

# Smart and Skilled

www.smartandskilled.nsw.gov.au

SMART AND SKILLED UPDATE – NO. 115

19 October 2020

## Contents

1. Variation to the Smart and Skilled Contract Terms and Conditions and Release of the Smart and Skilled Skilling for Recovery Policy.....	1
2. Enrolling eligible students in Skilling for Recovery fee-free full qualification training places.....	2
a. Skilling for Recovery Student Eligibility backdated to 16 September 2020.....	2
b. What is the process for accessing a fee-free training place for a Skilling for Recovery eligible student?.....	2
3. Prices available for the non-NSW Skills List qualifications.....	3
4. Skilling for Recovery Initiative: additional Part qualification training places.....	4
a. Overview .....	4
b. Eligibility for Skilling for Recovery fee-free part qualification training.....	4
c. Skilling for Recovery Priority part qualifications.....	4
d. TNI Applications and Notification of Enrolment process for Skilling for Recovery Part Qualification training .....	4
e. Part Qualifications decision matrix.....	5
5. Skilling for Recovery – Redeployment & Youth .....	5
6. Skilling for Recovery - Construction.....	5
7. Part qualifications for 2020 Year 12 school leavers .....	6
8. Smart and Skilled Targeted Priorities Prevocational and Part Qualifications (TPPPQ) Program Target Group Update .....	6
9. Smart and Skilled User Guides updated.....	7
10. The updated Smart and Skilled Fee Administration Policy will be released soon.....	7
11. Correction to a qualification deleted on the NSW Skills List Update Version 11.1 release .....	8

## 1. VARIATION TO THE SMART AND SKILLED CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS AND RELEASE OF THE SMART AND SKILLED SKILLING FOR RECOVERY POLICY

The Department will soon notify all Providers of a variation to *the Smart and Skilled Contract Terms and Conditions* which will include the Skilling for Recovery priority full qualifications, which are not part of the NSW Skills List. As per clause 21.3, Providers will receive one months' notice of this variation after which time the Smart and Skilled Contract will be varied.

**NOTE:** Providers are not required to complete a contract variation acceptance in this instance.

The *Smart and Skilled Skilling for Recovery Policy* is available at Attachment A and online in the Support Documents page on STS Online. This policy is an additional component of the Smart and Skilled Contract for which Providers must comply.

Providers are further reminded that the existing Smart and Skilled policies also apply to all Skilling for Recovery activity. This includes the *Trade Related Full Qualification Pathways Policy* and the *TAE Policy*.

Skilling for Recovery priority full qualifications can only be delivered under the relevant Smart and Skilled Programs that they are approved under. That is, the qualification must appear on the Providers relevant Approved Qualifications Activity Schedule (AQAS).

Skilling for Recovery priority full qualifications, which are not part of the NSW Skills List, will appear on the Smart and Skilled AQAS. These priority full qualifications must only be delivered to Skilling for Recovery eligible students.

Providers who have these qualifications on scope must apply to have them added to their Smart and Skilled AQAS.

## **2. ENROLLING ELIGIBLE STUDENTS IN SKILLING FOR RECOVERY FEE-FREE FULL QUALIFICATION TRAINING PLACES**

Further to advice contained in Smart and Skilled Update No.112, Providers can use current Financial Cap allocations to deliver Skilling for Recovery training places in Priority Qualifications to eligible students.

### **a. Skilling for Recovery Student Eligibility backdated to 16 September 2020**

To be eligible for fee-free full qualification training under Skilling for Recovery, a student must:

- commence training on or after 16 September 2020
- meet the eligibility criteria for Smart and Skilled training,

and at enrolment be one of the following:

- aged from 17 to 24 inclusive (regardless of employment status and including Year 12 School leavers)
- in receipt of a Commonwealth Government benefit as specified in the [Smart and Skilled Fee Administration Policy](#) (excluding dependents)
- an unemployed person
- people expected to become unemployed (as determined by the Department)

**NOTE:** Please refer to the *Skilling for Recovery Policy* for information on the end date for training.

### **b. What is the process for accessing a fee-free training place for a Skilling for Recovery eligible student?**

#### **i. Where the Notification of Enrolment is completed on or after 19 October 2020**

The Provider must follow the Enrolment process outlined in the *Skilling for Recovery Full Qualification Fact Sheet* which is provided with this update at Attachment B.

- **No change to the Notification of Enrolment process for students who are fee free under other Smart and Skilled policies**

Where the eligible student is entitled to a fee-free place under the existing Smart and Skilled policy there will be no changes to the Notification of Enrolment process. The Department will identify the student as Skilling for Recovery eligible based on other data points. Existing Smart and Skilled fee free arrangements include:

- Fee exemptions for Aboriginal students, students with a disability and dependents of a person on a disability support pension
- Fee free scholarships for Smart and Skilled concession eligible students. In addition, fee free scholarship fee waivers apply to students who are out of home care and individuals and their dependents that have or are experiencing domestic and family violence.
- Fee waiver for refugee and asylum seekers
- Mature workers scholarship for mature students at TAFE
- Fee free traineeships/apprenticeships
- Free foundation skills qualifications

- **A fee-waiver must be applied for Skilling for Recovery eligible students who are not otherwise fee-free under other Smart and Skilled fee free policies**

When undertaking the Notification of Enrolment for these students, you should enroll the student in the **Skilling for Recovery fee waiver** which is applicable to the student.

#### ii. **Where the Notification of Enrolment was completed before 19 October 2020**

Providers may have students who have been allocated a CID indicating a fee is payable, who meet the Skilling for Recovery eligibility criteria and commenced Smart and Skilled training in a priority qualification on or after the 16th September 2020.

The Department will adjust the fees and subsidies applicable to these eligible students for whom the Notification of Enrolment process has been completed before 19 October 2020 and where a fee was applicable at the time the enrolment was completed.

The Department will identify the students who are subject to the retrospective adjustment and provide details to affected Providers. Providers are required to refund any fees paid by these eligible students. The Department will write to affected Providers directly.

### 3. **PRICES AVAILABLE FOR THE NON-NSW SKILLS LIST QUALIFICATIONS**

24 qualifications will be temporarily subsidised through Skilling for Recovery, the Price List containing these qualifications is available at Attachment C to this Update. The list will also be available soon as an Appendix to the *NSW Skills List and the Prices, Fees and Subsidies Schedule*.

#### 4. SKILLING FOR RECOVERY INITIATIVE: ADDITIONAL PART QUALIFICATION TRAINING PLACES

Skilling for Recovery is part of a matched funding commitment of almost \$320 million between the NSW and Australian government's under the JobTrainer Fund. Skilling for Recovery is a key component of the State's COVID-19 Recovery Plan. The Skilling for Recovery initiative will fund an additional 70,000 part qualification places.

##### a. Overview

Two additional part qualification streams have been introduced under the Targeted Priorities Prevocational and Part Qualifications Program for the Skilling for Recovery Initiative:

*i. Targeted Priorities Prevocational and Part Qualifications - Skilling for Recovery Initiative - Redeployment & Youth.*

See **Section 5** of this Smart & Skilled Update as well as the "*Skilling for Recovery Part Qualifications for Redeployment and Youth Fact Sheet*" for more information about this stream which is available at Attachment D.

*ii. Targeted Priorities Prevocational & Part Qualifications - Skilling for Recovery Initiative – Construction.*

See **Section 6** of this Smart & Skilled Update as well as the "*Skilling for Recovery Part Qualifications for Construction Fact Sheet*" for more information about this stream which is available at Attachment E.

##### b. Eligibility for Skilling for Recovery fee-free part qualification training

The same eligibility categories for full qualifications also apply for part qualifications. See section **2a** of this Update for more details.

##### c. Skilling for Recovery Priority part qualifications

A list of part qualifications available under Skilling for Recovery has been developed and approved by the National Skills Commission. The *Skilling for Recovery Priority Part Qualifications List* is available at Attachment F of this update. This may be subject to change from time to time. Providers will be notified of these changes as they occur.

- i. Providers can lodge TNI applications to deliver part qualifications on the initial list if they have the UOCs or qualifications that include the UOCs on their scope of registration. These applications will be assessed by the Training Service NSW regional offices. For those that are approved a PAS will be issued.
- ii. Providers can also apply to deliver locally designed or industry co-designed part qualifications that are not on the list. These part qualifications require evidence of employer/industry demand. These part qualifications will be assessed by regions and if deemed suitable will be referred to the National Skills Commission for approval. A part qualification approved by the National Skills Commission will be added to the *Skilling for Recovery Priority Part Qualifications List* with a PAS issued to the Provider.

##### d. TNI Applications and Notification of Enrolment process for Skilling for Recovery Part Qualification training

Providers will be able to submit TNIs to deliver any part qualification on the List, including any in **Category b** as listed above.

Providers will be able to enroll students under this initiative once a TNI application has been approved, as detailed in the approval process in **Section C**, and the PAS is accepted. Providers will be required to enroll students in a Strategy/Initiative applicable to the student's eligibility category.

All TNI applications for Skilling for Recovery must be submitted under one of the Skilling for Recovery Stream Groups.

TNIs seeking to deliver construction part qualifications to Skilling for Recovery eligible cohorts must be submitted under *Targeted Priorities Prevocational and Part Qualifications - Skilling for Recovery Initiative – Construction*. All other Skilling for Recovery TNI requests should be submitted under the *Targeted Priorities Prevocational & Part Qualifications - Skilling for Recovery Initiative – Redeployment and Youth*.

#### e. Part Qualifications decision matrix

Funding to deliver part qualifications can now be accessed under three Targeted Priorities Prevocational Part Qualifications streams.

A decision matrix has been developed to help Providers determine which part qualification stream they should choose, when submitting TNI Applications. The *Part Qualifications decision matrix* is available at Attachment G in this Update.

## 5. SKILLING FOR RECOVERY – REDEPLOYMENT & YOUTH

*Skilling for Recovery – Part Qualifications for Redeployment & Youth* is a \$75m commitment providing over 47,000 part qualification training places.

The training will provide opportunities for unemployed people to re-train or for young people between the ages of 17 to 24 year olds to get a job in industries of growth and those that are experiencing skill shortages. This initiative may also support existing workers to secure their employment who without upskilling are at risk of losing their job.

## 6. SKILLING FOR RECOVERY - CONSTRUCTION

*Skilling for Recovery – Part Qualifications for Construction* is a \$91m commitment providing around 40,000 part qualifications training places in the construction industry.

The part qualifications training will address skills shortages by growing the number of new entrants in the NSW construction workforce and upskilling existing workers. This supports the NSW Government to deliver its \$100bn infrastructure pipeline over the next four years which will drive employment growth and help create 88,000 direct jobs.

The training will provide opportunities for unemployed people to re-train to enter the construction industry or for young people to start their career. It will also up-skill existing construction workers who would otherwise be at risk of unemployment.

Training is for all occupations working in the construction industry such as Project Managers, Engineers or Finance and Administration officers. It is not limited to construction trades. It is also for the entire construction sector for commercial and residential build as well as local, State and Commonwealth Government infrastructure projects.

**Note:** Providers can commence delivery of Skilling for Recovery priority part qualifications in either of the above two streams once the PAS has been accepted.

## 7. PART QUALIFICATIONS FOR 2020 YEAR 12 SCHOOL LEAVERS

A part qualification training strategy that targets 2020 Year 12 school students is being rolled out under Skilling for Recovery.

TNI applications to deliver part qualifications for this cohort can be submitted from the date of this Smart and Skilled update. The applications must be submitted under the relevant Skilling for Recovery part qualification stream. A PAS will be issued for successful applications.

The earliest enrolment start date that a TNI can be submitted for these students is the 11 November 2020.

More information on this strategy will be available in the coming weeks.

## 8. SMART AND SKILLED TARGETED PRIORITIES PREVOCATIONAL AND PART QUALIFICATIONS (TPPPQ) PROGRAM TARGET GROUP UPDATE

Training Services NSW has reviewed and updated Target Groups available under the Program. These are listed below. Please select the appropriate Target Group when submitting your TNI application.

If you require further information please contact the relevant Regional Office. The revised Target Groups are also listed in Targeted Priorities Prevocational and Part Qualifications Program Provider Guidelines available on STS Online.

**Please note:** The Skilling for Recovery Bespoke Skilling Program provides customised workforce skilling solutions for targeted NSW investors and employers to assist them to recruit and train staff. The '*Bespoke Skills*' target group may only be selected if training has been identified by the Skilling for Recovery Bespoke Skilling Program team in Training Services NSW.

**Table 1**

### New Target Groups

AgSkilled 2.0 – Fibre

AgSkilled 2.0 – Grains

AgSkilled 2.0 – Multiple sector

AgSkilled 2.0 – Production Horticulture

AgSkilled 2.0 – Rice

AgSkilled 2.0 – Viticulture

Bespoke Skilling

Clubs NSW TEP

Construction - NSW Government & ISLP

Construction - Other

General - Bushfire

General - COVID-19

General - Drought Package

General - Existing Workers (Non-Skilling for Recovery)

### New Target Groups

General - Group Training Organisation Partnership
General - Job Seekers (Non-Skilling for Recovery)
General - NICTF Comm
General - NICTF NSW
General - Retrenched Workers (Non-Skilling for Recovery)
General - School Leavers (Non-Skilling for Recovery)
General Public
Inmates of NSW correctional centres, including Juvenile Justice
Refugee Employment Support Program
SFR Construction - Commonwealth Infrastructure
SFR Construction - Local Government
SFR Construction - NSW Government & ISLP
SFR Construction - Other
SFR Redeployment & Youth
SFR 2020 YR 12 School Leavers

## 9. SMART AND SKILLED USER GUIDES UPDATED

The following Smart and Skilled User Guides have been updated to reflect changes due to Skilling for Recovery. The updated versions are available on STS Online.

- *Smart and Skilled Provider Calculator Data Specifications and User Guide - Multiple Student Process*
- *Smart and Skilled Provider Calculator User Guide - Single Student Process*
- *Smart and Skilled Targeted Priorities Prevocational and Part Qualifications Program Provider Guidelines*
- *Training Needs Identification User Guide*
- *eReporting Technical Specifications and Business Validations*

## 10. THE UPDATED SMART AND SKILLED FEE ADMINISTRATION POLICY WILL BE RELEASED SOON

The Department is currently updating the [Smart and Skilled Fee Administration Policy](#) to reflect the fee-free arrangements for Skilling for Recovery. Details will be provided in a future Smart and Skilled Update. In the interim the evidence requirements for the Skilling for Recovery eligible students can be found in the attached Skilling for Recovery fact sheets.

## 11. CORRECTION TO A QUALIFICATION DELETED ON THE NSW SKILLS LIST UPDATE VERSION 11.1 RELEASE

The Department wishes to advise of a correction to qualification code SFI40119 which was incorrectly identified as the Certificate III in Dry Cleaning Operations.

The amended text under section **1.a Qualification removed from the Skills List following Review under Table 1** should read:

Qualifications removed from the NSW Skills List		
Qualification code	Qualification name	On pre-qualified list
SFI40119	Certificate IV in Aquaculture	

For technical support in relation to this update, contact Training Market Customer Support at [Training.Market@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto: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.*