

SMART and SKILLED UPDATE – September 2024

1. UPDATE ON SMART AND SKILLED QUALIFICATION PRICES FOR 2024-25

The department has carefully considered Smart and Skilled qualification prices in light of the FY2024-25 NSW Budget. The NSW Government remains committed to ensuring the delivery of quality vocational education and training, but as we continue to operate in a challenging budget environment, the following changes will be implemented for this financial year:

a. Indexation of full qualification prices

Smart and Skilled prices for all qualifications on the NSW Skills List will be indexed by 2% for training that commences from 1 July 2024 onwards. This increase is in addition to the price increases to 43 superseding qualifications communicated in Smart and Skilled Update No. 232 (10 May 2024). Please refer to the previous Smart and Skilled Update for a detailed breakdown of the superseding qualification price changes.

Note: Indexed qualification prices will be rounded to the nearest \$10 price point. Qualifications priced at \$8,500 or less will be rounded up to the nearest \$10 price point.

There will be no change to student fees and the full increase will be applied to the subsidy component of the price. Loadings will also increase as a result.

Price increases will be retrospectively applied for existing students (for whom a Commitment ID has been obtained) who have enrolled and/or commenced where their training start date is on or after 1 July 2024. No action is required from providers. Future subsidy payment instalment(s) will be adjusted to factor in the price increase. Where Credit Transfer or Recognition of Prior Learning (CT/RPL) has been granted, providers will receive an email notification that prices and fees have been recalculated for students granted CT and/or RPL. Providers who receive this notification are encouraged to download the updated Notification of Enrolment(s) from STS Online.

Version 15.1 of the Smart and Skilled Prices and Fees schedule reflects these changes and can be accessed at: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/education-and-training/vocational/funding/smart-skilled-fees>.

b. Indexation of part qualification prices

The indexation adjustment of 2% will also apply to part qualification prices.

The price increases will be reflected in Provider Activity Schedules and Training Needs Identifications (TNIs) created from 6 August 2024. Existing TNIs do not need to be resubmitted.

The new prices will be available in the relevant Smart and Skilled functions available on STS Online within the coming week.

Please contact your Regional Provider Support Manager (RPSM) with any questions regarding qualification prices and student fees.

2. NSW SKILLS LIST UPDATED – VERSION 15.1

The NSW Skills List and Smart and Skilled Prices and Fees schedule have been updated. In addition to the price changes described above, this update covers changes because of:

- qualifications added to the NSW Skills List
- updates to training packages
- updates to Vocational Training Orders (VTOs)
- ASQA extensions to qualification transition periods.

Version 15.1 of the NSW Skills List is now available at:

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/education-and-training/resources/nsw-skills-list>

a. Qualifications added to the NSW Skills List

Two qualifications have been approved for addition to the NSW Skills List outside the annual Skills List Review process. Individual reasons for addition are noted in the table below.

Table 1 shows qualifications added to the NSW Skills List in version 15.1.

Table 1: Qualifications added to the NSW Skills List

Qualification code	Title	Available programs	Reason for addition
MEM31622	Certificate III in Engineering - Patternmaking Trade	Entitlement Full Qualifications, Entitlement Apprenticeships	Eligible for addition following designation of apprenticeship vocation in CIB 754.
TLI42422	Certificate IV in Rail Safety Management	Targeted Priorities Full Qualifications, Entitlement Traineeships	Re-added from the Pre-qualified list in response to evidence of increased industry demand.

b. Updates to training packages

The NSW Skills List has been updated because of revisions to the following training packages:

- Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management
- Transport and Logistics.

i. Equivalent superseding qualifications on the NSW Skills List

Table 2 shows the superseding qualifications that are equivalent to their superseded version.

Table 2: Equivalent superseding qualifications on the NSW Skills List

Previous code	Previous title	Current code	Current title
AHC51519	Diploma of Viticulture	AHC51524	Diploma of Viticulture
TLI40321	Certificate IV in Supply Chain Operations	TLI40324	Certificate IV in Supply Chain Operations
TLI50221	Diploma of Logistics	TLI50224	Diploma of Logistics

Table 3: Non-equivalent superseding qualifications on the NSW Skills List

Previous code	Previous title	Current code	Current title
AHC20320	Certificate II in Production Horticulture	AHC20324	Certificate II in Production Horticulture
AHC20720	Certificate II in Nursery Operations	AHC20724	Certificate II in Nursery Operations
AHC21020	Certificate II in Conservation and Ecosystem Management	AHC21024	Certificate II in Conservation and Ecosystem Management
AHC21621	Certificate II in Landscaping	AHC21624	Certificate II in Landscaping
AHC30221	Certificate III in Dairy Production	AHC30224	Certificate III in Dairy Production
AHC30620	Certificate III in Production Horticulture	AHC30624	Certificate III in Production Horticulture
AHC30820	Certificate III in Arboriculture	AHC30824	Certificate III in Arboriculture
AHC31021	Certificate III in Parks and Gardens	AHC31024	Certificate III in Parks and Gardens
AHC31120	Certificate III in Nursery Operations	AHC31124	Certificate III in Nursery Operations
AHC31319	Certificate III in Sports Turf Management	AHC31324	Certificate III in Sports Turf Management

Previous code	Previous title	Current code	Current title
AHC31421	Certificate III in Conservation and Ecosystem Management	AHC31424	Certificate III in Conservation and Ecosystem Management
AHC31818	Certificate III in Beekeeping	AHC31824	Certificate III in Beekeeping
AHC32422	Certificate III in Irrigation Technology	AHC32424	Certificate III in Irrigation Technology
AHC40320	Certificate IV in Production Horticulture	AHC40324	Certificate IV in Production Horticulture
AHC40620	Certificate IV in Nursery Operations	AHC40624	Certificate IV in Nursery Operations
AHC40920	Certificate IV in Conservation and Ecosystem Management	AHC40924	Certificate IV in Conservation and Ecosystem Management
AHC41019	Certificate IV in Agribusiness	AHC41024	Certificate IV in Agribusiness
AHC41119	Certificate IV in Irrigation Management	AHC41124	Certificate IV in Irrigation Management
AHC50320	Diploma of Production Horticulture	AHC50324	Diploma of Production Horticulture
AHC50520	Diploma of Arboriculture	AHC50524	Diploma of Arboriculture
AHC51019	Diploma of Sports Turf Management	AHC51024	Diploma of Sports Turf Management

c. VTO changes affecting the NSW Skills List

Following updates to NSW VTOs, several superseding qualifications can now be delivered via apprenticeship and traineeship pathways under Smart and Skilled, and one new qualification can now be delivered via apprenticeship pathway and is therefore eligible for funding under Smart and Skilled. These qualifications are shown in **Table 4** below.

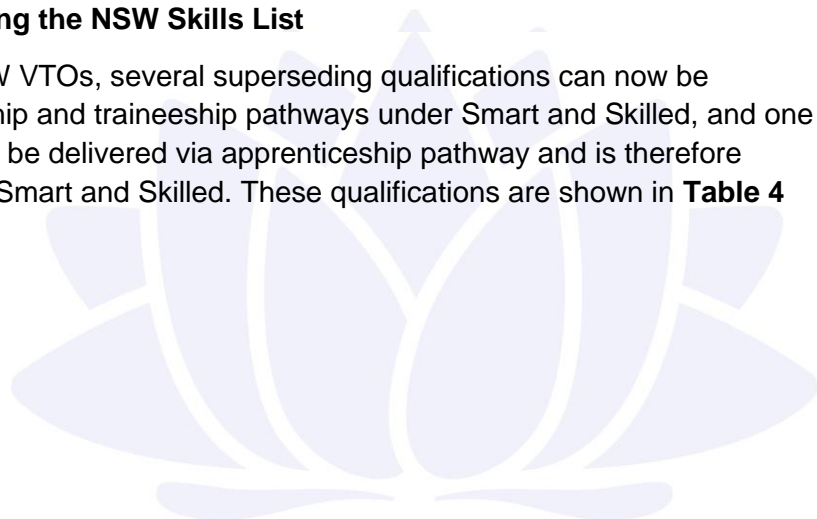


Table 4: Qualifications with VTOs affecting the NSW Skills List

Qualification code	Qualification title	Available pathway	Effective start date on Skills List
AHC20324	Certificate II in Production Horticulture	Traineeship	2/08/2024
AHC20724	Certificate II in Nursery Operations	Traineeship	2/08/2024
AHC21024	Certificate II in Conservation and Ecosystem Management	Traineeship	2/08/2024
AHC30224	Certificate III in Dairy Production	Traineeship	2/08/2024
AHC30624	Certificate III in Production Horticulture	Traineeship	2/08/2024
AHC30824	Certificate III in Arboriculture	Traineeship	2/08/2024
AHC31024	Certificate III in Parks and Gardens	Apprenticeship	2/08/2024
AHC31124	Certificate III in Nursery Operations	Apprenticeship	2/08/2024
AHC31324	Certificate III in Sports Turf Management	Apprenticeship	2/08/2024
AHC31424	Certificate III in Conservation and Ecosystem Management	Traineeship	2/08/2024
AHC31824	Certificate III in Beekeeping	Traineeship	2/08/2024
AHC32424	Certificate III in Irrigation Technology	Traineeship	2/08/2024
AHC40924	Certificate IV in Conservation and Ecosystem Management	Traineeship	2/08/2024
AHC41024	Certificate IV in Agribusiness	Apprenticeship	2/08/2024
AHC41124	Certificate IV in Irrigation Management	Traineeship	2/08/2024
MEM31622	Certificate III in Engineering - Patternmaking Trade	Apprenticeship	29/07/2024

d. SQA extensions to qualification transition periods

The Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) may approve extensions to superseded qualification transition periods in certain circumstances. ASQA has approved extensions for the superseded qualifications listed in **Table 5** below.

Table 5: Qualifications with an extended transition period

Qualification code	Current title	New qualification end date
CHC50313	Diploma of Child, Youth and Family Intervention	31/07/2025
CHC50413	Diploma of Youth Work	31/07/2025
CHC52015	Diploma of Community Services	31/07/2025
CHC52115	Diploma of Community Development	31/07/2025
CPC31511	Certificate III in Formwork/Falsework	30/06/2026

3. CLOSE OF NSW FEE FREE (NFF) WAIVERS (JULY TO DECEMBER 2024)

NSW Fee Free waivers (July to December 2024) have ceased enrolments as of 19 August 2024.

Apprenticeship and traineeship qualifications are not affected by the NSW Fee Free arrangements for 2024. Fee Free Apprenticeships and Traineeships remain in place for eligible students who commence training up until 30 June 2025.

For any questions, please contact your Regional Provider Support Manager.

4. SMART AND SKILLED OPERATING GUIDELINES FOR THE 2024-25 ACTIVITY PERIOD – NEW RELEASE

Training Services NSW has released a new version of the Smart and Skilled Operating Guidelines for the 2024-25 Activity Period. The new version released on 15 August 2024 is now available on the NSW Government website at <https://www.nsw.gov.au/education-and-training/resources/smart-and-skilled-operating-guidelines>.

