

NSW Skills Outcomes Framework

2026

Purpose

The NSW Skills Outcomes Framework (the Framework) supports the government's role as steward of the NSW skills system. The Framework aims to promote shared accountability for system outcomes across NSW skills stakeholders and the training provider network, in line with the strategic priorities of the [NSW Skills Plan 2024–28: Building Skills and Shaping Success](#).

The Framework will enable a health check of the performance of the NSW skills system across a range of key metrics and indicators, covering 6 domains:

- population-level
- students
- industry and employers
- regions
- vocational education and training (VET) teaching workforce
- system responsiveness in relation to the NSW Critical Skill Areas.

The vision of the Framework is to set the government's direction and aspiration for the skills system. It is intended to be read as whole; no single indicator or metric can measure success across the system.

The Department of Education will monitor progress towards the objectives of the NSW Skills Plan with a focus on priority outcomes to emphasise the government's commitment in these areas and intention to direct effort and resourcing.

In context

The Framework aligns with, and builds on, the , the [National Skills Agreement Outcomes Framework](#), [Closing the Gap](#) and [Our Plan for NSW Public Education](#). This ensures a robust approach to monitoring the performance of the skills system to enable a cohesive, transparent and whole-of-government approach to supporting NSW skills outcomes, the [National Skills Agreement Outcomes Framework](#), [Closing the Gap](#) and [Our Plan for NSW Public Education](#). This ensures a robust approach to monitoring the performance of the skills system to enable a cohesive, transparent and whole-of-government approach to supporting NSW skills outcomes.

The Framework has been developed in consultation with stakeholders including NSW and Australian government agencies, providers, peak bodies, unions and industry representatives. It is a shared commitment that recognises the role and responsibility of all stakeholders to achieving system outcomes.

As the Framework is implemented, it is intended it will evolve as the availability and quality of data improves. This will support a more robust evidence base to draw data insights from and inform government decisions.

Monitoring and reporting

To enable accountability and transparency, a suite of resources are publicly available to demonstrate performance against the Framework.

Annual insights and monitoring of performance will also be detailed in a State of the System report that will provide a health check of the skills system as the NSW Skills Plan reforms progress.

About the Framework



Outcome domain

The Framework covers 6 key domains:

- population-level
- students
- industry and employers
- regions
- VET teaching workforce
- system responsiveness



Outcome statements

Each domain has an outcome statement which broadly sets out what we want to achieve for NSW.

Metrics and indicators have been identified across the outcome areas.



Metric

A metric defines how the outcome will be measured at a system level. It has been selected to track progress towards achieving the outcome across the NSW skills system.









Indicator

An indicator tracks other important data that may not be solely influenced by the NSW skills system. There are external factors that may impact on the outcome at the broader population-level.



Framework on a page

						
Outcome domain	Population-level	Students	Industry and employers	VET teaching workforce	Regions	Critical Skills Areas
Outcome statement	The NSW skills system supports all people to participate in VET that drives wellbeing and economic outcomes for individuals and the state.	All people in NSW, regardless of background, can access VET that meets their diverse needs.	The NSW skills system is providing the skills that industry and employers need.	The NSW VET teaching workforce delivers excellence in VET.	Individuals and businesses in regional NSW can access the VET courses and skilled workers they need in their local community.	The NSW skills system is responsive to current and emerging NSW skills priorities.
Indicators/Metrics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working age population with Certificate III qualifications or higher Proportion of students who take up higher education, training, or work in the year after school Proportion of young people fully engaged in employment and/or study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student achieved main reason for training Students employed, or in further study after training Student satisfaction with support services Completion rates for priority cohorts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employer satisfaction with accredited training VET-related occupations in shortage in NSW 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student satisfaction with teaching Student satisfaction with training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students' and 'VET teaching workforce' metrics with a focus on regional, rural and remote 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commencements in NSW Critical Skills Areas Completions in NSW Critical Skills Areas

 Population-level indicators  System-level metric