

Plumbing and Gasfitting





'Women can do anything, as long as we set our minds to it.'

Natalia



Plumbing and Gasfitting



Apprentice Plumber

Originally, Natalia went to university to study health science, but after finding that she wasn't enjoying it, she switched to working in retail while she considered what her next move would be.

After checking out WelTec's plumbing programme online, Natalia decided it was time to try something different. Plumbing doesn't attract many females, so Natalia knew she'd be one of few.

Natalia was eligible for the Māori and Pacific Trades Training scholarship (MPTT), which was incredibly helpful considering she was still paying off her student loan from university. Not only did it cover all her fees, but it also paid for a pair of steel-cap boots and her driver's licence, essential tools for her job now.

Studying was intimidating at first, but the effort Natalia's tutors put into making the students feel comfortable and welcome put her worries at ease. She received incredible support from her tutors, including regular check-ins which she wasn't used to coming from university.

Natalia and the other students in her class learned all the basic knowledge and expertise they needed, so that when it came time to apply for a job, they were well prepared.

Meeting people in the community is one of Natalia's favourite parts of the job. She finds it so rewarding being able to fix something that many people take for granted – like a working toilet, a hot shower, or clean drinking water.

Natalia encourages anyone thinking of getting into trades to go for it. "It opens the door to so many opportunities – there are so many avenues you can go down and you'll meet people in different areas of the industry that will come in handy.

"You can go anywhere in the world with trade skills, and you'll always have a job.

One day, Natalia would love to own her own company. She wants to inspire other women to get into the trade and would love to hire some female apprentices.

Follow the QR code below to read the full story.





Māori and Pasifika Trades Training

Ākongā Māori and Pacific looking to learn a trade can apply for a Māori and Pasifika Trades Training (MPTT) scholarship to cover full fees and course-related costs.

Tautoko while studying

Māori and Pasifika Trades Training scholarship students are supported by both Te Pūkenga - Whitireia and Te Pūkenga - WelTec through the Tamaiti Whāngai team.

The Tamaiti Whāngai team will support you with mentoring, goal setting, pastoral and cultural support. You'll have the opportunity to get your drivers license, site safe, and first aid certificates. The dedicated Tamaiti Whāngai Job Brokers have close links with employers and industry and will assist you to find an apprenticeship and/or employment.

Programmes where you can get a Māori and Pasifika Trades Training scholarship include - Automotive, Bakery, Collision Repair, Construction, Electrical Engineering, Hairdressing, Makeup and Skincare, Mechanical Engineering, Plumbing, Gasfitting and Drainlaying, Painting and Decorating, and Tiling.

Job Brokers

Our Tamaiti Whāngai Job Brokers have close with employers and have information of available jobs for MPTT ākongā.

We thank our iwi partners, Te Rūnanga o Te Āti Awa and Ngāti Toa Rangatira as well as our Pasifika partner, Mafutaga Faifeau Samoa for the support they provide to our Māori and Pasifika Trades Training scholarship students.

Scholarship criteria

You need to meet the entry criteria for the programme you are enrolling in and be:

- of Māori or Pacific decent
- 16-40 years old at the start of your study
- a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident
- able to meet the entry requirements for your programme

We want you to be passionate and show that you are motivated to succeed.

Get in touch

✉ twa@weltec.ac.nz



Job Brokers Tui and Tame

New Zealand Certificate in Plumbing, Gasfitting and Drainlaying (Level 3)

📖	Level 3
🕒	22 weeks, full-time
📅	05 Mar 2025 (Petone) 07 Jul 2025 (Petone)
💰	\$4,943 (indicative for 2025 intake)

Take the first step in getting ready for an apprenticeship. Learn basic skills and procedures in plumbing, gasfitting and drainlaying for assisting with installations in each area. Learn how to apply ethical and legal practices to your work while identifying hazards when completing jobs.

What you will learn

Designed to prepare you for an apprenticeship. Train in our workshops and drainlaying pit. Learn how to use and maintain plumbing tools and equipment. You'll identify basic methods for safely performing entry-level plumbing, gasfitting and drainlaying tasks under professional supervision.

Start your career as a plumber. Learn the skills and theory that plumbers need in their daily work. This course will give you broad-based training in all aspects of the plumbing industry.

- Learn how to use and maintain plumbing tools and equipment
- Positioning and install drainage pipes using laser levels
- Cover the installation of plumbing fixtures, water pipes and water cylinders
- Install sanitary fixtures
- Install basis roof cladding and flashings
- Follow industry health and safety protocols
- Get trained and certified in first aid

Career options

- Apprentice Plumber
- Apprentice Drainlayer
- Apprentice Gasfitter

Entry requirements

Applicants must be able to carry out the physical requirements of the programme.

Under 20 years

10 credits NCEA level 1 numeracy and 10 credits NCEA level 1 literacy, or evidence of equivalent skills and knowledge.

Over 20 years

Open entry

*For fee exclusions, please see our [terms and conditions](#).

Programme Handbook



Disclaimer: The information contained in this document is correct at the time of print. Whitireia and WelTec | Te Pūkenga reserves the right to cancel or postpone any of the programmes, and shall not be liable for any claim other than the proportion of programme fees that the cancelled portion bears. Some programmes may be dependent upon formal approval from NZQA (New Zealand Qualifications Authority), TEC (Tertiary Education Commission) funding allocation, and the number of enrolments. As part of the NZQA targeted review of all Level 1-6 New Zealand qualifications, there may still be changes to some programmes starting in 2024. Fees, programmes, entry and selection criteria, and dates, are subject to change. Please check the relevant programme pages at whitireiaweltec.ac.nz for up-to-date information and full entry regulations before applying to enrol. Information regarding English language requirements is available on each course page at whitireiaweltec.ac.nz.