Smart and Skilled

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SMART AND SKILLED UPDATE - NO. 103

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1. TRAINING NEEDS IDENTIFICATION (TNI) PART QUALIFICATION FUNDING FOR PRIORITY SKILLS SETS – BUSHFIRE RECOVERY AND COVID-19 RESPONSE

a. TNI requests for single unit infection control Priority Skills Sets (HLTINF001 and HLTINFCOV001)

The Department advised in Smart and Skilled Update No. 101 (2 June 2020) that it will fund delivery of the new single unit infection control skills sets approved by the Commonwealth Government by purchasing **both** HLTINF001 *Comply with infection prevention and control policies and procedures* and HLTINFCOV001 *Comply with infection prevention and control policies and procedures* for state-wide delivery as Priority Skills Sets under the NSW COVID-19 Response.

This is in line with ASQA's advice that providers who have HLTINF001 on scope will automatically be approved to deliver HLTINFCOV001 (see https://www.asqa.gov.au/news-events/news/asqa-support-rtos-deliver-new-infection-control-training-skill-sets). HLTINFCOV001 was developed for use in the following single unit skills sets, which have each been contextualised to a specific industry:

- HLTSS00067- Infection control Skill Set (Transport and Logistics)
- HLTSS00065- Infection control Skill Set (Retail)
- HLTSS00066- Infection control Skill Set (Food Handling)

i. Approval process

TNI requests submitted for these single unit infection control Priority Skills Sets will be reviewed on a case by case basis and assessed on their individual merits.



Furthermore:

- Related training must commence prior to 30 June 2020.
- Delivery cannot be 100 per cent online due to the workplace assessment requirements for these units.
- Providers will be required to confirm the following within their TNI application:
 - Assessment will occur in the workplace
 - Proposed number of individuals to be trained
 - Delivery timeframes (as previously advised, if a provider applies to deliver HLTINF001 or HLTINFCOV001, they have the option to extend the end date of the related TNI application to post 30 June 2020 but prior to 31 December 2020 to enable assessment to occur in the workplace post COVID-19 lockdown restrictions).

The Department will prioritise TNIs for customer-facing businesses/industry sectors and types of workers/individuals, in line with the priority sectors nominated by the Commonwealth for the new infection control skills sets, namely the retail, food and beverage and transport and logistics sectors.

ii. Project Agreement for the National Infection Control Training Fund

In line with the Project Agreement for the National Infection Control Training Fund, which has recently been announced by the Commonwealth Government, Training Services NSW will shortly provide a further update on transitional arrangements regarding infection control training related to the four skill sets below:

- HLTSS00064- Infection Control Skill Set
- HLTSS00065- Infection control Skill Set (Retail)
- HLTSS00066- Infection control Skill Set (Food Handling)
- HLTSS00067- Infection control Skill Set (Transport and Logistics)

The Infection Control Training Fund will fast-track fee free (or low cost) infection control training in conjunction with the NSW Government to support the re-opening of customer facing businesses. Further information is provided at https://www.employment.gov.au/newsroom/subsidised-infection-control-training-fast-tracked-re-opening-businesses.

The Department is also examining ways of streamlining the approval process for the delivery of training in part qualification infection control.

b. Health and Community Services Priority Skills Set available under the NSW Bushfire Recovery and COVID-19 Response is identical to the Commonwealth Government's Entry into Care Roles Skills Set (CHCSS00114)

Please note that the Health and Community Services Priority Skills Set advised in Smart and Skilled Update No. 101 is identical to the Entry into Care Roles Skill Set (CHCSS00114) introduced by the Commonwealth Government in May 2020. The Entry into Care Roles Skills Set is designed to boost the aged care and disability support workforce during the COVID-19 pandemic and recovery phase by rapidly upskilling people to work in these sectors.

The title of this Priority Skills Set, details of which are shown below, has been amended slightly to reflect its equivalence with CHCSS00114:

Health and Community Services - Entry into Care Roles*			
CHCCCS015	Provide individualised support		
HLTINF001*	Comply with infection prevention and control policies and procedures*		
HLTWHS002	Follow safe work practices for direct client care		

* Due to the assessment conditions for the UOC HLTINF001 Comply with infection prevention and control policies, if a provider applies to deliver this Priority Skills Set in its entirety, they have the option to extend the end date of the related TNI application to post 30 June 2020 but prior to 31 December 2020. This should enable assessment to occur in the workplace post COVID-19 lockdown restrictions.

Alternatively, a provider can also apply to deliver only two of the three listed UOCs for this skills set, excluding HLTINF001 *Comply with infection prevention and control policies and procedures*.

2. TRAINING ACTIVITY DATA REPORTING CLOSE OFF FOR THE 2019-20 ACTIVITY PERIOD: 30 JUNE 2020

In order for Training Activity Data to utilise 2019-20 Activity Period Financial Caps, it **MUST** be successfully submitted through eReporting no later than 5:00pm on Tuesday, 30 June 2020.

It is strongly advised that your organisation submits data prior to this date to allow time for you to address validation errors and resubmit data prior to the reporting deadline. Please refer to Clause 17.4 of the <u>Smart and Skilled Contract Terms and Conditions</u> in regards to acceptance of Training Activity Data.

Please note there will be **no extension** to this close off date due to end of financial year reporting.

Training Activity Data reported from 1 July 2020 will utilise 2020-21 Activity Period Financial Caps. Where an organisation does not have any or an equivalent 2020-21 Activity Period Financial Cap, this data and any payments/financial cap usage will be managed in accordance with the Smart and Skilled contract.

For technical support in relation to this update, contact Training Market Customer Support at Training.Market@det.nsw.edu.au.

Please note that this update is for the information of approved Smart and Skilled providers only. If providers require further information for students or employers, please contact Training Market Customer Support, as above, unless otherwise instructed.