

# Master Skills Australia Announces Launch to Help Tradies Turn Experience into Nationally Recognised Qualifications

*New college built for tradies announces upcoming launch aiming to reduce barriers to skills recognition across Australia's building and construction workforce.*

BRISBANE, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA, February 18, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Master Skills Australia (ID: 41228), today announced the upcoming launch of its construction-focused Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) assessment services, designed to help experienced building and construction professionals convert real on-site experience into nationally recognised qualifications without returning to traditional classroom study.



MSA Assessor with RPL Candidate

Built around a practical, evidence-led assessment model, Master Skills Australia specialises in RPL—an assessment pathway that recognises skills gained through work experience and maps them against nationally endorsed units of competency, with outcomes dependent on evidence and assessment requirements.

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Master Skills Australia was created because the traditional RPL pathway to a qualification for tradies is often inefficient and unaffordable. We deliver streamlined RPL that respects lived experience.”

*Ben Castleton, General  
Manager*

Rather than issuing lengthy “DIY” kits, Master Skills Australia’s process is designed to be clear and tradie-friendly: candidates receive a plain-English document with evidence examples (e.g. toolbox talks, photos/videos, job documents, site records) then the Master Skills Australia team assesses the evidence to qualification requirements.

The model includes a suitability conversation and evidence review before enrolment, aimed at giving candidates a clearer indication of whether they are well-positioned to proceed—helping reduce the risk of committing time and money without confidence in the pathway.

Master Skills Australia’s mission is to support the career progression of Australia’s construction workforce by transforming practical experience into recognised qualifications through this streamlined RPL process that reduces barriers and highlights the value of lived industry skill.

Australia’s construction and trades pipeline continues to face well-documented workforce pressures, underscoring demand for scalable, credible skills recognition pathways:

- Job vacancies remain elevated nationally. The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) reported 326,700 total job vacancies (seasonally adjusted) for November 2025, highlighting ongoing labour demand across the economy.

- Trade apprenticeship commencements have softened. NCVET reported that trade [apprenticeship commencements declined by 5.4% in the year to December 2024](#) (published June 2025), despite strong demand for technicians and trades workers—an indicator of pressure in the training pipeline.

- In parallel, Jobs and Skills Australia have reported that shortages persist in key areas including construction, noting that nearly [half of trade roles remain in shortage in its 2025 Occupation Shortage List](#) commentary (published October 2025).

Master Skills Australia is expected to begin onboarding candidates in the coming months, with initial assessment activity focused on experienced building and construction professionals seeking formal recognition of their existing skills. The organisation states it will continue working with industry stakeholders to ensure its RPL assessment processes remain practical, evidence-based, and aligned with national regulatory standards.

Disclosure Statement: RPL is an assessment pathway only and is not guaranteed. Outcomes depend on the quality, sufficiency, authenticity and currency of evidence provided against unit requirements. If gaps are identified, candidates may need to provide additional evidence, complete further assessment and/or undertake gap training before any qualification or statement of attainment can be issued.

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