The Hon Peter Hall MLC  
Minister for Higher Education and Skills  
Minister responsible for the Teaching Profession  

Thursday 19 September 2013  

Training reforms allow Victorian graduates best chance of gaining full time employment  

Minister for Higher Education and Skills Peter Hall has today welcomed the latest 2013 Victorian Training Market Report, which revealed training industry reforms were giving students a greater chance of gaining future employment.

Mr Hall said the purpose of refocusing Victoria's vocational training system was to stimulate demand for skills training in areas that lead to jobs and a stronger economy.

“One year on from our reforms to the training system, there is a significantly higher correlation between employment and training delivery in Victoria's largest industries,” Mr Hall said.

“In just 12 months, there has been a very notable increase from 49 to 69 per cent of government funded enrolments in courses of a higher public value and areas of skills shortages, such as motor mechanics, enrolled nurses and aged care workers.”

The Victorian Training Market Quarterly Report Q2 2013 showed more government subsidised enrolments in areas of higher public value and skills shortage.

While the figure of 399,000 enrolments in 2013 is slightly down when compared to 2012, it has increased by 320,400 enrolments or 25 per cent on 2011.

Mr Hall said it was more meaningful to compare 2013 enrolments with those of 2011 given the abnormal spike in enrolments in 2012.

“2012 data was impacted by a first half year surge when providers sought to capitalise on the former State Labor Government’s over generous subsidy-rates, which in many cases were profit driven rather than targeted at achieving genuine job outcomes,” Mr Hall said.

“Looking at trend data over a period of time is a more telling story. The Napthine Government’s record annual investment of $1.2 billion per year is now producing outcomes that lead to securing jobs in areas of need.”

The latest figures showed that health care and social assistance, Victoria's number one employer, grew by 41 per cent on Q2 2011, while manufacturing and transport enrolments increased by 32 and 73 per cent respectively.

“This is exactly what our government’s changes set out to do in 2012. Increasing subsidies in areas of skill need are building the foundations for a highly successful and economically sustainable Victorian training system into the future,” Mr Hall said.
Examples of significant growth in courses relating to skills shortage occupations from Q2 2012 to Q2 2013 include:

- Child Carers – up 3 per cent to 18,500 enrolments;
- Aged and Disabled Carers – up 16 per cent to 12,200 enrolments;
- Enrolled Nurses – up 4 per cent to 5,900 enrolments;
- Motor Mechanics – up 19 per cent to 5,100 enrolments;
- Truck Drivers – up 20 per cent to 6,100 enrolments; and
- Building Associates – up 16% to 3,600 enrolments.

The Victorian Training Market Quarterly Report Q2 2013 can be downloaded at: www.education.vic.gov.au/training/providers市场/Pages/reports.aspx

Media contact: Madeleine Babiolakis 0428 833 571 madeleine.babiolakis@minstaff.vic.gov.au