

## Call for Fee Free vocational education places for non-government training providers **Training Priority Projects**

**Released 16 December 2022**

### 1. Introduction

Fee Free vocational education is a joint initiative of the Australian and South Australian Governments providing free training places to students wanting to train, retrain or upskill.

This initiative includes funding to support 2,000 Fee Free training places with non-government training providers in priority sectors with key skills shortages and to support access for priority groups.

Priority sectors for this call are:

- Care industries such as aged and disability care, health care and childcare
- Agriculture
- Construction
- Defence and manufacturing
- Education
- Hospitality and tourism.

Applications that seek to engage one or more of the below priority groups will be favoured:

- First Nations people
- LGBTIQ+ community
- Veterans
- Job seekers
- Young people
- Unpaid carers
- Women interested in non-traditional fields of study
- People living with a disability
- People with certain visa sub classes (see Attachment 2).

Fee Free vocational education is intended for new students.

## 2. Who can apply

Applications to deliver Fee Free vocational education are invited from non-government registered training providers with a current Funded Activities Agreement (FAA) with Skills SA.

Providers must be compliant with the [Upfront Assessment of Need \(UAN\)](#) and have a service agreement with a [Learner Support Services \(LSS\)](#) provider.

## 3. How to apply

Eligible applicants can apply to deliver Fee Free vocational education at [www.providers.skills.sa.gov.au/training-priority-projects](http://www.providers.skills.sa.gov.au/training-priority-projects).

When an application is submitted, the nominated contact person will receive an automated email confirming receipt and a copy of the submission.

Applications open **Friday 16 December 2022** and will close **Monday 16 January 2023** at 5.00pm (Australian Central Daylight Time). Assessment and contracting are expected to be completed by early February 2023.

## 4. What will be funded

Fee Free vocational education is for the tuition component of a course.

There are 33 qualifications and 7 skill sets available, which align to the state's priority industry growth sectors and priority cohorts. The Fee Free qualifications and skill sets are in Attachment 1.

## 5. Assessment criteria

Applications will be assessed on:

- past performance
- Skills SA objectives for Fee Free vocational education
- value for money
- partnerships with industry.

### 5.1. Past performance

Past performance will be considered where the applicant has received skills, training or employment funding from Skills SA in the past three years. This includes data that indicates capacity to deliver the training places sought, training completion data, past training place allocations and performance against contracted outcomes, and contract compliance.

For providers with no performance history, Skills SA will take a risk management approach, which may involve supporting a conservative number of training places to enable the training provider to develop a performance history.

### 5.2. Skills SA objectives for Fee Free vocational education

Priority will be given to applications that:

- Target one or more priority groups
- Are to be delivered in non-metropolitan areas
- Will commence before 30 June 2023.

### 5.3. Value for money

Applicants will be required to identify the fee charged to a non-concessional publicly subsidised student in each course sought. Skills SA will consider the value for money for each course, with consideration of regional delivery and targeted groups, and course fee information from My Skills submissions.

### 5.4. Partnerships with industry

Priority will be given to applications where the applicant demonstrates strong partnerships with industry in relation to course delivery and student outcomes. This could include industry membership or demonstrated connections with community groups.

## Attachment 1. Fee Free vocational education courses

Sector	Course	
Agriculture	AHC21316	Certificate II in Shearing
	AHC30116	Certificate III in Agriculture
	AHC30716	Certificate III in Horticulture
	AHC30916 / AHC30921	Certificate III in Landscape Construction
	AHC32816	Certificate III in Rural Operations
	AHC32916	Certificate III in Shearing
	AHC41316	Certificate IV in Wool Classing
Care sector	CHC30121	Certificate III in Early Childhood Education & Care
	CHC32015	Certificate III in Community Services
	CHC33015	Certificate III in Individual Support
	CHC40113	Certificate IV in School Age Education and Care
	CHC43015	Certificate IV in Ageing Support
	CHC43115	Certificate IV in Disability
	CHC43315	Certificate IV in Mental Health
	CHC43415	Certificate IV in Leisure and Health
	CHC50121	Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care
	CHC50221	Diploma of School Age Education and Care
	CHC52015	Diploma of Community Services
	CHCSS00097	Individual Support – Ageing Skill Set
	CHCSS00098	Individual Support – Disability Skill Set
	HLT37015	Certificate III in Sterilisation Services
	HLT47315	Certificate IV in Health Administration
	HLT54121	Diploma of Nursing
Construction	22569VIC	Certificate II in Plumbing (pre-apprenticeship)
	CPC20220	Certificate II in Construction Pathways
	CPC33020	Certificate III in Bricklaying and Blocklaying
	CPC40120	Certificate IV in Building and Construction
	RII20720	Certificate II in Civil Construction
	SSDIS01008	Introduction to Construction
Defence and manufacturing	AUR20520	Certificate II in Automotive Servicing Technology
	MEM20413	Certificate II in Engineering Pathways
	MARSS00008	Shipboard Safety Skill Set
	MARSS00010	Marine Radio Operator's VHF and HF Skill Set
Education	TAE40116	Certificate IV in Training and Assessment
	TAE50116	Diploma of Vocational Education and Training
	TAESS00014	Enterprise Trainer-Presenting Skill Set
	TAESS00018	Delivering E-Learning Skill Set
Hospitality and tourism	SIT20316 / SIT20322	Certificate II in Hospitality
	SIT30616	Certificate III in Hospitality
	SIT30816 / SIT30821	Certificate III in Commercial Cookery

## Attachment 2. Frequently Asked Questions for Fee Free vocational education

### 1. What is Fee Free vocational education?

Fee Free vocational education means the student is **not** charged a fee for the tuition component of a course.

Fee Free vocational education places is a joint initiative of the Australian and South Australian Governments. The South Australian government will target 2,000 Fee Free training places available for students to train, retrain or upskill with no fee through selected non-government vocational education and training (VET) providers.

### 2. Who is eligible to undertake Fee Free vocational education?

To be eligible for Fee Free vocational education, an individual must at the time the course commences:

- Live or work in South Australia
- Be an Australian or New Zealand citizen, permanent Australian resident or an eligible VISA holder (see section 3 below)
- Be aged 16 years or over and **not** enrolled at school.

Applicants must also meet any specific academic entry requirements for individual courses.

Fee Free vocational education is intended for new students enrolled in the course being offered, but do not need to be new to the training provider. Access to a course is not limited by an eligible person's training account history, and individuals can access more than one Fee Free place.

### 3. What are the eligible visas for Fee Free vocational education?

Students may be eligible for Fee Free training places if they are a holder of an eligible visa. In addition to all permanent residency visa holders, the following visa holders are eligible:

- Skilled – Work Regional (subclass 491)
- Skilled – Regional (Provisional) Visa (subclass 489)
- Skilled Employer Sponsored Regional (subclass 494)
- Business Innovation and Investment (Provisional) Visa, subclass 188
- Bridging Visa A, subclass 010\*
- Bridging Visa E (BE), subclass 050 and 051\*
- Temporary Protection Visa (TPV), subclass 785\*
- Bridging Visa F (BVF), subclass 060\*
- Partner Visa (Temporary), subclass 820 and 309
- Temporary Humanitarian Stay visa (subclass 449)
- Safe Haven Enterprise Visa (SHEV), subclass 790
- Temporary Humanitarian Concern (THC) visa, subclass 786

*\*Individuals on Bridging visas are only eligible where they are waiting on the outcome of an application for a permanent visa or one of the temporary visas listed above.*

Visa holders on the following repealed provisional visas are also eligible for Fee Free training:

- Skilled – Regional (Provisional) Visa (subclass 489)
- Skilled – Regional Sponsored Visa (subclass 475)
- Skilled – Regional Sponsored Visa (subclass 487)
- Skilled Independent – Regional (Provisional) Visa (subclass 495)
- Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme (Permanent) Visa (subclass 187)
- Senior Executive (Provisional) Visa (subclass 161)
- Investor (Provisional) Visa (subclass 162)
- State/Territory Sponsored Business Owner (Provisional) Visa, subclass 163
- State/Territory Sponsored Senior Executive (Provisional) Visa, subclass 164
- State/Territory Sponsored Investor (Provisional) Visa, subclass 165.

## 4. Who can deliver Fee Free vocational education?

Non-government providers who are successful through this call can deliver Fee Free vocational education.

Non-government training providers will receive an annexure to their Funded Activities Agreement that will specify the courses and number of Fee Free places that can be delivered.

## 5. When do Fee Free vocational education places need to be delivered?

Fee Free vocational education places awarded through this call are available to students enrolling before 30 June 2023 and will remain free for eligible students for the duration of the course.

## 6. How many places will be awarded to contracted providers?

Through this call for Fee Free vocational education, government will be targeting an allocation of 2,000 places across the courses in scope, aligned to priorities and available budget.

The number of places awarded to successful applicants will be determined via a competitive assessment process. Skills SA will monitor the take-up of places on a monthly basis and reserves the right to redistribute training places that have not been utilised by 30 June 2023.

## 7. How will providers attract enrolments for Fee Free vocational education?

Non-government training providers who are awarded Fee Free training places will be listed on the Skills SA website ([www.skills.sa.gov.au](http://www.skills.sa.gov.au)) to support direct enquiries from individuals.

From time to time, Skills SA may refer individuals to providers who are delivering in specific locations and/or targeting particular cohorts.

Providers delivering Fee Free vocational education must ensure that any Fee Free marketing materials are compliant with their FAA Annexure.

## 8. How will providers of fee free vocational education be paid?

To enable payment, providers delivering fee free vocational education will need to create a Training Account for each fee free student and add student details to a 'project' record in the [Skills and Employment Portal](#). Further details about payment processes will be set out in contractual documentation that will be issued to successful applicants.