

Click [here](#) to view this email in your browser.



# AFAM ITAB

## Agriculture, Food & Animal Management

February 2022

### In this newsletter:

- [JobTrainer Program Extension](#)
- [Training and Assessment Qualifications – Expanded Student Eligibility](#)
- [2022 NSW Training Awards – Now Open](#)
- [AgSkilled 2.0 – Extension Proposal](#)
- [NCVER Webinar – Integrating VET and Higher Education](#)
- [NSW Grants, Opportunities and Scholarships](#)
- [Training Packages](#)
- [COVID-19 Support](#)

---

AFAM ITAB supports industry training initiatives designed to attract, educate and upskill primary industry workers.

This February, AFAM has continued to work with industry to identify regional and state-wide training and workforce development requirements. We are looking forward to promoting regional programs as they progress. As part of our ongoing engagement activities, we will be attending regional workforce Expos and visiting RTOs and industry forums across NSW. Please contact us if there are any regional workforce or skills events in your area that you want to be supported by the AFAM ITAB.

AFAM has also been advising the department and schools on using School Based Apprenticeship and Traineeship (SBATs) and VET in Schools (VETiS). These programs are potential pathways for students to learn new skills and gain industry experience while still at school. For some vocations, there can be a limited number of pathways available for school students, and the AFAM ITAB works with industry bodies, the department and schools to explore the potential options available to students.

AFAM recently participated in a workshop run by KPMG to provide feedback on the recommendations to address VET trainer shortages in NSW – an ongoing issue faced by most industries. KPMG undertook stakeholder consultations with RTOs, peak bodies, industry, Training Services NSW and ITABs to understand the different insights into the VET trainer shortages. We will provide updates when the outcomes are available.

AFAM looks forward to working with and supporting industry through the year. If you would like to discuss training and workforce development needs, please [get in touch with us](#).

Best wishes,

Ben and Jess

---



## NSW JobTrainer Program Extended to End of 2022

The NSW JobTrainer program will be extended until 31 December 2022. JobTrainer eligibility has been extended to give broader access to fee-free training for people who want to learn new skills anywhere in NSW. There are 518 courses, offered by 310 providers across 3700 locations within a range of industries.

The program will continue supporting people who meet the Smart and Skilled eligibility criteria and who are:

- aged 16-24 years (including school leavers)
- unemployed (including welfare recipients)
- at risk of losing their job
- veterans and their partners.

For more information on JobTrainer and to access the full list of available courses, please visit the [Training Services NSW website](#).

---

## Expanded student eligibility for Training and Assessment (TAE) qualifications

The NSW and Commonwealth governments recently agreed to expand student eligibility for Training and Assessment (TAE) qualifications. This extension has now been applied to people seeking to undertake TAE full or part qualifications which means that employed people will be able to access fee-free TAE training regardless of the industry they work in.

Priority TAE full qualifications are on the updated list of full qualifications for the Skilling for Recovery (SfR) extension and the priority part qualifications list for SfR Redeployment and Youth, both of which you can find here: [Smart and Skilled - NSW Skills List](#)

---

# NCVER Webinar: Integrating VET and Higher Education



How can we better integrate vocational education and training (VET) and higher education (HE) qualifications so that students are enabled to move between and draw from both sectors?

[Dr Steven Hodge](#) and [Dr Lizzie Knight](#) will present and discuss key findings and issues from their NCVER research project and report, highlighting the challenges, opportunities and recommendations for better VET and HE integration.

Webinar participants will gain insights about:

- Research participants' experiences of developing and running integrated qualifications
- Conditions that may improve the sustainability of integrated qualifications
- The challenges of developing integrated qualifications
- The context of integrated qualifications.

[Register here](#) to join the [NCVER webinar](#) on Thursday 24 February 2022 from 2:00 - 2:45pm AEDT.

---

## 2022 NSW Training Awards Now Open



Applications for the 2022 NSW Training Awards are now open. Nominate outstanding individuals, employers and training organisations in the VET sector.

The Awards are conducted annually by Training Services NSW within the NSW Department of Education to recognise outstanding achievement in the vocational education and training sector. The Awards honour and reward the achievements of students, Trainers/Teachers, Registered Training Organisations and both large and small employers. There are awards for individuals and organisations across 12 categories [click here](#) for full details.

---

## AgSkilled 2.0: Opportunity to Contribute to Extension Proposal

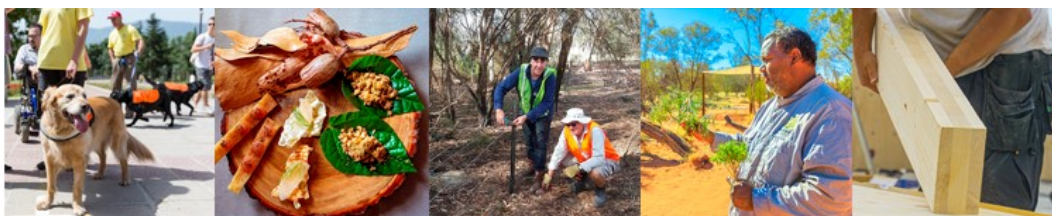
The first AgSkilled 2.0 Steering Committee meeting for the year was held on 14 February 2022. AgSkilled Committee members provided updates relating to weather impacts on agricultural production and workforce, COVID-19 impacts on agricultural workforce and training and the workforce priorities and training outlook for 2022. The AFAM ITAB updated the committee on training package developments and provided stakeholder feedback suggesting new course proposals around succession planning based on industry feedback.

The steering committee is working on a proposal to extend the AgSkilled 2.0 program beyond 2023, which is due to be finalised on 24 February. Please get in contact to discuss the proposal, lend support and provide industry advice to the project extension.

For more information on the AgSkilled 2.0 program including current course options, please visit the [AgSkilled website](#)

---

## National Training Package Projects



Skills Impact has several projects with draft qualifications, skill sets and units of competency available for feedback and comment. Please click through to the individual project pages for more information.

## Drafts Available

- [Meat Processing, General, Quality and Safety Skills](#)
- [Permaculture, Organic Production and composting](#)
- [Pig and Poultry Farming](#)
- [Responding and Assisting in Bushfires](#)
- [Sawmilling and Timber Processing](#)
- [Respect for Country Job Skills](#)

## Validation

- [Australian Native and Bush Food](#)

The following projects have been endorsed by the Australian Industry and Skills Committee (AISC) and State and Territory Ministers and published on the national training register ([training.gov.au](http://training.gov.au)).

## Training Packages Recently Published on the National Training Register

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

## Other Training Package Projects Underway

**Development**

- [Sugar Milling Project](#)

**Feedback Collected and Further Updates Being Made**

- [Ag & Horticulture Core Skills](#)
- [Water Allocation & Entitlement Skills](#)

**Validation Complete and Final Checks Being Made**

- [Small Companion Animal Incident Management](#)
- [Trainers of Assistance Dogs](#)

**Submitted to the AISC for Consideration**

- [Pharmaceutical GMP](#)

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

---

## NSW Grants, Opportunities and 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](#)

*Other Grants and opportunities:*

**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](#).

## COVID-19 Updates:

Find COVID-19 related guides and stay up to date on the latest COVID-19 VET updates on the [Training Services NSW website](#).

---

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

If you have been forwarded this email and would like to stay up to date with news from NSW AFAM ITAB, you are welcome to subscribe to our mailing list.

Subscribe here

---



AFAM works in collaboration with Skills Impact.



AFAM is supported and funded by the NSW Government.

---

Copyright © 2021 Skills Impact Ltd, All rights reserved.

**AFAM NSW ITAB**  
bnortonsmith@skillsimpact.com.au  
PO Box 329  
Edgecliff, NSW 2027  
Australia

[Click here](#) to unsubscribe from the AFAM newsletter list.

[Click here](#) to unsubscribe from all Skills Impact marketing lists.