



CAPABILITY STATEMENT

**The Food and Manufacturing Faculty,
TAFE NSW – Sydney Institute, Ultimo College**

The Food Processing and Manufacturing Faculty at TAFE NSW Sydney Institute, Ultimo College has been recognised by the Institute for Trade Skills Excellence as one of Australia's premier providers and awarded two gold stars under the Star Rating Scheme.

Ultimo College delivers nationally recognised qualifications based on the endorsed standards of the Food Processing and Laboratory Operations Training Packages.

Ultimo's strengths against the evaluation criteria are, in summary:

Training and assessment which focuses on industry and learner needs

Institute-wide measures are in place to identify and meet learner and enterprise needs. The Faculty develops its own strategies within this context and regularly consults industry on an informal basis. The provision of client-driven customised programs is reflected through the development of a range of training plans and the development of learning resources for students from a non-English speaking background, in conjunction with the centrally based TAFE NSW Manufacturing, Engineering, Construction and Transport Curriculum Centre. The delivery of training is based on the needs of clients in terms of workplace location and the timing and pace of delivery. Recognition of Prior Learning practices are formalised at enrolment and reflect a progressive increase in the level of recognition. Learner feedback is regular and occurs in both electronic and written form.

Excellent trainers and assessors, and contemporary equipment

A multi-faceted staff professional development plan is implemented. This plan features performance reviews, cumulative time allocations, a return to industry program and maintenance of industry currency through regular industry visits. The laboratory and equipment facilities available to the Faculty are excellent and effectively support Diploma students. The extensive use of enterprise on-site delivery for Certificate programs maximises client access to training, utilising the equipment and systems used in industry. Industry supports the Faculty through donations of equipment, consumables and prizes.

A notable strength is the development of pathway arrangements, articulation and links between the programs in this Faculty and the university sector; particularly the University of Western Sydney and the University of NSW.

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

The Institute produces comprehensive information and a wide range of support services for students and industry. Students are assessed to determine additional learning support requirements, particularly those from non-English speaking backgrounds and a range of supports are provided. The Faculty actively participates in Institute-organised promotional activities and events.

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.