



CAPABILITY STATEMENT Longerenong College

Agriculture at Longerenong College, Horhsam has been recognised by the Institute for Trade Skills Excellence as one of Australia's premier providers and awarded **Two Gold Stars** under the Institute's Star Rating Scheme.

Longerenong College courses deliver apprenticeships and traineeships in rural and farming occupations based on the nationally endorsed standards of the Rural Training Package.

The evaluation was conducted against the Star Rating Scheme's criteria. This capability statement outlines the Longerenong College's agriculture faculty's strengths as determined by evaluators from the Institute for Trade Skills Excellence.

1. Training and assessment which focuses on enterprise and learner needs

Key Strengths

- Longerenong College has excellent assessment processes which keep students well informed about individual progress or areas in which they may require assistance. Academic progress is tracked through the mid-year review, conducted by the College's Board of Examiners.
- Longerenong College has developed strong working relationships with many of the local agricultural enterprises. These local businesses are also involved in providing work experience for College students.
- Longerenong College students undergo eight week work placements to develop practical hands-on experiences to enhance their classroom learning.
- Longerenong College conducts regular satisfaction surveys to ensure that they are listening to and meeting the needs of their clients and students.

2. Excellent trainers and assessors, and contemporary equipment

- Longerenong College boasts a wide range of clean and well maintained campus facilities. (The Workshop facilities provided the students with a range of excellent opportunities to enhance their competency development).
- Partnerships have been developed between Longerenong College, suppliers and enterprises to use the College Farm to trial new research, especially in regard to cropping enterprises. This involves student participation and provides a real life practicality to learning.

- Staff performance reviews are conducted regularly to address staff personal development needs and ensure relevance of training delivery. This process also identified areas where the staff would like up-skilling.
- Longerenong College staff members are dedicated to both the College and the wider agricultural industry; staff expressed great enthusiasm and care for their students.
- Longerenong College has an impressive selection of trainers and assessors. The mix of staff includes both those who are full time and one off session instructors. Staff turnover is very low.

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

- Students expressed a high level of satisfaction and enjoyment from learning at Longerenong College. (This is expressed by the high esteem graduates and present students articulate about their time at Longerenong College).
- Information about student counselling and support services is widely circulated and well understood by all students.
- A real sense of community is evident at Longerenong College, fostered from their outstanding, well-integrated peer support and pastoral care programs. (This community spirit is detailed in the student handbook and the emphasis by Staff in their responsibility to foster pastoral care with their students).
- Program content, delivery and outcomes are all well articulated in the comprehensive Student Handbook which provides course details and potential employment/career outcomes
- Longerenong College offers a wide range of industry funded Scholarships and has strong relationships with other schools / training institutions in the Melbourne area.

For more information about Longerenong College
Please visit: <http://www.longy.com.au>

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.