



2010 Federal Budget Bulletin

Dear members,

Please see below a summary of the skills and training initiatives that were announced as part of last night's Federal Budget. To view the full media releases for each announcement [click here](#).

Investing in Skills for Sustainable Growth

Quality Skills Incentives

- \$129.8 million beginning 2011
- Open to the top 100 Registered Training Organisations with the largest enrolments in Australia including 59 TAFE Institutes
- The incentives will be used to drive specific performance benchmarks, raise the quality of teaching, lift student achievements and expand access to training, particularly for disadvantaged Australians in skills shortage areas.

National Entitlement to a Quality Training Place

- \$242.5 million over four years to allow all young people under 25 access to training
- The Federal Government will offer assistance for VET FEE-HELP loans for higher level VET qualifications helping more than 477,000 people.

MySkills website and National VET Regulator

- \$4.1 million to establish a MySkills website to launch July 2011
- MySkills will cover all publicly-funded training providers
- MySkills to be linked to the National VET Regulator and Standards Council (agreed by COAG) to be established April 2011

Critical Skills Investment Fund

- 39,000 new training places in sectors with emerging skills shortages including the infrastructure, construction, renewable energy and resource sectors
- \$299.5 million over four years to train job seekers and upskill existing workers
- Each place to be co-investment between industry and the Federal Government

Apprentice Kickstart Extension

- Almost \$80 million to extend the program for six months, supporting approximately 22,500 new places in traditional trades with skills shortages

Modernising Apprenticeships

- Almost \$20 million to support a shift from the time-served apprenticeship model to a competency-based system.
- An expert panel will be appointed to advise on the steps needed to modernise the apprenticeship system

Language and Literacy

- \$120 million over four years to ensure 140,000 Australians receive assistance through Language, Literacy and Numeracy programs.

The 2010-2011 Budget will grow the Commonwealth investment in VET from 9.5 billion (2004-2008) to 15 billion (2008-2012).