

MEDIA RELEASE

Master Builders ACT launches free construction pathways program in Careers Week

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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This National Careers Week, Master Builders ACT has launched the *Build Your Future: Certificate II Construction Pathways Program*, offering free training for unemployed and underemployed adults aged 17 and older. Participants will graduate with a Certificate II in Construction Pathways, along with essential skills and qualifications to lay the groundwork for a career in construction.

The Certificate II in Construction Pathways program combines nationally-recognised training with hands-on learning experiences, preparing participants for possible future roles in the construction industry. Participants gain skills and qualifications, including White Card, necessary for working on construction sites in the ACT, asbestos and silica awareness, mental health first aid, and work experience with local industry employers.

'Our community is in need of skilled, qualified individuals ready to enter the construction sector. This program is an invaluable opportunity for those looking to build their futures and work towards a career in construction,' said Anna Neelagama, CEO of Master Builders ACT.

'By providing free, hands-on training, we are equipping participants with the skills they need while growing the construction workforce in the ACT.'

Master Builders ACT is encouraging employment agencies and community groups to help promote the opportunity and attract applicants. Employers are also being sought to offer one week work experience placements for program participants.



'With every construction trade in shortage in the ACT, we are committed to building our future construction workforce. This free training not only supports our goal of a robust, thriving workforce, but also contributes to the community by offering unemployed and underemployed adults the chance to kickstart a rewarding career,' said Ms. Neelagama.

The Build Your Future Construction Pathways Program is funded through the 2025–27 ACT Adult Community Education (ACE) Grants Program, as part of the National Skills Agreement's Ensuring Access to Foundation Skills Training initiative, a collaborative effort between the Commonwealth and ACT Governments.

About the program

- **Location:** Master Builders ACT HQ, 1 Iron Knob St, Fyshwick
- **Start date:** Term 3, 2026, commencing 21 July 2026 (4 days per week)
- **Cost:** FREE for eligible participants
- **Included:** White Card, asbestos and silica awareness training, mental health first aid, work experience placements, and necessary PPE

Eligibility criteria

To be eligible for this exciting opportunity, applicants must:

- be aged 17 years or older
- demonstrate a genuine interest in a career in construction
- commit to a full 12-week program
- not be currently enrolled in school, college, or any Year 12 programs
- be a resident of the ACT
- hold an Australian or New Zealand citizenship, permanent residency, or a temporary/bridging visa with work and/or study rights

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