

# Launch of New Scaffolding Apprenticeship in 2018

A new scaffolding apprenticeship will be launched in 2018, along with more options for young people to get into a scaffolding career, says Garry Fissenden, Chief Executive of the Skills Organisation.

“Scaffolders are in high demand to support the growing construction industry. The new Apprenticeship will provide a stepping stone to getting qualified and building a great career from learning on the job.” says Mr Fissenden.

A new scaffolding apprenticeship is being developed, which will be launched in January 2018. All of the new scaffolding qualifications will provide a pathway from school in to a scaffolding course, before going in to work and an Apprenticeship.

“This is great news for industry,” says Graham Burke, Chief Executive of the Scaffolding Access and Rigging Association of New Zealand (SARNZ). “Scaffolding is a highly skilled profession. Having more options to get young people into a scaffolding career, and making sure that we have a qualified and skilled workforce for the future is critical for New Zealand’s construction sectors.”

There are currently just over 2,000 scaffolders in New Zealand. This figure will need to double in order to meet the growing workforce demand over the next five years as well as making up for losses due to an ageing population.

Tai Poutini Polytechnic, New Zealand’s largest training provider for scaffolding is excited about the opportunities to progress learners in to an apprenticeship.

“It is great to have more options for our graduates to continue their learning on-the-job, and ensure that the Scaffolding Apprenticeship will meet the workforce needs,” says Chief Executive of Tai Poutini Polytechnic, Alex Cabrera.

Skills, SARNZ and Tai Poutini Polytechnic are working together to ensure all the training needs of the sector are met.

For further information, an FAQ is available [here](#) or visit [www.skills.org.nz](http://www.skills.org.nz) for more details.

