

**NATIONAL SKILLS WEEK**



AUGUST 22 - AUGUST 28

2022

real skills for  
real careers

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

# **Hospitality worker shortages hard to swallow – National Skills Week**

## ***Hospitality roles slow to fill despite the industry comeback***

**15 August 2022** . National Skills Week's Chairman Brian Wexham says hospitality employment opportunities have been slow to fill so far this year despite Australian border restrictions being loosened and the industry recovering.

Mr Wexham said: "The hospitality industry is incredibly diverse and Australian consumers have embraced the growing foodie culture, with our tastes around food, drink, accommodation and experiences becoming more sophisticated. Key occupations include café and restaurant managers, retail managers, bar attendants and baristas, café workers, waiters, sales assistants, receptionists, and Hotel and Motel Managers.

Employment figures for the accommodation sector fell dramatically between 2019 and 2020 . from 105,000 to 76,400 respectively. This was the lowest employment level recorded since 2000. The food and beverages sector also experienced a notable decline between 2019 and 2020 . from 818,900 to 575,400 in that short time. Thankfully, all hospitality related occupations are projected to show growth to 2025, with the strongest growth expected to be sales assistants (25 percent), waiters (18 per cent) and chefs (16 per cent) (Source: Employment trends, Australian Industry and Skills Committee, 2022).

**SkillsIQ Chief Executive Officer, Yasmin King says:** "The great opportunity from working in the Hospitality sector is that you are working in an international industry . there is no limit to where you can work in the world.

Having worked in the sector you are able to demonstrate the most sought-after employability skills in ANY job, including communication, customer service, problem solving and working as part of a team.

The industry is coming to the realisation that it has to grow its own workforce, so there has never been a better opportunity for young people to embrace the opportunity to work in the sector, access formal training and gain skills that will set them up for life regardless of what pathway they take.

Now moving into its twelfth year, National Skills Week 2022 is being held this year, August 22 to 28, inviting Australians to explore the Universe of Skills on offer through Vocational Education and Training.

A key objective of National Skills Week is to identify and highlight industries with the most in-demand jobs of the future as well as sectors forecast to see the biggest growth in coming years, to ensure Australians can gain the training and education they need to secure those jobs and maintain stable long-term employment.

Mr Wexham said it is critical that school leavers, job seekers, parents and career changers are informed of what the jobs of the future are, and what Australia's most critical skills shortages and jobs needs are.

This will ensure our young people, yet to start careers, can gain training and skills in education which is going to secure them a job at the end of that training.

Further, it will assist in funnelling Australia's labour market into the training opportunities which are most likely going to lead to their employment ie the most in-demand jobs of the future.

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.

This year's Week will be centred around the theme of **'A Universe of Skills'** encouraging people to go beyond their imagination to discover careers, pathways and opportunities in skills and Vocational Education that they may not know about, thought about or even imagined.

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.

#### **All you need to know about National Skills Week 2022:**

<b>When:</b>	<b>August 22-28 2022</b>
<b>Purpose:</b>	<b>To raise awareness of the myriad of rewarding, lucrative and prestigious career pathways available via vocational education and training</b>
<b>Key message:</b>	<b>A skilled workforce leads to an employed workforce.</b>
<b>Theme:</b>	<b>'A Universe of Skills: Go beyond your imagination. Discover careers, pathways and opportunities in skills and</b>

**Vocational Education that you may not know about,  
thought about or even imagined.**

**Interview options / talent:**

**Capital has access to a wide range of Government leaders, CEOs of industry bodies and organisations across industries facing the biggest skills shortages (healthcare, manufacturing, construction etc) as well as more than 15 VET Alumni from all parts of the country who have completed VET courses and won awards.**

**National Skills Week Chairman Brian Wexham is also available for interviews upon request.**

National Skills Week is supported by the Australian Government & National Careers Institute.

For further information, visit [nationalskillsweek.com.au](http://nationalskillsweek.com.au)

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