

Skills for Victoria's Growing Economy

Fact Sheet

About the Review

The Victorian Government has commissioned this Review because it understands the importance of post-secondary education and training to our future prosperity. Victoria's economy is growing rapidly. Big new investments in transport and infrastructure, disability care, mental health services, early childhood education and family violence prevention will all create thousands of jobs over the next decade. The Review is being led by former Federal Minister Ms Jenny Macklin. The Terms of Reference are available at: engage.vic.gov.au/skillsforvictoria.

How you can contribute

We need your input. Every Victorian has a stake in the future of post-secondary education and training in Victoria, and the Review wants to give all interested Victorians the opportunity to have a say in designing the system. Complete a survey or upload your own written submission at: engage.vic.gov.au/skillsforvictoria. Feedback should be provided by 5 June 2020.

Key Issues

For the economy and society

Post-secondary education and training is critical to Victoria's social and economic growth. The Review has heard that economic and social changes occurring in Victoria have implications for post-secondary education and training. These include a growing economy and growth in priority sectors; a changing workforce, including a hollowing out of intermediate and technical skills; population growth and an ageing workforce; and the ongoing challenge of tackling inequality and disadvantage.

For Governments

Governments must lead the way in facilitating excellence and ensuring Victoria has a world-class post-secondary education and training system fit for the future. The Review has heard that there are system issues that governments could address as a priority, including system excellence and equity, policy and funding stability, increased accountability, and better governance.

For students

Students' futures depend on high-quality post-secondary education and training. The Review has heard that better policy could improve students' experience and outcomes of post-secondary education and training, especially in VET. The system could be improved to help students with getting a good job, completing, costs, learning, decision-making, accessibility, additional support, literacy and numeracy, apprenticeships and traineeships, and lifelong learning.

For education and training providers

The post-secondary education and training system depends on the capacity of providers to deliver quality learning within a stable and supportive policy environment. The Review has heard that rebuilding a strong TAFE sector should be a priority in overall sector renewal. Victoria can further build on directions set in the 2017 Skills First reforms and address enduring and emerging issues such as the competitive training market, infrastructure and facilities, workforce development, excellence and specialisation, and a coherent post-secondary sector with easy-to-navigate pathways.

For employers, industry and unions

Industry and unions both benefit from and contribute to post-secondary education and training. There are challenges for employers of VET and higher education graduates and the Review is keen to further explore issues such as work-ready graduates, industry and union engagement with providers, and fair co-investment in education and training.