



2017
**VICTORIAN
TRAINING AWARDS**



Real Training for Real Jobs

BETHANY SIMPSON

**FINALIST - 2017 SCHOOL-BASED
APPRENTICE/TRAINEE OF THE YEAR**

A school-based traineeship reveals
Bethany's passion for business

As an advocate of the School-based Apprenticeship and Traineeship (SBAT) program, Bethany Simpson, 17, wants to send a strong message that SBAT doesn't lock you out of a university pathway or take away from your school studies – in fact, in her experience, it did the opposite.

When Bethany was working part time at the Boulevard Motor Inn in Mildura last year, a customer told her parents – who own the business – about the SBAT program. Prior to enrolling in Year 11 at Mildura Senior College, Bethany and her parents explored the opportunity, leading her to start a Certificate III in Business Administration with training provider Murray Mallee Training Company.

Bethany says undertaking a SBAT was a smart choice alongside Year 11 and 12 study, providing her with a “passion for business”, insight into working in a business environment, a qualification and skills needed to enter the workforce.

“SBAT’s provide an avenue to explore a potential career path, a recognised qualification, a source of income, skills and an opportunity to try something to see if it’s your passion or interest.”



“I didn't have a clear idea of what I wanted to do after school but after commencing my SBAT I found my passion for business.”

Last year Bethany excelled in VCE subject Business Management, partly due to skills and knowledge she developed through SBAT. Bethany was also accepted into the La Trobe VCE Plus program, where she studies a business degree part time at La Trobe University alongside completing Year 12.

School-based Apprentice/Trainee of the Year

The School-based Apprentice/Trainee of the Year Award is presented to a student who is undertaking a Certificate II or above qualification as a part-time Victorian school-based apprentice or trainee. The Award recognises the student's commitment to their formal studies at school, and in the workplace.

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, teachers, 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

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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