



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

For New and Renewing Members



National Apprenticeship
Employment Network



NAEN membership – an asset you can rely on



**NAEN is dedicated
to the advancement
of apprentice and
trainee employment
through promoting
the sustainability
and prosperity of
group training**

The National Apprentice Employment Network (NAEN) is the peak national body representing Group Training Organisations and Australia's largest employer network of apprentices and trainees. NAEN is dedicated to the advancement of apprentice and trainee employment through promoting the sustainability and prosperity of group training.

Membership of NAEN brings a host of benefits and the assurance that your GTO has access to the key information and resources that underpin business success. Becoming a NAEN member means joining a unique and vibrant network of apprentice employment providers that are trusted and supported by industry, the community and government.

Please take the time to read this prospectus and learn about the full range of benefits available to NAEN members. We look forward to welcoming your GTO as a new or returning NAEN member.



About Group Training

Around 150 Group Training Organisations span every part of Australia and employ some 25,000 apprentices and trainees, engaged by more than 100,000 host businesses.

Since the emergence of group training in the 1970s, more than a million apprentices and trainees have been assisted to find skilled jobs and fulfilling careers.

GTOs play a vital role in communities, connecting with employers, schools, and training providers.

NAEN members are committed to providing mentoring and support that affords each starter the best opportunity to become skilled and work-ready for jobs in their local communities. Our members achieve superior completion rates compared to direct employment.

A single, united voice for group training

With a diverse and strong national network, member GTOs share in a single united voice when speaking to governments stakeholders and policy makers.

A strong national network brings collective authority and influence that can be harnessed to the betterment of the entire membership.

Ministers, departmental officials and industry representatives can be assured that they are dealing with a united organisation and capturing the considered views of the group training sector when working through NAEN as the peak representative body.



A seat at the policy table



NAEN's experienced team is regularly invited to participate in key federal government VET policy making forums and has access to the people who shape business decisions that impact GTOs.

NAEN liaises with ministers, MPs and departmental officials and hosts many opportunities for members to hear first-hand from the people making decisions that affect us all.

When it comes to policy development, NAEN plays a key part in shaping policies that impact apprenticeships and traineeships, such as successfully advocating for the role of Group Training Organisations through the recent *Strategic Review of Australian Apprenticeship Incentive System*.

A complex web of legislation, regulations and programs govern apprenticeships and traineeships. NAEN members are kept informed of latest developments and consulted about changes, so that they know what is happening and can get on with running their businesses.



The latest industry news, events and resources



One of the most important benefits of membership is the ability to stay abreast of critical issues for the group training sector.

NAEN delivers news and member alerts that keep members advised of important developments, often before they are seen elsewhere.

A host of resources are available to members on a members-only portal on the NAEN website. This includes media releases, policy documents, research, submissions and fact sheets that can be used by GTOs in their own communications, advocacy and liaison with business.

These resources help GTOs to do their job better, benefitting from both the national office and the knowledge of scores of like-minded GTO leaders across Australia.

NAEN also holds regular events at which members are invited to hear expert and distinguished speakers.



Promoting the benefit of group training



NAEN places a priority on engaging in public policy discussion in the VET sector and is active in both mainstream and social media

NAEN is a vocal advocate of group training and takes every opportunity to promote it to government, potential employers, industry stakeholders and the media.

By collecting stories, case studies and data from across the network, NAEN can promote the benefits that group training delivers to individuals, communities and the nation at large.

NAEN places a priority on engaging in public policy discussion in the VET sector and is active in both mainstream and social media. NAEN is focused on being the first port of call for media needing advice or comment on apprenticeships, traineeships and other skilling issues.

NAEN is a regular participant at conferences and forums and works collaboratively with state and territory Apprentice Employment Network offices and GTOs to jointly promote group training, wherever the opportunity arises.



Champions of diversity and inclusion

NAEN, in partnership with its members, actively drives increased participation in apprenticeships and traineeships by underrepresented groups such as First Nations Australians, people with disability, veterans and women in male-dominated occupations. Some of our current projects include:

Together we RISE

Together We RISE (Respect, Inclusion, Safety, Equity) is a national partnership initiative working to transform the apprenticeship experience for women in male-dominated industries, delivered under the Australian Government's Building Women's Careers program. Led by NAEN, RISE provides member GTOs with exclusive access to fully funded tools, tailored training and support to build inclusive, gender-safe practices and lift the representation of women across construction, clean energy and advanced manufacturing.

While RISE is focused on these priority sectors, the program welcomes GTOs from all industries who are committed to creating more inclusive pathways for women. Participation also offers member only access to initiatives such as reverse mentoring, storytelling campaigns, national peer networks and practical gender equality action planning, designed to help GTOs lead change from within.

Indigenous Skills and Employment Program

NAEN is proud to lead a four-year initiative in Alice Springs, supported by the National Indigenous Australians Agency and delivered in partnership with GTNT. This program works directly with young Indigenous people from local Town Camps, connecting them to culturally safe and meaningful employment pathways.

By combining mentoring, practical training, and exposure to real industry opportunities, we are helping to build confidence, career readiness, and long-term success.



National conference – not to be missed



Scheduled annually, the NAEN national conference is a landmark event that brings together GTOs with industry stakeholders, government ministers, business representatives and world class speakers.

NAEN members benefit from member-only forums and receive discounted conference rates.

These events are among the most popular on the VET calendar and showcase the work of GTOs while giving members access to the latest trends, intelligence and business processes.

The national conference is not only an outstanding networking event at which to learn from others, but also a vital arena for hearing from Australian and global business leaders.





Today's Skills: Tomorrow's Leaders



NAEN's flagship professional development program for apprentices and trainees is the 'Today's Skills: Tomorrow's Leaders' (TSTL) program.

The week-long residential program, based in Canberra, has seen more than 260 outstanding group training apprentices and trainees hone their leadership and self-management skills.



TSTL is open to all apprentices and trainees from NAEN member GTOs. The participants not only learn life-changing leadership skills but meet and discuss careers and skills with the nation's political leaders.

TSTL is an opportunity for member GTOs to acknowledge their most promising apprentices and trainees and put them on a path to future leadership.

Our Patron – the Governor-General



The National Apprentice Employment Network is delighted to have as its Patron, the Governor-General, Her Excellency the Honourable Ms Sam Mostyn AC.

NAEN greatly values this Patronage and the important role that the Governor-General has played in supporting NAEN, its apprentices, trainees and employers.

Ms Mostyn was sworn in as Australia's 28th Governor-General on 1 July 2024.

A businesswoman and community leader, Ms Mostyn is known for her exceptional service to the Australian community. She has a long history in executive and governance roles across diverse sectors, including business, sport, climate change, the arts, policy and not-for-profit.

In 2024, Ms Mostyn was appointed a Companion of the Order of Australia for eminent service in the social justice, gender equity, sporting, cultural and business sectors, to reconciliation, and to environmental sustainability. She had previously been appointed an Officer of the Order in 2021.

For her continued contribution as an advocate for gender inclusion and equality, sustainability, and climate change action, Ms Mostyn was awarded the 2020 United

Nations Day Honour Award and an Honorary Doctorate of Laws from the Australian National University in 2018.

Ms Mostyn chaired the boards of Aware Super, Centre for Policy Development, Beyond Blue, Australians Investing in Women, Foundation for Young Australians, Women's Economic Equality Taskforce, Australian National Research Organisation for Women's Safety (ANROWS) and The Climate Council.

She has also served on the boards of some of Australia's leading companies including Mirvac, Citi Australia, Transurban and Virgin Australia.

She dedicated more than a decade to the boards of the GO Foundation and Climateworks Australia, during this time she also served on the boards of Tonic Media and Global Business & Sustainable Development Commission.

Ms Mostyn was a Commissioner with the Australian Football League for over a decade until 2017.

She has also been a strong supporter of women in sport, and was an advocate for the creation of the AFL Women's league and co-founded the Minerva Network, Australia's only mentorship and development program dedicated to professional female athletes.

From 2013–2017, she was President of the Australian Council for International Development. Ms Mostyn became an inaugural commissioner with the National Mental Health Commission in 2012 and Deputy Chair of the Diversity Council of Australia in 2010.



Managing your membership

NAEN Membership is a financial year subscription, renewed annually. Members of NAEN are also required to be members of their state or territory Apprentice Employment Network, and to complete a simple application form available online.

Discounts and rebates

NAEN members are offered discounted rates for the National Conference, online member events and development programs, and receive priority access to key programs such as RISE.

NAEN membership branding

NAEN offers your GTO the opportunity to affiliate your operation with the NAEN logo, displaying to your customers and stakeholders that your operation belongs to the national network of quality GTOs, pursuing professional engagement and high standards of operation under a values-based charter.

Our Team



Dianne Dayhew
Chief Executive Officer



David Hubbard
Chief Financial Officer



David Nagy
National Manager, Membership
and Engagement



Samantha Grant
National Manager, Building
Women's Careers



Bob Bowden
National Communications
Manager

NAEN Board



Tom Emeleus
Chair, Member Elected Director



Kathryn Stenson
Deputy Chair, Member
Elected Director



Andrew McCarthy
Member Elected Director,
Victoria



Iain McDougall
Member Elected Director



Sharon Smith
Appointed Director, NSW/ACT



Stuart Diepeveen
Appointed Director, WA



Paul Hillberg
Appointed Director,
QLD/NT



Nick Couper
Member Elected Director



Gideon Perrott
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