

Nomination window closes 15 March

Don't leave submitting a nomination for this year's Queensland Training Awards to the last minute.

With a few weeks to go until the window closes, it's best to set up your login for the nomination portal now and then start ticking off the different nomination elements. You can make any additions or changes you need, while you chase up supporting evidence or ask a friend to review your responses.

One of the benefits of starting early is our regional coordinators can check some of the details of your nomination to make sure you've picked the right region (remember there's a [region finder tool](#) to help you) and you meet the [award category's eligibility criteria](#).

If you have recommended to anyone in your network to consider nominating, check in and ask how they are going. They might be looking for someone to review their draft answers or looking for some supporting documents to back-up their nomination.

[Nominate now!](#)

Give us your best shot

If you didn't study a Certificate III in Visual Arts specialising in photography, you might be looking for some tips on what photos to provide with your nomination.

First up, 'Section C: Attachments' of the eligibility criteria for each award requires a few photos. For the individual categories this includes a headshot and a few workplace photos. Nominees in the organisation categories need to provide a high-quality copy of the business logo as well as some workplace photos.

So pick a date when a friend or colleague or two can help out. Then check the settings on your camera or smartphone. Your photos need to be at high quality (so they can be printed in the QTA program or shared with media) up to a maximum file size of 10MB. You'll also need to work out how to get the photos off your device and uploaded to the portal without the quality or image size getting reduced.

For the individual headshot, the nominee is the star. So find a space without too much going on in the background. Having a friend take this photo makes it easier to get a nice, relaxed smile compared to sticking one arm out to take a selfie.



Metropolitan's 2022 School-based Apprentice or Trainee of the Year, Cooper Mitchell.

For workplace photos there are two main set ups, power/hero shots and action shots.

A power shot has the nominee in (or outside if it's a nice day) a usual work or study location. The background and nominee's clothes can tell a little more about the sector as they smile into the camera. If you don't know what to do with your hands you can cross your arms or hold a prop you use in the job. These shots can be a second option for the headshot image (leave some space around the subject, we can crop an image to suit different purposes as long as the original quality is high).



Power shots from 2022: Jaimee Radke, Darling Downs South West Queensland's Vocational Student of the Year, and Gregory Pullen, Central Queensland's VET Teacher or Trainer of the Year.

For action shots pick a few of the regular tasks you do at work or in your field of study and get your friend to take a few photos as you do each of them. Remember to wear any personal protective equipment needed while completing a task. Look out for reflections on reading glasses/protective eyewear or shadows covering your face.

For organisations taking workplace and action photos, remember anyone identifiable in your photos needs to consent to QTA using the image if you're named a finalist or we want to use your photos to promote the awards or other government programs.

There are more great photo tips in the second step of our [Five easy steps to enter page](#).



Get this done and you'll be a step closer to submitting your 2023 nomination, which should have you smiling like Darling Downs South West Queensland's 2022 Equity VET Student of the Year Sadiki Kimba.

QTA alumni join apprenticeship advisory group

Shining stars from last year's Queensland Training Awards have joined a new advisory group focused on improving apprenticeship outcomes.

Refrigeration technician Jennah Halley, demi pastry chef Gabrielle Inwood and butcher Mitchell Hawes are members of Queensland's new Apprenticeship Advisory Reference Group, which meet for the first time this month (16 February 2023).

Chaired by SunCentral's Amanda Yeates, the group also includes Queensland Training Ombudsman Geoff Favell, employer, union, training organisation and school representatives.

The group will provide advice on industry-led solutions to improve the effectiveness of Queensland's apprenticeship and traineeship system.

Focused on keeping more apprentices on the job and qualified, the group will also look at issues such as persistent skills shortages, systemic challenges and the need for greater diversity and cultural change in male-dominated occupations, such as trades.

The group's formation is among a range of actions being implemented in response to a [2022 review of support by the Ombudsman](#) and as part of the [Queensland Workforce Strategy](#) – connecting good people to good jobs.



Pictured (l-r): Jennah Halley beams into the advisory group's first meeting from Cairns.

Queensland Overseas Foundation Awards Ceremony 2023

On Friday 17 March, Her Excellency the Honourable Dr Jeannette Young AC PSM, Governor of Queensland, will be at Queensland Parliament House to acknowledge the latest recipients of the Queensland Overseas Foundation's scholarship and bursary programs.

[Book your complimentary ticket by 3 March 2023](#) to join the event and also hear from some past Queensland Overseas Foundation scholarship recipients, to promote and celebrate Queenslanders learning from and sharing their skills with the world.

2023 QOF AWARDS CEREMONY

17 MARCH

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