

# TELEPHONE TECHNIQUES



#### **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

- Understand the fundamentals of providing high quality customer service over the telephone.
- Define professional service benchmarks, and understand how to improve telephone professionalism.
- Identify the importance of understanding caller needs through effective listening and questioning.
- Effectively utilise tools and techniques to enable management of a range of different behaviours.
- Improve productivity via effective messaging techniques.

#### **CORE COMPETENCIES**

- Customer Focus
- Interpersonal Savvy
- Listening



#### **COURSE OVERVIEW**

This course has been developed to give you the necessary tools and technical skills to make a positive impression, develop call opportunities and skilfully manage a range of behaviours. This course would benefit administration, support or frontline customer contact personnel required to engage with internal and external customers over the telephone.

#### **TOPICS COVERED IN THIS COURSE**

#### Effective telephone users

Things to consider when making and receiving phone calls.

**Positives and negatives tool** Analyse what makes a positive telephone experience.

## Building good relationships over the phone

Customers calling your organisation should have a positive experience, and this will depend on your attitude.

#### **Communication skills**

Why your communications skills are of critical importance, and how to remove barriers.

#### **Effective listening**

Being patient and alert will increase your ability to comprehend the needs of your caller.

#### Asking questions

Using the right balance will support the telephone conversation.

#### **Controlling the conversation**

Techniques to keep phone conversations on track and save time.

**Examining your customer's experience** Seeing your organisation through the eyes of your external customers.

Practical, relevant training developed for the Australian workplace.

#### Plan the call

The level of planning should match the level of complexity of the call.

### Telephone system and business protocols

Using established policies promotes consistently high standards of internal and external customer interaction.

## Taking and GIFTING messages

Be supportive, proactive, create credibility and learn what makes a good voice message.

#### Good telephone etiquette

If you're not getting the response you want, change what you're doing!

# Managing difficult caller behaviours

Learn to use LEAPS (listen, empathise, acknowledge, be positive and find solutions) with an emotional caller.

### Making a difficult outbound call

Before you make your call, develop an action plan.

