# TAFE Centres of Excellence

## FEDERATION FUNDING AGREEMENT – EDUCATION AND SKILLS

| **Table 1: Formalities and operation of schedule** | |
|---|---|
| Parties | Commonwealth<br>Australian Capital Territory |
| TAFE Centre of Excellence | Cyber Security Centre of Excellence (CS CoE) |
| Duration | This Project Plan will expire on 31 December 2028 (in line with the National Skills Agreement [NSA]), or on completion of all milestones in Table 2 below, including final performance reporting. |
| Purpose | This Project Plan will support the delivery of the CS CoE. The CS CoE is being established under Part 6 of the NSA.<br>This Project Plan outlines the additional activities funding for the CS CoE through the Turbocharging TAFE Centres of Excellence and Advancing Higher Apprenticeships (Turbocharging) measure. The Turbocharging measure was announced as part of the *Working Future: The Australian Government's White Paper on Jobs and Opportunities*. The purpose of this additional funding is to fast-track the establishment of the CS CoE and to support work to expand the use of higher apprenticeship pathways. |
| Estimated financial contributions | The Commonwealth will provide an estimated total financial contribution to the Australian Capital Territory of $0.449 million in respect of this Project Plan. |

**Table 1**

| **($ million)** | **2025-26** | **2026-27** | **2027-28** | **Total** |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Estimated total budget** | **0.160** | **0.180** | **0.109** | **0.449** |
| *Less estimated National Partnership Payments* | 0.160 | 0.180 | 0.109 | 0.449 |
| Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| Part 2: Performance requirements, reporting and payment summary | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Milestone** | **Deliverable/Evidence** | **Estimated milestone delivery and payment date** | **Payment Value (Commonwealth Funded)** |
| **Milestone 1**<br>Commonwealth agreement to and signing of this Project Plan for the Turbocharging TAFE Centres of Excellence and Advancing Higher Apprenticeships measure for the Cyber Security Centre of Excellence (CS CoE). | Final TAFE Centres of Excellence Schedule<br>Final Turbocharging TCE CoE Project Plan | 30 September 2025<br>For payment by 7 November 2025 | $45,000 |
| **Milestone 2**<br>Commonwealth acceptance that the CS CoE has:<br>• developed a Project Plan for the scoping and delivery of microcredentials and higher apprenticeship models in consultation with the Canberra Cyber Hub and Future Skills Organisation. | Report signed by ACT senior official with responsibility for skills or their appropriate delegate that provides an update on progress of the CS CoE in the reporting period (1 October 2025 to 31 March 2026) and attaches:<br>• evidence of engagement with the Canberra Cyber Hub and Future Skills Organisation, including details of the formalised agreement (between CIT, and the Canberra Cyber Hub and Future Skills Organisation) in relation to the development and delivery of microcredentials and higher apprenticeship models<br>• report detailing the competency mapping to define skills across the cyber workforce domains, and<br>• taxonomy of cyber roles, skills and qualifications forming the foundation for career pathways and curriculum design. | 31 March 2026<br>For payment by 30 June 2026 | $115,000 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Milestone 3**<br>Commonwealth acceptance that the CS CoE has:<br>• developed a professional learning framework for VET Educators in cyber and AI, in partnership with the Future Skills Organisation<br>• developed a model of AI-enabled curriculum design and development processes<br>• developed a higher apprenticeship pathways framework, including articulation arrangements with university partners<br>• developed stakeholder engagement project to address industrial relations and regulatory reforms to establish pilot cohort, and<br>• entered into targeted partnerships to guarantee pilot cohort. | Report signed by ACT senior official with responsibility for skills or their appropriate delegate that provides an update on progress of the CS CoE in the reporting period (1 April 2026 to 31 March 2027) and attaches:<br>• the VET educators professional learning framework<br>• training and assessment strategy for each microcredential developed<br>• AI curriculum design report<br>• higher apprenticeship pathways framework<br>• higher apprenticeship regulatory settings report, and<br>• CIT-employer higher apprenticeship agreement. | 31 March 2027<br>For payment by 30 June 2027 | $180,000 |
| **Milestone 5**<br>Commonwealth acceptance that the CS CoE has:<br>• developed higher apprenticeship forums in partnership with Canberra Cyber Hub, broadening the take up from adjacent industries. | Report signed by ACT senior official with responsibility for skills or their appropriate delegate that provides an update on progress of the CS CoE in the reporting period (1 April 2027 to 30 September 2027) and attaches:<br>• higher apprenticeship forum report. | 31 March 2028 for payment by 30 June 2028 | $109,000 |

The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this Project Plan as follows:

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

**The Honourable Andrew Giles MP**
Minister for Skills and Training
14 / 10 / 2025

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

**The Honourable Michael Pettersson MLA**
Minister for Skills, Training and Industrial Relations
18 / 11 / 25