



Council of Australian Governments

Vocational Education and Training (VET)

The vocational education and training sector is a responsive, dynamic and trusted sector that delivers an excellent standard of education and training. It provides strong economic and social outcomes, and supports millions of Australians to obtain the skills they need to participate and prosper in the modern economy.

This vision is intended to build upon action already undertaken.

Economic change and transformation will continue to shape the way we work and the skills needed to succeed as workers, as employers and as a nation. The nature of work in Australia is changing, with technology being rapidly adopted and growth in jobs requiring complex skills and knowledge. As a result, Australia's capacity to grow, compete and thrive in the increasingly global economy is dependent on employers and all individuals, regardless of background or circumstance, being able to access and use the right skills at the right time.

VET and higher education are equal and integral parts of a joined up and accessible post-secondary education system with pathways between VET, higher education and the school system.

Our vision for Australia's VET system is one that:

- a. Provides workforce skills and relevant, up-to-date qualifications that are well-matched to the evolving opportunities and challenges of Australia's modern economy.
- b. Is flexible in providing skills at all points in an individual's career cycle whether it be foundational training, initial training, upskilling or re-skilling.
- c. Delivers high-quality education and training for all learners in recognition that VET and higher education are equally valued pathways into employment.
- d. Provides useful and accessible careers information that enables prospective learners and trainees to make informed decisions about their future.
- e. Is responsive to the needs of private industry and the public sector, ensuring employers have ready access to a highly skilled and adaptable workforce, while acknowledging industry has shared responsibility for growing a skilled economy.
- f. Provides VET qualifications to school students that are valued by employers and provides a clear pathway from school to careers that require VET qualifications.
- g. Delivers positive opportunities and outcomes for all Australians regardless of geographic, social or personal circumstances. This includes access for learners in regional, rural and remote areas, and to foundational skills when individuals need them.

Delivering high quality VET is a shared responsibility across the Commonwealth and states and territories. All jurisdictions acknowledge the importance of a viable and robust system of both public and private providers, and the particular role of states and territories in facilitating the public provision of VET. A focus on national consistency in key areas, such as quality assurance and qualification levels, whilst maintaining flexibility in the system for jurisdictions to meet local needs will ensure VET continues to work for all Australians into the future.