

## SkillsIQ NSW ITAB eNews

Issue: June 2021

Welcome to the June issue of the SkillsIQ NSW ITAB eNews as the Greater Sydney region slides back into a 2-week lockdown and state borders begin to slam shut just in time for the school holidays to commence in NSW, ACT, Victoria and Queensland. This bulletin will provide updates on SkillsIQ training packages, Training Services funded VET programs, the NSW Skills List, skills reform and careers. To provide feedback or content please contact Sarah Rosen, Executive Officer, ph 0438 233 797 / [nswitab@skillsiq.com.au](mailto:nswitab@skillsiq.com.au)

### Training Package Updates

#### SIT Tourism, Travel and Hospitality

- [Cookery](#) Draft 2 consultation closed
- [RSA](#) Case for Endorsement submitted for AISC consideration in July
- [Events](#) Draft 1 pending
- [Travel](#) Draft 1 pending
- Tourism Draft 1 pending
- Hospitality Draft 1 pending

#### SIR Retail Services

- [Visual Merchandising](#) Case for Endorsement submitted for AISC consideration in July

#### SHB Hairdressing and Beauty Services

- [Beauty](#) Case for Endorsement pending

#### SIS Sport, Fitness and Recreation

- [Fitness](#) Case for Endorsement submitted for AISC consideration in July.

### Training Services NSW Update

The NSW JobTrainer / Skilling for Recovery program announced last year is well underway with \$318 million to support 100,000 fee free or low fee training places available for full and part qualifications to boost economic recovery across 20 industries. Regional Skills Brokers have been assisting with the development of targeted projects to retrain or upskill staff or train job seekers and school leavers to meet local workforce needs.

**The Smart and Skilled [NSW Skills List](#)** has recently been reviewed to ensure that the listed qualifications are still current and in demand. Qualifications with low enrolments or poor employment or student outcomes (based on 2019 Student Outcomes Survey data) were identified for review. Stakeholder feedback was provided to retain the following qualifications:

SFL30115 Certificate III in Floristry

SHB50115 Diploma of Beauty Therapy (currently being updated)

SIR40316 CIV in Retail Management  
SIT40116 CIV in Travel and Tourism (currently being updated)

The updated Smart and Skilled [NSW Skills List v12.1](#) is effective from 1 July 2021 and the Skilling for Recovery [Priority Part Qualifications v4.0](#) list effective from 18 June 2021 is also available through the links provided.

There are a range of JobTrainer initiatives available:

- Fee-free skills for [students and job seekers](#) across 500 different jobs
- Fee-free pre-apprenticeship and pre-traineeship programs provide a career a taster
- Fee Free [apprenticeship and traineeship](#) Initiatives - visit [vet.nsw.gov.au](http://vet.nsw.gov.au)
- [Winter Skills](#) program offering a range of fee-free courses including hospitality and tourism to build capacity to support the 2021 ski season and provide transferable skills for the summer holiday season.
- Other programs include [Recognition of trade skills](#) and the [Built for Women](#) program to support women taking up 3000 fee-free non-traditional trade apprenticeships.

The [NSW Training Awards](#) are underway with regional award presentations conducted throughout June by Training Services NSW. The awards recognise outstanding achievement in the VET sector, and honour and reward the achievements of students, trainers/teachers, RTOs and employers across 12 categories.

### State Budget

Key initiatives of the [2021-2022 NSW State Budget](#) included a \$6 billion spend on stimulus measures including \$1.7 billion to support business and the economy through

- \$400 million for education and skills programs including Skilling for Recovery offering 70,000 fee-free training places for 70,000 job seekers and young people
- Small Business Fees and Charges rebates
- [Job Plus Program](#)
- \$50 million Dine and Discover extension targeting Sydney's CBD businesses with vouchers to spent on entertainment and dining on Fridays - Thank God it's Friday
- \$20 million for \$100 accommodation vouchers to encourage CBD stays through winter
- \$200 million support for the Events sector over four years for arts and tourism events
- \$50 million to support regional tourism

### Federal Budget

Key initiatives to support skills, training and apprenticeships include:

- \$2.7 billion to expand the [Boosting Apprenticeship Commencements](#) wage subsidy with uncapped eligible places and increased duration of the 50% wage subsidy to 12 months for new apprentices / trainees commencing from 5 October 2020 to 31 March 2022 for a maximum reimbursement up to \$7,000 per quarter
- extending [JobTrainer Fund](#) in partnership with states to deliver 163,000 additional low fee and free training places at \$506.3 million over two years
- 5,000 training places for women entering non-traditional trades

- 2,700 places in Indigenous girls' academies to complete school and enter workforce
- \$149 million over 2 years to establish Skills Enterprises to improve skills and workforce outcomes

Click [here](#) to access the 2021 Budget documents.

### Skills reform

[The NSW Productivity Commission White Paper 2021](#) was published in May 2021. It identifies a myriad of opportunities to drive productivity, boost growth and reboot the economy. Chapter 3 *A modern VET system to deliver the skills we need*, looks at the role of VET in building human capital through the continued roll out of the earn or learn strategy to reskill and upskill workers in priority areas, complementing apprenticeships with new pathways to trades and ensuring the VET system delivers quality training targeted to economic needs.

[National Skills Reform](#). DESE has released stakeholder feedback on its three priority reform areas. ***Achieving high quality in the VET sector*** to shape the future of VET in Australia and improve the VET system, includes ensuring that RTOs have a student-centered and individualized approach to learning; focusing on continuous improvement based on student and employer feedback; ensuring flexibility and adaptability to meet student and employer needs; building strong links and partnerships with industry and better contextualise learning; and building quality trainers and assessors with strong industry links.

Stakeholder feedback on ***better industry engagement in VET*** included strengthening industry engagement across the national training system; increase responsiveness to employer needs and skills change; and boosting student outcomes through better qualifications.

Stakeholder feedback was sought on ***addressing the changing skills needs of employers and individuals; qualifications reform***. The Heads of Agreement for skills reform has prioritised the simplification and streamlining of national VET qualifications with the piloting of three Skills Organisations in Mining, Digital and Human Services testing new design elements.

Click [here](#) subscribe the Skills Reform Updates.

### NCVER reports

[The stock of qualifications in Australia](#). The report released in June analyses the qualifications held by Australians based on the ABS Survey of Qualifications and Work (2018-2019). The report looks at the level and field of the qualification and its relevance to the holder's work. It provides an overview of the stock of qualifications in the economy to help understand the available stock of skills to inform supply-and-demand issues such as skills use and skills gaps.

Key messages from the report include;

- Of 16.1 million working-age Australians, 10.2 million hold 15.4 million qualifications, including 3.8 million who hold two or more
- VET qualifications outnumber higher education qualifications by almost one million, with Certificates III/IV particularly prevalent
- Three-quarters of the qualifications held by employed people were in the same field, or were relevant to, the worker's job.
- Among the 3.3 million people with two or more qualifications, about a third held at least one qualification that was not relevant to their job. Often the most relevant qualification to the worker's job was either not their highest or their most recent qualification. (Refer to

the [SkillsIQ Right Skills Right Time](#) report for more information. The report measured the gap between required and actual qualifications of 10 million Australian workers across 400 people-facing occupations reflecting the challenge of an increasing skills mismatch.)

- Some occupations have more diverse entry pathways than others, with regulation playing a role in some of these pathways.

**Student Outcomes Survey.** [National Centre for Vocational Education Research](#) invites recent VET graduates to complete the Student Outcomes Survey. This feedback is a valuable resource used to keep improving vocational education and training for future students. Find out more <https://www.ncver.edu.au/.../student.../vet-student-outcomes>

### Careers and schools

We are seeking partnership opportunities and activities with the regions to promote VET in schools including SBATs as well as career events with school students, school leavers and Job seekers. Contact me for more information and how you can get involved in regional career activities across the service sector. Watch this space as the New Employment Services Model comes into action in 2022 replacing the current JobActive program with [Transition to Work](#) - a dedicated youth employment service.

Your feedback is welcome. Please contact Sarah Rosen Ph 0438 233 797 or [nswitab@skillsiq.com.au](mailto:nswitab@skillsiq.com.au)

CAPABLE PEOPLE  
MAKE CLEVER BUSINESS

A Level 1, 332 Kent Street, Sydney NSW 2000  
E [enquiries@skillsiq.com.au](mailto:enquiries@skillsiq.com.au)  
T +61 2 9392 8100  
W [skillsiq.com.au](http://skillsiq.com.au)

FIND US ON:    



SkillsIQ Limited acknowledges the financial support received by the Commonwealth to operate as a Skills Service Organisation. SkillsIQ Limited does not represent industry, the Commonwealth, or the Department of Education, Skills and Employment.

SkillsIQ would like to respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land and sea throughout Australia and extend that respect to Elders past and present. SkillsIQ also recognises those whose ongoing effort to protect and promote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures will leave a lasting legacy for future Elders and leaders.

[Manage Subscriptions](#) if you wish to opt-out of receiving future communications from SkillsIQ.