



MEDIA STATEMENT

Wednesday 10 March 2021
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MTA Queensland Welcomes Expanded Apprentice Subsidy Support

The Morrison Government yesterday announced they would be expanding and extending the Boosting Apprenticeship Commencements wage subsidy to support more Australian businesses in taking on new apprentices and trainees.

The subsidy was expanded after the Government's original \$1.2 billion investment in supporting 100,000 apprentices was overwhelmingly exhausted in just five months, resulting in the cap on places under the program being lifted.

Through the expanded subsidy, any business that engages an apprentice or trainee before 30 September 2021 may be subsidised 50 per cent of the apprentice or trainees wage, up to \$7,000 per quarter. The subsidy will be paid for a full 12-month period, from the date of commencement and includes apprentices who have already been signed up.

MTA Group CEO, Rod Camm, said "MTA Queensland supports the Government's decision to expand the apprentice wage subsidy, which will deliver opportunities for new apprentices and trainees looking for a start in the automotive industry and will provide confidence to businesses deciding whether or not it is feasible to put on a new apprentice in the current climate.

Motor Trades Association of Queensland

Address: Freeway Office Park, Building 8, 2728 Logan Road Eight Mile Plains QLD 4113 (Postal: PO Box 4530, Eight Mile Plains QLD 4113)
Telephone +61 7 3237 8777 | Toll Free 1800 177 951 | Email info@mtaq.com.au | Website | www.mtaq.com.au

"The subsidy presents enormous opportunity for members of the automotive industry, where skills shortages continue to be rife, to offer real careers to jobseekers through an apprenticeship in Australia's fastest changing industry. We applaud the initiative and encourage all businesses in the automotive community to take advantage of this program and take on a new apprentice."

ENDS

For more information:

Lysa Dugandzic | General Manager - Marketing & Communications | 0428 510 163 |
lysad@mtaq.com.au

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 independent 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 ITECA 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 eco-system that supports innovation for mobility and the motor trades.

Motor Trades Association of Queensland

Address: Freeway Office Park, Building 8, 2728 Logan Road Eight Mile Plains QLD 4113 (Postal: PO Box 4530, Eight Mile Plains QLD 4113)
Telephone +61 7 3237 8777 | Toll Free 1800 177 951 | Email info@mtaq.com.au | Website | www.mtaq.com.au