

# Diesel Fitting Apprenticeship

Formed in 1914, Gladstone Ports Corporation (GPC) has been a vital part of the Gladstone community for more than a century, and the epicentre for Queensland's economic growth. We are a Company Government Owned Corporation (GOC), responsible for the import or raw material and the export of finished product associated with major industries in the Central Queensland region. GPC manages and operates three Port precincts - the Port of Gladstone, Port Alma Shipping Terminal and Port of Bundaberg. GPC identifies that our employees are critical to our success, employing approximately 750 people to perform a variety of management, trade, technical and administrative duties across our three Port precincts.

A dedicated maintenance team is responsible for maintaining and repairing this equipment to ensure reliability and availability for operations. A large portion of our maintenance team is made up of allied mechanical tradespersons including Diesel Fitters and Mechanical Fitters.

GPC provides outstanding employment outcomes for our apprentices and trainees through competitive working arrangements that deliver benefits to all involved.

## QUALIFICATION

Certificate III in Engineering - Mechanical Trade (Maintenance) Diesel Fitting

Our apprentices undertake a structured learning program to enhance their skills and knowledge, improving their future and ours.

## Trade overview

Diesel Fitters (or Heavy Vehicle Motor Mechanics) test, diagnose, repair and maintain diesel motors and the mechanical parts of heavy vehicles.

Systems worked on include engines, transmission, fuel injection, suspension, hydraulic, pneumatic, steering and brakes. Vehicles worked on can include trucks, plant equipment, dozers and also stationary engines such as generators and pumps.

Diesel Fitters can also work with a variety of welding and processing tools.

## Common tasks

- Diagnose, overhaul, repair, tune, maintain and test diesel and petrol vehicles
- Detect mechanical faults by using instruments that check charging and starting circuitry, batteries, ignition and ignition timing, fuel injection systems and speed control, cylinder compression, engine condition, braking efficiency, and wheel balance and alignment
- Repair and maintain the hydraulic components of diesel and petrol engines that are used to power attachments such as hoists, booms, scrapers, buckets and augers
- Use oxy/acetylene equipment, ARC, TIG and MIG welding equipment, hand-fitting tools or machining equipment and processes to replace or repair faulty parts.

## What makes a good Diesel fitter?

- Ability to work safely
- Ability to follow work procedures and instructions
- Competent at mathematics and good communications skills, both written and verbal
- Ability to concentrate and problem solve
- Enjoys manual and practical work
- Good hand-eye coordination and the ability to complete precise work
- Have mechanical aptitude
- Fit to cope with the physical demands of the job
- Free from allergies to grease, oil, diesel and petrol as handling of these products is required daily
- Be motivated to learn and develop
- Have the ability and desire to work constructively in a team

In order to become a Diesel Fitter, you must complete an apprenticeship in Engineering - Mechanical (Maintenance) Diesel Fitting. A Diesel Fitting apprenticeship usually takes four years to complete in conjunction with a Registered Training Organisation (RTO).

## Applying for a career with GPC

### AGREEMENT WITH GPC

As an apprentice, you enter into a formal training contract with GPC.

You will spend most of your time working and learning practical skills on the job, however, some time will be spent undertaking structured block-release training.

Trainers will assess your skills and when you are competent in all areas, you will be awarded a nationally-recognised qualification.

To improve your chances of gaining an apprenticeship, you can learn some basic skills and knowledge through pre-apprenticeship courses or structured work placements through your school.

### WHAT WE LOOK FOR

As a GPC Apprentice you will need to provide us similar examples and prove to us you have the capability to:

- Work safely in a heavy industrial environment
- Possess good communication skills both written and verbal
- Be motivated to learn and develop new skills
- Have the ability to work constructively in a team.

There are several steps in the apprentice/trainee recruitment process and successful candidates commence in late January, early February each year.

### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

You must have completed Year 10 with Sound Achievement or higher in English and Maths to be successful for an apprenticeship at GPC.

### ANNUAL INTAKE

GPC recruits annually for apprentices and trainees across a number of trade areas. Advertising is conducted over a number of weeks in July each year with applications closing in late July.

### OUR COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

All apprentices participate in the Apprentice Port Trust Scheme where a nominal payment is deposited weekly into a trust fund over the term of their apprenticeship that can be accessed at the completion of the apprenticeship as a lump sum payment. This is payable in addition to the weekly wage.

### APPRENTICE AWARDS

GPC has an apprentice/trainee award scheme which includes four key elements:

- Apprentice/Trainee of the Year
- Performance Management
- Training and Development
- Mentoring.

### HOW TO APPLY

Visit GPC's website at [www.gpcl.com.au/careers](http://www.gpcl.com.au/careers)

Please ensure you have the following documents available when you submit your application:

- Cover Letter
- Copies of current school results (if applicable)
- Copies of relevant TAFE accredited certificates
- Copies of relevant qualifications
- Drivers licence (if applicable)
- Resume.

### OUR APPRENTICE BENEFITS

GPC prides itself on being an outstanding local employer in the Central Queensland region, offering excellent conditions. Our employment conditions are competitive and include:

- Above award apprentice wages
- Annual wage increases upon satisfactory completion of training
- Tools of trade – tool kit upon successful completion of probation period
- All training costs are covered by GPC eg. books, enrolment and tuition fees
- Safety uniform issued on a fair wear and tear basis
- A dedicated superannuation scheme, including salary sacrificing
- Health and safety awareness training and initiatives.

### MORE INFORMATION

For more information about a career opportunity with GPC, contact our Recruitment Team on:

P: (07) 4976 1686  
E: [careers@gpcl.com.au](mailto:careers@gpcl.com.au)