



All qualifications ticked off

By **JAKE DEAN**

FOR Port Noarlunga teenager Sam Fuller, finishing Year 12 was important even though he wanted to get into a trade.

"I just wanted to have that on my resume as a qualification," Mr Fuller said.

"You never know if you'll need it later in life and it can open up more opportunities."

The 18-year-old former Hallett Cove R-12 student moved school at the end of Year 11 to attend Australian Technical College - Adelaide South (ATC-AS) last year.

The Christies Beach-based college allowed him to combine Year

12-related trade subjects with trade training and paid work, and to complete his SACE.

For Mr Fuller, the choice paid off.

"Being at the college taught me a lot and it was good to get to try all the different trades," he said.

"You do carpentry, metalwork, electrical work and spend a week

in each subject, pick the one you like to do and then apply for apprenticeships."

Mr Fuller found electrical work to be his calling and started looking for apprenticeships through ATEC Group Training.

He was one of the first students

to walk through the doors of the college, which opened in February 2007, and is now in his second month as an apprentice electrician with Rondent Automation Services.

His work involves installing industrial airconditioners, running cables, installing switchboards and maintenance.

"I just like the industry - it's got good pay and once you've qualified there's lots of places you can go all over Australia and the world," he said.

"There's lots of demand for it.

"I'm loving it here, all the guys help me out a lot and teach me the stuff I need to know."



Electrical apprentice Sam Fuller.