



Term 2 2017, Edition 3

June 2017

FWC announces a 3.3% increase to minimum wages

The Fair Work Commission (FWC) has announced a 3.3% increase to minimum wages effective from 1 July 2017. The increase applies from the first full pay period starting on or after 1 July 2017. Award rates will increase by 3.3% and the increase doesn't affect employees who are already getting paid more than the new minimum wage.



P&C associations as employers must meet all the national legal obligations. It does not matter that the P&C Association is an organisation made up of parent volunteers, as an employer your P&C Association is treated no differently to private businesses. More information on [FWC announcement](#).

2017 Premier's Spelling Bee competition is just around the corner!

Entries for the 2017 Premier's Spelling Bee close on June 30. The program includes activities to encourage all students to engage with spelling and to promote improved literacy in combination with the English K-6 Syllabus. More Information [Here](#)



SIRA publishes new guidelines on return to work programs for employers

The State Insurance Regulatory Authority (SIRA) has published new guidelines on return to work (RTW) programs for all employers in New South Wales. Coming into effect on 31 May 2017, the guidelines outline the requirements of employers in managing work-related injuries or illnesses. P&C Association are classified as Category 2 employers, which is defined as employers with a basic tariff premium of \$50,000 or less. There are 3 steps to implementing a RTW program:



1. **Appoint the person responsible for recovery at work** – Someone should be appointed to manage recovery at work activities any workers compensation that arise. This person can either be an existing employee or a RTW coordinator engaged through a contract or work arrangement.
2. **Develop a RTW program** – The RTW program outlines general procedures for handling work-related injuries or illnesses. Employers must consult their employees when developing a RTW program. A standard RTW program for Category 2 employers can be found in the Appendix of the Guidelines.
3. **Implement the RTW program** – When the RTW program is implemented, employers must make copies of the RTW program available to workers. Employers must review their RTW programs every 2 years.

The Guidelines are available to read [here](#).

Public Education Foundation Essay Competition

The Public Education Foundation Essay Competition is open to NSW year 11 students who attend public schools. Students need to write a 400-word essay on 'Why a Good Public Education System Matters in Modern Australia.'



The winning entry will receive a \$1,000 scholarship from the Public Education Foundation to support their education expenses. Applications close on 4th July 2017. More information [Here](#).

The Tree Levy- Grants to Schools for native trees and shrubs

Applications are now being accepted for NSW Teachers Federation's annual grants scheme, the Tree Levy. This annual grant scheme provides funding of up to \$500 for the purchase of native trees and native shrubs for planting in public school grounds. Applications close on 30th June 2017. More information [Here](#).



School Tree Day

School Tree Day Each year, around 3,000 preschools, kindies, primary and high schools across Australia take part in Schools Tree Day. Students nationwide have learnt how to plant, and care for the seedlings they grow. Schools Tree Day 2017 will be held on Friday July 28th, although events can be held at any time during the year.



Schools Tree Day can mark the beginning of a long-term environmental program, engaging your students in a fun, hands on activity that can reinforce their environmental, maths, science and creative arts learning or simply contribute to creating beautiful school grounds. [Plant a seed](#)

The Credit Transfer Website

The credit transfer website is a guide to credits available for completed TAFE NSW qualifications to articulate into a University or Higher Education Provider degree. It is designed to help you tailor your study journey. How much credit you are eligible for varies depending on course, institution chosen and the grades achieved. More Information [Here](#)



Affiliate Email Account

Is your P&C Association a member of P&C Federation? If you said yes, does your P&C Association have an affiliate email account? This is a free account available to P&C Federation members, it enables a consistent email account so you won't miss information sent to your P&C Association, you can save files and important documents and when office bearers change that information isn't lost. The new office bearers simply change the password or if they don't know the password just contact P&C Federation for it to be reset. To ask further questions, reset your password or request an affiliate email to be setup, email Debbie at projects@pandc.org.au. More Information [Here](#)

Is Your P&C Association interested in hosting a P&C Federation Forum in 2017?

P&C Federation would like to invite P&C Associations to host a forum in 2017

Is there a specific topic your P&C would like to hear more about or would you like the roles, responsibilities and activities of a P&C clarified?

P&C Federation forums are friendly and interactive and there is always time to ask questions.

If your P&C would like to host a forum email Debbie at: projects@pandc.org.au

Make sure you include your schools name, your name and contact details.

Connect with us on Facebook and Twitter P&C Federation Website: www.pandc.org.au | 1300 885 982

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