



TAFE SA courses to be delivered across China

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TAFE SA courses are set to be delivered across the world's biggest education market following an agreement between the State Government and the Chinese Ministry of Education.

Employment and Training Minister, Michael O'Brien said a Memorandum of Understanding had been signed at a ceremony in Beijing last week, which would result in significant opportunities for both China and South Australia.

"The agreement will set the framework for TAFE SA courses to be delivered by Chinese training provider Zhongqing TAFE," Mr O'Brien said.

"This historic agreement will mean that students across China will have the opportunity to study TAFE SA courses, including nursing, automotive, business management and tourism.

"We were selected after other international systems were considered, including Germany, and potentially millions of Chinese students will now have access to a broad range of TAFE SA courses.

"The agreement will strengthen TAFE SA's name as one of the best training providers in Australia and will lift its profile as a destination for students looking to continue their studies in Australia," Mr O'Brien said.

"It's projected that 30% of students completing their training under the new system in China will travel overseas to complete their university studies, and we'll be striving to make SA their obvious higher education destination.

"This will give us an opportunity to even further increase our market share of international students.

"At the heart of this agreement are the collective benefits both countries will experience through working together and sharing new research and innovation.

"This will include new ways of addressing skills acquisition and the development challenges facing both countries in difficult economic times.

"One example of this is the Sino-Australian Adult Education Forum, a biennial exchange program between Australia and China.

"The first of these will be held in China in May this year where we will share ideas and education aimed at encouraging the continuous development of the vocational education and training systems in both countries.

"TAFE SA's expansion in the Asia region is part of South Australia's Strategic Plan to double

the state's share of overseas students by 2014," Mr O'Brien said.

