



Competenz is a multi-sector industry training organisation (ITO).
We help Kiwi industry grow skills, careers and businesses.

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Engineering apprenticeships



Welcome to Competenz

Competenz is the industry training organisation (ITO) for engineering. We help Kiwis build skills, careers and businesses by developing national qualifications and making it easy to learn on the job.

Why take on an apprentice?

To be competitive and prosper in a changing world, New Zealand's mechanical engineering sector needs talented tradespeople.

An apprentice:

- » Helps you train people for your specific needs
- » Is a cost-effective way to build skills
- » Helps you avoid a skills shortage before it happens
- » Is an investment that earns increasing return.

Competenz manages apprenticeships in:

- » Fabrication
- » Toolmaking
- » Metal casting
- » Maintenance engineering
- » Refrigeration and air conditioning
- » General engineering
- » Locksmithing
- » Machining
- » Heating, ventilation and air conditioning.

What does an apprenticeship involve?

An apprenticeship takes three to four years to complete and most learning is done on the job. Apprentices also complete learning away from the workplace, which can involve a combination of workbooks, eLearning, night classes and block courses.

Nationally recognised qualifications

Apprentices study towards a Level 4 National Certificate in Mechanical Engineering and specialise in their chosen trade. These are nationally recognised qualifications that meet rigorous standards in theory and practice, so you can have full confidence in the development of your people.

Tailored training plans

Using the qualifications we have developed, we design customised training plans to meet your business needs. We recognise the need for flexibility, so training and assessments are based on your operational requirements.

Recognition of prior learning

We can assess their relevant knowledge and skills to prove their competencies, and credit that towards a qualification. We can then identify any training gaps and tailor a solution to meet all the qualification requirements.

Apprenticeship funding

Competenz receives government funding to assist in maintaining the unit standards, assessment guides and resource materials. The funding also assists in reducing the cost of block courses for you and your apprentices.

Which apprenticeship is right for my business?

Signing up to an apprenticeship is a big deal – for employers and for apprentices. It's a major investment in training and learning. We understand the challenges employers and learners face, and offer two options to help you manage your apprenticeships: ATNZ and Elev8.

ATNZ

Apprentice Training New Zealand (ATNZ) is a charitable trust and New Zealand's largest employer of apprentices in engineering and related trades. It has been employing quality apprentices and supporting companies since 1999.

ATNZ manages all aspects of an apprentice's employment, saving employers time. Companies simply pay an hourly rate, and ATNZ takes care of the rest – wages, ACC, holiday pay, sick pay, KiwiSaver and statutory holidays.

An ATNZ account manager visits the workplace ten times a year to check on progress and the employment relationship. And there's no risk – if fluctuating business circumstances mean you can no longer host the apprentice, ATNZ will find another host company for the apprentice.

Competenz Elev8

Many employers prefer to hire, train and develop their own apprentices. Under the Elev8 option, a Competenz training advisor visits your workplace four times a year to support the apprentice's learning and ensure they complete their qualifications on time.

Training advisors work with the apprentice to set targets and match jobs they have completed to unit standards. They check in with employers to check on progress and identify any areas that need improvement and co-ordinate block courses.

Competenz charges companies an annual enrolment fee for each apprentice, plus off-job learning costs (like block courses and learning resources).

Qualifications beyond an apprenticeship

- » National Certificate in Mechanical Engineering Level 5
- » New Zealand Diploma in Engineering Practice Level 6.

Next step

Talk to us today about the business improvements you want to see and let us design the ideal training solution for you.