MEDIA RELEASE

MYSKILLS LAUNCH WELCOMED BY TAFE INSTITUTES

The planned launch in September of the MySkills national website has been welcomed by TAFE Directors Australia (TDA).

TDA urges private colleges to not merely support full disclosure for students and industry, but use the launch as an opportunity to showcase quality delivery in the Australian vocational education and training (VET) sector.

Martin Riordan, CEO of TDA, said TAFE has been a leader in public disclosure, with its data also used in national collections under the labour market statistics agency, the National Centre for Vocational Training and Research (NCVER).

“TAFE nationally is at the forefront of the new transparent environment.

“The long awaited development of the MySkills website will hopefully improve access to information and support informed choice for students and enterprises, along with the introduction of the Unique Student Identifier and improved collection of vocational education and training data”.

Martin Riordan said currently TAFE and Adult and Community providers provide data on all activity undertaken regardless of funding.

“There are however many gaps in the information available about Australia’s registered training organisations (RTOs). In 2010, of the approximately 5,000 RTOs, some 2,700 provided no data, meaning a gap in the information on training activity and qualifications,” he said.

As is noted in the recent COAG Consultation Regulation Impact Statement on VET data collection: “No comprehensive, economy-wide data on VET student numbers, the courses being undertaken, the level of those courses and qualifications issued are available.”

“Inevitably, there will be challenges in the development of the MySkills website, including issues of consistency and currency of data, but it is essential that information about RTOs is in the public domain as an essential plank in the quality framework. If an RTO isn’t on MySkills, then you probably don’t know enough about them,” Martin Riordan, added.

For further information

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