

# New Apprenticeship provisions for the Meat Industry

A Full Bench of the Fair Work Commission (FWC) has varied the Meat Industry Award with respect to the following apprenticeships provisions:

1. Competency Based Training conditions;
2. A restriction on an apprentice working overtime or shiftwork at times which would prevent their attendance during a Registered Training Organisation's (RTO's) training.
3. An apprentice required to attend block release training, which requires an overnight stay, will have their employer pay for the excess reasonable travel costs incurred by the apprentice in the course of travelling to and from such training. This will not apply where the apprentice could attend an alternative RTO and the use of the more distant RTO is not agreed between the employer and the apprentice.
4. The employer to reimburse an apprentice all training fees charged by an RTO for prescribed courses and the cost of all prescribed textbooks (excluding those textbooks which are available in the employer's technical library), except where there is unsatisfactory progress.

The operative date for all of these variations is **1<sup>st</sup> January 2015**.

## Current Wage rates for Adult and Junior Apprentices

Members should note that since the beginning of 2014 apprenticeship wage rates are different under the Meat Industry Award depending upon whether the apprentice completed year 12 at school before commencing the apprenticeship and whether they are 21 years of age or over when they commenced their apprenticeship.

You should refer to the wage sheets provided to you by the AMIC earlier this year or contact the AMIC to obtain a copy. Alternatively, you can obtain the information from the secure section of the AMIC website ([www.amic.org.au](http://www.amic.org.au)). To access this section of the website you need a passcode which members can obtain by requesting it through the website or contact us.