

<b>Part 1: Formalities and operation of schedule</b>	
Parties	<p>Commonwealth</p> <p>New South Wales</p> <p>Victoria</p> <p>Queensland</p> <p>Western Australia</p> <p>South Australia</p> <p>Tasmania</p> <p>Australian Capital Territory</p> <p>Northern Territory</p>
Duration	<p>This Schedule is expected to expire 30 June 2024.</p>
Purpose	<p>This Schedule establishes shared funding arrangements between the Commonwealth and states and territories (the States) to deliver fee-free TAFE places in agreed areas of priority set out in Appendix A and enhanced infrastructure set out in Appendices B and C.</p> <p>Through Fee Free TAFE, support will be available for priority groups including First Nations Australians, young people (17-24), people out of work or receiving income support, unpaid carers, women facing economic insecurity, women undertaking study in non-traditional fields, people with disability and certain categories of visa holders.</p> <p>This agreement will put TAFE at the centre of VET, while recognising varied State delivery contexts.</p>
Estimated financial contributions	<p>The Commonwealth will provide an estimated total financial contribution to the States for Fee Free TAFE of \$493 million in respect of Appendix A and \$50 million for the TAFE Technology Fund as described in Appendix B. The Commonwealth will also provide \$6.85 million for VET Data Infrastructure Reforms as described in Appendix C.</p> <p>States will match the Commonwealth’s contribution for Fee Free TAFE (Table 1, 2 &amp; 3 refer).</p> <p>State-matched funding will be additional to the Baseline Funding commitment in 2023 described in Appendix A Table 1. States further commit to an increase in levels of expenditure on public providers.</p>

Table 1: Estimated financial contributions for Fee Free TAFE places

(\$ million)	2022-23	2023-24	Total
<b>Estimated total budget</b>	597.76	256.22	853.98
<b>Less estimated National Partnership payments</b>	298.88	128.11	426.99
New South Wales	94.02	40.30	134.32
Victoria	77.46	33.20	110.66
Queensland	61.29	26.27	87.56
Western Australia	31.37	13.44	44.81
South Australia	20.57	8.82	29.39
Tasmania	6.29	2.70	8.99
Australian Capital Territory	5.01	2.15	7.16
Northern Territory	2.87	1.23	4.10
Non-Commonwealth contributions	298.88	128.11	426.99

Table 2: Estimated financial contributions for ancillary funding

(\$ million)	2022-23	2023-24	Total
<b>Estimated total budget</b>	59.80	25.60	85.40
<b>Less estimated National Partnership payments</b>	29.90	12.80	42.70
New South Wales	9.40	4.03	13.43
Victoria	7.75	3.32	11.07
Queensland	6.13	2.63	8.76
Western Australia	3.14	1.34	4.48
South Australia	2.06	0.88	2.94
Tasmania	0.63	0.27	0.90
Australian Capital Territory	0.50	0.21	0.72
Northern Territory	0.29	0.12	0.41
Non-Commonwealth contributions	29.90	12.80	42.70

Table 3: Estimated financial contributions for additional student support

(\$ million)	2022-23	2023-24	Total
<b>Estimated total budget</b>	47.26	0.00	47.26
<b>Less estimated National Partnership payments</b>	23.63	0.00	23.63
New South Wales	7.44	0.00	7.44
Victoria	6.11	0.00	6.11
Queensland	4.84	0.00	4.84
Western Australia	2.48	0.00	2.48
South Australia	1.63	0.00	1.63
Tasmania	0.50	0.00	0.50
Australian Capital Territory	0.40	0.00	0.40
Northern Territory	0.23	0.00	0.23
Non-Commonwealth contributions	23.63	0.00	23.63

Table 4: VET Data Infrastructure Reforms

(\$ million)	2022-23	2023-24	Total
<b>Estimated total budget</b>	<b>3.89</b>	<b>2.94</b>	<b>6.83</b>
New South Wales	0.75	0.57	1.32
Victoria	0.53	0.40	0.93
Queensland	0.53	0.40	0.93
Western Australia	0.53	0.40	0.93
South Australia	0.53	0.40	0.93
Tasmania	0.36	0.27	0.63
Australian Capital Territory	0.33	0.25	0.58
Northern Territory	0.33	0.25	0.58

Table 5: Estimated financial contributions TAFE Technology Fund

(\$ million)	2022-23	2023-24	Total
<b>Estimated total budget</b>	<b>28.20</b>	<b>21.80</b>	<b>50.00</b>
New South Wales	7.50	~	~
Victoria	4.20	~	~
Queensland	5.80	~	~
Western Australia	8.20	~	~
South Australia	0.00	~	~
Tasmania	2.50	~	~
Australian Capital Territory	0.00	~	~
Northern Territory	0.00	~	~

Additional terms

The Parties agree to implement this Schedule in accordance with the funding principles set out under the Appendices of this Schedule, and bilateral Implementation Plans.

Implementation Plans for Fee Free TAFE will be agreed by the Commonwealth and each state individually, with finalisation triggering Milestone Payment 1 for that state

Changes to the appendices of this Schedule may be agreed in writing between the state and Commonwealth Skills Ministers, either multilaterally or bilaterally where the changes will not affect other States.

Given the importance of addressing key skills shortages in the economy, regular reporting is considered necessary.

The parties also agree to share the costs of the debt-not-expected-to-be-repaid for Government Subsidised students under the VET Student Loans Program set out in Appendix D.

**Part 2: Performance milestones and payment summary**

<b>Performance Milestones and Payments for the Fee Free TAFE Fund (FFT Fund)</b> <i>Provision of additional Fee Free training places in areas of identified skills need in accordance with principles outlined at Appendix A.</i>	<b>Due</b>	<b>Payment</b>
<p><b>Performance Milestone 1</b></p> <p>States agree and sign up to the Schedule.</p> <p>Commonwealth and States agree to the FFT Fund Implementation Plan. In doing this:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The State has provided an Implementation Plan that outlines how they will operationalise Fee Free TAFE in their jurisdiction, consistent with the principles and areas requiring Commonwealth agreement in Appendix A and including any specific bilateral parameters and local fraud and integrity measures.</li> <li>• Commonwealth senior officials to review and either confirm agreement or provide feedback within two weeks of receiving an Implementation Plan from the State.</li> <li>• If updates are required, the State to provide revised Implementation Plan within 2 weeks.</li> </ul>	<p>Within 30 days of signing the schedule or 1 January 2023 or following Commonwealth and State agreement to the State’s FFT Fund Implementation Plan, whichever is later.</p>	<p>The total of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 40% of the State’s allocation of funding for Fee Free TAFE places;</li> <li>• 100% of the State’s allocation of funding for Student Support Services; and</li> <li>• 40% of the State’s allocation of Ancillary funding.</li> </ul>

**Performance Milestone 2**

The State has provided quarterly reporting consistent with Part 3 of this Schedule which shows that enrolments in eligible training places have committed a minimum of 40 per cent of the total of the Fee Free Places and Ancillary Purposes funds for expenditure.

State funding for ancillary purposes will count toward meeting this milestone on a pro-rata basis. For example: To meet the 40 per cent committed funding utilisation milestone, a minimum of 36 per cent utilisation must be met through enrolments, with a maximum of 4 per cent met through ancillary funding.

May 2023  
(Estimated)

- The total of:
- 30% of the State’s allocation of Fee Free TAFE places; and
  - 30% of the State’s allocation of funding for Ancillary Purposes.

**Performance Milestone 3**

The State has provided quarterly reporting consistent with Part 3 of this Schedule which shows that enrolments in eligible training places have committed a minimum of 70 per cent of the Fee Free TAFE Places and Ancillary Purposes funds for expenditure.

State funding for ancillary purposes will count toward meeting this milestone on a pro-rata basis. For example: To meet the 70 per cent committed funding utilisation milestone, a minimum of 64 per cent utilisation must be met through enrolments, with a maximum of 6 per cent met through ancillary funding.

November 2023  
(Estimated)

- The total of:
- 30% of the State’s allocation of the Fee Free TAFE places: and
  - 30% of the State’s allocation of funding for Ancillary Purposes.

<b>Milestones and Payments – TAFE Technology Fund Committed Projects (Appendix B)</b> <i>*Performance Milestones for projects agreed from the TAFE Technology Funding Pool will be considered in the application assessment process.</i>	<b>Due</b>	<b>Payment</b>
<b>Performance Milestone 1</b> States and Commonwealth agreement to (individual) TAFE Technology Fund Project Plan(s).	From 31 March 2023	70% allocation for TAFE Technology Fund project.
<b>Performance Milestone 2</b> Finalisation of project, as demonstrated by agreement completion criteria and final project acquittal report to the Commonwealth.	As outlined in the (individual) Project Plan.	30% allocation for TAFE Technology Fund project.
<b>Milestones and Payments - Strengthening VET Data (Appendix C)</b>	<b>Due</b>	<b>Payment</b>
<b>Performance Milestone 1</b> Signing of this Schedule and a commitment to collaborate on the VDS program	1 January 2023	57% State allocation of the funding for VET data Infrastructure.
<b>Performance Milestone 2</b> Development of State impact assessments and high-level roadmaps	1 July 2023	43% State allocation of the funding for VET data Infrastructure.

**Part 3: Reporting requirements**

Reporting underpinning the Milestones at Part 2.	Due
<p>For the FFT Fund, States will provide a quarterly report consistent with Appendix E on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Training uptake by quarter</b> with enrolments, commencements, completions and committed funding to date</li> <li>- <b>Demographics</b> of cumulative enrolments, commencements, and completions by agreed target cohorts to date.</li> <li>- <b>RTO Summary</b> of training providers by type (TAFE/Dual Sector/Private), including numbers and cumulative enrolments.</li> <li>- <b>RTO level data</b> (where the required RTO level data is not available the Commonwealth may agree to modified reporting arrangements) including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o RTO Name, RTO Code, RTO Sector (TAFE/Dual Sector/Private), course name, course code, course type, number of allocated places; and</li> <li>o Training uptake by RTO including cumulative enrolments, commencements, completions and committed funding.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Course level data</b> of cumulative training uptake including course name, course code, course type, price (existing training place), price (additional training place), and cumulative enrolments, commencements, completions, committed funding, and, where available, student cohorts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By the 15th day of the month following the end of the quarter for the life of the agreement, unless alternative arrangements agreed in implementation plan.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mid-Fund Report</b></p> <p>The States will provide a report of progress, including demand for training and any changes in the health and/or economic environment, to inform any required adjustments including to the scope, size, timing and payment structure under the FFT Fund, to help inform the development of the next agreement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 15 July 2023</li> </ul>

<p><b>End of Fund Report</b></p> <p>The States will provide an End of Fund Report which provides a stocktake and acquittal, including a review of the Fund and an assessment of its effectiveness in meeting the needs of the target cohorts within , each jurisdiction.</p> <p>The Commonwealth will collaborate with States on the evaluation of the outcome of the initiative.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 31 July 2024</li> </ul>
<p>For the <b>TAFE Technology Fund</b>, the responsible jurisdiction will provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- quarterly progress reports against the individual Project Plan(s)</li> <li>- a final acquittal report on completion of the project.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By the 15th day of the month following the end of the quarter for the life of the agreement On completion of the project.</li> </ul>
<p>For <b>VET Student Loans</b>, the Commonwealth will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- consult States on the development of the draft 2024 course list; and</li> <li>- provide the States with more data on the courses and profile of learners participating in VSL in their jurisdiction.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From July 2023 (with the list to take effect 1 January 2024)</li> <li>• April 2023 and April 2024</li> </ul>



The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this schedule as follows:

**Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia by**



**The Honourable [insert name] MP  
Minister for [insert title]**

[Day] [Month] [Year]

28 / 10 / 2022

**Signed for and on behalf of the State of New South Wales by**

**Signed for and on behalf of the State of Victoria by**

**The Honourable [insert name] MP  
Minister for [insert title]**

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**The Honourable [insert name] MP  
Minister for [insert title]**

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed for and on behalf of the State of Queensland by**

**Signed for and on behalf of the State of Western Australia by**

**The Honourable [insert name] MP  
Minister for [insert title]**

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**The Honourable [insert name] MP  
Minister for [insert title]**

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed for and on behalf of the State of South Australia by**

**Signed for and on behalf of the State of Tasmania by**

**The Honourable [insert name] MP  
Minister for [insert title]**

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**The Honourable [insert name] MP  
Minister for [insert title]**

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed for and on behalf of the Australian Capital Territory by**

**Signed for and on behalf of the Northern Territory by**

**The Honourable [insert name] MP  
Minister for [insert title]**

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**The Honourable [insert name] MP  
Minister for [insert title]**

[Day] [Month] [Year]

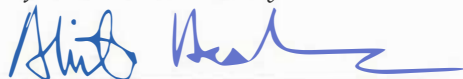
The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this schedule as follows:

**Signed** for and on behalf of the Commonwealth  
of Australia by

**The Honourable Brendan O'Connor MP**  
Minister for Skills and Training

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed** for and on behalf of the  
State of New South Wales by



**The Honourable Alister Henskens SC MP**  
Minister for Skills and Training

1/12/2022  
[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed** for and on behalf of the  
State of Victoria by

**The Honourable Gayle Tierney MLC**  
Minister for Training and Skills

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed** for and on behalf of the  
State of Queensland by

**The Honourable Dianne Farmer MP**  
Minister for Training and Skills Development

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed** for and on behalf of the  
State of South Australia by

**The Honourable Blair Boyer MP**  
Minister for Education, Training and Skills

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed** for and on behalf of the Australian  
Capital Territory by

**The Honourable Chris Steel MLA**  
Minister for Skills

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed** for and on behalf of the  
State of Western Australia by

**The Honourable Suzanne Mary Ellery MLC**  
Minister for Education and Training

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed** for and on behalf of the  
State of Tasmania by

**The Honourable Felix Ellis MP**  
Minister for Skills, Training and Workforce Growth

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed** for and on behalf of the Northern  
Territory by

**The Honourable Paul Kirby MLA**  
Minister for Business, Jobs and Training

[Day] [Month] [Year]

The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this schedule as follows:

**Signed** *for and on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia by*

---

**The Honourable [insert name] MP**  
Minister for [insert title]

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed** *for and on behalf of the State of New South Wales by*

---

**The Honourable [insert name] MP**  
Minister for [insert title]

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed** *for and on behalf of the State of Queensland by*

---

**The Honourable [insert name] MP**  
Minister for [insert title]

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed** *for and on behalf of the State of South Australia by*

---

**The Honourable [insert name] MP**  
Minister for [insert title]

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed** *for and on behalf of the Australian Capital Territory by*

---

**The Honourable [insert name] MP**  
Minister for [insert title]

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed** *for and on behalf of the State of Victoria by*



---

**The Hon Gayle Tierney MP**  
Minister for Training and Skills

31 October 2022

**Signed** *for and on behalf of the State of Western Australia by*

---

**The Honourable [insert name] MP**  
Minister for [insert title]

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed** *for and on behalf of the State of Tasmania by*

---

**The Honourable [insert name] MP**  
Minister for [insert title]

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed** *for and on behalf of the Northern Territory by*

---

**The Honourable [insert name] MP**  
Minister for [insert title]

[Day] [Month] [Year]

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*Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia by*

**The Honourable Brendan O'Connor MP**

Minister for Skills and Training

[Day] [Month] [Year]

*Signed for and on behalf of the State of New South Wales by*

*Signed for and on behalf of the State of Victoria by*

**The Honourable Alister Henskens SC MP**

Minister for Skills and Training

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**The Honourable Gayle Tierney MLC**

Minister for Training and Skills

[Day] [Month] [Year]

*Signed for and on behalf of the State of Queensland by*

*Signed for and on behalf of the State of Western Australia by*



**The Honourable Dianne Farmer MP**

Minister for Training and Skills Development

[Day] [Month] [Year]

9/12/22

**The Honourable Suzanne Mary Ellery MLC**

Minister for Education and Training

[Day] [Month] [Year]

*Signed for and on behalf of the State of South Australia by*

*Signed for and on behalf of the State of Tasmania by*

**The Honourable Blair Boyer MP**

Minister for Education, Training and Skills

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**The Honourable Felix Ellis MP**

Minister for Skills, Training and Workforce Growth

[Day] [Month] [Year]

*Signed for and on behalf of the Australian Capital Territory by*

*Signed for and on behalf of the Northern Territory by*

**The Honourable Chris Steel MLA**

Minister for Skills

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**The Honourable Paul Kirby MLA**

Minister for Business, Jobs and Training

[Day] [Month] [Year]

The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this schedule as follows:

*Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia by*

**The Honourable Brendan O'Connor MP**  
Minister for Skills and Training

[Day] [Month] [Year]

*Signed for and on behalf of the State of New South Wales by*

**The Honourable Alister Henskens SC MP**  
Minister for Skills and Training

[Day] [Month] [Year]

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**The Honourable Dianne Farmer MP**  
Minister for Training and Skills Development

[Day] [Month] [Year]

*Signed for and on behalf of the State of South Australia by*

**The Honourable Blair Boyer MP**  
Minister for Education, Training and Skills

[Day] [Month] [Year]

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**The Honourable Chris Steel MLA**  
Minister for Skills

[Day] [Month] [Year]

*Signed for and on behalf of the State of Victoria by*

**The Honourable Gayle Tierney MLC**  
Minister for Training and Skills

[Day] [Month] [Year]

*Signed for and on behalf of the State of Western Australia by*

**The Honourable Suzanne Mary Elley MLC**  
Minister for Education and Training

[Day] [Month] [Year]

*Signed for and on behalf of the State of Tasmania by*

**The Honourable Felix Ellis MP**  
Minister for Skills, Training and Workforce Growth

[Day] [Month] [Year]

*Signed for and on behalf of the Northern Territory by*

**The Honourable Paul Kirby MLA**  
Minister for Business, Jobs and Training

[Day] [Month] [Year]



15/11/2022

The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this schedule as follows:

**Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia by**

**The Honourable Brendan O'Connor MP**  
Minister for Skills and Training

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed for and on behalf of the State of New South Wales by**

**Signed for and on behalf of the State of Victoria by**

**The Honourable Alister Henskens SC MP**  
Minister for Skills and Training

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**The Honourable Gayle Tierney MLC**  
Minister for Training and Skills

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed for and on behalf of the State of Queensland by**

**Signed for and on behalf of the State of Western Australia by**

**The Honourable Dianne Farmer MP**  
Minister for Training and Skills Development

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**The Honourable Suzanne Mary Ellery MLC**  
Minister for Education and Training

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed for and on behalf of the State of South Australia by**



**The Honourable Blair Boyer MP**  
Minister for Education, Training and Skills

[Day] [Month] [Year]

18 11 2022

**Signed for and on behalf of the State of Tasmania by**

**The Honourable Felix Ellis MP**  
Minister for Skills, Training and Workforce Growth

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed for and on behalf of the Australian Capital Territory by**

**Signed for and on behalf of the Northern Territory by**

**The Honourable Chris Steel MLA**  
Minister for Skills

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**The Honourable Paul Kirby MLA**  
Minister for Business, Jobs and Training

[Day] [Month] [Year]

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of Australia by

---

**The Honourable Brendan O'Connor MP**  
Minister for Skills and Training

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed** for and on behalf of the  
State of New South Wales by

**Signed** for and on behalf of the  
State of Victoria by

---

**The Honourable Alister Henskens SC MP**  
Minister for Skills and Training

[Day] [Month] [Year]

---

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[Day] [Month] [Year]

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State of Queensland by

**Signed** for and on behalf of the  
State of Western Australia by

---

**The Honourable Dianne Farmer MP**  
Minister for Training and Skills Development

[Day] [Month] [Year]

---

**The Honourable Suzanne Mary Ellery MLC**  
Minister for Education and Training

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed** for and on behalf of the  
State of South Australia by

**Signed** for and on behalf of the  
State of Tasmania by

---

**The Honourable Blair Boyer MP**  
Minister for Education, Training and Skills

[Day] [Month] [Year]

---

**The Honourable Felix Ellis MP**  
Minister for Skills, Training and Workforce Growth

1/12/2022

**Signed** for and on behalf of the Australian  
Capital Territory by

**Signed** for and on behalf of the Northern  
Territory by

---

**The Honourable Chris Steel MLA**  
Minister for Skills

[Day] [Month] [Year]

---

**The Honourable Paul Kirby MLA**  
Minister for Business, Jobs and Training

[Day] [Month] [Year]





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**The Honourable [insert name] MP**  
Minister for [insert title]

[Day] [Month] [Year]

28 / 10 / 2022

**Signed for and on behalf of the State of New South Wales by**

**Signed for and on behalf of the State of Victoria by**

**The Honourable [insert name] MP**  
Minister for [insert title]

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**The Honourable [insert name] MP**  
Minister for [insert title]

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed for and on behalf of the State of Queensland by**

**Signed for and on behalf of the State of Western Australia by**

**The Honourable [insert name] MP**  
Minister for [insert title]

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**The Honourable [insert name] MP**  
Minister for [insert title]

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed for and on behalf of the State of South Australia by**

**Signed for and on behalf of the State of Tasmania by**

**The Honourable [insert name] MP**  
Minister for [insert title]

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**The Honourable [insert name] MP**  
Minister for [insert title]

[Day] [Month] [Year]

**Signed for and on behalf of the Australian Capital Territory by**

**Signed for and on behalf of the Northern Territory by**

**The Honourable [insert name] MP**  
Minister for [insert title]

[Day] [Month] [Year]

12 October 2022

**The Honourable [insert name] MP**  
Minister for [insert title]

[Day] [Month] [Year]



The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this schedule as follows:

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Minister for [insert title]

[Day] [Month] [Year]  
28 / 10 / 2022

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The Honourable [insert name] MP  
Minister for [insert title]

[Day] [Month] [Year]

The Honourable [insert name] MP  
Minister for [insert title]

[Day] [Month] [Year]

Signed for and on behalf of the State of Queensland by

Signed for and on behalf of the State of Western Australia by

The Honourable [insert name] MP  
Minister for [insert title]

[Day] [Month] [Year]

The Honourable [insert name] MP  
Minister for [insert title]

[Day] [Month] [Year]

Signed for and on behalf of the State of South Australia by

Signed for and on behalf of the State of Tasmania by

The Honourable [insert name] MP  
Minister for [insert title]

[Day] [Month] [Year]

The Honourable [insert name] MP  
Minister for [insert title]

[Day] [Month] [Year]

Signed for and on behalf of the Australian Capital Territory by

Signed for and on behalf of the Northern Territory by



The Honourable [insert name] MP  
Minister for [insert title]

[Day] [Month] [Year]

The Honourable Paul Kirby MLA  
Minister for Business, Jobs and Training

[Day] [Month] [Year]

14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2022

## Appendix A: Funding Principles for the Fee Free TAFE Fund (FFT Fund)

### Priority Learners

1. States will administer learner eligibility for Fee Free TAFE, prioritising groups including First Nations Australians, young people (17-24), people out of work or receiving income support, unpaid carers, women facing economic insecurity, women undertaking study in non-traditional fields, people with disability and certain categories of visa holders.
  - a. In this context, States will outline how priority groups will be incorporated in local eligibility arrangements in their Implementation Plans and how Fee Free TAFE will be marketed in the first instance to the priority groups.
  - b. States will outline the proposed learner eligibility in the Implementation Plan and advise on any changes in quarterly progress reports.

### Training in scope of funding

2. Commencing 1 January 2023, the national target for the Fund is 180,000 Fee Free TAFE places, including 15,000 aged care places (see definitions for Fee Free and TAFE below). The total indicative numbers of Fee Free TAFE places, and aged care places, in each jurisdiction in 2023 will be outlined in the State's Implementation Plan.
3. States will determine the courses (accredited qualifications and short courses) to be funded under this Schedule, to deliver national and/or State-based priorities. National areas of priority include:
  - a. care (aged care, childcare, health care, disability care);
  - b. technology and digital;
  - c. hospitality and tourism;
  - d. construction;
  - e. agriculture; and
  - f. sovereign capability (for example manufacturing, and Defence).
4. The States will specify an initial list of courses (qualifications and short courses) covered by this Schedule in their Implementation Plan, which will also address the indicative aggregate of full qualifications and short courses (including micro-credentials), how the list will address national and/or State priority areas, and how the list may be updated.
5. Fee Free TAFE will be delivered by a registered training provider that is recognised as a TAFE or public dual sector higher education provider, including TAFE auspicing or partnership arrangements. In limited circumstances delivery may also include community training providers or Indigenous training providers where they are better placed to deliver specialist training, as agreed with the Commonwealth in the Implementation Plan.
6. To deliver priority training in the care sector (including 15,000 places nationally in aged care), State delivery may include broader eligibility and qualifications, as agreed with the Commonwealth in the Implementation Plan.
7. The Commonwealth and States may, by exception, agree to specific bilateral training delivery arrangements in the Implementation Plan.
8. Commonwealth Government payments under this Schedule will be directed to State Governments, which will manage the distribution of funds in line with this Schedule and according to their policies and procedures.

#### Enrolment Period

9. Enrolments for, or delivery commenced from the time of signing this Schedule to 31 December 2023 will be eligible for this Fund, unless varied in the Implementation Plan.

#### Course Pricing

10. States will use their current pricing policies for VET places in their jurisdiction for setting the price of Fee Free TAFE training places. In doing so, they will be informed by advice from Commonwealth Government and State and Territory Government agencies. States' current pricing policies are subject to change and the price set for the training places under this Schedule may be adjusted through a revised Implementation Plan.

#### Reporting Arrangements

11. The States will provide reports in accordance with Part 3 aligned with the templates attached to this Schedule.
12. The Commonwealth may share the reports set out in Part 3 with any Commonwealth entity for information, reporting and promotion purposes.

#### Ancillary Purposes and Student Support Services

13. The State may use up to 10 per cent of the Commonwealth funding contribution for Fee Free places on (ancillary) costs on a cost shared basis to support the delivery of Fee Free TAFE and student outcomes. States will not use the Fund for wage subsidies, or major capital works. States will match the ancillary amount and may count existing commitments.
14. The State will also match its (per-capita) allocation of Student Support Services and may count existing commitments.

#### Unused funding

15. Where a student enrolls in a training place funded through the Fund and then withdraws after the State has received the related milestone payment, the State agrees to redirect that amount back into the Fund to support additional places and associated student supports.
16. Where there is unallocated funding left over from a Commonwealth contribution received by the State at the end of this Fund, States agree to spend any such amount in the TAFE sector.

#### Promotion of the Fund

17. All governments will take steps to promote access to Fee Free TAFE training.
18. States and the Commonwealth will make best efforts to ensure they consult on the nature and content of any events, announcements, promotional activity or publicity related to the Fund.

#### Baseline and matched funding arrangements

19. Consistent with the cost shared arrangements for Fee Free TAFE, States agree to match the Commonwealth's funding commitment in the 2023 calendar year and not to use FFT Funds to substitute existing expenditure.
20. State contributions may be met through the allocation of funding under existing program streams but must be in addition to the agreed Baseline Funding commitment. States further agree to ensure a proportional increase in funding provided to TAFEs relative to pre-COVID (2019) levels, with this to be agreed with the Commonwealth in the Implementation Plan.
21. The Baseline Funding commitment has been determined by reference to 2019, based on the 2019 NCVET Funding Collection, with adjustments for agreed one-off spending and State funding contributions under Fee Free TAFE (Table 1 refers).

22. If the Baseline Funding commitment is not met in 2023, Commonwealth payments to States under the new long-term skills funding agreement may be reduced to offset the shortfall in funding. The Commonwealth will not seek to offset shortfalls in funding driven by factors outside the control of States and where States have demonstrated best endeavors to fulfil the Baseline Funding commitment.

**Table 1: State and Territory Baseline funding commitments and additional contributions under the Fee Free TAFE Fund (\$m)**

	Level of baseline funding	Additional Fee Free TAFE funding
New South Wales	1,099.7	155.2
Victoria	798.3	127.8
Queensland	618.3	101.2
Western Australia	355.7	51.8
South Australia	174.0	34.0
Tasmania	106.2	10.4
Australian Capital Territory	79.8	8.3
Northern Territory	76.6	4.7

## Definitions:

23. For the purposes of this Appendix:

- a. **Ancillary funding** is up to 10 per cent of the value of the Fund, to support the delivery of Fee Free TAFE and student outcomes. This may include wraparound support services to help disadvantaged learners to access training, promotion of Fee Free TAFE, funding support to assist students in accessing required work placements, or support for learners to access training that is best suited to their needs and the local jobs market and to transition from learning to employment.
- b. **Baseline Funding commitment** means the agreed financial baseline for which additional contributions under the Fund is assessed in 2023.
- c. **Cost shared** means **50:50 cost sharing** between the Commonwealth and the States to deliver Fee Free TAFE places (including student support) and meet ancillary costs.
- d. **Existing Training Place** means a training place identified by the State as a current place (in agreed priority qualifications and/or for priority learners) where the fee component is met from the Fund. States will outline their approach to managing existing places bilaterally.
- e. **Eligible Visa Holders** means a student who holds an eligible visa as agreed between the State and Commonwealth.
- f. **Fee Free** means the learner will not be charged a fee for the tuition component of training funded through this Fund. Any other fees (e.g., Administration fee or material costs) will be minimal and agreed with the Commonwealth in the Implementation Plan.
- g. **Fee Free TAFE Fund** includes the Fee Free TAFE Places fund, ancillary funding and funding for additional support.
- h. **Implementation Plan** is a bilateral plan outlining how Fee Free TAFE will operate in practice, to be agreed with the Commonwealth. The Implementation Plan template will be provided by the Commonwealth.
- i. **New Training Places** are those where the price of training is fully met from the Fund.
- j. **Student Support Services** means services that enhance student access to training and supporting completions. These will be agreed bilaterally and included in State Implementation Plans.
- k. **TAFE** means a training provider that is recognised as a TAFE, public dual sector higher education provider, a TAFE auspicing or partnership arrangement.

## Appendix B: The TAFE Technology Fund

### Overview

1. The States acknowledge the Commonwealth has announced a \$50 million TAFE Technology Fund, including a number of specific projects across the country to be delivered as a priority.
2. The States agree to work bilaterally with the Commonwealth on the administration of the Fund.
3. In respect of Committed Projects, Implementation Plans will be agreed with the Commonwealth from 31 March 2023.
4. In relation to access to the remaining TAFE Technology Funding Pool, TAFE infrastructure project proposals (projects) will be assessed by the Commonwealth on a competitive basis against the following:
  - Criterion A: Value for money.
  - Criterion B: Contribution to improving training delivery standards expected by industry.
  - Criterion C: Evidence of industry support.
  - Criterion D: Demonstrable need identified in the State or Territory TAFE sector.
  - Criterion E: Ability to deliver.
  - Criterion F: History of capital support for addressing the need.
5. Comprehensive Fund Guidelines and templates will be provided to States (and published).

### Cost Sharing Arrangement

6. There is no requirement for States and Territories to match TAFE Technology Funding.

### Definitions

7. For the purposes of this Appendix:
  - a. **The TAFE Technology Fund** is a \$50m Australian Government fund to improve IT facilities, workshops, laboratories, and tele-health simulators across the country.
  - b. **Committed Projects** are 14 projects valued at \$28.2 million which will be delivered as a priority from the TAFE Technology Fund.
  - c. The TAFE Technology **Funding Pool** is \$21.8 million which States can apply to access.

## Appendix C: Provision of seed funding for VET data Infrastructure

### Reforms. Overview

1. \$6.85 million has been allocated nationally to support jurisdictions with a funding contribution to undertake impact assessment and cost planning, technical design, sector coordination, implementation and rollout activities associated with implementation of the VET Data Streamlining (VDS) Program during 2023.
2. These funds are a contribution toward the State undertaking VDS transition planning by the end of 2023.
3. Funding has been notionally allocated to jurisdictions as outlined in Table 3.
4. Milestone payments will be made in accordance with Part 2.

### Cost Sharing Arrangement

5. There is no requirement for States to match this funding.

### Definitions

6. For the purposes of this Appendix:
  - a. The **VET Data Streamlining** Program is focussed on improving the collection and use of VET activity data. The program aims to introduce:
    - i. a modern technology that enables near real-time submission of VET activity data;
    - ii. a VET Information Standard to replace the existing Australian Vocational Education and Training Management Information Statistical Standard (AVETMISS); and
    - iii. updated regulatory and governance settings.

## Appendix D: Principles for cost sharing under the VET Student Loans Program

### Overview

1. The Commonwealth and the States agree to the VET Student Loans (VSL) Program cost sharing arrangement (below) from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023, unless alternative arrangements are bilaterally agreed.
2. This arrangement will cover enrolments from 1 July 2022 to 31 December 2023.
3. This arrangement is limited to loans provided to State subsidised students for courses at the Diploma and Advanced Diploma level.

### Cost Sharing Arrangement

4. Each jurisdiction will contribute 50 per cent of the cost of the:
  - a. *Debt Not Expected to be Repaid (DNER)*. The DNER rate will be set at 22 per cent of the value of loans issued in a jurisdiction to its State-subsidised students; and
  - b. *Deferral Adjustment Costs* for those loans, arising from the concessional treatment that applies to VSL.
5. The Commonwealth will waive the 20 per cent loan fee for State subsidised students who access a VSL.
6. The Commonwealth will issue invoices in April each year for the calendar year prior.
7. At the time of invoicing, the Commonwealth will provide data on the jurisdiction's subsidised loans issued by each provider in their jurisdiction for the calendar year prior, including enrolments and loan values.

### Definitions

8. For the purposes of this Appendix:
  - a. **Debt Not Expected to Be Repaid (DNER)** means loans that are not expected to be repaid due to the income contingent nature of the VSL program. The AGA has modelled the rate of DNER for VSL and advised that a DNER rate of 22 per cent be used for the purposes of cost sharing until the modelling is reviewed again in 2024.
  - b. **Deferral Adjustment Costs** means the represented cost of deferring the repayment of the debt and recognises that debts are charged interest broadly in line with the change in the CPI each year, which is different to the underlying cost of government borrowing. The Australian Government Actuary will determine the deferral adjustment rate.



## Appendix E: Fee Free TAFE Reporting Schedule

Interim Skills Agreement Reporting Schedule				
This reporting template is consistent with Part 3: Reporting requirements of the Interim Skills Agreement Schedule.				
Reports are due by the 15th day of the month following the end of each quarter.				
1. Training Update by Quarter				
<b>Note:</b> Each monthly figure should reflect the total enrolments, commencements and completions that occurred within the reporting period - i.e. at a single point in time and not cumulative				
Reporting Period	Enrolments (per month)	Commencements (per month)	Completions (per month)	Committed Funding (per month)
Jan - Mar 2023				
Apr - Jun 2023				
Jul - Sep 2023				
Oct - Dec 2023				
<b>Total</b>	0	0	0	0

<b>2. Demographics</b>			
<b>Notes:</b>			
A student who enrolled, commenced and completed a course is recorded as 1 enrolment, 1 commencement and 1 completion. E.g. 20 enrolments were in short courses, of those 10 have commenced, and of those 5 have completed their short course. Cumulative completions therefore cannot be higher than commencements.			
For the Priority Cohorts section, the sum of the Target Cohort categories can differ from the overall Total and the totals of other demographic categories, which are mutually exclusive.			
<b>Demographic</b>	<b>Enrolments (cumulative total)</b>	<b>Commencements (cumulative total)</b>	<b>Completions (cumulative total)</b>
<b>Priority Cohort</b>			
First Nation Australians			
Young person (24 and under)			
Job seeker (Includes unemployed, income support recipients, and those who are at risk of unemployment)			
People with disability			
Visa holders			
Aged Care			
[Other cohort agreed bilaterally] (please specify e.g. Underemployed, Veterans, Childcare, Unpaid carers, Women facing economic insecurity, Women undertaking study in non-traditional fields - and report each cohort in a separate row)			
<b>Course type</b>			
Full Qualification (Cert I and above)			
Short course / Skill Set			
<b>Gender</b>			
Female			
Male			
Non-binary / other / unspecified			
<b>Age</b>			
Under 17			
17-24			
25-34			
35-44			
45-54			
55+			
<b>Location</b>			
Major city			
Inner and outer regional			
Remote and very remote			
<b>Language other than English spoken at home</b>			
Language other than English spoken at home			

**3. RTO Level Data**

**Notes:** A student who enrolled, commenced and completed a course would be recorded as 1 enrolment, 1 commencement and 1 completion. E.g. There have been 20 enrolments in the Certificate III in Individual Support, of those enrolments 10 students have commenced, and of those who commenced 5 students have completed the certificate. Cumulative completions therefore cannot be higher than commencements.

**A breakdown of the courses provided by each RTO, including allocation of places in those courses**

Specific RTO Details							Training uptake by RTO (Cumulative Totals)			
RTO Name	RTO Code	RTO Sector (TAFE/Dual Sector/Private)	Course name	Course code	Course type (Cert III, Cert II etc)	Number of Allocated Places	Enrolments (cumulative total)	Commencements (cumulative total)	Completions (cumulative total)	Committed Funding (cumulative total)

**4. RTO Summary**

RTOs Delivering Places		
RTO Sector (TAFE/Dual Sector/Private)	Number of RTOs	Enrolments per Sector (cumulative)

