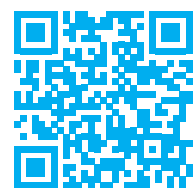




# Career Opportunities at Loy Yang B - Trades/Technical

Loy Yang B  
Power Station



Loy Yang B Power Station hosts Apprentices under a group training arrangement with Programmed Skilled Workforce. Programmed employs the Apprentice, pays their wages and other employment benefits, manages the quality and continuity of training, and provides additional support for the Apprentice to complete their training. Opportunities for these roles are advertised via the school network, Programmed's website and the local newspaper. The trades that are offered are as following:

- **Fitting & Turning**
- **Boilermaking**
- **Electrical**

We also offer Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) placement and work experience in the above trades.



### **Fitting & Turning**

As a Fitter & Turner, you will grow in your mechanical knowhow, and become skilful at installing new machinery, repairing old machinery and making parts. You will learn to operate heavy equipment like metal lathes and milling machines to manufacture and repair parts, and study technical drawings to determine how to assemble equipment, find faults on running plant and fabricate to exact specifications. A fitter can work on almost anything mechanical, such as gearboxes, pumps, conveyors, valves, pipework and turbines.



### **Boilermaking**

As a Boilermaker, you will gain the appropriate knowledge and skills to carry out tasks including gas cutting and welding, electric arc welding, steel fabrication from technical drawings, fault identification, and repairs to fabricated equipment. You will learn to use hand tools such as angle grinders, drills, hammers, chisels and measuring equipment. Sound knowledge in all safety aspects and hazard identification associated with the trade will also be gained.

### **Electrical**

Electricians perform the hands-on work associated with electrical systems which includes installing and repairing electrical networks, systems and circuits, mainly in a heavy industrial environment. Tasks include diagnosing issues in electrical networks, fitting and repairing electrical components, maintenance of electrical plant, identifying cables and wires required for repair or replacement, installing electrical switchboards and working with electrical circuit drawings to determine how to execute the task at hand.

## Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships are four years in duration. Apprentices attend trade school, generally one day per week or via block release, to obtain a nationally recognised trade qualification while obtaining practical experience in an encouraging and supportive power station work environment. Trade qualifications for each trade are:

- Fitting & Turning (Certificate III in Engineering - Mechanical Trade);
- Boilermaking (Certificate III in Engineering – Fabrication Trade);
- Electrical (Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician).

To successfully gain an apprenticeship, you must be able to demonstrate that you meet the following selection criteria:

- Genuine interest in and understanding of your preferred trade;
- Safety consciousness and demonstrated compliance with health, safety and environment policies and procedures;
- Ability to systematically solve technical problems;
- Sound mathematical skills;
- Ability to work well with others in a team environment;
- Initiative to organise and complete daily work activities and trade school requirements;
- Relevant work experience and/or completion of a Certificate II in Electrotechnology or Engineering would be highly desirable.

## Work Experience

Loy Yang B offers work experience to Year 10 students and above throughout the year in various fields ranging from Engineering, Science, HR, Finance, IT and trade roles. You will be able to come on site and experience the power station environment and get a feel for your preferred career choice, whilst working alongside a subject matter expert. Placements are available subject to operational requirements, and are generally 1 to 2 weeks in duration.

Please speak to your Careers teacher for further details.

## Structured Workplace Learning

Structured workplace learning (SWL) provides students with the opportunity to integrate practical on-the-job experience and learnings in industry with nationally recognised Vocational Education and Training (VET) undertaken as part of their Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) or Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL). From 2020, Loy Yang B will offer SWL placements to students interested in careers in Fitting & Turning, Boilermaking or Electrical trades.

SWL allows students to develop valuable work-related skills and competencies and make informed career choices. Students will spend up to 20 days in the workplace gaining experience on-the-job. SWL placements will be coordinated by the Baw Baw Latrobe LLEN and advertised on the SWL Statewide Portal

**([workplacements.education.vic.gov.au](http://workplacements.education.vic.gov.au)).**





## **Name**

Jessica Bullard

## **Position**

Apprentice Electrician

## **What I love about my job?**

I love that it's challenging, it requires problem solving and thinking. Each day is different and there are so many opportunities to learn new things, and I get a real sense of pride and achievement when I can physically see the results from the work I've done.

## **How I got to where I am today?**

I was previously working in Administration, I decided that I was looking for a change in my career choice and was looking at electrical for my chosen trade. I organised to complete my Cert II in Electrotechnology (pre-apprenticeship course) part time while still working in my previous role, and while I was studying I voluntarily completed work experience at Yallourn Power Station to get a real feel for the industry, and I really enjoyed it.

## **Whats the best piece of advice for someone seeking a career in my field?**

Try and get some work experience somewhere, either through high school or while completing a pre-apprenticeship course if you can. It's really helpful to see what the job looks like in everyday life and shows that you have a real interest. I'd also encourage you to keep applying for apprenticeships, it can be hard when you've been unsuccessful in the past, but that doesn't mean it won't happen in the future.



## **Name**

Drew Orton

## **Position**

School-Based Apprentice – Fitter and Turner

## **What I love about my job?**

I like coming in every week and learning about a great variety of work to do with the Power Station. I enjoy learning about how Loy Yang B operates and meeting great new people and finding out the interesting facts about their role in the Power Station.

## **How I got to where I am today?**

A family friend who worked at Loy Yang B mentioned the school-based apprenticeship program to me and thought it would be a great job opportunity which I jumped at. The School based apprenticeship program has allowed me to currently undertake a Cert II in engineering as well provided me with on the job training here at Loy Yang B and given me an awesome insight into the workings of a power station.

## **Whats the best piece of advice for someone seeking a career in my field?**

I would advise someone seeking a career in this field to keep up to date with opportunities arising for positions. Be well prepared by gaining knowledge about the power industry and take in as much knowledge about the role you want to work in. Also, if you get work experience or begin work in the role as Fitter and Turner or any other trade, pay close attention to the details about the work and establish good habits around safety protocols.



## Name

Steph Lake

## Position

Technician/Operator- Mechanical Fitter and Boilermaker

## What I love about my job?

I love my job because I get to work on a huge variety of plant and equipment within the power station, including large scale projects. I love learning and understanding how things work, and being hands on, and every day there is something new to pull apart, fix, and put back together, which gives me a lot of job satisfaction. I get to learn something new every day, and always get to challenge myself and improve on my skills and knowledge. I have the freedom to constantly develop my skills in the industry and further my career if I choose.

## How I got to where I am today?

I have always had a high interest in anything mechanical, but I was also good at maths, so I was encouraged to pursue a career in Mechanical Engineering, however I was not interested in University. My first official part-time job was at KFC, where I worked for 6 years and became a Store Manager. I did my work experience at an automotive workshop, and also worked at the BMW service centre after school for 6 months fixing cars in year 10. I also did a large amount of work on cars at home in my spare time, but that was my hobby, and I decided that I did not want to have that as my career as well. I then enrolled in Certificate II in Engineering in year 11 through VCE, and did Design Technology, Physics, Advanced Maths and Maths Methods as my subjects. At the end of year 11, I got a Fitter and Turner Apprenticeship at Loy Yang A, where I worked in the power station for 2 years, and then in the coal mine for 2 years. I then got offered a dual-trade as a Boilermaker, which took me a further 10 months to complete. I obtained Certificate III in Engineering-

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Mechanical and Fabrication trades in that time. I then got my current job as a Technician Operator at Loy Yang B.

## Whats the best piece of advice for someone seeking a career in my field?

Whether you enjoy your job or not, do your best at it, because it will get you to your ideal job someday. I knew I did not want to work at KFC forever, or in an automotive workshop, but I still worked my way to the top as quick as I could, and always tried my hardest, which helped me to get my dream job because I was seen as a hard worker. The work I did outside of hours was also very important when it came to getting a job. Don't wait for the experiences to come to you, you have to make it for yourself, which will stand out more than anything.



## Name

Tavis Allen

## Position

Technician/Operator (Fitter)

## What I love about my job?

My job allows me to work on many different systems and items of plant. I have learnt how to disassemble, assess and rebuild gearboxes, pumps and many other items of plant. Another area of fitting and turning that I enjoy is machining. This is where I manufacture parts using lathes, mills, drills and many other large machines.

I also enjoy working with many different people and companies all over Australia. I have travelled from Victoria to NSW, Queensland and even over to WA making many friends and gaining a wide range of skills along the way.

## **How I got to where I am today?**

I started my career with an apprenticeship at Latrobe Valley Machining in Morwell. There I gained experience in manual machining, then after a couple of years moving on to NC (numerical control) machining learning how to program and run the automated machines. After my apprenticeship, I felt it was time to gain some experience in the fitting side of my trade. I was lucky enough to get a casual job on a major outage at Hazelwood Power Station. I learnt so much about steam turbines, how they worked and how all the parts worked together. I continued as a casual employee for about 6 years working on shuts and construction, gaining more experience at many different power plants all over Australia.

I was lucky enough after 6 years of being casual to gain full time employment in operations at Hazelwood Power Station. This helped me understand how the items of plant I had worked on, all worked together. I was employed at Hazelwood for 2 years before it shut down. With the skills and experience I had developed over 13 years, I was able to secure a job at Loy Yang B as a full time Technician/Operator.

## **Whats the best piece of advice for someone seeking a career in my field?**

Work hard and listen to anyone that is taking the time to teach you something. Also, don't be afraid to make mistakes. It's better to have a go, as these are the experiences you will learn from.