



14 December 2021

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As the end of the year approaches, we would like to say a big thank you to everyone who volunteered their time to provide advice and information about skills needs, industry challenges and workforce development opportunities. AFAM recognises that it has been a challenging year for industry and training providers, and we particularly thank the Industry Training Advisory Committee (ITAC) members for their dedication to supporting the training and workforce needs of industry. It is our committees' input that has guided the work of AFAM and will continue to help prioritise and shape our work in 2022.

Over the past year AFAM priorities have focussed on:

- building relationships as we started in our new role so we could contribute to delivering value to industry and learners
- sharing industry-led advice about VET and skills related matters with the NSW Government
- connecting industry with funded training opportunities
- identifying training and workforce development needs of industry
- collecting NSW stakeholder feedback on training package updates to ensure any changes to the national training package reflect a NSW perspective and are suitable for delivery in schools
- supporting career showcases and building relationships between industries and schools
- sharing industry feedback on the review of Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO) classifications.

We would like to wish you and your family a happy festive season and look forward to working with you in the new year. Our team will be taking a break from 24 December, with Jess returning to work on 4 January and Ben on 10 January.

Best wishes,
Ben and Jess

NSW JobTrainer Funding Extended Until 31 Dec 2022

The NSW Government recently signed an agreement with the Commonwealth Government to continue the [NSW JobTrainer program](#) until 31 December 2022. While the extension will largely be consistent with the original program, the Department is currently finalising its approach to rolling out the additional funding. More details will be released in the coming weeks.

The NSW JobTrainer program offers fee free and low fee training options to boost skills with full and part qualification course options, as well as personalised support to assist people navigating the skills and training opportunities available in NSW.

Summer Skills

In the first few weeks since launching, over 2,000 people have enrolled in the Summer Skills program.

Summer Skills is an initiative of NSW JobTrainer, running over the summer 2021-22 period. The program offers fee-free courses for people aged 16-24, giving them a head start when entering in-demand industries.

Visit the [Summer Skills](#) web page to see a full list of available courses. Participants need to register by 28 February 2022.

[Visit website](#)

AgSkilled: Opportunity to Recommend Courses for Funding

AgSkilled seeks to upskill NSW's cotton, grains, production horticulture, viticulture and rice growing industries to manage the challenges of the future. It is a \$15 million investment by the NSW Government to offer fully funded accredited training to meet training needs across four key pillars: production, technology, business and safety.

AgSkilled is seeking recommendations for additional courses and units of competency to be included under the AgSkilled 2.0 program. Recommendations need to be relevant to the plant-growing agricultural industry sectors and existing training pillars of production, technology, business and safety.

To submit a new course and unit recommendation, please contact the AgSkilled Project Officer, Claudia Vicary, at enquiries@agskilled.org.au.

For the full list of training under AgSkilled 2.0, please visit the [AgSkilled website](#).

Updated ANZSCO Codes for Ag, Forestry & Fisheries

This year, the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment undertook a consultation process on the statistical classification of job roles for the agriculture, forestry and fishing industries. Working with the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), the Department has been reviewing the way these job roles are defined in the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO)

Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO). Following this review process, the ABS has released a revised list of ANZSCO codes for job roles in the agriculture, forestry and fisheries.

This update has been undertaken in respect of the Australian labour market only. It has not considered changes in the New Zealand labour market.

A complete list of changes (by code number) is available on the [ANZSCO website](#)

AgUP Grant Funding

The Australian Government's AgUP program provides grants to co-fund industry-led initiatives in agriculture, fisheries and forestry. The program is aimed at supporting jobs and retaining the Australian workforce through upskilling, establishing and enhancing career progression pathways and mentoring opportunities.

The grants will support initiatives that encourage the development of innovative approaches to career progression and improve employment outcomes in the agriculture, fisheries and forestry sector.

The objectives of the grant opportunity are:

- to support industry-led approaches that improve workforce outcomes to retain workers
- industry to facilitate activities that successfully identify and establish career pathways and progression in agriculture, fisheries and forestry sectors.

The grants are being delivered on behalf of the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, with applications open until 20 January 2022.

For more information about the AgUp program, please visit the [Community Grants Hub website](#).

Applications close 20 January 2022, 9:00pm AEDT.

AgUP Program – 2022 (Round 1)

Category

Business Development

Status

Open



Delivered on behalf of

Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment

Selection Process

Open

State/Territory

National

Closing Date & Time

20 January 2022 - 9:00pm AEDT

NCVER Report - Attracting industry experts to become VET practitioners: a journey, not a destination

Research reveals that industry experts, with their high levels of knowledge and experience, are an underutilised resource in the VET sector. Through interviews and surveys with registered training organisations and current VET practitioners, this new NCVER report seeks to better understand how training organisations recruit and retain industry experts.

NCVER reports that there was an overall message from all participants that becoming a VET practitioner is an ongoing journey, not a destination. "Typically begun at some point during an earlier career, it involves: vocational and educational preparation; a transition to VET; and continuing practice and updating to maintain the dual professionalism that sets the VET practitioner role apart and enables them to respond to the changing needs of industry."

The report provides recommendations by way of key strategies for consideration by industry, government, RTOs and VET practitioners and regulators that can help make the journey from industry expert to VET practitioner smoother, more rewarding and productive.

To access a copy of the report, visit the [NCVER website](#).

Attracting industry experts to become VET practitioners: a journey, not a destination

Mark Tyler
Darryl Dymock
Griffith University



INFORMING • INFLUENCING
THE AUSTRALIAN VET SECTOR

National Training Package Projects

The following projects are underway to review and update national qualifications and skills standards, by the relevant Industry Reference Committees supported by Skills Impact. Follow the links to find out more and to provide input.

Project scoping Underway

- [Sugar Milling Project](#)

Development underway

- [Permaculture, Organic Production & Composting Projects](#)
- [Pig & Poultry Farming Project](#)
- [Respect for Country Job Skills Project](#)
- [Water Allocation and Entitlement Skills Project](#)

Draft skills standards available for feedback:

- [Small Companion Animal Incident Management Project](#)
- [Trainers of Assistance Dogs Project](#)
- [Ag & Horticulture Core Skills Project](#)
- [Meat Processing, General, Quality and Safety Skills Project](#)

Feedback collected and being used to inform further updates to drafts:

- [Australian Native and Bush Food Project](#)

Validation complete and further updates being made:

- [Pharmaceutical GMP Project](#)

Endorsed by AISC & to be Considered by Ministers:

- [Animal Reproduction Project](#)
- [Crops, Pastures and Seeds Project](#)
- [Dairy and Milk Harvesting Project](#)
- [Horse Care Project](#)
- [Landscaping Project](#)
- [Pulp and Paper Manufacturing Review Project](#)
- [Parks and Gardens Project](#)
- [Skills for Land Rehabilitation \(Mined Land\) Project](#)

For the December update on these projects from Skills Impact, [click here](#).

NSW Grants, Opportunities & Scholarships

Training Services NSW is offering the following grants, opportunities and scholarships to employers and vocational learners. Follow the links to find out about more.

Aboriginal Business Advisory Initiative: support for existing Aboriginal owned and operated businesses to grow and diversify their business. [More details](#)

Barrangirra: to provide end to end support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander learners through culturally appropriate mentoring to ensure successful retention and completion of training and improved post-training employment outcomes. [More details](#)

Resources to Assist in Supervising Your Apprentice or Trainee: a series of videos and resources are available. [More details](#)

Free Training for Veterans: to broaden their career opportunities and help transition to civilian life after service, veterans and their partners will have access to free training. [More details](#)

Skills Brokers: sixteen skills brokers are located across NSW to help employers locate new staff who are trained and ready to fill roles with specific skill requirements; find ways to upskill existing staff; redeploy existing staff who have been stood down; and respond rapidly to skills needs. [More details](#)

Other support and opportunities:

Skilling for Recovery - JobTrainer: this is the NSW program supported by the Australian Government's JobTrainer Fund. Skilling for Recovery offers fee-free and low-fee training options for school leavers, young people and job seekers. [More details](#)

Free Support to Help Create Mentally Healthy Workplaces: SafeWork NSW has a range of programs, tools and resources available to help on the journey to create mentally healthy workplaces. [More details](#)

COVID-19 Support

Services NSW is working with federal, state and local government and the private sector to bring together all the COVID-19 support and services for businesses on the [Services NSW website](#).

TAFE NSW has developed [a website](#) that collates information and programs to assist small businesses in the recovery period from COVID-19.

The pandemic has brought about new challenges and your mental wellbeing is important. If you are feeling stress, anxious or negatively impacted by COVID-19, there are resources and services available to help on the [NSW government website](#).

Please feel welcome share this newsletter with anyone you think might be interested.

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