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[Inclusive of the Registries of Companies and Intellectual Properties]

## APPRENTICESHIP COUNCIL OF SAMOA

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE APPRENTICESHIP SCHEME

#### 1. Introduction:

The Apprenticeship Scheme was established under the Apprenticeship Act 1972 and Apprenticeship Regulations 1973.

The Apprenticeship Council, responsible for the administration of the Apprenticeship Scheme, is established under the above legislation. The above legislation also appoints the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Labour as the administrative arm of the Apprenticeship Council. The Chairman of the Council is the CEO (MCIL).

#### 2. What is Apprenticeship?

Apprenticeship is a system that combines work and part-time study which involves both practical skills and an understanding theory in the trades.

Apprentices need to complete three (3) to four (4) years or six thousand (6,000) to eight thousand (8,000) hours. The award of the Certificate of Due Completion is awarded to candidates who qualify as competent in a trade of their choice.

#### 3. How is the training conducted?

Apprenticeship training is divided into two (2) components:

- (i) On-the-job Training : training provided on the job by a qualified tradesman or employer.
- (ii) Off-the-job Training : training provided by a technical institute i.e. NUS (IOT) Monday - Thursday (5pm-8pm) or block basis (1 week).

#### 4. What do we study?

Presently, there are seven (7) Apprentice-able trade courses taught at the NUS (IOT):

- (i) Motor Mechanics ~ Inisinia o afi taavale
- (ii) Electrical ~ Faaeletise (Faimoli)
- (iii) Fitting & Machining ~ Gaosiga o totoga o masini
- (iv) Plumbing ~ Palama
- (v) Carpentry & Joinery ~ Faakamuta & Fau meafale
- (vi) Welding & Fabrication ~ Sosoo Uamea
- (vii) Refrigeration & Air Conditioning ~ Fai Pusa aisa ma Masini ea malulu.

**5. How do I enter?**

Apart from a successful completion of Year eleven, the applicant must be able to secure employment in a workplace and in a trade appropriate to that which he/she wishes to study.

**6. How to apply and when?**

Application forms are available from the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Labour any time during working hours.

Intake each year varies but also limited to a certain number of apprentices for each trade. Applications to enter the scheme the following year are normally advertised as early as December and closed at the end of February or mid-March the following year. Apprenticeship classes normally start during the first or second week of May each year.

Should you need further clarification on this matter, please feel free to contact the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Labour.

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