Top End Students get to Try a Trade

The annual *Try a Trade* event starts in Darwin today with over 600 Top End school students getting the opportunity to find out more about a career in the trades.

Chief Minister Paul Henderson, said this is a great opportunity for students to get hands-on experience on what it would be like to work in a trade occupation.

“We want to grow more of our own tradespeople here in the Territory to help meet the demand for skilled labour that comes with economic growth,” Mr Henderson said.

“The Territory Government is committed to building our skilled workforce for the future and we have expanded pathways in our schools so students pursue trades careers.

“Try a Trade gives students access to information on a wide range of trade jobs and the chance to ‘have a go’ to see if they like what is involved.

“Over 600 students will get the chance over the next three days to meet people that work in different trade areas and find out how they can get an apprenticeship.

“Apprenticeships give people a great start to working life and we are keen to attract more students to skills shortage areas.

“The Territory Government is on track to reach its four year target of 10,000 apprenticeship and traineeship commencements.

Students can start apprenticeships while in school which also contributes to achieving their Northern Territory Certificate of Education and Training.

“We work closely with local industry and businesses so we know the trades and occupations where we need more workers to continue building the Territory economy.

“The Territory Government offers apprentices and employers great financial incentives as part of their training,” Mr Henderson said.

The Territory Government offers apprentices and trainees a workwear/workgear bonus. Apprentices in skill shortage areas can receive $1000 and all other apprentices and trainees receive $300 under the scheme.

Employers can also access cash incentives of $4000 for taking on an apprentice in the Territory.

For more information on apprenticeships visit [www.australianapprenticeshipsnt.com.au](http://www.australianapprenticeshipsnt.com.au)

*Media contact: Brett Murphy 0427 741 469*