Students put in the driving seat in new course

More than 100 TAFE Queensland Brisbane students shifted their careers into the fast lane after undertaking the International Computer Driving License (ICDL) Profile Certificate.

The program, which has now attracted more than 14 million participants world-wide, has recently been adopted by TAFE Queensland Brisbane, the first TAFE in Australia to give it a test run.

Jacqueline Smollett, Operations Manager for TAFE Queensland Brisbane, said the students were part of the Senior Studies program, an alternative education model.

“While traditional classroom environments successfully educate many students, there are still those who fall between the cracks,” Ms Smollet said.

“Alternative models of education, such as the Senior Studies Program, which focus on forging relationships with mentors and vocational training, appeal to students who struggle in traditional classroom settings and give them the option to achieve their grade 11 and 12 certificate alongside either an OP score or vocational training.”

The students who undertook ICDL picked up word processing and presentation skills which improved their information communication technology skill sets and prepared them for future study or the workforce.

“The addition of computer literacy and digital skill sets to the Senior Studies program give students the essential life skills that will empower them to connect, be more productive, and generally improve their circumstances,” Ms Smollet said.

“The standardised ICDL qualification has been adopted by major multinational companies and by governments in national ICT skills development projects, making our students even more appealing to employers. The program has also been endorsed by the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority, meaning 13 ICDL modules now count toward a senior certificate.”

Ms Smollet said TAFE Queensland Brisbane’s Senior Studies teachers were also impressed with the ICDL program.

“The feedback received was that they are delighted with the online courseware and testing available and the multimedia and in-application exercises,” she said.

“We are also considering opportunities for offering ICDL in the Adult Tertiary Preparation (ATP) program, which runs across all campuses of TAFE Queensland Brisbane.”

To find out more about the ICDL Certificate offered through the TAFE Queensland Brisbane Senior Studies program, please contact 13 72 48 or email brisbane@tafe.edu.au.

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