

# JOINT MEDIA RELEASE



**BARRY O'ROURKE MP**

Member for Rockhampton



**BRITTANY LAUGA MP**

Member for Keppel  
Assistant Education Minister

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14 September 2020

## CQ celebrates the best of training

Eleven trainees, trainers, small and medium businesses and CQUniversity are among 77 regional winners named in an online ceremony for this year's Queensland Training Awards.

Member for Keppel and Assistant Education Minister Brittany Lauga said while this year's event was unlike past celebrations, it continued to recognise the highest achieving individuals, organisations and projects in Queensland's training system.

"Shining a spotlight on top achievers in training from across the state, it's fantastic to announce 77 regional winners in the Queensland Training Awards," Ms Lauga said.

"I congratulate the 11 Central Queensland winners and finalists from more than 700 nominations across a broad range of skills and industries from seven Queensland regions.

"And all of them play an important role in ensuring we have the skilled workforce needed for the jobs now and into the future.

"It's been a tough year for everyone but the Palaszczuk Government is committed to backing every Queenslanders through quality training opportunities.

"As we Unite and Recover for Queensland Jobs, we know that training and skilling will be critical."

"We have some amazing winners from our small, medium and large employer award categories that work in a range of industries — from hairdressers, mechanics and a saddlery through to hotels, aged care homes, mental health service providers, mining operators and local councils," she said

"Congratulations to each and every one of you."

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The Member for Rockhampton Barry O'Rourke said the 77 regional winners are now finalists for the state award in their category, which will be announced next week on 18 September.

“Joining these winners are nine finalists for the Small Training Provider of the Year, Large Training Provider of the Year and Premier’s Industry Collaboration Award categories.

“The field for this year’s Premier’s Industry Collaboration Award is unique.

“There’s a program teaching Central Queensland high school students to be drone pilots, TAFE Queensland and Rheinmetall Defence Australia training high level welding skills, and a group of local councils training their water industry workers together.”

Mr O'Rourke said picking the state winners from the 86 finalists must have been a challenge for the judges but it is excellent that we can acknowledge the hard work and commitment each has shown to make it this far.

“Celebrating our highest achievers is especially important as we all work to get our economy growing again while preventing the spread of COVID-19.”

For the full list of Queensland Training Award regional winners and state finalists visit: <https://desbt.qld.gov.au/training/qta/winners-and-finalists>

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