

BHP supports National Skills Week 2021 as Government ramps up the importance of vocational skills training

Now moving into its eleventh year, National Skills Week 2021 will be held August 23 to 29, inviting Australians to explore the many vocational career pathways in a post-pandemic economy.

The 2021 Federal Budget has a clear focus on skills training, supporting over 450,000 new training places and wage subsidies to create more than 170,000 new apprenticeships and traineeships.

There is great demand and great opportunity for many Australians to pursue career pathways through the practical and vocational sectors.

National Skills Week Chair, Brian Wexham, says that during the week, areas of emerging skills needs are highlighted, career options profiled and inspiring stories told. There has never been a more pivotal time to educate job seekers and school leavers on the importance of gaining a skill.

"We are delighted to have an established company like BHP coming on board for the first time as a key sponsor of the initiative. This represents their organisational support for skills and vocational training," said Mr Wexham.

Edgar Basto, BHP's President Minerals Australia, says BHP was a strong supporter of training initiatives to bolster Australia's skills base and support the pandemic recovery.

"As Australia looks to rebuild its economy and provide jobs for the future, the mining industry has an important role to play.

"Providing apprenticeships, skills and training opportunities for Australians of all ages and all walks of life, particularly in our regional communities, will be critical to helping Australia bounce back.

"That's why BHP has pledged to create 3500 new apprenticeship and training opportunities, including through our FutureFit Academies in Perth and Mackay, over the next five years to help build a pipeline of future talent in highly skilled roles in an industry that delivers essential products the world needs."

National Skills Week works with stakeholders across Australia to ensure message around employment outcomes, career pathways and skilling solutions for jobs of the future is shared among the widest possible audience encouraging Australians to explore the exciting options through Vocational Education.

National Skills Week 2021 will be officially launched on Tuesday August 24 at Old Parliament House.

For more information, visit www.nationalskillsweek.com.au

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About National Skills Week

National Skills Week is an initiative of SkillsOne, who will once again be driving the initiative working with government and stakeholders to achieve unique and beneficial outcomes, accompanied and supported by unprecedented media coverage.

We want you to play a part, practically organising, showcasing activities and events during the week (August 23-29). There are many ways you can be involved.