



# APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR

2025 ENTRY GUIDE FOR APPRENTICES AND EMPLOYERS



OWNED BY



PRINCIPAL PARTNER



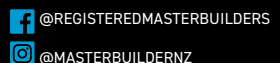
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# WELCOME

## WE WANT YOU!

As an apprentice, you are one of the sector's future leaders. This competition will test your project management, business, and presentation skills as well as your practical skills.

### Open to all Apprentices

- Open to carpentry apprentices of all ages
- You don't have to work for a Master Builder
- You can be trained by any appropriate training provider



# WHY ENTER



Build your **skills** to fast-track your career



Be recognised for being a great apprentice and a future leader



Get a **free membership** to Master Builders for a year – loaded with free training and social events



Meet industry leaders and like minded apprentices



Win amazing prizes! Cash, tools, event tickets and more...



## PRIZES – REGIONAL WINNERS



**\$2,000** CARTERS  
Account Credit



The opportunity to **attend a legendary 16 day Leadership Outward Bound course** in the Marlborough Sounds



The chance to **attend the National House of the Year** gala event including travel and accommodation paid



**Represent your region as one of New Zealand's top building apprentices** at the National Finals

## PRIZES – NATIONAL WINNER



**\$5,000 Career Advancement Grant** from CARTERS



Use of a **brand new ute** for one year, courtesy of principal partner CARTERS

**Want some motivation to enter the competition?**

All completed entries will get an awesome CARTERS Gift Pack.



## HEAR FROM PREVIOUS WINNERS

"I never thought I'd win. Working primarily on retirement village homes, I assumed that might be a disadvantage compared to those focused on high-spec builds. But in the end, my in-depth knowledge of these projects really shone through. I tend to be pretty hard on myself, so this recognition feels particularly rewarding."  
Taharangi Mcwatters, 2023 Central North Island & East Coast/ Hawke's Bay Regional Winner

"When I was young, I loved building stuff with my older brothers. Being a builder was something I knew was right for me. It was awesome to be recognised for my hard work. The competition was lots of fun – I enjoyed challenging myself and doing something out of my comfort zone. It was great to meet the other apprentices, they are all awesome people."  
Isaac Posthuma, second place at the Master Builders Carters 2023 Apprentice of the Year, Northern Regional Winner





# THE PROCESS

## OVERVIEW



## WRITTEN APPLICATION

The entry form for Apprentice of the Year includes the following sections:

- Personal information
- Employer information
- Apprenticeship information
- 'Why You?'
- Project details
- Employer reference
- Education and training advisors reference
- Declaration

## PROJECT SUBMISSION

Your project submission is a great way to reflect on an amazing project that you've been working on and to test the skills that you've been learning during your apprenticeship.

To help set you up for success, check out the website for examples from previous winning entries.



You can find example applications on our website [www.apprenticeoftheyear.co.nz/getprepared](http://www.apprenticeoftheyear.co.nz/getprepared)

# DETAILS



## ENTRY CRITERIA

- You must have completed at least 18 months of your New Zealand Certificate in Carpentry L4 by 13 April 2025.
- You must still be an apprentice when entries close on 13 April 2025.
- You can enter the competition a maximum of two times, provided you have not been a national finalist – in which case you may not enter again.
- You do not need to be working for a Master Builder to enter. The competition is open to any carpentry apprentice, regardless of their training provider.

## KEY DATES

**Entries Open**  
7 March 2025

**Entries Close**  
13 April 2025

**Regional Practicals**  
14 June 2025

**Regional Awards**  
August-September 2025

**National Competition and Awards**  
9/10 October 2025  
The Cloud, Auckland



You can view the full entry terms and conditions on our website [www.apprenticeoftheyear.co.nz/terms-conditions](http://www.apprenticeoftheyear.co.nz/terms-conditions)

# THIS COULD BE YOU...

## PREVIOUS BUILDING PROJECTS

Want to know what you will be building at the regional or national practical challenge?

We can't tell you that, you'll find out on the day. What we can show you is what our apprentices from previous years have made in the regional and national practicals.



Saw Stool,  
Regional Practical 2022



Spaceship,  
National Finals 2022



Foot Stool,  
Regional Practical 2023



Workbench,  
National Finals 2023

# SHOWCASE YOURSELF

## QUALITY MARKS

This year we're introducing Apprentice of the Year Quality Marks for winners of the Regional and National events so both you and your employer can promote your success. They are a tangible demonstration of your skills and knowledge, and the quality of your work.

### National - Apprentice



### Regional - Apprentice



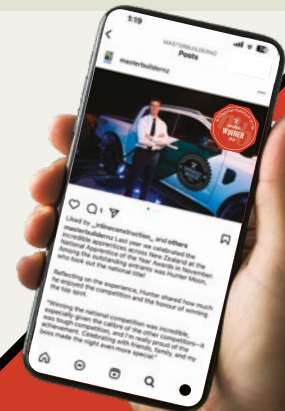
### National - Employer



### Regional - Employer



### Top 10 Finalist - Apprentice & Employer



# EMPLOYER INFO

Apprentice of the Year also celebrates you, the employer, for investing in apprentices and giving back to the industry. It showcases what a great employer looks like and the benefits to your business of mentoring the sector's talent.

## ENCOURAGE YOUR APPRENTICE TO ENTER

- It builds skills to fast-track their career
- It shows you see potential in them and view them as a future leader
- It shows you believe in them, their skills and their abilities
- It helps them to feel valued as a good apprentice
- It introduces them to industry leaders and likeminded apprentices
- They get a free membership to Master Builders for a year – loaded with free training and social events
- They can win amazing prizes!

## WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?

- Recognition as a great employer for helping your apprentice realise and reach their potential
- Meeting and networking with industry leaders
- Acknowledgment for the role you are playing in the future of the industry
- Attract new talent by showing that you value your staff and the future of the industry
- Gain exposure for your business for having a top apprentice
- Be in the running for an Employer's Award for mentoring a winning apprentice

## EMPLOYER QUALITY MARKS

The Quality Marks aren't just for the Apprentices, there are ones for you too! They demonstrate the quality and skills of your team and your commitment to our industry and its future.



## PREVIOUS EMPLOYERS HEAR FROM

**Nigel credits Stephen Nicholson from BCITO as the person who strongly encouraged Dane to enter the competition.** "Stephen did a great job of encouraging Dane to enter. Given the ups and downs of the last couple of years, as a business owner it wasn't something that was top of mind for me. However, after seeing how awesome the competition is, I'm going to encourage more apprentices in the future."

**Nigel Strickett – Coastal Concepts. Employer of Dane Schnell – 2022 Apprentice of the Year National Winner**



**It was inspiring to see how Hunter embraced each challenge, demonstrating exceptional skills and a positive attitude throughout the process. Investing in apprentices helps build a skilled workforce that understands our company's culture and values** – this is an invaluable investment in the future of our business, at the same time benefiting the wider community.

**Adam Findlay – Foster Construction. Employer of Hunter Moon – 2024 Apprentice of the Year**





# WHAT'S NEXT

## PREPARE YOUR ENTRY!



Go to [www.apprenticeoftheyear.co.nz](http://www.apprenticeoftheyear.co.nz) and complete your entry by 13 April 2025

And that's it, you can kick back and relax until the practical challenge in June.



**CONTACT US IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS**

[apprenticeoftheyear.co.nz](http://apprenticeoftheyear.co.nz) | 0800 762 328 | [A0Y@masterbuilder.org.nz](mailto:A0Y@masterbuilder.org.nz)