Commissioners Information Bulletin 612 provides for the establishment of peak sports apprenticeships in the plumbing trades for apprentices employed under the Plumbing and Fire Sprinklers Award 2010 (Plumbing Award).

A peak sports apprenticeship is an apprenticeship where the apprentice is an athlete contracted to one of the peak sports bodies identified by the Fair Work Commission (FWC). Schedule H of the Plumbing Award identifies organisations recognised by the Commission as peak sports bodies and also specifies the obligations of employers of peak sport apprentices.

The apprentice is employed and trained through a combination of full-time and part-time work for a term not exceeding six years.

**Lodgement and assessment**

Applications for peak sports apprenticeships may be lodged in the following trades:

- Plumbing (VTO 5969)
- Roof Plumbing (VTO 5578)
- Fire Protection (VTO 5976)

An application for a peak sports apprenticeship must be prepared and e-lodged as a part-time application for a term of six years, even if employment will initially be on a full-time basis. The application will be referred to STS Western Sydney and will be assessed by the Peak Sports Apprenticeships Account Manager.

AACs preparing and lodging applications for peak sports apprenticeships must provide the following supporting documentation at the time of lodgement:

- evidence that the proposed apprentice has a binding contract as a peak athlete with one of the peak sports bodies specified in Schedule H of the Plumbing Award.

This documentation must be sent to STS Western Sydney and marked to the attention of the Account Manager, Peak Sports Apprenticeships.

Requirements for approval of a peak sports apprenticeship are:

- the apprentice is employed under the Plumbing Award
- the apprentice is a peak athlete under contract to a peak sports body
- the employer has the capacity to train the apprentice and is prepared to meet their obligations under the apprenticeship
the employer is prepared to meet their additional obligations as the employer of a peak sports apprentice as specified in the Plumbing Award

Where an application is approved, a customised approval letter and Vocational Training Direction will be issued to the parties.

David King
Vocational Training Unit

**Issued:** 18 March 2014