

Congratulations to our 2024 regional finalists

Across our seven regions and 11 regional award categories, the 2024 Queensland Training Awards have selected 223 exceptional regional finalists.

Thank you to the hundreds of people who submitted or supported a nomination, along with all the judges who lent their time and expertise this year.

The process to shortlist and interview nominees to find our regional finalists is a major undertaking and it is great to have past winners and representatives from industry and training stakeholders, along with departmental staff, coming together to identify our state's best apprentices, trainees, students, teachers or trainers, community training initiatives and employers.

Among this year's judges were some recent winners. Gabrielle Clift, the 2023 Harry Hauenchild Apprentice of the Year, stepped in for her first year of judging and 2022 Bob Marshman Trainee of the Year, Tony Karamatic, was back for his second time.

Gabrielle said judging and conducting interviews with shortlisted finalists had been exciting but also a different experience compared to when she was a nominee last year.

"It can be nerve-wracking competing with Queensland's best apprentices, however judging them is another extreme. Each and every applicant is deserving in their own right," she said.

"There are so many people making a difference within their communities, workplaces and industries. I feel privileged to hear their stories."

Tony was excited to be a judge again this year and still remembers his own experience answering their questions two years ago.

"I enjoy hearing the inspiring stories of the people who have nominated this year," he said.

"Every year there is an amazing story that I love to listen to, and I want to be part of something that will inspire or reward these people."

Save the date for our regional finals and look out for updates from our regional offices when tickets sales open:

- [Metropolitan](#) – 5 July 2024 at Brisbane City Hall (**tickets on sale**)
- [Central Queensland](#) – 6 July 2024 at Gladstone Entertainment and Convention Centre (**tickets on sale**)
- [Tropical North Queensland](#) – 13 July 2024 at Sheraton Grand Mirage Resort, Port Douglas (**tickets on sale**)
- [Darling Downs South West](#) – 19 July 2024, at Kingaroy Town Hall
- [South East](#) – 19 July 2024 at Gold Coast Turf Club, Bundall
- [North Queensland](#) – 20 July 2024 at Rydges Southbank Townsville
- [North Coast](#) – 26 July 2024 at The Events Centre, Caloundra



Left to right: some of the judges for 2024 Tony Karamatic, Shaniqua Burke, Charlotte Ross, Gabrielle Clift, Kyezaya Namai-Sabatino and QTA State Coordinator Simone Smiles

2024 Sponsorships available

Each year the Queensland Training Awards brings together many amazing people, organisations and projects that demonstrate how vocational education and training develops the skills needed to start or build rewarding careers for individuals and operations of different sizes.

An important contribution to the awards process, including organising seven regional events and the state final, comes from the Queensland Training Awards sponsors. Organisations that are keen to promote their support and interest in VET can look forward to celebrating the many inspirational training stories that are shared by the Queensland Training Awards each year.

This year, state level category sponsorships are available for:

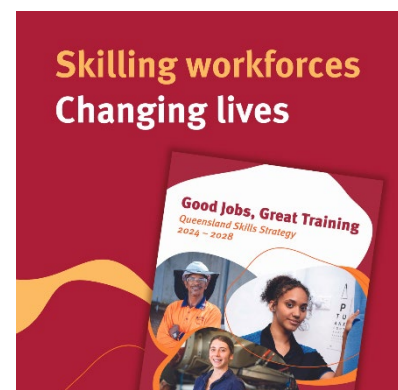
- Equity Student of the Year
- VET Teacher or Trainer of the Year
- Small Training Provider of the Year

These categories recognise important pieces of our VET sector. If you're interested in sponsorship opportunities, you can [download the state sponsor prospectus](#) or [contact the state coordinator](#).

New strategy to promote the value of VET

Queensland's new skills strategy includes promoting the value of training and building pride in the vocational education and training (VET) sector among its many actions.

Over the next five years, the Good Jobs, Great Training: Queensland Skills Strategy 2024 – 2028 will shape a responsive, accessible and valued training



system, while unlocking billions of dollars in government funding for skills.

More Free TAFE, Trade Tasters for school students and higher-level qualifications are just the start!

Check out the new strategy, discover consultation insights and even spot a few QTA-famous faces at www.qld.gov.au/SkillsStrategy.

Want to know more? [Subscribe for updates](#) on the implementation of the strategy.

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