

MEDIA RELEASE

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COMPETITION TO DISCOVER LOCAL VET SKILL CHAMPIONS

TAFE Queensland South West will discover the next generation of cookery, restaurant service, beauty therapy and other champions when it hosts a regional skills competition on Tuesday, 23 May 2017.

The regional competitions are part of WorldSkills Australia's focus to celebrate excellence by creating opportunities for young men and women, promoting a skills culture, showcasing vocational education and training and investing today in the future jobs of young Australians.

Held around the country every two years, regionals also give young locals the opportunity to compete in their trade and potentially take their skills to the national and international level.

South West Queensland Regional Coordinator, Kylie Lee, said the regional competitions were typically aimed at apprentices, trainees and students under the age of 23, to test their skills and knowledge but are open to all ages.

"These competitions boost young people's confidence and career prospects and I look forward to seeing what our region can produce," said Mrs Lee.

"The competitions also play a pivotal role in unearthing local talent and it can give these young people the opportunity to achieve success on the national and international stage."

WorldSkills Australia CEO Brett Judd said: "Through our program of competitions, WorldSkills Australia can create better opportunities and futures for young Australians.

"It is terrific to see young people testing their skills at a regional level, and often they surprise themselves with what they are able to achieve."

During the 2017 competitions, thousands of apprentices, trainees and students will compete across more than 50 skills areas.

More than 500 competitions will be held in 2017, in 31 regions across Australia.

Mr Judd thanked Mrs Lee and said the competitions relied on the tireless support of volunteers.

To get involved or for more information on WorldSkills competitions, visit www.worldskills.org.au/regionals .

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WorldSkills Australia, a not-for-profit organisation, is a united voice for skills excellence in vocational, technological and service oriented careers in Australia. We recognise that the vocational education and training sector is central to Australia's economic growth, productivity and future employment outcomes. For more information visit www.worldskills.org.au