

## **ABORIGINAL SCHOOL BASED TRAINEESHIPS**

**From:** <http://www.apprenticeships.training.wa.gov.au/>

This program was developed to achieve these five outcomes:

- Increase the number of Aboriginal teenagers starting work after leaving school.
- Encourage Aboriginal students to finish year 11 and 12 by creating more 'cool in-school' courses.
- Provide Aboriginal students who meet certain criteria with access to a broad range of education and training programmes.
- Improve the relevance of education and training for young Aboriginal teenagers in school.
- Develop a controlled, workable program with various government agencies.

By participating in the program, students are provided with a certificate of secondary education, VET qualification, and paid employment. As such it mirrors the mainstream model of school based traineeships.

A central element of Aboriginal School Based traineeships is the involvement of the Aboriginal community through parents, Aboriginal Student Support and Parent Awareness Program and CDEP management organisations.

If you are a student and you are interested in completing an Aboriginal School Based Traineeship please ask a teacher at your school who will put you in contact with your school's Vocational Education and Training in Schools (VET) Coordinator. The VET Coordinator can help you through the process.

### **What is an Aboriginal School Based Traineeship?**

An ASBT is a good way to help Indigenous students build a positive future in many areas of employment.

The trainee takes on employment and training while finishing the Western Australian Certificate of Education. The trainee can work up to two days each week and spend the other three at school, completing 832 hours of paid employment in two school years.

School based traineeships are available in the following industry areas:

- Agriculture
- Automotive
- Business and Clerical
- Community Services and Health
- Childcare
- Computing
- Electro technology
- Childcare

- Computing
- Engineering
- Food Processing
- Horticulture
- Retail
- Sports and Recreation
- Tourism and Hospitality

### **How does ASBTs work?**

The trainees are employed through Group Training Schemes (GTS) that are contracted by the Department of Education and Training to deliver the program. The GTS will employ the trainee (including the payment of wages, insurance and other on-costs), coordinate the work placement with a host employer and organise training with a Registered Training Organisation (RTO). The GTS will provide support to the trainees throughout their traineeships.

### **Who can participate?**

All Indigenous Year 11 and 12 students are eligible to participate in the program. Students must be:

- enrolled in the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE);
- committed to training for up to 24 months;
- able to complete a set number of hours in paid employment and training per week;

Students who are willing and able to undertake TEE studies are encouraged to complete the TEE rather than a traineeship.

### **What are the trainee's obligations?**

A trainee is obliged to:

- cooperate with the employer in order to achieve the desired training outcomes;
- attend the off the job, external or on the job training as required and apply themselves to the agreed training plan;
- complete all of the work set by the RTO;
- continue regular school attendance, and
- keep a record of achievement both at work and training.

### **What are the school's obligations?**

The school's obligations are to:

- work with the GTS to identify students suitable for traineeships;

- provide flexible timetabling to allow trainees to attend work and training;
- collate student performance and forward the results to the Curriculum Council, and
- support the trainees throughout their traineeships.

## **ABORIGINAL SCHOOL BASED TRAINEESHIPS FOR YEAR 10 STUDENTS**

Currently many Year 10 Aboriginal students do not enter post compulsory education. In an effort to address this problem the Department of Education and Training is piloting the ASBT for Year 10 students in 2003. This traineeship is called "Workplace Readiness". Department continues to pilot ASBTs for Year 10 students with the Certificate I in Workplace Readiness Traineeship.

The pilot has three primary objectives:

1. to provide students with articulation to Cert II traineeships;
2. to provide students with a clear pathway to sustainable employment opportunities, and
3. to improve retention rates and encourage year 10 students to complete year 12.

The program is a basic generic traineeship at Certificate I level. It involves the completion of ten competencies over 300 hours, including 120 hours of work placement and 180 hours of off-the-job training. Eight of the competencies are drawn from the Business Services Training Package and one is drawn from the Sport and Recreation Training Package, with the remaining components being work placement. These generic competencies reflect progression into other Certificate II traineeships.

The competencies undertaken in the Workplace Readiness traineeship are:

- Prepare for work
- Complete daily work activities
- Apply basic communication skills
- Plan skills development
- Use business equipment
- Follow workplace safety procedures
- Operate a personal computer
- Follow environmental work practices
- Develop a financial goal setting plan
- Work placement

**Useful Links to Lists of RTOs and GTOs in Western Australia are:**

<http://www.ntis.gov.au/>

<http://www.newapprenticeships.gov.au/>

<http://www.tafe.wa.gov.au/>

<https://corpsys.training.wa.gov.au/>

<http://www.training.wa.gov.au/>

<http://www.gtald.com.au/>

<http://www.grouptraining.ntis.gov.au/>