

Mechanical Engineering Trades





Tylah



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Fabricator and Welder

After moving from creative media, to tiling, to panel beating, Tylah finally made the switch to Mechanical Engineering Trades, where she found her love for welding. Thanks to being eligible for an MPTT scholarship, Tylah was gifted tools, overalls, gloves, and help to get her driver's license. Now, Tylah is working at Lead Fabrication in Upper Hutt, where she gets to work on pieces that are used all over the New Zealand.

What does a day in your life look like?

Interpreting drawings, cutting and moving pieces of metal, clamping them together, and mostly, welding! I like seeing the finished product, seeing the usable item that was once just a pile of metal.

We've made barriers for Naenae train station, basketball hoops for the Kura Kaupapa Māori in Alicetown, and pieces for the Interislander. There's always something different.

What type of welding do you do?

We do MIG and stick welding. MIG is a more automated type of welding, but you still need a fair amount of patience and control. Being precise is important, and the heat from welding can warp the metal, so you've got to clamp your pieces together well.

Why did you decide to study Mech. Engineering Trades?

'One of the most helpful things was getting my driver's license through Te Āti Awa. The Tamaiti Whāngai team arranged lessons, and I was able to borrow a car to take my test.'

It took me a while to figure out what I wanted to study! I had tried tiling and creative media, but I didn't love either of them. I originally signed up for panel beating, but a couple of weeks into the programme when we started welding, my tutors were impressed by my ability and encouraged me to switch to Mechanical Engineering Trades.

How did the Māori and Pacifica Trades Training scholarship help you?

I was gifted tools, overalls, and gloves, and my course costs were completely covered. One of the most helpful things was getting my driver's license through Te Āti Awa. The Tamaiti Whāngai team arranged lessons, and I was able to borrow a car to take my test.

How was your study experience?

I made a good group of friends that I still keep in touch with. Our strengths and weaknesses complimented each other, so it was a great group to work on assignments with.

We were in class just three days a week, so we could work the other days of the week if we wanted to. I did Delivereasy at the time so I could choose how much work I had.

Follow the QR code below to read the full story.





Māori and Pasifika Trades Training

Ākongā Māori and Pacific looking to learn a trade can apply for a Māori and Pasifika Trades Training (MPTT) scholarship to cover full fees and course-related costs.

Tautoko while studying

Māori and Pasifika Trades Training scholarship students are supported by both Te Pūkenga - Whitireia and Te Pūkenga - WelTec through the Tamaiti Whāngai team.

The Tamaiti Whāngai team will support you with mentoring, goal setting, pastoral and cultural support. You'll have the opportunity to get your drivers license, site safe, and first aid certificates. The dedicated Tamaiti Whāngai Job Brokers have close links with employers and industry and will assist you to find an apprenticeship and/or employment.

Programmes where you can get a Māori and Pasifika Trades Training scholarship include - Automotive, Bakery, Collision Repair, Construction, Electrical Engineering, Hairdressing, Makeup and Skincare, Mechanical Engineering, Plumbing, Gasfitting and Drainlaying, Painting and Decorating, and Tiling.

Job Brokers

Our Tamaiti Whāngai Job Brokers have close with employers and have information of available jobs for MPTT ākongā.

We thank our iwi partners, Te Rūnanga o Te Āti Awa and Ngāti Toa Rangatira as well as our Pasifika partner, Mafutaga Faifeau Samoa for the support they provide to our Māori and Pasifika Trades Training scholarship students.

Scholarship criteria

You need to meet the entry criteria for the programme you are enrolling in and be:

- of Māori or Pacific decent
- 16-40 years old at the start of your study
- a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident
- able to meet the entry requirements for your programme

We want you to be passionate and show that you are motivated to succeed.

Get in touch

✉ twa@weltec.ac.nz



Job Brokers Tui and Tame

New Zealand Certificate in Engineering Fabrication (Trade) (Level 4) with strands in Heavy Fabrication, Light Fabrication, and Steel Construction

📖 Level 4

🕒 3-4 years, part-time

💰 \$1,716 per year (indicative for 2025 intake)

Entry requirements

Must be employed in an appropriate engineering job full-time and have successfully completed the New Zealand Certificate in Engineering (Level 3) or have relevant skills and experience.

Build on your already extensive mechanical engineering skills. This apprenticeship programme allows you to study while continuing to work with your employer. Specialise in fabrication processes and become a fully qualified fabrication engineer.

[Programme Handbook](#)



What you will learn

- Advance your understanding of material properties and their treatments
- Learn to make, install and repair metal products for light and heavy fabrication and steel construction
- Heavy fabricated products could include heavy trailers and heavy manufacturing equipment
- Light fabricated products could include ducting, light trailers and balustrade
- Carry out complex welding tasks
- Apply knowledge of forming and shaping to minimise damage and distortion

More detail about this qualification

Evening classes, three hours a week held between February and December. Includes two one-week block courses per year.

Career options

- Fabricator
- General Engineer
- Welder
- Structural Steel Worker

Disclaimer: The information contained in this document is correct at the time of print. Whitireia and WelTec | Te Pūkenga reserves the right to cancel or postpone any of the programmes, and shall not be liable for any claim other than the proportion of programme fees that the cancelled portion bears. Some programmes may be dependent upon formal approval from NZQA (New Zealand Qualifications Authority), TEC (Tertiary Education Commission) funding allocation, and the number of enrolments. As part of the NZQA targeted review of all Level 1-6 New Zealand qualifications, there may still be changes to some programmes starting in 2024. Fees, programmes, entry and selection criteria, and dates, are subject to change. Please check the relevant programme pages at whitireiaweltec.ac.nz for up-to-date information and full entry regulations before applying to enrol. Information regarding English language requirements is available on each course page at whitireiaweltec.ac.nz.