



NATIONAL 2021
SKILLS WEEK August 23rd - August 29th

MEDIA RELEASE

Major focus on skills to help Aussies build a more resilient economy

National Skills Week 2021 announced as push to train and skill up Australians for jobs and help lead national recovery.

16 JUNE 2021 – Now moving into its eleventh year, National Skills Week 2021 will be held August 23 to 29, inviting Australians to ‘RE-THINK’ their ideas of what Vocational Education and training is all about and the role it can have in preparing people for the future of work, especially in a post-pandemic economy.

This comes with the 2021 Federal Budget that emphasises the necessity for training in high-demand sectors as well as new careers as the Australian Government and State Governments attempt to drive down unemployment and rebuild the economy.

The Federal Government’s job-centric Budget builds off the \$1bn JobTrainer initiative announced last year to make training courses more accessible to young Australians in areas experiencing increased demand such as IT, aged care, disability support and trades.

Held annually, the vision of **National Skills Week** is to raise awareness on the diversity of careers which can be realised through vocational education and training, the skills for an economically viable future, and the incredible range of new jobs and skills in demand for the future.

National Skills Week 2021 will be centred around asking people to ‘Re-think’ their ideas of VET – and to discover, challenge, and explore what is on offer. The focus will be on challenging perceptions of vocational education and training, reimagining bold and innovative ideas for young Australians to take on their careers and to reassess the value of the VET sector, especially in the country-wide pursuit of economic recovery.

National Skills Week Chair, Brian Wexham says that it is imperative to educate all people - job seekers, school leavers and influencers on practical career pathways.

“National Skills Week plays a pivotal role in strengthening and communicating the key messages of industry and government in an environment shaped by the fluid nature of skills requirements and ever-evolving technologies,” said Mr Wexham.

“This initiative is designed to achieve real, transformative outcomes for Australian people – to inspire people to undertake active, participative education and training that VET provides resulting in skills that can realise immediate rewards in jobs, success and contribute to building our economy.”

“Advocating for the many pathways to success helps us to articulate the solution. That’s at the core of National Skills Week.

“National Skills Week plays a central role in educating parents, students and jobseekers as to the many and varied careers out there for young people and asking them to ‘Re-think’ about matching their passions and skill strengths with career outcomes.”

So, what are the jobs for our future?

From the 2021 Budget, Australians can deduce that the future of jobs will include a vast range of practical and vocational occupations, including digital skills and IT, artificial intelligence, aviation technologies, manufacturing, aged care, and disability care.

“The government is injecting billions of dollars into these industries ahead of the forecasted job proliferation in these sectors. This will inevitably require resources and programs to provide practical training for job seekers, which initiatives like National Skills Week aim to promote,” said Mr Wexham.

All you need to know about National Skills Week 2021:

When:	August 23-29 2021
Purpose:	To raise awareness of the myriad of rewarding, lucrative and prestigious career pathways available via vocational education and training
Key message:	Rethink what you know and your ideas on where skills can take you. A skilled workforce leads to an employed workforce.
Theme:	‘RE-THINK’: encouraging all Australians to challenge what they know about vocational education and skills and reassess their value.
Ambassadors:	15 VET Alumni – From all walks of life

For further information, visit nationalskillsweek.com.au

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