

RAIL SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, NETWORK AND INFRASTRUCTURE FAQ's

	With a commitment to the ongoing development of our workforce, the PTA has developed the Rail Systems Development Program (RSDP) to ensure we have the workforce required (both now and in the future) in our Signal Technician and Communication Technician roles. The RSDP is delivered through a partnership between the Signals, Communications and Learning & Organisational Development Branches of the PTA. The RSDP operates as two separate program streams; RSDP – Signals and RSDP – Communications.				
What is the RSDP & what does it involve?	Over the course of the RSDP, apprentices work on various Signals or Communications Systems across our Perth metropolitan rail network whilst also undertaking training relevant to either the Signals or Communications fields.				
	Upon successful completion of the Program, apprentices receive a nationally recognised trade qualification (Certificate III). Apprentices may also be eligible for fixed term or permanent appointment as either a Trainee Signal Technician (N&I Trade REA6) or Trainee Communications Technician (N&I Trade REA6) depending on their program stream.				
	Training will be delivered in-house and/or on-the-job, with the PTA sourcing external provided training as required for specialised units.				
What if I've already done some of the training required?	In the event that you have already undertaken some of the training required in the RSDP (e.g. through your previous experience), the PTA will assess this and where appropriate, include this as credit towards completion of your RSDP training. This may also result in you completing the RSDP in a shorter timeframe.				
Will I receive any formal qualifications?	At the conclusion of the RSDP, it is envisaged that participants will receive the following qualifications and skill-sets: Stream 1: RSDP – Signals Cert II Rail Infrastructure; Cert III Electrical Fitting (Trade and Electrical Licence – Electrical Fitting Work Only); and Additional capabilities assessed through the PTA's Signal Technicians Competency Framework. Stream 2: RSDP - Communications Cert II Rail Infrastructure; Cert III Electronics & Communications or equivalent (Trade); and Additional capabilities assessed through the PTA's Communications Technicians Competency Framework				
Am I eligible to apply?	Refer to the Special Appointment Requirements listed on the Rail Systems Technician Apprentice Job Description Form (JDF).				
What conditions of employment will I be entitled to?	Whilst on the RSDP, you will be subject to the employment conditions (including leave, hours of work etc.) applicable to an Apprentice Trainee Communications Technician or Apprentice Trainee Signals Technician (unlicensed) under the <i>Public Transport Authority Railway Employees (Trades) Industrial Agreement 2018</i> .				
What rate of pay will I receive?	Whilst undertaking the RSDP, you will be entitled to the rate of pay applicable to an Apprentice Trainee Communications Technician or Apprentice Trainee Signals Technician (unlicensed) under the <i>Public Transport Authority Railway Employees (Trades) Industrial Agreement 2018</i> . The Ordinary Weekly Wage Rates for this Apprentice position are listed below.				

January 2020 1.



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	Effective Date	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4		
	6 July 2019	\$779.65	\$906.84	\$1,034.04	\$1,224.82		
What rate will I receive if I work overtime?	Any overtime worked will be calculated as per the Public Transport Authority Railway Employees (Trades) Industrial Agreement 2018.						
What will be my hours of work?	Whilst on the RSDP, you will be employed on a 76 hour fortnight (full time) basis. Overtime may be a requirement for this position and there may be a requirement to work additional hours on a regular basis after hours on weekdays and on weekends. You may also be periodically rostered 'on call' and may be asked to attend call outs on any day of the week, and at any time of the day or night.						
What tools/equipment will I need?	 At the commencement of the RSDP, the PTA will provide participants with a set of hand tools for use on the Program. Participants agree to return these tools to the PTA if they leave the Program for any reason. These tools, however, may be retained by the participant if they successfully complete the Program and are appointed to a Trainee Communications Technician or Trainee Signals Technician role with the PTA. Participants are entitled to loan a PTA laptop to assist with their studies. Upon completion of the RSDP, laptops are to be returned to the PTA IT department. 						
Where will I be working?	During your placement on the RSDP, you may be allocated to any PTA based location within the Perth public transport area on a temporary or permanent basis.						
What happens to me at the end of the RSDP?	Upon successful completion of the Program, you may be permanently and substantively appointed to either a Trainee Communications Technician or Trainee Signal Technician position (dependent on the PTA's business needs and the training and qualifications acquired during the RSDP). In the event that a permanent vacancy does not exist at the time you complete the RSDP, you may be permanently appointed as a Trainee Signal Technician or Trainee Communications Technician and held 'above establishment' until a position vacancy arises.						

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