

Media Release

The Hon Natalie Hutchins MP
Minister for Jobs and Industry
Minister for Treaty and First Peoples
Minister for Women



Monday, 28 October 2024

NEW TRAINING TO GROW AND UPSKILL CRITICAL WORKFORCES

The Allan Labor Government is addressing critical skills shortages with new training courses to help industries upskill and grow their workforce.

Minister for Jobs and Industry Natalie Hutchins today visited the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research to announce the successful projects under the Skills Solutions Partnerships program that will share in \$4.4 million.

The Skills Solutions Partnerships program supports training providers and industry to come together and develop and deliver the training programs the industry needs. The program focuses on priority industries, such as manufacturing, economics, construction, healthcare and social services.

The first round of the program will provide \$4.4 million for a range of projects, including:

- Training for medical and medtech researchers to be delivered by the Association of Australian Medical Research Institutes, Swinburne University of Technology and MTPConnect
- Management training for leaders in the alcohol and other drugs sector to be delivered by the Victorian Alcohol and Drugs Association and RMIT
- Digital upskilling for regional health service providers to be delivered by RMIT, Grampians Health and Cisco
- Disability in the workforce training for HR leaders and employers to be delivered by Ability Works, Swinburne, Ive Group and Transurban
- Upskilling disability workers to support clients health needs being delivered by National Disability Services and The Gordon.

The Skills Solutions Partnerships program builds on other Labor Government initiatives that are delivering more high-value jobs, including training Victorians to fill digital jobs through our Digital Jobs program and making it easier to undertake vocational study through Free TAFE.

Since 2014, the Labor Government has invested more than \$4.6 billion into training, skills and higher education – ensuring the growing demand for skilled workers across the state can be met.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Jobs and Industry Natalie Hutchins

“We’re taking action now to build the capabilities our industries need today and well into the future.”

“These important partnerships will help address skills gaps in our workforce by providing the industry-led training approaches like short courses and on-the-job learning.”

Quotes attributable to Minister for Skills and TAFE Gayle Tierney

“This funding demonstrates that TAFEs and universities working closely with industry is essential for delivering the high-skilled, high-wage jobs Victorians need.”

“Our public institutions are working with industry to ensure our workers can upskill and reskill for the jobs of the future.”

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Quote attributable to Michelle Marven, Executive Officer, AAMRI VIC

"Medical research is vital for improving health outcomes and the Commercialisation Training for Medical and Med Tech Researchers program will enable researchers to develop these skills and build workforce capacity to drive innovation."