

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



# AFAM ITAB

Agriculture, Food  
& Animal Management

June 2024

## In this newsletter:

- [Engagement Activities](#)
  - [NSW Budget Released](#)
  - [NSW Apprenticeships and Traineeships Roadmap 2024 - 2026](#)
  - [Growing the Ag Tech Workforce](#)
  - [MINTRAC:](#)
    - Trade Pathways Program Success
    - RTO/Trainers Forum Meeting
  - [NSW VET Review Update](#)
  - [Smart and Skilled Update](#)
  - [Jobs and Skills Councils \(JSC\) Project Updates](#)
  - [NSW Grants, Opportunities and Scholarships](#)
-

A reminder that applications close this month for the [On Farm Connectivity Program](#).

If you have any questions relating to skills and training in NSW, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes,  
Jess  
Executive Officer

---

## Engagement Activities

This month AFAM attended the Parks and Leisure Conference NSW/ACT in Campbelltown and the NSW Skills Conference in Darling Harbour.

The Parks and Leisure Conference NSW/ACT opened with a keynote speech from Costa Georgiadis, a passionate landscape architect, environmental educator, author, and television presenter. Costa spoke on the importance of connection and set the scene for two days of networking, professional development and recognising the contributions of the Parks and Leisure industry. Congratulations to Simon James, President of Parks and Leisure NSW/ACT and the team for an excellent event.



Costa Georgiadis presenting at the Parks and Leisure Conference NSW/ACT

The NSW Skills Conference is the annual event for the Vocational Education and Training (VET) industry. This event hosted by the Apprentice Employment Network NSW & ACT brought together key players in skills and training including Jobs and Skills Australia and The Hon. Steve Whan, NSW Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education. Sessions were informative and discussed pertinent issues such as the impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the VET industry and the NSW VET Review.





---

## NSW Budget Released

On 18 June 2024, the NSW Government released its budget announcing a \$2.5 billion budget investment in TAFE NSW.

The 2024-2025 budget includes:

- \$16.3 million to continue fully subsidised training for all apprentices and trainees. This initiative removes barriers for employers and those seeking employment and addresses cost of living pressures facing the emerging skilled workforce.
- \$83.1 million investment in the teaching workforce which will increase permanency through the conversion of 500 casual teachers to permanent employment.
- \$190 million to undertake urgent repairs at campuses across the State, upgrade 5000 digital devices and improve Wi-Fi at 40 campuses.
- \$4.9 million for the Get Back in the Game program which helps vulnerable teenagers to re-engage with education, training, and employment.

For more information, please visit the [Department of Education & Training NSW](#) website.

---

## NSW Apprenticeships and Traineeships Roadmap 2024 - 2026

The Apprenticeship and Traineeship (A&T) Roadmap will inform the strategic delivery of apprenticeships and traineeships in NSW over 2024-2026 and beyond. The roadmap is designed to ensure:

- apprenticeship and traineeship delivery is efficient and effective
- learning outcomes for apprentices and trainees are improved
- the NSW training system meets industry's ongoing need for skills.

The A&T Roadmap aims to:

- build the agility of the A&T model and pathways that meet learner and industry needs
- increase participation in A&Ts and promote pathways that meet current and future demand
- direct resources and support learners and employers to increase completion rates

- collaborate to maximise systems capacity to meet current and project demand
- strengthen internal systems and processes to support project delivery.

For more information, [download the 2024-2026 Apprenticeship and Traineeships roadmap](#).



## Growing the Ag Tech Workforce

The Office of Regional Economic Development and Training Services NSW is developing a strategy to help build the AgTech workforce. As part of this strategy, there are upcoming initiatives designed to reach school students in regional areas with career insights, mentoring, coaching or judging. Students will have the opportunity to have an immersive Ag Tech learning experience and be involved in industry-relevant problem-solving challenges.

The program began with a soft launch on 11 June with an AgTech careers webinar featuring Ben Watt from Bracla and Josie Perrett from Gallagher on some of the uses of technology in Agriculture and the opportunities available in Ag Tech.

There are a number of upcoming events in August and September which industry stakeholders can support either through presenting, coaching or mentoring:

- Ag Tech Career Taster with TAFE NSW, University of New England (UNE) & Department of Primary Industries (DPI)
- Agmentation and the Ag Tech Youth Innovation Summit with UNE
- AgVision 2024 at Yanco Agricultural High School

Find out more information about the [opportunities to be involved](#).

## MINTRAC:

### Trade Pathways Program Success

MINTRACs Trade Pathways program offered participants a thorough introduction to the retail meat industry. From knife sharpening to portion control and value-added techniques, the program equipped candidates with the practical skills necessary for success. MINTRAC arranged interviews for the candidates offering them opportunities to further their careers in the meat industry. You can [watch the success stories](#) from the program by following the link or clicking on the image below.





## RTO/Trainers Forum Meeting

MINTRAC will be hosting their next RTO/Trainer event in Brisbane on 20 August 2024 following a well-received event in Victoria. NSW-based trainers and RTOs delivering AMP qualifications are encouraged to attend the Brisbane event. To reserve your place now, please [register](#).



MINTRAC CEO Mick Crouch presenting at the Victorian event.

---

## NSW VET Review Update

NSW Vocational Education and Training (VET) Review is due to conclude their work in the coming weeks. The NSW VET Review panel consulted with peak bodies, industry, government representatives and student bodies to develop their final independent report for the NSW Government.

The final report NSW VET Review will cover the government's role, funding settings and accountability across the system – as well as focus on student success, regional and industry needs, tertiary integration, workforce, and infrastructure. While the interim report focused on TAFE NSW, the final report acknowledges the importance of both government and non-government providers and looks at how the wider VET system can be transformed to improve outcomes.

For more information, visit the [Training Services NSW](#) website.

---

## Smart and Skilled Update

The NSW Skills List has been updated to reflect:

- Update to a Vocational Training Order (VTO)
- Qualifications removed from the Pre-qualified List
- Updated tags on Skills List for NSW Fee Free qualifications.

Download [Version 15.0](#) of the NSW Skills List.

The Certificate III in Dairy Production (AHC30221) can now be delivered as a school-based traineeship under Smart and Skilled.

Visit the [apprenticeship and traineeship roadmap](#) project which could help you

deliver training for apprenticeships and traineeships that responds to learner and industry needs.

---

# Jobs and Skills Councils (JSC) Project Updates:

Skills Insight JSC currently have both training package and research projects underway in various stages. To learn more and provide input please follow the links below.

## **Planning Stage:**

[From Training Package to Training Delivery.](#)

[Exploring Training Demand Supply Challenges Project](#) - Focus groups are taking place in **Sydney on Monday 29 July and Tuesday 30 July**. Please visit the project webpage for details and to register for the event.

## **Development Stage:**

[Worker Safety Induction Pilot](#)

[Rural Operations Project](#)

## **Broad Consultation Underway:**

[Essential Meat Processing Skills Project](#)

[Livestock Operations Project](#)

[Shearing and Wool Classing](#)

[Training Support Materials for Meat Processing Project](#)

## **Reports in development:**

[Connecting RTOs & Employers Project](#)

## **Report Published:**

[Wood Machining Research Project](#)

## **Submitted to Assurance Body/Department:**

[Ag Trade Apprenticeship Project](#)

## **Endorsed and published on the National Training Register:**

[AHC Improvements Project](#)

[Tree Felling Project](#)

## **Other Projects Underway:**

[ANZSCO review project](#)



---

# NSW Grants, Opportunities and Scholarships

The following grants, opportunities and scholarships are available to employers and vocational learners. Follow the links for more information.

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

[Barranggirra](#): 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.

[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.

[OCHRE Opportunity Hubs](#): aim to provide First Nations young people with the confidence and knowledge to follow a supported pathway between school and further education and/or employment through partnerships with schools, coordination of local opportunities, mentoring, support and more.

[On Farm Connectivity Program](#): to enable primary producers in agriculture, forestry and/or fisheries to take advantage of digital agribusiness solutions to boost productivity and improve safety. **Applications close 30 June 2024 or when funding is exhausted, whichever occurs first.**

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

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.

---

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 Insight.



AFAM is supported and funded by the NSW Government.

---

Copyright © 2024 Skill Insight Ltd, All rights reserved.

**AFAM NSW ITAB**  
jcleary@skillsinsight.com.au  
PO Box 329  
Edgecliff, NSW 2027  
Australia

[Unsubscribe](#) from the AFAM newsletter list.