of the industry.

Excellent trainers and assessors, and contemporary equipment

Riverina Institute's mix of full time and contracted teachers ensures an apprentice has the best training available to match the specific needs of each trade discipline. The staff are supported by a Discipline Mentor who advises on specific learning and implementation strategies. The campus is very well equipped and has a special country feel that encourages learning opportunities and engenders a close working relationship between teachers and their apprentices/trainees. Annual structured minor and major works programs along with plant and equipment purchases are carefully set to maintain the high quality of service delivery. As a primarily regional Institute, regular contact is maintained, by way of personal visits or telephone, with each apprentice and their employer to check on progress and provide any remedial training and support deemed necessary.

Support to enable enterprises and learners get the most out of the apprenticeship/ traineeship

Over 60 staff provide special support programs which are readily available for each apprentice eg literacy and numeracy. These programs and services which are integrated into mainstream activities to provide an holistic learning experience. The Institute has, under the direction of a specialist Manager, excellent working relationships with individual employer and associations, curriculum committees as well as local schools and universities, which fosters a close relationship between these entities so that flexibility of training selection can be made to suit each individual and their current or potential employer.

The Institute encourages not only achievement within normal program activities but through successful participation in WorldSkills programs and participation in the Institute's "New Masters" graduation ceremony which celebrates the emergence of the industry's future master tradespeople.

The **Institute for Trade Skills Excellence** is an initiative of Australian industry and Government established to promote the trades and recognise those registered training organisations (RTOs) truly focused on industry's needs and achieving excellent results.

How does it work? ... Under the **Star Rating Scheme**, individual faculties or schools within RTOs are evaluated by the Institute using industry experts and industry designed criteria. Those considered excellent are awarded one gold star, two gold stars or three gold stars by the Institute. The Institute issues a **Capability Statement** for each RTO which it publishes to explain the school or faculty's strengths and the level of service an employer can expect to receive.

Quite simply, where RTOs are doing great things, the Institute wants to ensure industry knows about it, and so an employer looking to select an RTO for their apprentice or trainee, can make an informed choice.