

LEADING AUTOMOTIVE INNOVATION

MEDIA RELEASE

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Automotive School Holiday Program

The Motor Trades Association of Queensland (MTA Queensland) provides a great opportunity for high school students to attend a holiday program that gives an insight into the world of the automotive industry.

Designed for 14 to 17-year-old students who are currently attending school, the program provides an opportunity that is similar to work experience, enabling participants to get handson in a range of learning tasks that reflect a taste of what a career in the automotive industry could look like. The course covers traditional areas of vehicle education, like vehicle maintenance and the location and function of components under the hood, as well as newer concepts like hybrid and electric vehicles and battery cell technology.

"There is a huge gap for young people attending school, to get exposure to working in a particular industry," said Dr Brett Dale Group CEO for MTA Queensland.

"Also, there are so many new and exciting opportunities in the automotive field connected to technology and innovation. Working with hybrid and electric cars and technical diagnostics linked to artificial intelligence and autonomous functionality are just some of the new skill sets required for the automotive technicians of the future. If young adults at school are not aware of these new developments in the automotive industry, it would be easy to dismiss it as a career option, as there are likely preconceived ideas of it being a less technical and laborious trade. The new era is connected to STEM skills and there is so much opportunity for students who excel in these areas.

"MTA Queensland has already had a number of students undertake Auto Camp and go onto commence an apprenticeship. This is a fantastic outcome as the industry has an enormous

skills shortage. It also means the chances of being employed in the industry are very high," said Dr Dale.

The program is conducted in a state-of-the-art automotive training workshop which is fitted out with booths for hybrid/electric training, welding, paint and panel, and a range of car and truck engines to learn from.

Class sizes are limited to 20 for maximum learning and the trainers are highly experienced technicians with years of experience.

The next Auto Camp is being held at MTA Queensland from 11 to 13 December 2019 and costs \$275 which includes lunch each day.

Find out more <u>here</u>.

This Advancing Apprentices Fund initiative is proudly funded by the Queensland Government.

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For more information:

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Background:

The Motor Trades Association of Queensland (MTA Queensland) is the peak body representing the interests of employers in the retail, repair and service sectors of Queensland's automotive / mobility industry. There are some 15,500 automotive value chain businesses employing in excess of 90,000 people, that generate more than \$20 billion annually. The Association represents and promotes issues of relevance to the automotive / mobility industry to all levels of Government and within Queensland's economic structure. In 2019 MTA Queensland was announced as an ABA100 winner in The Australian Business Awards and a finalist in the Lord Mayor's Business Awards, for Business Innovation.

The Association is the leading automotive training provider in Queensland offering nationally recognised training, covering technical, retail and the aftermarket sectors of the automotive industry through the MTA Institute (RTO 31529) - a registered training organisation. It is the largest private automotive apprentice trainer in Queensland employing experienced trainers who are geographically dispersed from Cairns to the Gold Coast and Toowoomba to Emerald. In the last year, the MTA Institute delivered accredited courses to more than 2,000 students. The MTA Institute is the first trade RTO in Australia to be approved under the ACPET Industry Certification Program and was announced the winner of the Small Training Provider of the Year at the 2019 Queensland Training Awards.

MTAiQ, Australia's first automotive innovation hub established by MTA Queensland in 2017, is an ecosystem that supports innovation for mobility and the motor trades.