



Southern Apprentice of the Year 2025 Entry Form

The Southern Apprentice of the Year Award celebrates an outstanding apprentice across our industries who demonstrates dedication, and passion for their craft. This award recognises an apprentice who is not only excelling in their training but also making a positive impact in their workplace and in the industry.



All HITO apprentices in Tasman, West Coast, Canterbury, Otago, and Southland are eligible to enter this award.

Winner announcement

The winner of this award will be announced at HITO's Christchurch Graduation and Awards Ceremony on **Sunday 2 November 2025**.

Prize

The Southern Apprentice of the Year winner will receive an engraved trophy and \$2500 towards professional development.

ENTRANT DETAILS

Full name			
Workplace name			
Address			
City		Postcode	
Phone			
Email			
Are you a current HITO apprentice?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	Instagram handle (optional)	

RULES OF ENTRY

By entering you agree to abide by the competition rules:

- Entrants must be a current Hairdressing, Barbering or Beauty Therapy Apprentice.
- Entrants must be employed for 20+ hours in a commercial salon, barbershop or clinic.
- Entrants must be meeting HITO progression requirements and have a current HITO training plan.
- Apprenticeships fees must be up to date.
- The judges' decisions are final and judges will be unable to provide individual feedback.
- All information received and submitted is confidential.
- Entry form, written reference, release form and video submission are due by 31 August 2025. No entries will be accepted after this date.
- Finalists will be announced in October 2025. Due to the number of entries, only finalists will be notified of the status of their entry via email.
- The winner will be announced at the Christchurch HITO Graduation and Awards ceremony on 2 November 2025.

ENTRY CRITERIA

Our industries are creative, visual and exciting, we want to see and hear from you.

To enter the competition, you must create a video and ensure it includes the following:

- Showcase features of your day-to-day life in your workplace.
How do you ensure every client has an amazing experience?
- Showcase or select a training skill you have learned and found difficult and explain how you overcame that challenge?
Demonstrate this technique alongside a model, colleague or customer.
- Share your passion for the industry and explain who and/or what inspires you.
What has your HITO apprenticeship meant to you?
- Explain what motivates you to excel and what makes you stand out as an apprentice.
- Tell us about your future goals in the industry and how you plan to make a difference.
- The video must not be any longer than **4 minutes**.
- Please submit a high resolution, horizontal (landscape) photo of yourself with your entry.

PLEASE NOTE

The video can be created on any platform and does not have to be publicly shared but must be sent through HITO in high resolution.

Your video should be engaging and highlight your skills, expertise, and passion for the industry. You can use a mixture of visual and audio overlay, choose the format that you believe will best capture your apprenticeship experience.

Finalists will be asked to sign a release form. The winner's submission may be presented at the Christchurch HITO Graduation and Awards ceremony on 2 November 2025.

REFERENCES

One written workplace reference is required. Please ensure references are from your employer, senior stylists, clients and/or someone who knows you well.

References should reflect the qualities we look for in the Apprentice of the Year, verifying the statements by the apprentice.

References provided to answer the question below:

Why should your apprentice win the HITO Apprentice of the Year award?

THE BEST ENTRANTS WILL

- ✓ Use creativity - make the video content engaging and exciting
 - ✓ Show passion for their craft and give examples of their unique standpoint as an apprentice
 - ✓ Ensure content is clear and concise by covering all points in entry criteria
 - ✓ Hold the confidence to represent HITO and lead others in their industry by example
 - ✓ Consider the presentation of their entry
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JUDGING PROCESS

At all stages, judges score independently of other judges.

- Stage one of judging is carried out by HITO representatives. HITO will verify your apprenticeship learning progress and achievements upon receipt of entry.
- Stage two of judging is carried out by hair, beauty, and barbering industry representatives. During this stage, a shortlist of finalists is identified.

SUBMISSIONS

All entries must be received by **Sunday 31 August 2025** and accompanied by a completed entry form.

Please submit your entry by sending the video file to marketing@hito.org.nz with your full name stated in the subject line.



File too large to email?

If the video file is too large, we recommend using [WeTransfer.com](https://www.wetransfer.com) to create a link.
Please submit your downloaded link to marketing@hito.org.nz

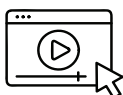


Is your submission complete?

Your completed entry should include ✓



- ☐ Completed entry form



- ☐ 4-minute video



- ☐ 1x written reference



- ☐ Photo of you high resolution + landscape

Have a question?

Please email marketing@hito.org.nz if you have any questions regarding the entry criteria and format of the video entry.