Advanced Entry Trades Training

FEDERATION FUNDING AGREEMENT – EDUCATION AND SKILLS

Table 1: Formalities and operation of schedule	
Parties	Commonwealth New South Wales Victoria Queensland Western Australia South Australia Tasmania Australian Capital Territory Northern Territory
Duration	This Schedule is expected to expire on 30 September 2028, or on assessment of final performance reporting and processing of final payments against milestones, whichever is later.
Purpose	This Schedule establishes the funding arrangements between the Commonwealth and the states and territories (the States) to support the delivery of the Advanced Entry Trades Training program (AETT program). The AETT program will help experienced workers in the residential housing and civil construction industry to gain nationally recognised vocational education and training (VET) qualifications through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and gap training. The AETT program will be delivered by TAFEs and other high quality Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) with a strong track record of delivering RPL in the residential housing and civil construction industry.

Estimated financial contributions	The Commonwealth will provide an estimated total financial contribution to the States of $78.0m in respect of this Schedule.

Table 1

($ million)	**2026-27**	**2027-28**	**2028-29**	**Total**
Estimated total budget	**19.4896**	**43.0092**	**15.5012**	**78.000**
Less estimated National Partnership Payments	19.4896	43.0092	15.5012	78.000
- New South Wales	5.2832	11.7728	5.2000	22.256
- Victoria	3.7752	13.2132	1.8876	18.876
- Queensland	4.0040	6.9680	3.8480	14.820
- Western Australia	2.7924	3.4944	2.4492	8.736
- South Australia	1.7212	3.5880	0.7228	6.032
- Tasmania	0.6084	1.5496	0.4940	2.652
- Australian Capital Territory	0.7696	1.5392	0.3432	2.652
- Northern Territory	0.5356	0.8840	0.5564	1.976
Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

Additional terms

Definitions

A *Program Commencement* is where an Eligible Student has commenced a Qualification in Scope with a Program RTO.

A *Completed RPL Requirement* is where an Eligible Student has obtained at least three Units of Competency through RPL in a Qualification in Scope through a Program RTO.

A *Completed Qualification* is where an Eligible Student has successfully completed the requirements to obtain a Qualification in Scope through RPL and gap training delivered by a Program RTO.

An *Eligible Student* is a VET Student (within the meaning of the *National Vocational Education and Training Regulator Act 2011*) that at the time of enrolment:

a) has a minimum of three years' work experience, with a minimum of 12 months in Australia, in the industry the student will be undertaking training

b) is currently working in the industry associated with the qualification being undertaken, or has worked in that industry in the preceding two years

c) is not a current apprentice or trainee, or if a former apprentice or trainee, their training contract was not in the preceding six months from their Program Commencement date

d) is eligible to study in Australia as a domestic student (i.e. be an Australian citizen, Australian permanent resident, humanitarian visa holder, or New Zealand citizen)

e) is no longer at school

	f) is assessed as capable of achieving a minimum of three Units of Competency through RPL by 30 June 2028. A *Program RTO* is a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) (within the meaning of the *National Vocational Education and Training Regulator Act 2011*) that has been endorsed by the relevant State as a high-quality RTO suitable to deliver RPL and gap training towards the intended qualifications, including having regard to any finding or compliance activity by the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) or other relevant VET regulator in relation to that RTO. A *Qualification in Scope* is a VET course (within the meaning of the *National Vocational Education and Training Regulator Act 2011*) that: a) is listed in Appendix 1 b) is listed on the National Register (within the meaning of the *National Vocational Education and Training Regulator Act 2011*) as a VET course that supersedes a VET course listed in Appendix 1, or c) is an additional VET course agreed by the Commonwealth and at least one State. **Implementation approach** Each State must submit advice to the Commonwealth on the initial implementation approach for the AETT program. This advice must include: a) the initial set of Program RTOs responsible for delivering the AETT program, noting that States can add or remove Program RTOs as required without Commonwealth approval b) the initial list of Qualifications in Scope to be delivered through the AETT program, noting that States can deliver or stop delivering any Qualifications in Scope as required without Commonwealth approval c) the target number of Program Commencements to be delivered for each reporting period, up to a total number equal to the Program Commencements allocated per State per financial year d) the target number of Completed RPL Requirements to be delivered for each reporting period, up to a total number equal to the Completed RPL Requirements allocated per State per financial year e) the target number of Completed Qualifications to be delivered within the program duration, and f) acceptance that training delivered by Program RTOs to Eligible Students through the AETT program will not be counted toward other Commonwealth funded programs. The implementation approach will be approved, and may be varied, by agreement between the relevant Commonwealth and State senior officials responsible for skills. **Adding to Qualifications in Scope** A State can request that the Commonwealth add qualifications to the Qualifications in Scope to meet local skills needs at any time. This request will

	be assessed by the Commonwealth based on evidence provided by the State using the following principles: a) there is a clear connection to the residential housing and civil construction industry b) the qualification is at Certificate level III or higher and does not typically require a mandatory apprenticeship pathway or occupational licencing c) there is a demonstrated demand for the qualification from students and/or employers d) at least one Program RTO with capacity to deliver the qualification to Eligible Students has been identified. If approved, Commonwealth officials will update the Qualifications in Scope at Appendix 1 and notify all States. Any change to Qualifications in Scope will only apply prospectively. If an enrolment occurred prior to a Qualification in Scope being approved, that enrolment would not be eligible for payment. **Payments and reporting** Funding provided by the Commonwealth to the States is inclusive of the costs of program administration, and the average fees charged by Program RTOs to undertake RPL assessments and gap training for Eligible Students. The Commonwealth is providing funding to the States for the purposes of Eligible Students receiving RPL assessments and gap training (at no extra charge to the Eligible Student) to achieve a full qualification from the Qualifications in Scope list. Funding arrangements between States and Program RTOs do not need to align with the payment milestones outlined below. For milestone 1, the payment amount will be calculated by multiplying $2,600 by the total number of Completed RPL Requirements allocated to the State for the program. For milestone 2 and all subsequent milestones, the payment amount will be calculated by adding the following, up to the maximum value of the Commonwealth payment specified for the milestone: • $5,200 multiplied by the number of Program Commencements in the associated reporting period, and • $5,200 multiplied by the number of Completed RPL Requirements in the associated reporting period. Where a State exceeds the target number of Program Commencements or Completed RPL Requirements in the reporting period for a milestone, the excess Program Commencements or Completed RPL Requirements will count towards the target for the subsequent reporting periods. For milestone 2 and all subsequent milestones, States will report on: a) the number of Program Commencements in each reporting period b) the number of Completed RPL Requirements in each reporting period c) the number of Completed Qualifications in each reporting period d) any updates to the implementation approach accepted by the

	Commonwealth at Milestone 1. **Management of unmet target numbers and unspent funds** If there are unspent funds remaining within a financial year (excluding 2028-29), the Commonwealth may move that funding into future financial years at its discretion. Moved funds may increase the total funding available for milestone payments in the financial year to which they are moved. Where a State does not or is unlikely to meet the target number of Program Commencements or Completed RPL Requirements in the reporting period for a milestone, the State may make a request at any time during the program to the Commonwealth to move Program Commencements or Completed RPL Requirements to subsequent reporting periods. A formal request must be made via letter to the Commonwealth, and include: • Proposed movement of Program Commencements or Completed RPL Requirements • Reasoning for why the target number of Program Commencements or Completed RPL Requirements has not been reached • A proposal for how the additional Program Commencements or Completed RPL Requirements will be achieved in subsequent reporting periods, and • Any other relevant proposed updates to the implementation approach accepted by the Commonwealth at milestone 1. A request to move Program Commencements or Completed RPL Requirements will be approved by agreement between the relevant Commonwealth and State senior officials responsible for skills. If a request is agreed, the Commonwealth will move funds to increase the total funding available for milestone payments in the financial year to which they are moved, subject to Government decision. **Evaluation of the program** The Commonwealth will work with States on the design of the evaluation of the program. The evaluation will obtain data on each Eligible Student using the AETT specific funding identifier code in the Australian Vocational Education and Training Management Information Statistical Standard (AVETMISS). Program RTOs must use the AETT specific funding identifier code for training activity funded by this Schedule. **Safeguarding Eligible Students** States must use the funding allocation to ensure Eligible Students can complete a full qualification at no cost to the Eligible Student. This requirement applies even where: a) a Program RTO is unable to deliver the full qualification within the program duration, or b) an Eligible Student is unable to complete the full qualification within the program duration, except when: i. the Eligible Student does not seek to complete the

	qualification, or ii. the Eligible Student has withdrawn from their qualification. **Attribution** In all public materials relating to Projects funded under this Schedule, the States will acknowledge the Commonwealth's contribution with the following statement: The Advanced Entry Trades Training program is a joint initiative between the Australian Government and the [State] Government.

Table 2A: New South Wales – Performance requirements, reporting and payment summary		
Performance milestones	**Report due**	**Payment**
Milestone 1: Commonwealth acceptance of New South Wales's initial implementation approach for the AETT program.	Within two months of signing the Schedule	$4.4512m
Milestone 2: Commonwealth acceptance of a report signed by a senior official with responsibility for skills that states the number of Program Commencements, Completed RPL Requirements and Completed Qualifications achieved by New South Wales in the AETT program during the reporting period from 1 July 2026 to 31 December 2026. Payment will be based on the number of Program Commencements and Completed RPL Requirements achieved during the reporting period, assessed against their respective target numbers in the agreed implementation approach.	28 February 2027	$5,200 per Program Commencement and $5,200 per Completed RPL Requirement, up to a maximum of $0.832m.
Milestone 3: Commonwealth acceptance of a report signed by a senior official with responsibility for skills that states the number of Program Commencements, Completed RPL Requirements and Completed Qualifications achieved by New South Wales in the AETT program during the reporting period from 1 January 2027 to 30 June 2027. Payment will be based on the number of Program Commencements and Completed RPL Requirements achieved during the reporting period, assessed against their respective target numbers in the agreed implementation approach.	31 August 2027	$5,200 per Program Commencement and $5,200 per Completed RPL Requirement, up to a maximum of $5.0908m plus any funds moved from previous periods as agreed.
Milestone 4: Commonwealth acceptance of a report signed by a senior official with responsibility for skills that states the number of Program Commencements, Completed RPL Requirements and Completed Qualifications achieved by New South Wales in the AETT program during the reporting period from 1 July 2027 to 31 December 2027. Payment will be based on the number of Program Commencements and Completed RPL Requirements achieved during the reporting period, assessed against their respective target numbers in the agreed implementation approach.	29 February 2028	$5,200 per Program Commencement and $5,200 per Completed RPL Requirement, up to a maximum of $6.682m plus any funds moved from previous periods as agreed.
Milestone 5: Commonwealth acceptance of a report signed by a senior official with responsibility for skills that states the number of Program Commencements, Completed RPL Requirements and Completed Qualifications achieved by New South Wales in the AETT program during the reporting period from 1 January 2028 to 30 June 2028. Payment will be based on the number of Program Commencements and Completed RPL Requirements achieved during the reporting period, assessed against their respective target numbers in the agreed implementation approach.	31 August 2028	$5,200 per Program Commencement and $5,200 per Completed RPL Requirement, up to a maximum of $5.200m plus any funds moved from previous periods as agreed.

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

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

The Honourable Andew Giles MP
Minister for Skills and Training

29/7/2026

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

The Honourable Steven Whan MP
Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education

26/8/2026

Table 2D: Western Australia – Performance requirements, reporting and payment summary		
Performance milestones	**Report due**	**Payment**
Milestone 1: Commonwealth acceptance of Western Australia's initial implementation approach for the AETT program.	Within two months of signing the Schedule	$1.7472m
Milestone 2: Commonwealth acceptance of a report signed by a senior official with responsibility for skills that states the number of Program Commencements, Completed RPL Requirements and Completed Qualifications achieved by Western Australia in the AETT program during the reporting period from 1 July 2026 to 31 December 2026. Payment will be based on the number of Program Commencements and Completed RPL Requirements achieved during the reporting period, assessed against their respective target numbers in the agreed implementation approach.	28 February 2027	$5,200 per Program Commencement and $5,200 per Completed RPL Requirement, up to a maximum of $1.0452m.
Milestone 3: Commonwealth acceptance of a report signed by a senior official with responsibility for skills that states the number of Program Commencements, Completed RPL Requirements and Completed Qualifications achieved by Western Australia in the AETT program during the reporting period from 1 January 2027 to 30 June 2027. Payment will be based on the number of Program Commencements and Completed RPL Requirements achieved during the reporting period, assessed against their respective target numbers in the agreed implementation approach.	31 August 2027	$5,200 per Program Commencement and $5,200 per Completed RPL Requirement, up to a maximum of $1.924m plus any funds moved from previous periods as agreed.
Milestone 4: Commonwealth acceptance of a report signed by a senior official with responsibility for skills that states the number of Program Commencements, Completed RPL Requirements and Completed Qualifications achieved by Western Australia in the AETT program during the reporting period from 1 July 2027 to 31 December 2027. Payment will be based on the number of Program Commencements and Completed RPL Requirements achieved during the reporting period, assessed against their respective target numbers in the agreed implementation approach.	29 February 2028	$5,200 per Program Commencement and $5,200 per Completed RPL Requirement, up to a maximum of $1.5704m plus any funds moved from previous periods as agreed.
Milestone 5: Commonwealth acceptance of a report signed by a senior official with responsibility for skills that states the number of Program Commencements, Completed RPL Requirements and Completed Qualifications achieved by Western Australia in the AETT program during the reporting period from 1 January 2028 to 30 June 2028. Payment will be based on the number of Program Commencements and Completed RPL Requirements achieved during the reporting period, assessed against their respective target numbers in the agreed implementation approach.	31 August 2028	$5,200 per Program Commencement and $5,200 per Completed RPL Requirement, up to a maximum of $2.4492m plus any funds moved from previous periods as agreed.

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

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

The Honourable Andrew Giles MP
Minister for Skills and Training

29/7/2026

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

The Honourable Amber-Jade Sanderson MLA
Minister for Skills and TAFE

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Table 2F: Tasmania – Performance requirements, reporting and payment summary		
Performance milestones	**Report due**	**Payment**
Milestone 1: Commonwealth acceptance of Tasmania's initial implementation approach for the AETT program.	Within two months of signing the Schedule	$0.5304m
Milestone 2: Commonwealth acceptance of a report signed by a senior official with responsibility for skills that states the number of Program Commencements, Completed RPL Requirements and Completed Qualifications achieved by Tasmania in the AETT program during the reporting period from 1 July 2026 to 31 December 2026. Payment will be based on the number of Program Commencements and Completed RPL Requirements achieved during the reporting period, assessed against their respective target numbers in the agreed implementation approach.	28 February 2027	$5,200 per Program Commencement and $5,200 per Completed RPL Requirement, up to a maximum of $0.078m.
Milestone 3: Commonwealth acceptance of a report signed by a senior official with responsibility for skills that states the number of Program Commencements, Completed RPL Requirements and Completed Qualifications achieved by Tasmania in the AETT program during the reporting period from 1 January 2027 to 30 June 2027. Payment will be based on the number of Program Commencements and Completed RPL Requirements achieved during the reporting period, assessed against their respective target numbers in the agreed implementation approach.	31 August 2027	$5,200 per Program Commencement and $5,200 per Completed RPL Requirement, up to a maximum of $0.676m plus any funds moved from previous periods as agreed.
Milestone 4: Commonwealth acceptance of a report signed by a senior official with responsibility for skills that states the number of Program Commencements, Completed RPL Requirements and Completed Qualifications achieved by Tasmania in the AETT program during the reporting period from 1 July 2027 to 31 December 2027. Payment will be based on the number of Program Commencements and Completed RPL Requirements achieved during the reporting period, assessed against their respective target numbers in the agreed implementation approach.	29 February 2028	$5,200 per Program Commencement and $5,200 per Completed RPL Requirement, up to a maximum of $0.8736m plus any funds moved from previous periods as agreed.
Milestone 5: Commonwealth acceptance of a report signed by a senior official with responsibility for skills that states the number of Program Commencements, Completed RPL Requirements and Completed Qualifications achieved by Tasmania in the AETT program during the reporting period from 1 January 2028 to 30 June 2028. Payment will be based on the number of Program Commencements and Completed RPL Requirements achieved during the reporting period, assessed against their respective target numbers in the agreed implementation approach.	31 August 2028	$5,200 per Program Commencement and $5,200 per Completed RPL Requirement, up to a maximum of $0.494m plus any funds moved from previous periods as agreed.

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

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

The Honourable Andrew Giles MP
Minister for Skills and Training

29/7 /2026

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

The Honourable Felix Ellis MP
Minister for Skills and Jobs

19 / 8 /2026

Table 2G: Australian Capital Territory – Performance requirements, reporting and payment summary		
Performance milestones	**Report due**	**Payment**
Milestone 1: Commonwealth acceptance of Australian Capital Territory's initial implementation approach for the AETT program.	Within two months of signing the Schedule	$0.5304m
Milestone 2: Commonwealth acceptance of a report signed by a senior official with responsibility for skills that states the number of Program Commencements, Completed RPL Requirements and Completed Qualifications achieved by Australian Capital Territory in the AETT program during the reporting period from 1 July 2026 to 31 December 2026. Payment will be based on the number of Program Commencements and Completed RPL Requirements achieved during the reporting period, assessed against their respective target numbers in the agreed implementation approach.	28 February 2027	$5,200 per Program Commencement and $5,200 per Completed RPL Requirement, up to a maximum of $0.2392m.
Milestone 3: Commonwealth acceptance of a report signed by a senior official with responsibility for skills that states the number of Program Commencements, Completed RPL Requirements and Completed Qualifications achieved by Australian Capital Territory in the AETT program during the reporting period from 1 January 2027 to 30 June 2027. Payment will be based on the number of Program Commencements and Completed RPL Requirements achieved during the reporting period, assessed against their respective target numbers in the agreed implementation approach.	31 August 2027	$5,200 per Program Commencement and $5,200 per Completed RPL Requirement, up to a maximum of $0.8528m plus any funds moved from previous periods as agreed.
Milestone 4: Commonwealth acceptance of a report signed by a senior official with responsibility for skills that states the number of Program Commencements, Completed RPL Requirements and Completed Qualifications achieved by Australian Capital Territory in the AETT program during the reporting period from 1 July 2027 to 31 December 2027. Payment will be based on the number of Program Commencements and Completed RPL Requirements achieved during the reporting period, assessed against their respective target numbers in the agreed implementation approach.	29 February 2028	$5,200 per Program Commencement and $5,200 per Completed RPL Requirement, up to a maximum of $0.6864m plus any funds moved from previous periods as agreed.
Milestone 5: Commonwealth acceptance of a report signed by a senior official with responsibility for skills that states the number of Program Commencements, Completed RPL Requirements and Completed Qualifications achieved by Australian Capital Territory in the AETT program during the reporting period from 1 January 2028 to 30 June 2028. Payment will be based on the number of Program Commencements and Completed RPL Requirements achieved during the reporting period, assessed against their respective target numbers in the agreed implementation approach.	31 August 2028	$5,200 per Program Commencement and $5,200 per Completed RPL Requirement, up to a maximum of $0.3432m plus any funds moved from previous periods as agreed.

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

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

The Honourable Andrew Giles MP
Minister for Skills and Training

29/7/2026

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

Mr Michael Pettersson MLA
Minister for Skills, Training and Industrial Relations

13 / 8 /2026

Appendix 1 – Qualifications in Scope

Qualifications in Scope	
1. Certificate III in Blinds, Awnings, Security Screens and Grilles 2. Certificate III in Bricklaying and Blocklaying 3. Certificate III in Cabinet Making and Timber Technology 4. Certificate III in Carpentry 5. Certificate III in Engineering – Fabrication Trade 6. Certificate III in Engineering – Mechanical Trade 7. Certificate III in Concreting 8. Certificate III in Civil Construction 9. Certificate III in Civil Construction Plant Operations 10. Certificate III in Civil Foundations 11. Certificate III in Construction Crane Operations 12. Certificate III in Construction Waterproofing 13. Certificate III in Demolition 14. Certificate III in ESI - Distribution Overhead 15. Certificate III in ESI - Distribution Underground 16. Certificate III in Flooring Technology 17. Certificate III in Glass and Glazing 18. Certificate III in Joinery 19. Certificate III in Landscape Construction 20. Certificate III in Locksmithing 21. Certificate III in Mobile Crane Operations 22. Certificate III in Painting and Decorating 23. Certificate III in Rigging 24. Certificate III in Roof Tiling 25. Certificate III in Roof Plumbing 26. Certificate III in Scaffolding 27. Certificate III in Shopfitting 28. Certificate III in Solid Plastering 29. Certificate III in Steelfixing 30. Certificate III in Stonemasonry 31. Certificate III in Surveying and Spatial Information Services 32. Certificate III in Timber Frame or Truss Manufacture 33. Certificate III in Timber Systems Design	34. Certificate III in Trenchless Technology 35. Certificate III in Wall and Ceiling Lining 36. Certificate III in Wall and Floor Tiling 37. Certificate IV in Building and Construction 38. Certificate IV in Building Project Support 39. Certificate IV in Civil Construction 40. Certificate IV in Civil Construction Design 41. Certificate IV in Demolition 42. Certificate IV in Engineering 43. Certificate IV in ESI - Substations 44. Certificate IV in Interior Decoration 45. Certificate IV in Kitchen and Bathroom Design 46. Certificate IV in Landscape Construction Management 47. Certificate IV in Mobile Crane Operations 48. Certificate IV in Residential Drafting 49. Certificate IV in Swimming Pool and Spa Building 50. Certificate IV in Surveying and Spatial Information Services (Surveying) 51. Certificate IV in Timber Systems Design 52. Diploma of Applied Technologies 53. Diploma of Building and Construction (Building) 54. Diploma of Building and Construction (Management) 55. Diploma of Civil Construction Design 56. Diploma of Civil Construction Management 57. Diploma of Engineering - Advanced Trade 58. Diploma of Fire Systems Design 59. Diploma of Landscape Design 60. Diploma of Surveying 61. Advanced Diploma of Building and Construction (Management) 62. Advanced Diploma of Civil Construction 63. Advanced Diploma of Civil Construction Design 64. Advanced Diploma of Electronics and Communications Engineering