



MEDIA RELEASE  
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## **TAFE Association welcomes further investment into sector**

The Victorian TAFE Association (VTA), the peak body for Victoria's public VET providers network, has welcomed the announcement of further funding to TAFEs.

The State Government has announced a further \$108m of funding for the sector, which will support the growth in enrolments of the Government's Free TAFE program.

The funding comes at the end of two years in which Victorian TAFEs and Dual Sector Universities have again comprehensively delivered for their students, employers and local communities as Victorians have tackled pandemic-related challenges.

The news of the funding was announced by Premier Andrews and Minister Tierney at William Angliss Institute, which was recently named Australia's large training provider of the year. The award was the sixth year in a row a Victorian TAFE has taken out the title – an outstanding achievement.

The impact of TAFEs during the pandemic has been real and often unheralded, with TAFEs such as William Angliss Institute throwing open their doors to support their students and local communities in a time of unprecedented challenges.

As public providers of vocational education and training, Victorian TAFEs and Dual Sector Universities provide quality training (including Free TAFE courses) and critical support services for their students. The additional funding from the Government underlines the importance and impact of the Victorian TAFE network and TAFEs' ability to deliver for all Victorians.

### **Comments attributable to VTA Executive Director, Jeremy Irvine**

"The Association welcomes this funding announcement by the State Government as further indication of the recognition of the positive impact TAFEs have each day in supporting students and employers and as part of their local communities."

"Victorian TAFEs and their staff and communities worked through enormous challenges in responding to COVID. They also implemented a range of student support measures to keep students facing hardship engaged with their studies and provided support for students in need to enable them to access remote learning."

"In 2020, and now in 2021, Victorian TAFEs have demonstrated their ability to be agile and innovative in their response to the training and skills needs of Victorians."

"Victorian TAFEs and Dual Sector Universities provide quality training and deliver practical solutions across their 90-plus campuses each day and are a key education, social and economic resource, owned by all Victorians."

**\*\* Ends \*\***