



NATIONAL SKILLS WEEK

National Skills Week 2019: Real skills for real careers!

National Skills Week is a time to highlight the myriad of skills and qualifications that can be achieved through a vocational education pathway, and acknowledges the sector's valuable contribution to Australian lives and businesses.

In April 2019, the Morrison Government announced a \$525 million skills package that will ensure Australia's VET sector delivers the skills critical to the economy, for the jobs of today and into the future.

This package will deliver some exciting opportunities to ensure Australians develop the right skills they need to succeed in a changing labour market. It will provide businesses, including those in both rural and regional areas, with a pipeline of qualified workers they need to grow and prosper.

The Morrison Government is investing \$42.4 million to establish a National Careers Institute and will appoint a National Careers Ambassador, to improve career education to young Australians and workers who are transitioning careers. I firmly believe that vocational education is just as valuable as a university education. We need to shepherd in a new way of thinking about the status of apprenticeships and vocational education.

The VET sector in Australia is world class. The outcomes are evident when you see the talent showcased on the national stage at the [Australian Training Awards](#), and at the regional, national and international [WorldSkills](#) competitions.

National Skills Week is a great time to reflect on the many success stories that have come from VET, and a great time to introduce vocational education to those who are looking to move ahead with the career of their choice.

Senator Michaelia Cash

Minister for Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business