

Flourishing Futures

The Landscape of Opportunity
in Queensland Apprenticeships



In Queensland's lush landscapes, a new chapter unfolds—one rich with promises of growth, diversity, and sustainability. Amid the ongoing challenge of a skills gap affecting sectors nationwide, the landscape industry continues as a pillar of opportunity. Thanks to our industry's commitment, the doors to rewarding career paths have never been more open. As we celebrate our achievements in innovation and inclusivity, we recognise that the journey ahead is filled with potential yet to be unearthed.

Recent apprenticeship updates depict a flourishing picture of growth, diversity, and resilience, heralding an exciting era for both budding and seasoned professionals. This positive shift is exemplified by the 2023 Landscape Construction Excellence Awards, an annual program that is a beacon of achievement within the industry. In 2023 a record number of apprentices were finalists, highlighting the industry's dynamic future. Among the celebrated were Mikayla O'Donnell from DISC Landscapes and Andrew Budd from Brooke's Blooms, who stood out in the landscape construction apprentice category, along with other commendable talents demonstrating exceptional skill and dedication.

All finalists deserved recognition, yet a record number were notably awarded highly commended distinctions: Jared Innes from Park Lane Landscapes, Lisa Hocking from Eureka Landscapes, Christopher McWatters from Designer Image, Sean Hodges-Colavitto from Human Nature Landscapes, and Bradey Rykers from Apunga Landscapes.

The Parks & Gardens Construction category further showcased the exceptional talent within the industry, with Evie Ruffle emerging as the overall winner—a testament to the excellence and dedication propelling the industry forward. Lilly Dhalter from Green Options and Sasha Beaumont from Brooke's Blooms achievements were also celebrated, reinforcing Queensland's vibrant and dynamic future of landscaping.



Mikayla O'Donnell
DISC Landscapes



Andrew Budd
Brooke's Blooms



Evie Ruffle
Brooke's Blooms



Christopher McWatters
Designer Image



Jared Innes
Park Lane Landscapes



Sean Hodges-Colavitto
Human Nature Landscapes



Lisa Hocking
Eureka Landscapes



Bradey Rykers
Apunga Landscapes



Lilly Dhalter
Green Options



Sasha Beaumont
Brooke's Blooms

This surge in talent is part of a broader trend of increasing diversity within the industry. Notably, Queensland has emerged as a leader in promoting female apprentices in trade occupations. According to the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER), the state boasts the highest number of female apprentices and trainees in trade occupations, marking a significant shift towards a more inclusive industry. This change reflects the industry's openness and adaptability, embracing new perspectives and skills.

The NCVER's statistics reveal that a remarkable 95.6% of trade apprentices and trainees found employment after completing their training in 2023, with many opting to remain with their employers. This high employment rate, coupled with a 22.2% increase in apprentice and trainee commencements, highlights the landscape industry's health as a viable and attractive career path.

The industry's evolution is a collective endeavour, with Landscape Queensland continuing to promote the vast opportunity in Landscape Industry careers as a leading professional trade choice supported by educational institutions, industry partner Construction Skills Queensland, and the broader industry community.

The recent surge in apprenticeship commencements and the empowerment of women in the trades are emblematic of a broader, dynamic shift towards a more diverse, skilled, and sustainable future within the landscape industry. As it continues to grow, the industry not only offers robust employment opportunities but also invites individuals to play a part in the environmental and aesthetic enhancement of Queensland's communities.

This landscape of opportunity, enriched by the dedication of its apprentices and bolstered by community support, is becoming increasingly vibrant. Landscape Queensland and its partners are dedicated to promoting this sector as the premier choice for career seekers, ensuring that with every plant nurtured and landscape cultivated, we're not just beautifying our surroundings but also building a skilled workforce poised to tackle future challenges and seize new opportunities.

Discover more about Landscape Industry Careers via
landscapeindustrycareers.com.au

For more information about Construction Pathways visit
constructionpathways.com.au

