

# APPRENTICESHIPS IN...

## WELDING AND FABRICATION



### WHAT IS AN APPRENTICESHIP?

An apprenticeship is a way to learn valuable skills while working and earning money. Apprentices go to classes at the National University of Samoa's Institute of Technology, and work for qualified tradespeople who pass on their skills and knowledge. Apprenticeships usually last three or four years, but they can be shorter if you already have a relevant qualification.

### WHY DO AN APPRENTICESHIP?

EARN A CERTIFICATE IV – SAMOA'S HIGHEST TRADE QUALIFICATION

IMPROVE YOUR CHANCES OF GETTING JOBS HERE AND OVERSEAS

MAKE MONEY WHILE LEARNING

### WHO CAN DO AN APPRENTICESHIP?

If you've finished Year 11 you can do an apprenticeship, no matter how old you are. If you're already experienced in a trade, it may be better to do the Trade Test, which awards formal qualifications to people with existing skills.

### FEES

Fees vary for each year taken and will be made available at the start of each training

### FINDING AN EMPLOYER

Before applying for an apprenticeship through the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Labour, you must find an employer willing to take you on as an apprentice. If you are having difficulty, contact the Ministry for advice.

### APPLICATIONS

Applications usually open in December and close in February or March. Classes usually start in the second week of May. For specific dates and the application form, contact the Ministry.

### MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND LABOUR

LEVEL 4, ACC HOUSE, APIA

PO BOX 862, APIA

PH: 20441

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## DAY IN THE LIFE OF A WELDING AND FABRICATION APPRENTICE

Welding and fabrication apprentices may work in a factory or workshop, on construction sites, or visit customers. Apprentices usually work Monday to Friday and go to classes from 5pm to 8pm, Monday to Thursday. Alternatively, they can go to class full time for a week.



# A WELDING & FABRICATION

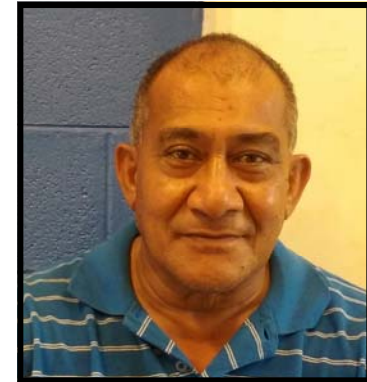
*apprenticeship could*

# SPARK

a successful career.

Welding is joining materials together, for example, using a blowtorch to join two pieces of metal. Fabrication is the process of reading plans, cutting materials, and getting them ready to be put together. Welders and fabricators work in all sorts of industries, from manufacturing to construction to transport.

## SUCCESS STORY



**Leiataua Setefano Paulo**  
**(Lecturer for Welding and Fabrication at NUS)**

"I started in the Apprenticeship Program back when I was an employee of the Public Works in 1980, I completed and graduated with a Certificate of Due Completion in 1982..."

"Since graduating, I have worked for the EPC in 1995–1999, until a teaching spot was available at the Samoa Polytechnic. I became a teacher in 1999 and taught my field (Welding) to date..."

"I urge the young ones who are currently taking Welding as their career paths and those who are planning to, to keep trying, never give up and always be patient. It's dirty work, it's also hard work, but at the end of the day it's a job that takes care of your family..."