



2017
**VICTORIAN
TRAINING AWARDS**



Real Training for Real Jobs

CASSIE PURUNTATAMERI

FINALIST - 2017 KOORIE STUDENT OF THE YEAR

Traineeship sets Cassie's sights on returning home to teach

Cassie Puruntatameri, 21, says that when she started her traineeship she was shy and scared to speak up.

Cassie, a proud Aboriginal Tiwi woman from the small community Pirlangimpi on Melville Island, Northern Territory, arrived in Melbourne in 2016 on her own to undertake a traineeship, after securing the Department of Education and Training (DET) as a host employer for her Certificate III in Business through the Ai Group Apprentice and Trainee Centre.

"Coming out of my shell has been the greatest change I have felt and seen," she says.

An example was when she did her first presentation to about 200 people about her move to Melbourne and her traineeship journey to the Higher Education and Skills Group at DET.

"While I was terrified at the time, I felt passionate about what I was saying and felt that I spoke well and clear," she says.

Her presentation received great feedback and people said they were inspired by her story.

She says she loves working at DET and seeing how education and the VET sector changes people's lives.



"It's rewarding to be part of the reason why people like myself succeed in training, and how my work contributes to the delivery of education."

Leaving school before completing Year 12, then working at the local store and pub, Cassie always harboured dreams of one day being a teacher.

She now plans to further her studies in business, eventually study to become a teacher and return home to teach and do great things for her community.

Koorie Student of the Year

The Koorie Student of the Year Award recognises the achievement of a Koorie student who displays a strong understanding and knowledge of the vocational education and training system and demonstrates the relevance of lifelong learning for themselves and their community.

Recognise and honour outstanding achievements in training

ABOUT THE VICTORIAN TRAINING AWARDS

Each year, the prestigious Victorian Training Awards recognise and honour the outstanding achievements of vocational education and training students, teacher, training providers and employers.

The Awards celebrate excellence in the training and TAFE system, highlight student achievements and the businesses' who train them. Showcases innovation and collaboration between industry and training providers - continuing to put Victoria's top achievers in the spotlight.

Through *Skills First*, the Victorian Government is delivering a trusted training and TAFE system that delivers real training for real jobs. The Awards bring confidence and pride to vocational education and training.

AWARD CATEGORIES

Individual Categories

- Vocational Student of the Year
- Apprentice of the Year
- Trainee of the Year
- Koorie Student of the Year
- School-based Apprentice/Trainee of the Year
- Teacher/Trainer of the Year

Training Provider Categories

- Small Training Provider of the Year
- Large Training Provider of the Year
- Community Training Provider of the Year

Employer Categories

- Small Employer of the Year
- Medium Employer of the Year
- Large Employer of the Year
- Employer Award for Apprenticeship Development

Industry Collaboration Award

Lynne Kosky Memorial Award for Lifetime Achievement

Australian Training Awards Categories

There are five Australian Training Awards categories open for direct entry:

- National Achievement Award
- Excellence in Language, Literacy and Numeracy Practice Award
- International Training Provider of the Year Award
- School Pathways to VET Award
- Australian Apprenticeships - Employer Award

WHY APPLY?

The Awards set the standards for vocational education and training in Victoria; promoting high quality training and workplace skill development.

Being a finalist puts organisations at the forefront, building brand recognition and a strong industry reputation. In turn attracting a better standard of employees.

Students have the opportunity to showcase skills and their journey within the training and TAFE system. Plus students have the chance to network with industry experts and employers from across the state to help build their careers.

Award winners receive \$5,000 prize money.

Winners go on to be ambassadors for the Victorian Training Awards and have the opportunity to represent Victoria nationally at the Australian Training Awards (in aligned categories).

For more information visit Victorian Training Awards www.education.vic.gov.au/vta

For all enquires email victorian.training.awards@edumail.vic.gov.au phone 03 9907 6635.

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