

**MEDIA RELEASE – For immediate release**

 **THE SKILLS REQUIRED FOR THE FUTURE STEM FROM VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

**Explore All The Options and consider Vocational Education and Training (VET)**

***National Skills Week: 25–31 August 2025***

**Sydney, 18 August 2025** – Technology is at the heart of the emerging skills required for jobs in the future, but the largest growing occupations require a base that comes from vocational education and training (VET).

National Skills Week 2025 highlights the important role vocational training will play in the workforce meeting future skills requirements and the opportunities that can be uncovered when jobseekers explore ALL the options.

When it comes to the fastest growing jobs in Australia, KPMG Australia[[1]](#footnote-1) analysis finds the top three jobs – aged and disabled care workers, tech and IT professionals, and early childhood and care workers - all require VET qualifications.

Furthermore, jobseekers looking to get their start in three other growth roles – marketing, ad and PR professionals, nurses and midwives, human resource professionals – can do so through VET courses, often also gaining credit towards obtaining a university degree along the way.

However, Jobs and Skills Australia reveals data and digital skills are the fastest growing emerging skills and they apply across the workforce spectrum. For example, job advertisements requiring childcare centre managers to have social media skills grew from less than 1 per cent in 2015 to almost 15 per cent in 2020[[2]](#footnote-2).

Meanwhile, more than 90 per cent of jobs growth in the next decade will require post-school qualifications, including 43 per cent where VET is the primary pathway[[3]](#footnote-3).

Most (459,000) jobs will require a certificate II or III qualification. Another 170,200 jobs will require a certificate III or IV, including an apprenticeship, and 206,300 jobs will require a diploma, advanced diploma or associate degree.

Whether it is an apprenticeship or traineeship, diploma or certificate, or a short course, vocational education and training can provide jobseekers with the skills they need to be employed.

**National Skills Week Chair Brian Wexham says:**

“National Skills Week is an important influence in changing people’s perception of Vocational Education and Training (VET). Throughout the week - and beyond - we want to showcase how Vocational Education has transformed lives.

“Apprenticeships are a cornerstone of the VET sector. A quality apprenticeship pathway will continue to be critical to ensuring that Australia is able to respond to emerging skills needs and an increasing dynamic labour market influenced by technology.”

**Quotes from Industry Providers:**

**Attributed to: Trevor Fairweather, Executive General Manager, Education at ReadyTech**

“We’re proud to support National Skills Week because vocational education plays a critical role in shaping Australia’s future. It equips people with real-world skills and opens pathways to meaningful, lasting careers.”

**Attributed to: Jo Hargreaves, Senior Program Manager, Wine Australia**

“The Australian wine sector is evolving—sustainability, innovation, and global competitiveness are shaping the jobs of the future. We’re seeing an increasing need for digital skills across all areas, including viticulture, where vineyards of the future will be driven by science, data, and resilience”.

**Attributed to: Kate Pemberton, National Apprentice Development Manager Komatsu Australia Pty Ltd**

“Apprentices are an essential and strategic part of our workforce because they help us grow, strengthen, and future-proof our organization. By investing in apprenticeships, we’re not just filling immediate gaps—we’re building long-term capability and resilience.

Apprentices enable us to expand our workforce with fresh talent who are eager to learn and contribute from day one.”

**Attributed to: Geordan Murray, Future Workforce & Industry Research, Housing Industry Association**

The homes we build today are smarter, more sustainable, and more complex than ever before. This shift is creating thousands of new roles in design, energy, compliance and digital tools. We need a workforce ready to meet that future. *Geordan Murray, Future Workforce & Industry Research, Housing Industry Association*

**VET success story available for interview:**

**Electrotechnology apprentice Carly Brown**, the 2024 Victorian Vocational Student of the Year, has already found her electrical skills useful as the world moves towards a technological future.

She has been one of the workers involved in the construction of Amazon’s Melbourne fulfillment centre which will use automation and robotics to streamline operations and improve efficiency.

“There's so many more opportunities by doing a trade,” she says.

“There's so many career options that are available that we just don't even know about.”

Carly struggled with the academic focus of her high school and when she saw a friend had enrolled at a trade school, she decided to make the switch too, in her second term of Year 10.

There, while completing her high school certificate, she was able to try a range of work experiences and completed the qualifications Certificate II in Engineering, Certificate II in Electrotechnology, Certificate II in Plumbing and Certificate II in Automotive Technology.

“I can't learn through just reading or writing. I have to be physically on the job to learn, so for me, VET has been amazing,” she says.



**Disability support worker Andy Bartlett** has made the career change from hospitality, although he has been able to use some of his skills from his previous work as a chef to start up a successful cooking program for his participants.

Andy, who was named Vocational Student of the Year at the 2024 Tasmania Training Awards, studied a Certificate III in Individual Support (Disability) and plans to further his qualification with a Diploma of Community Services.

When looking to change careers post-Covid, various people suggested he consider the disability sector.

“They said give disability a try and you won't look back and they were dead right, I have not looked back once,” he says.

“My highlights are ongoing - literally every day I think it’s fabulous the things I get to do.

“Most people see me now and they say I look happier and I look younger because I'm more relaxed than when I was a chef.”

VET’s flexible learning pathways meant that Andy could continue working while studying his certificate III, which is a six-month course.

He says the assessors also helped guide him in his studies, providing a supportive learning environment.

**Childcare worker Lachlan Carey** wants to make a difference in the lives of children. Having faced his fair share of challenges for someone so young, Lachlan decided it was time to pay forward the acts of kindness he received by becoming an early childhood educator.

As part of his traineeship, Lachlan was enrolled in a Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care at Atkinson Training and Development and employed at A Magical Time Children’s Centre.

Suffering significant health issues in Year 10 that required a lengthy recovery time, Lachlan was unable to return to school and decided to pursue his passion for educating kids.

Bringing his fun, nurturing and patient nature to every interaction during his traineeship, Lachlan was immediately adored by colleagues, families and, most importantly, the children in his care

Having now also completed his Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care, Lachlan is enrolled in the Bachelor of Education using the knowledge and skills he has gained along the way to advance his career and life.

**National Skills Week 2025 acknowledges the support provided by the Australian Government, and its major partner, ReadyTech**.

**Who's Behind National Skills Week?**

Supported by the Federal Government (DEWR), State Governments (QLD and NSW), and leading VET organisations, this year’s partners include:

* MEGT
* Apprenticeship Support Australia
* Brick & Block Careers
* Komatsu
* South Australian Skills Commission (SASC)
* Construction Industry Training Board
* TAFE NSW
* Queensland University of Technology
* ReadyTech
* University of Queensland
* Victoria University
* BAE Australia
* Housing Industry Association (HIA)
* Wine Australia
* Adelaide University
* UQ Skills.

**Talent Available for Interview:**

Media outlets can access interviews with:

* Brian Wexham, Chair, National Skills Week
* VET Alumni & Apprentices of the Year from across Australia
* Industry Leaders & CEOs in healthcare, tech, construction, mining, and more
* Members of the 2025 National Skills Week Advisory Committee

National Skills Week offers facilitated media connections to suit specific sector coverage.

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**Notes to editors:**

**About National Skills Week 2025**

National Skills Week is an annual initiative in Australia, scheduled for 25–31 August 2025, aimed at promoting the value and diversity of Vocational Education and Training (VET). Organised by SkillsOne Television and supported by Australian, State, and Territory Governments, it serves as a platform to highlight career pathways through apprenticeships, traineeships, and other VET programs.

National Skills Week is designed to:

* Raise Awareness: Enhance public understanding of the benefits and opportunities within the VET sector.
* Challenge Perceptions: Dispel outdated myths about VET and showcase its relevance in today's economy.
* Highlight Career Pathways: Demonstrate the diverse career options available through VET, including apprenticeships, full qualifications, micro-credentials, and pathways to higher education.
* Address Skills Shortages: Focus on emerging skills needs and industry trends to support workforce development.

The 2025 theme, “Explore ALL the Options,” encourages individuals to consider a wide range of educational and career pathways, emphasizing opportunities in regional and remote areas, as well as various training formats.

Through over 500 events nationwide, National Skills Week aims to inspire participation in VET, contributing to a skilled and adaptable workforce that meets Australia's evolving economic needs.

For more information or to get involved, visit the official website: [nationalskillsweek.com.au](https://www.nationalskillsweek.com.au/).

**About ReadyTech – Major sponsor of National Skills Week 2025**

ReadyTech (ASX:RDY) is Australia’s leading provider of SaaS for the education, workforce, government, and justice sectors. Focused on enabling outcomes that matter, ReadyTech supports educators with student management, learning management and skills assessment tools tailored to the unique needs of the TAFE, RTO, and tertiary sectors.

More info: readytech.io/education

1. [KPMG Australia, The fastest growing jobs and the ones slowly going extinct](https://kpmg.com/au/en/home/media/press-releases/2025/05/the-fastest-growing-jobs-and-the-ones-slowly-going-extinct.html) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. [Jobs and Skills Australia, Australia’s emerging skills](https://www.jobsandskills.gov.au/sites/default/files/2022-02/Australia%E2%80%99s%20emerging%20skills.pdf) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. [Jobs and Skills Australia Employment Projections](https://www.jobsandskills.gov.au/data/employment-projections) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)