

Media release

QAL 2020 Apprenticeship Programme applications open

27 July 2019

Those looking to kick-start their career with a nationally accredited apprenticeship are encouraged to apply for QAL's 2020 Apprenticeship Programme.

QAL are offering a total of seven apprenticeship positions in electrical instrumentation and mechanical trades for the plants' 2020 intake.

The programme offers apprentices hands on, on-the-job training along with formal qualifications delivered through CQUniversity. Over the four to five years apprentices will be guided, challenged and supported by mentors within the business to gain the knowledge and skills to become competent in their chosen field.

The first six months will see successful applicants trained in a fully-equipped workshop where they learn the technical skills of their trade. Throughout their time apprentices will have the opportunity to work in various section of the plant allowing them to develop skills in a variety of areas at varying complexities.

Since 1968 QAL has started the careers of more than 828 apprenticeships who have gained valuable training through its network of experienced staff. More than 80 of which remain on site who have moved to different sections or roles within the plan, expanding their career with the same employer.

QAL acting general manager Pine Pienaar said: "Apprentices are an asset to QAL, bringing new ideas, enthusiasm and diversity to our workplace. By taking on apprentices annually we're building capacity in the Gladstone region and fostering a pipeline of talented people to support the future of QAL".

First year electrical instrumentation apprentice Taylah Murray said; "The best part of my apprenticeship with QAL has been the variety I've been offered. I've been able to do a bit of everything. Even though I'm an electrical and instrumentation apprentice I've had exposure to machinery and even welding. I think it's going to be really beneficial for my development having that variety behind me".

Mechanical apprentice Duncan Howland is six months into his trade and enjoying putting his new found skills into action; "QAL offers a lot of exposure for fitters and there's a variety of things we get to work on. We get to move around everywhere through placements and do a bit of everything while using the skills we've learned in training."

As for what advice Taylah had for anyone considering applying in 2020; "Do it. I've been out of school for five years and I didn't think I would get accepted because of that but here I am. You've just got to try".

Fellow electrical and instrumentation apprentice Travis Richmond added; "Try to do as much work experience as possible because your skills in one job can easily be transferrable to an apprenticeship".

Successful applicants will join the 28 apprentices currently employed at QAL.

Applications close Sunday 21 July 2019. To apply, visit www.qalcareers.com.au

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Successful applicants will join apprentices like Duncan Howland, Travis Richmond, Ryann Lambert and Taylah Murray.



Shianne Sprecher, fourth year electrical and instrumentation apprentice, checking level and pressure transmitters.



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