

NSW Skills Plan 2024–28: Building skills and shaping success

Delivering our Skills Plan – 2025

2025 progress

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing TAFE NSW teachers' administrative burden and securing long-term funding by removing TAFE NSW from the contestable market from Semester 1, 2026. 	✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launched a skills planning pilot through the Riverina Murray Regional Skills Alliance, uniting 14 organisations to embed community-informed decision-making in local skills delivery. 	✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launched the TAFE NSW Charter, reinforcing TAFE's role as a strong and stable partner for government, industry, learners, and communities. 	✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthened community engagement and learner outcomes through a revised TAFE NSW operating model with industry-aligned faculties and a dedicated student support and community group. 	✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expanded training opportunities for cutting edge manufacturing by launching 3 TAFE NSW Manufacturing Centres of Excellence. 	✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connected 61,175 students, including 48% from rural, regional and remote NSW, with more than 1,300 employers through the Regional Industry Education Partnerships program (Jan-Oct). 	✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing up to \$10 million in travel and accommodation support through the Vocational Training Assistance Scheme, to help more than 5,500 regional and remote apprentices and trainees stay engaged in VET. 	✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing funding for the Educational Pathways Program, supporting 70,000 students - 42% in regional, rural or remote areas - to explore education and career pathways. 	✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed consultation with over 13,000 participants as part of the Apprenticeship and Traineeship Act review to ensure legislation changes help modernise the system and better support apprentices, trainees, and employers. 	✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Created more job and training opportunities under the 1,000 NSW Public Sector Apprentices and Trainees (A&T) Program with more than 650 additional apprentices and trainees commencing across NSW to date. 	✓

2025 progress

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| • Engaged 715 students in fee-free training and industry experience through 49 Head Start programs (from Feb to Sep) supporting senior school completion and post-school pathways. | ✓ |
| • Launched a school-based apprenticeships and traineeships campaign to drive interest and subject selection for 2026 in 3 Critical Skills Areas (construction, renewables, and early childhood education and care). | ✓ |
| • Invested \$40.2 million over 2 years to continue Fee Free Apprenticeships and Traineeships with more than 35,000 new apprentices and trainees on track to commence this year. | ✓ |
| • Enhanced opportunities for more than 2,200 young people experiencing disadvantage to re-engage with education, training and employment (Jan to Oct) through the Get Back in the Game Program. | ✓ |
| • Supported more than 82,000 students with over \$38.8 million in funding for students in priority cohorts and students in regional and remote areas. | ✓ |
| • Partnered with the Commonwealth Government to expand the Get Back in the Game program through an additional \$5 million to continue support until Dec 2026. | ✓ |
| • Launched the Career Pathways Programs, Services and Resources Hub providing students, families, school staff, and employers easy access to career education resources. | ✓ |
| • Strengthened alternative digital pathways through the first Digital Compact 20% Alternative Pathways Pledge with 41 industry, education and government partners. | ✓ |
| • Expanded the Paid to Learn program with \$9.8 million in NSW and Commonwealth funding to accelerate the transition of industry professionals into teaching roles in priority skills areas. | ✓ |
| • As at November 2025, over 2,200 casual TAFE NSW teachers and delivery support staff have been converted to permanent roles. | ✓ |
| • Finalised consultation on the Trade Skills Migration Policy and pilot initiatives to streamline trade pathways for skilled migrants. | ✓ |