



Restaurant
& Catering

MEDIA RELEASE
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R&CA'S PILOT PROGRAM TO FAST-TRACK YOUNG COOKS INTO THE KITCHEN

Restaurant & Catering Australia (R&CA) has announced details of its upcoming fast-track pilot program to encourage more young people to become cooks and pursue a long-term career within the hospitality sector.

As part of the program, apprentices will be able to enrol in the *Cookery Fast Track Program* for free and become qualified cooks in half the normal time period it takes to complete an apprenticeship.

The program consists of 10 weeks of formal face-to-face training in Commercial Cookery followed by two years of paid work as an apprentice with selected employers.

Throughout the program, participants will also benefit from access to R&CA's Industry Mentors provided through the Industry Specialist Mentoring for Australian Apprentices (ISMAA) program to help guide them through their apprenticeship going forward.

R&CA CEO Juliana Payne encouraged young people with aspirations of ever becoming a cook or chef to apply for R&CA's Fast Track Program.

"This program represents a fantastic opportunity for all those young people to launch their careers in hospitality and pursue their passion for cooking.

"The high-skilled, locally trained chefs and cooks amongst the café and restaurant sector is showing no signs of slowing down and R&CA's Fast Track Program is just one way of helping to fill this vacuum," Ms Payne said.

R&CA will be holding an information session for students and their parents for the *Cookery Fast Track Program* on Monday 21 May 2018. The session will be hosted at Luke's Kitchen in Sydney and will include a presentation on Luke Mangan's *Appetite for Excellence* program.

For further information on this media release, please contact:

Juliana Payne

Chief Executive Officer

Restaurant & Catering Industry Association

P: 1300 722 878

E: restncat@restaurantcater.asn.au