



Government of **Western Australia**
South West Regional College of TAFE

Media Statement

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STRONG ENROLMENT ANTICIPATED AT SOUTH WEST REGIONAL COLLEGE OF TAFE

With strong enrolments experienced in the second semester of 2008 the South West Regional College of TAFE is anticipating a similar vote of confidence in its training for 2009. Offering a broad range of vocational education and trade training, students have the opportunity to complete industry relevant qualifications at a College that is the region's leading, and most innovative, training provider offering enhanced online apprentice training programmes, recognition of prior learning and e-learning programmes to remote mining and resource sector worksites. Extension to the College's training kitchens will enhance its capacity for delivery for the hospitality sector, whilst recently acquired equipment for heavy duty automotive training will provide new experiences in applied technology for the sector.

Whilst there are still training places available, students who are planning to undertake full time training at the College next year are encouraged to apply by Friday, 5 December 2008, the closing day for late full time applications.

Prospective students who are interested in training in the areas of wine and grape growing, horticulture, sport development, resource and infrastructure operations, conservation and land management, engineering (both civil structural and mechanical) as well as laboratory science are encouraged to apply as vacancies still exist in these programmes.

Fitness, occupational health and safety, business administration, computing, financial services, electrical and heavy duty automotive pre apprenticeships have been over subscribed this year and this trend is set to continue in 2009. The College will consider additional classes where possible.

The College is also looking forward to the opening of Manea College and the first intake of students who will be completing Vocational Qualifications delivered by SWRC.

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With several years experience in providing vocational programs for school students, the staff are keen to implement this particularly collaborative approach to services for senior secondary students, working together in providing students with a unique environment in which to achieve their learning goals and transition to the adult world of work.

The South West Regional College of TAFE also offers opportunities for those who are currently employed in industry to gain formal recognition for the skills they've acquired in the workplace through the Recognition of Prior Learning process as this provides an alternate way of demonstrating and gaining acknowledgement for competencies attained. Available through the College this process will enable you to accelerate the process of gaining a qualification and enhance your own professional development. Local employers have appreciated the benefits obtained in quality assurance, performance and productivity derived from the investment in acquisition of accredited qualifications for existing workers, a strategy that is also now supported for a number of vocations, through government funding arrangements.

Known for its ethos of advocating life long learning, TAFE is a community resource that actively encourages students to continue their studies at higher levels, acquire new skills throughout their lives ensuring that these are relevant to the contemporary and changing work environment. Apart from TAFE providing a passport to the labour market it is also a springboard to university studies, for those who wish to gain an academic qualification.

Encouraging students to apply, Director of Education and Training, Tom Morris, said "Given the strength of enrolment response in the second semester and increased demand for skill recognition, students who have a particular study programme in mind should contact the College right away where the staff from our Information and Careers Advisory Service will be on hand to take your call and discuss your training options."

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