

Minister Geoff Brock

Minister for Regional Development
Minister for Local Government

Thursday, 5 November, 2015

Regional youth traineeship program creates 57 new jobs

57 young people from across South Australia's regions will be entering the workforce full time through the State Government's Regional Youth Traineeship program.

The \$2 million program – funded through the State Government's \$10 million Jobs Accelerator Fund – is offering each of South Australia's 57 local governing authorities a grant so they can provide entry level employment and training to a trainee for two years.

Regional Development Minister, Geoff Brock said the traineeships were aimed at young people aged between 17 and 24 living in our regions, who were unemployed or didn't have a full time job.

"The program is now fully subscribed following an 'Expressions of Interest' process with traineeships offers accepted from regional councils, Aboriginal community councils, Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara and the Outback Communities Authority," Mr Brock said.

"Young people from across the State will be taking up valuable career opportunities which will help set them on a future career path.

"These placements will see them receive valuable on-the-job training, as well as providing opportunity for further education through certificate level courses.

Each participating regional body will receive up to \$14,500 per annum – \$29,000 over two years – for each traineeship they take on," Mr Brock said.

"The program has been designed to encourage the continued employment of these trainees after the two funded years and will be delivered by the Local Government Association of SA.

"Strong regions mean a strong South Australia and this program is a great example of the different levels of government working together to create vibrant, sustainable regional communities with a skilled workforce," Mr Brock said.

Local Government Association President Dave Burgess said the LGA was pleased to be delivering the program initiated by the State Government.

"Our young people will have the opportunity to gain skills and experience in many areas, including business administration, horticulture, civil works, IT and community services, and gain formal accreditation in the process," Mr Burgess said.

"The traineeship program sparked great interest among local governing bodies.

“The opportunity to have the trainees on board helps local governing bodies while contributing to the future careers of our young people and the sustainability of our regional communities.

“Most importantly it means these young people can stay in their home towns, and not have to leave in order to find work. It’s a win-win for all.

“By nurturing our home-grown talent we are contributing to the future of our communities, building their strengths and the commitment to grow and thrive,” Mr Burgess said.

For full details of councils and regional bodies participating in the regional traineeship program contact the Local Government Association – Mary Ann Stenberg on 0428 860 274.