

Solar Victoria Apprenticeships for Women Program

Solar Victoria is making a substantial investment of \$11 million to implement a comprehensive training and workforce development initiative. The ultimate goal is to equip solar industry professionals with the necessary skills and capabilities to effectively deliver their programs and contribute to the growth of the solar energy sector.

The collaboration between Master Plumbers/Plumbing Apprenticeships Victoria (PAV) and Solar Victoria aims to enhance female participation in the industry through the [Solar Victoria apprenticeships for women program](#). Given the significant under-representation of women in both the solar sector and trades in general, our joint effort is geared towards achieving gender diversity and reshaping deeply entrenched cultural norms and stereotypes.

The enhancement of training and workforce development serves to secure a continuous pool of skilled labour that can support the expansion of Victoria's renewable and clean energy domain. In this regard, we recognise women as vital contributors to building a more robust and progressive industry.

Building upon the success of recruiting more than forty (40) women through our [Women in Plumbing Program](#), a partnership with Apprenticeships Victoria, we are actively seeking six (6) Host Employers to collaborate in this exciting new endeavor. Host employers will receive a reduced charge out rate of 50% for the initial two years.

Plumbing and HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning) businesses enrolled in the [Solar Homes Program](#) can hire Solar Victoria apprentices through Plumbing Apprenticeships Victoria as host employers.

By you enlisting apprentices through Plumbing Apprenticeships Victoria, a registered Group Training Organisation (GTO), your business can significantly save on time and resources. This approach offers a multitude of benefits on top the 50% charge rate discount, including:

- **Flexibility:** PAV collaboration provides the flexibility to hire apprentices according to your specific needs.
- **Recruitment, Management, and Support:** PAV handles apprentice recruitment and employment, ensuring an ideal fit for your business. We customise support services to align with your business's needs and apprentice development, including skills training oversight and well-being support.
- **Streamlined Administration:** PAV manages all legal aspects of employment contracts and associated paperwork, relieving businesses of administrative burdens. This includes payroll, billing, Solar Victoria employment subsidies, apprentice incentives, insurances, and workers' compensation.
- **Pre-employment Safety Training and Equipment:** All apprentices receive pre-employment safety training and PPE at no cost to the host employer, reinforcing a culture of safety.

For more detailed information and to find out how to get started please contact Anne Boyle on **0487 433 828** or anne.boyle@plumber.com.au