

# Parks and Gardens Apprenticeship



Formed in 1914, Gladstone Ports Corporation (GPC) has been a vital part of the Gladstone community for more than a century, and the epicentre for Queensland's economic growth. We are a Company Government Owned Corporation (GOC), responsible for the import or raw material and the export of finished product associated with major industries in the Central Queensland region. GPC manages and operates three Port precincts - the Port of Gladstone, Port Alma Shipping Terminal and Port of Bundaberg. GPC identifies that our employees are critical to our success, employing approximately 750 people to perform a variety of management, trade, technical and administrative duties across our three Port precincts.

The Parks and Recreation team is responsible for Gladstone Ports Corporations Marina Parklands, Spinnaker Park, East Shores Precinct and additional GPC owned land, totalling over 43 hectares. Our community parklands are designed and maintained to reflect sustainable practices, demonstrate GPC's contribution to the community and generate local pride for the people of Gladstone.

GPC provides outstanding employment outcomes for our apprentices and trainees through competitive working arrangements that deliver benefits to all involved.

#### DURATION

3 years

#### QUALIFICATION

Certificate III in Parks & Gardens

Our apprentices undertake a structured learning program to enhance their skills and knowledge, improving their future and ours.

## Trade overview

Horticulture is the art and science of the cultivation and ongoing management of plants for ornamental use or small crop production. A horticulturist (gardener) at GPC is responsible for all the parklands (Marina Parklands, Spinnaker Parklands and East Shores), as well as all the operational facilities.

They are responsible to ensure that all parks and gardens works are carried out to an appropriate quality, environmental and health and safety standards.

## Common tasks

- Mowing and whipper snipping
- Garden weeding
- Pruning
- Keeping parklands clear of litter
- Cleaning park assets including BBQ's, shelters, paths.

## What makes a good Parks & Garden team member?

- Commit to work safely in an industrial environment
- Be motivated to learn and develop new skills
- Possess good communication skills, both written and verbal
- Have the ability and desire to work constructively in a team
- Ability to concentrate and problem solve
- Ability to follow instructions
- Physical fitness and stamina to cope with the demands of the job

In order to become a Parks & Gardens team member you must complete an apprenticeship in Parks & Gardens. A Parks & Gardens apprenticeship usually takes three years to complete in conjunction with a Registered Training Organisation (RTO).

## Applying for a career with GPC

### AGREEMENT WITH GPC

As an apprentice, you enter into a formal training contract with GPC with a third party RTO.

You will spend most of your time working and learning practical skills on the job, however, some time will be spent undertaking structured block-release training.

Trainers will assess your skills and when you are competent in all areas, you will be awarded a nationally-recognised qualification.

To improve your chances of gaining an apprenticeship, you can learn some basic skills and knowledge through pre-apprenticeship courses or structured work placements through your school.

### WHAT WE LOOK FOR

As a GPC Apprentice you will need to provide us similar examples and prove to us you have the capability to:

- Work safely in a heavy industrial environment
- Possess good communication skills both written and verbal
- Be motivated to learn and develop new skills
- Have the ability to work constructively in a team.

There are several steps in the recruitment process which may include aptitude testing, assessment centre participation, work assessments, interviews, medicals and reference checks.

### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

You must have completed Year 10 with Sound Achievement or higher in English and Maths to be successful for an apprenticeship at GPC.

### ANNUAL INTAKE

GPC recruits annually for apprentices and trainees across a number of trade areas. Advertising is conducted over a number of weeks in July each year with applications closing in late July.

### OUR COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

All apprentices participate in the Apprentice Port Trust Scheme where a nominal payment is deposited weekly into a trust fund over the term of their apprenticeship that can be accessed at the completion of the apprenticeship as a lump sum payment. This is payable in addition to the weekly wage.

### APPRENTICE AWARDS

GPC has an apprentice/trainee award scheme which includes four key elements:

- Apprentice/Trainee of the Year
- Performance Management
- Training and Development
- Mentoring.

### HOW TO APPLY

Visit GPC's website at [www.gpcl.com.au/careers](http://www.gpcl.com.au/careers)

Please ensure you have the following documents available when you submit your application:

- Cover Letter
- Copies of current school results (if applicable)
- Copies of relevant TAFE accredited certificates
- Copies of relevant qualifications
- Drivers licence (if applicable)
- Resume.

### OUR APPRENTICE BENEFITS

GPC prides itself on being an outstanding local employer in the Central Queensland region, offering excellent conditions. Our employment conditions are competitive and include:

- Above award apprentice wages
- Annual wage increases upon satisfactory completion of training
- Tools of trade – tool kit upon successful completion of probation period
- All training costs are covered by GPC eg. books, enrolment and tuition fees
- Safety uniform issued on a fair wear and tear basis
- A dedicated superannuation scheme, including salary sacrificing
- Health and safety awareness training and initiatives.

### MORE INFORMATION

For more information about a career opportunity with GPC, contact our Recruitment Team on:

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**Gladstone Ports Corporation**

*Growth, Prosperity, Community.*