



MEDIA RELEASE

Builders, electricians and plumbers join forces for National Careers Week in the ACT and region

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Canberra, ACT | Monday, 11 May 2026

In celebration of National Careers Week 2026, Master Builders ACT are teaming up with the Master Plumbers Association (MPA) and the National Electrical and Communications Association (NECA) to inspire high school students to explore rewarding careers in the trades.

On Wednesday 13 May, the event, titled *Build Your Future*, will take place at Master Builders ACT HQ, playing host to over 150 students from six different ACT high schools.

The initiative focuses on showcasing the variety of opportunities available in the construction sector, including carpentry, plumbing, and electrical apprenticeships. Students in years 10 to 12 will tour the Master Builders ACT carpentry workshop and training classrooms, enjoy live demonstrations and presentations from MBA Training, MPA and NECA, and get the opportunity to chat to the teams as well as the Master Apprenticeship Scheme (MAS) and MEGT.

'Investing in skills and growing our future workforce is vital for the sustainability of the construction industry, with all critical construction trades in shortage in the ACT,' said Anna Neelagama, CEO of Master Builders ACT.

'This event is an opportunity for students to see firsthand the different pathways available to them through apprenticeships and vocational training. We want to encourage students to consider a career in construction - one that is both fulfilling and essential to our community, as well as being AI-proof.'

'We're dedicated to equipping the next generation of electricians with the skills necessary to succeed,' said Michelle Ellis, Regional Manager ACT at NECA.

'By partnering with Master Builders ACT and MPA, we can offer students glimpse at the careers in electrical work and the benefits of pursuing electrical apprenticeships.'

Joe Prevedello, CEO of the Master Plumbers Association, echoed this, saying, 'The plumbing trade offers career paths that are both rewarding and essential to public health and safety. We're excited to be part of an event that highlights the importance of trade skills, and encourages students to consider the possibilities of a trade.'

Students attending the event will have the opportunity to engage with representatives from each organisation, ensuring they leave equipped with valuable information about pursuing an apprenticeship and building a successful career in the construction industry.

The event builds on the alliance between Master Builders ACT, NECA, and MPA, collectively working towards building a skilled future trade workforce and inspiring the next generation of builders, electricians, and plumbing professionals.

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About Master Builders ACT and MBA Training

As the leading industry body for building and construction in the ACT, since 1925 Master Builders ACT has championed the cause of all five construction industry sectors: residential, commercial, civil, subcontractors and suppliers, and professionals. Through MBA Training, the Association actively builds our future construction workforce through industry-leading education and training, training over 6,000 students per year and delivering carpentry apprenticeships through our flagship Certificate III Carpentry program that boasts over an 80% completion rate.

To enquire about carpentry apprenticeship opportunities:

(02) 6175 5900 | training@mba.org.au

Together, we build better. 

About NECA

NECA, the National Electrical and Communications Association, is the peak industry body representing the interests of over 6,000 electrical and communications contracting businesses across Australia. The Association provides local training, technical support, legal, WHS, and industrial relations advice to members, representing over 6,000 contractors nationally.

To enquire about electrical apprenticeship opportunities:

(02) 6280 5580 | gtact@necatrainig.com.au

About Master Plumbers Association

The Master Plumbers Association ACT is the peak body representing ACT plumbing professionals since 1976, backing plumbers, drainers and gasfitters across Canberra and training and employing thousands of people across the Territory.

To enquire about electrical apprenticeship opportunities:

Call Mas National on **0439 400 353** | sue.black@masnational.com.au