



Questionnaire for Nominations

Each nomination is required to be accompanied with answers to the below judging questionnaire, contained in the nomination form. Example responses are provided below:

1. Please provide an overview of your involvement to date in the Plumbing Industry.

A: My career in plumbing began when I was in Year 10 when I spent my school holidays doing work experience with All Style Plumbing. This experience gave me an understanding of the type of work a plumber does, and gave me the opportunity to see if this would be the sort of thing I would like to pursue further. After enjoying this experience so much, I decided to take a work placement elective offered at my high school. This subject gave me the opportunity to work one day per week with All Style Plumbing, something I valued greatly. Given the passion, drive and commitment I showed during this placement, All Style Plumbing then offered me a School Based Apprenticeship in Year 12. After finishing Year 12, I commenced a full time apprenticeship, which I am due to complete next year.

2. What attracted you to undertake a plumbing apprenticeship?

A: Growing up, I knew that I wanted to be a tradesman and throughout my childhood and adolescence I had many projects at home that I was working on. While in primary school, I would always say "I'm going to be a builder when I grow up." As I grew older and gained more experience within the plumbing industry, I realised that carpentry did not offer the variety and complexities that plumbing offered and that is why I choose to peruse plumbing. Over the course of completing my apprenticeship, I've been presented with new challenges every day and enjoy the opportunity that these present in finding the most efficient solution.

3. Which part of the industry are you most passionate about?

A: I am most passionate about the advancement of technology within the industry. For example, I have installed watering systems that can be accessed on your smart phone and automated toilets that raise the lid when approached. I believe that the continued advancement of these technologies is the future of the plumbing industry and to be a part of this growing and expanding industry is very exciting. I think it is essential for all plumbers to keep up to date with new technology as consumers are beginning to gravitate more and more towards high-tech living devices. As such, I believe that these future-forward options in plumbing will have a positive impact on our industry. For example, I have recently installed touch-free hand washing stations in a kindergarten and can see the benefits of these in stopping the spread of germs within a vulnerable population.



4. What are your long term goals for your career?

A: I see my plumbing apprenticeship as the first step in furthering my skills in plumbing particularly in the gas industry, a speciality I particularly enjoy. My goal is to have my own business by 2020 and to focus on commercial and high end residential work. I now have a 1st year apprentice that I work with and feel satisfied when I can pass on what I have learnt and see him grow and develop his skills.

5. Do you have any personal achievements?

A: At the age of 12 years I built my own skate ramp that was 3 metres tall and 10 metres long. My skate ramp was featured on Better Homes and Gardens and I was particularly proud to meet Rod Palmer and be included in the filming of the episode in 2012.

I enjoy learning new skills and recently taught myself auto electrics and have wired up lights, 12-volt accessories, a pump and a fridge in my 4x4 car. I have also coached junior rock climbers and thoroughly enjoyed passing on my skills and knowledge to younger climbers.

6. Do you have any career and training achievements?

A: I completed a Certificate III in Business during high school which will be invaluable to me when I go on to achieve my long term goal of running my own business. Throughout my apprenticeship, I have consistently risen to the challenges posed by new and varied work characteristic of the trade. In this time I have installed fixtures and appliances for architecturally designed homes, childcare centres, office fit outs, and renovations thus gaining broad experience across both residential and commercial sectors.

7. What issues (if any) do you see within the plumbing industry?

A: The biggest issue I see within the plumbing industry is non-compliant work. Industry standards have been created to ensure a high standard of work, ultimately ensuring that the community has safe and reliable drainage and gas work. I believe that non-compliant work, such as products sold without watermarks and work undertaken by unlicensed plumbers, brings down the industry and creates an unsafe and unhygienic environment for the public. I believe that all plumbers should be mandated to join peak industry bodies, such as Master Plumbers, to ensure that they have up to date knowledge of industry standards and a thorough understanding of all business processes. This would ensure a high level of compliance across the industry and enable consumers to have confidence in licenced plumbers.



8. If you could have one wish (in general) what would this be?

A: My one wish is to own every tool I would ever need to be able to perform my job to a high standard. Tools are an important part of my profession and no job can be done to a high standard without the right tool for that job. I believe that if you want to be industry leader or industry changer you need to have an ever-growing toolbox. I have personally witnessed tradesman make do with the tools that they have and I have also seen tradesmen have a tool that is specifically designed for the job and I can see that the right tools are an investment in your work quality.

Note: These examples are provided by a previous nominee who went on to be a finalist in the Plumbing & Gas Industry Awards. Information contained in this document is not to be repeated upon any current nomination forms. Nominations provided with similar responses to the judging questionnaire will be assessed by the judging panel and withdrawal of nomination will be subject to the committee should they find the answers too similar.

For further information or clarification, please email events@mpaq.com.au or contact the Events and Communications team at MPAQ on 07 3273 0800.

