

# WA Training Awards 2023 Winners

## WA Vocational Student of the Year 2022

Caitlan Bezuidenhout

- Certificate IV in Preparation for Health and Nursing Studies
- Eastern Hills Senior High School
- Health Science Hub



Inspired after visiting her nanna at an aged-care facility, nine-year-old Caitlin was determined to make a positive change in the industry.

Still at school, Caitlin is completing her Certificate IV in Preparation for Health and Nursing studies through Health Science Hub and her Certificate III in Individual Support (Ageing) through Australian Medical Association WA.

Through her work placement with Baptistcare, Caitlin has been able to gain hands-on experience and is passionate about creating positive energy in her workplace.

<https://youtu.be/dVT8XRex5vY>

## WA Apprentice of the Year 2022

Megan Hazelden

- Certificate III in Engineering - Mechanical Trade (Mechanical Fitter ZA)
- South Metropolitan TAFE
- Employed by Alcoa



Growing up on a farm watching her parents work on machinery, Megan knew she wanted to become a mechanic.

Now completing a Certificate III in Engineering, she is well on her way to reaching her goal of becoming a Mechanical Fitter at Wagerup Refinery.

Throughout her apprenticeship, Megan has had the opportunity to represent women in the industry, presenting at schools and student career nights about career opportunities.

Winning South Metropolitan TAFE's Apprentice of the Year 2021 gave her the confidence to encourage women to apply for an apprenticeship in mechanical fitting.

<https://youtu.be/tvUKJg7ScGw>

## WA School-based Apprentice of the Year 2022

Sophia Pitaro

- Certificate III in Sports and Recreation
- Applecross Senior High School
- North Metropolitan TAFE
- Employed by BlueFit (Leisure Employment Australia)



Driven to gain as much experience as she can while attending high school, Sophia has already completed Certificates in Events Management, Tourism and Skills for Work and Vocational Pathways.

Now embarking on a traineeship through North Metropolitan TAFE, Sophia is completing a Certificate III in Sport and Recreation and has completed qualifications including her First Aid, Lifeguard and CPR Certificates while gaining on-the-job experience with BlueFit - Belmont Oasis Leisure Centre.

<https://youtu.be/VCDqdmx8xec>

## WA Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year 2022

Wayne Ryder

- Diploma of Leadership and Management
- Australian Institute of Management WA
- Employed by Palmerston Association



From school captain to captain of his football team, Wayne has paved the way for Aboriginal men walking a similar journey. One of his proudest achievements was creating the Waakal Moort Kaadadjiny Festival, a health and well-being festival for at-risk Aboriginal people.

Wayne began working for Palmerston Association as a Community Aboriginal Worker, supporting individuals affected by drugs and alcohol following his lived experience. He later won a scholarship to study a Diploma of Leadership and Management with the Australian Institute of Management.

<https://youtu.be/Vw6swNDInCw>

## WA Trainee of the Year 2022

Brittany-Leigh Wragg

- Certificate III in Defence Industry Pathways
- South Metropolitan TAFE
- Employed by Programmed Training Services (hosted by CIVMEC)



Being one of the first students to study a Certificate III in Defence Industry Pathways Program, Brittany cites the unwavering support from the team at South Metropolitan TAFE and Programmed Training Services that helped her feel confident about her chosen career pathway in a male-dominated industry.

Brittany-Leigh has sampled different job roles while undertaking work placement rotations and gained real-life experience, all while building up a network of industry contacts. She hopes to begin an apprenticeship in defence on completion of her traineeship.

<https://youtu.be/FgCHsF-tpKE>